

SENATE BILL 480

F5, O4

2lr1469
CF HB 89

By: **Senators Hester, King, and West**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2022

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Care Stabilization Grant Program and Child Care Expansion Grant**
3 **Program – Established**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Child Care Stabilization Grant Program and the Child
5 Care Expansion Grant Program in the State Department of Education; and generally
6 relating to the Child Care Stabilization Grant Program and the Child Care
7 Expansion Grant Program.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 9.5–115 and 9.5–116

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Education**

16 **9.5–115.**

17 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE CHILD CARE STABILIZATION**
18 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

19 **(B) (1) THERE IS A CHILD CARE STABILIZATION GRANT PROGRAM IN**
20 **THE DEPARTMENT.**

21 **(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL**
22 **SUPPORT TO LICENSED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS IN THE STATE THAT ARE IN**
23 **DANGER OF CLOSING IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS DUE TO FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (C) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP:

2 (I) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA;

3 (II) APPLICATION PROCEDURES;

4 (III) A FORMULA FOR DETERMINING GRANT AWARD AMOUNTS;

5 AND

6 (IV) A PROCESS TO AWARD GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE
7 PROVIDERS.

8 (D) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE CHILD
9 CARE PROVIDERS NOT MORE THAN 3 MONTHS AFTER A GRANT APPLICATION IS
10 RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

11 (2) AN ANNUAL AWARD FROM THE PROGRAM FOR EACH ELIGIBLE
12 CHILD CARE PROVIDER SHALL BE:

13 (I) NOT LESS THAN \$1,000; AND

14 (II) NOT MORE THAN \$35,000.

15 (3) IN DETERMINING AWARD AMOUNTS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
16 USE PROVIDER CAPACITY AS A KEY CRITERIA.

17 (E) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN
18 APPROPRIATION TO THE PROGRAM.

19 (F) (1) A RECIPIENT OF AN AWARD UNDER THE PROGRAM MAY NOT
20 RECEIVE AN AWARD UNDER THE CHILD CARE EXPANSION GRANT PROGRAM UNDER
21 § 9.5-116 OF THIS SUBTITLE IN THE SAME YEAR.

22 (2) A RECIPIENT OF AN AWARD UNDER THE PROGRAM MAY NOT
23 RECEIVE AN AWARD UNDER THE PROGRAM OR UNDER THE CHILD CARE EXPANSION
24 GRANT PROGRAM UNDER § 9.5-116 OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR MORE THAN 5
25 CONSECUTIVE YEARS.

26 (G) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS
27 SECTION.

28 9.5-116.

1 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
2 INDICATED.

3 (2) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE CHILD CARE EXPANSION GRANT
4 PROGRAM.

5 (3) “COSTS” INCLUDE:

6 (I) STAFF TRAINING;

7 (II) BACKGROUND CHECK FEES;

8 (III) CLEANING SUPPLIES;

9 (IV) EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES; AND

10 (V) CAPITAL OR FACILITY IMPROVEMENT COSTS.

11 (B) (1) THERE IS A CHILD CARE EXPANSION GRANT PROGRAM IN THE
12 DEPARTMENT.

13 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO INCREASE ACCESS AND
14 AVAILABILITY OF LICENSED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS IN THE STATE BY PROVIDING
15 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NEW OR EXISTING CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.

16 (C) A GRANT AWARD FROM THE PROGRAM MAY BE USED FOR COSTS
17 ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING CHILD CARE PROGRAM OR TO
18 ASSIST WITH THE CREATION OF A NEW CHILD CARE PROGRAM.

19 (D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP:

20 (1) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA;

21 (2) APPLICATION PROCEDURES;

22 (3) A FORMULA FOR DETERMINING GRANT AWARD AMOUNTS; AND

23 (4) A PROCESS TO AWARD GRANTS TO NEW OR EXISTING CHILD CARE
24 PROVIDERS WHO MEET THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE PROGRAM.

25 (E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD GRANTS NOT MORE THAN 3
26 MONTHS AFTER A GRANT APPLICATION IS RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

1 **(2) AN ANNUAL AWARD FROM THE PROGRAM FOR EACH ELIGIBLE**
2 **CHILD CARE PROVIDER SHALL BE:**

3 **(I) NOT LESS THAN \$3,000; AND**

4 **(II) NOT MORE THAN \$50,000.**

5 **(F) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN**
6 **APPROPRIATION TO THE PROGRAM.**

7 **(G) (1) A RECIPIENT OF AN AWARD UNDER THE PROGRAM MAY NOT**
8 **RECEIVE AN AWARD UNDER THE CHILD CARE STABILIZATION GRANT PROGRAM**
9 **UNDER § 9.5–115 OF THIS SUBTITLE IN THE SAME YEAR.**

10 **(2) A RECIPIENT OF AN AWARD UNDER THE PROGRAM MAY NOT**
11 **RECEIVE AN AWARD UNDER THE PROGRAM OR UNDER THE CHILD CARE**
12 **STABILIZATION GRANT PROGRAM UNDER § 9.5–115 OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR MORE**
13 **THAN 5 CONSECUTIVE YEARS.**

14 **(H) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS**
15 **SECTION.**

16 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July**
17 **1, 2022.**