

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2787

To amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to increase the availability of, and improve quality care for, children with disabilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2001

Mrs. MEEK of Florida (for herself, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. RUSH, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. PETRI, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to increase the availability of, and improve quality care for, children with disabilities, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. REFERENCE.**

4 Whenever in this Act a section or other provision is
5 amended, such amendment shall be considered to be made
6 to that section or other provision of the Child Care and

1 Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858
2 et seq.).

3 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
5 ings:

6 (1) Two-thirds of mothers with children under
7 6 years of age are in the workforce.

8 (2) More than 10 percent of children under the
9 age of 6 have a disability; children living in low-in-
10 come communities have a higher incidence of dis-
11 ability.

12 (3) The Individuals with Disabilities Education
13 Act requires early intervention services to be pro-
14 vided to infants and toddlers with disabilities in a
15 natural environment, typically the child’s home or a
16 child care setting.

17 (4) The Individuals with Disabilities Education
18 Act requires special education preschool services to
19 be delivered in the least restrictive environment, with
20 a preschooler’s nondisabled peers.

21 (5) The General Accounting Office reports that
22 the “supply of infant care, care for special needs
23 children, and care during nonstandard hours has
24 been more limited than the overall supply”. There is

1 even less care for those children who live in low-in-
2 come communities.

3 (6) Children with disabilities or special health
4 care needs are barred from many child care pro-
5 grams due to myth, stereotype, and fear about dis-
6 ability and because staff lack sufficient training to
7 meet the needs of such children.

8 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to increase
9 the supply of quality child care for children with disabil-
10 ities.

11 **SEC. 3. APPLICATION AND PLAN.**

12 Section 658E(c) (42 U.S.C. 9858c(c)) is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (2)(H)—

14 (A) by striking “, and families” and insert-
15 ing “, families”; and

16 (B) by inserting before the final period “,
17 and families that have children with disabil-
18 ities”; and

19 (2) in paragraph (3)(B)—

20 (A) by striking “size) and to” and insert-
21 ing “size), to”; and

22 (B) by inserting before the final period “,
23 and to children with disabilities”.

1 **SEC. 4. ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CHILD**
2 **CARE.**

3 Section 658G (42 U.S.C. 9858e) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “A State” and inserting “(a) IN
5 GENERAL.—A State”;

6 (2) by amending subsection (a) (as so des-
7 ignated by paragraph (1) of this section) by adding
8 at the end the following: “Such activities may in-
9 clude activities listed in subsection (b).”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
11 sections:

12 “(b) ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABIL-
13 ITIES.—

14 “(1) USE OF FUNDS.—A State that receives
15 funds to carry out this subchapter for a fiscal year
16 after fiscal year 2001, shall use not less than 5 per-
17 cent of the total amount of such funds for one or
18 more of the activities described in paragraph (2)
19 that are designed to increase the availability of qual-
20 ity child care for children with disabilities.

21 “(2) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Activities referred
22 to in paragraph (1) are the following:

23 “(A) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-
24 ANCE.—Ongoing comprehensive system of
25 training and technical assistance for the fol-
26 lowing:

1 “(i) Training for child care providers,
2 State licensing agencies responsible for li-
3 censing child care providers, and parents
4 on how to collaborate with each other to
5 help ensure appropriate implementation of
6 the Americans with Disabilities Act of
7 1990 and the Individuals with Disabilities
8 Education Act.

9 “(ii) Technical assistance to assist
10 family home and center child care pro-
11 viders to enable them to appropriately and
12 better include children with disabilities
13 alongside children without disabilities in
14 child care settings.

15 “(iii) Training for child care directors
16 and staff on the use of assistive technology
17 for children with special needs and children
18 with disabilities.

19 “(iv) Training to develop leadership
20 skills for directors of child care facilities to
21 operate inclusive child care programs, in-
22 cluding leadership skills in financial devel-
23 opment, program development, parent edu-
24 cation, and community development.

1 “(v) Assistance to State and local
2 child care resource and referral agencies
3 on compliance with the Americans with
4 Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Individ-
5 uals with Disabilities Education Act.

6 “(B) RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF
7 STAFF.—Grants for recruitment and retention
8 of qualified staff though the following:

9 “(i) Grants for scholarships for child
10 care staff who work with children with and
11 without disabilities to obtain associate,
12 bachelor’s, or master’s degrees or other
13 training in child development.

14 “(ii) Grants to increase salaries of
15 child care staff who obtain associate, bach-
16 elors, or masters degrees or other training
17 in fields of child development.

18 “(iii) Grants to retain qualified child
19 care providers in the child care field.

20 “(c) GRANTS AND LOANS FOR CERTAIN CHILD CARE
21 PROGRAMS.—To the extent provided for in advance by
22 Acts of appropriation, the Secretary shall make grants and
23 low-interest loans to public agencies and nonprofit organi-
24 zations (including State and local governments and com-

1 munity-based organizations) for projects that increase the
 2 availability of 1 or more of the following:

3 “(1) Inclusive child care programs.

4 “(2) Child care for infants.

5 “(3) Child care during evenings and week-
 6 ends.”.

7 **SEC. 5. REPORTS.**

8 Section 658K(a)(1)(B)(iii) (42 U.S.C.
 9 9858i(a)(1)(B)(iii)) is amended by striking “and age” and
 10 inserting “age, and disability status”.

11 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

12 Section 658P (42 U.S.C. 9858n) is amended—

13 (1) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
 14 lowing new paragraph:

15 “(3) CHILD WITH A DISABILITY.—The term
 16 ‘child with a disability’ has the meaning given that
 17 term and the meaning given the term ‘infant or tod-
 18 dler with a disability’ in section 602 and section 632
 19 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
 20 (20 U.S.C. 1401).”; and

21 (2) by inserting after paragraph (9) the fol-
 22 lowing new paragraph:

23 “(10) INCLUSIVE CHILD CARE PROGRAM.—The
 24 term ‘inclusive child care program’ means a child
 25 care program that serves children with disabilities

1 and children without disabilities together in a setting
2 where not more than 50 percent of the children en-
3 rolled are children with disabilities.”.

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