

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 335

To amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to increase the availability and affordability of quality child care services by creating incentives for older individuals to join the child care workforce, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 25, 2005

Mr. LYNCH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to increase the availability and affordability of quality child care services by creating incentives for older individuals to join the child care workforce, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Seniors Offering Qual-
5 ity Child Care Act of 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Approximately 13,000,000 infants, toddlers,
4 and preschool children receive child care services
5 outside of their homes for part of or all of the work
6 day.

7 (2) Increasing the pool of child care workers is
8 an important means of improving the overall quality
9 and affordability of child care services.

10 (3) The Bureau of the Census has determined
11 that the number of people between the ages of 55
12 and 64 will grow by about 17,800,000 between 2000
13 and 2020. Many of these older individuals are skilled
14 workers, such as health care professionals and teach-
15 ers, who could offer a significant contribution to the
16 size and quality of the child care workforce.

17 (4) We must increase the supply of child care
18 workers by creating incentives for older individuals
19 to enter into the child care workforce in order to de-
20 crease the costs to families of accessing affordable
21 child care services.

22 **SEC. 3. ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE**
23 **CHILD CARE SERVICES.**

24 Section 658G of the Child Care Development Block
25 Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858e) is amended to read
26 as follows:

1 **“SEC. 658G. ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF**
2 **CHILD CARE SERVICES.**

3 “A State that receives funds to carry out this sub-
4 chapter for a fiscal year, shall use not less than 6 percent
5 of the amount of such funds for activities provided
6 through resource and referral services or other means,
7 that are designed to improve the quality of child care serv-
8 ices for which financial assistance is made available under
9 this subchapter. Such activities include—

10 “(1) programs that provide training, education,
11 and other professional development activities to en-
12 hance the skills of the child care workforce, includ-
13 ing training opportunities for caregivers in informal
14 care settings;

15 “(2) developing proposals to enhance the qual-
16 ity and quantity of the child care workforce by ex-
17 amining methods for increasing the recruitment, re-
18 tention, and compensation of skilled individuals who
19 are 55 years of age or older, as members of the child
20 care workforce;

21 “(3) activities within child care settings to en-
22 hance early learning for young children, to promote
23 early literacy, and to foster school readiness;

24 “(4) initiatives to increase the retention and
25 compensation of child care providers, including

1 tiered reimbursement rates for providers that meet
2 quality standards as defined by the State; or

3 “(5) other activities deemed by the State to im-
4 prove the quality of child care services provided in
5 such State.”.

6 **SEC. 4. EXPANSION OF BENEFITS FOR THE CHILD CARE**
7 **WORKFORCE.**

8 Section 658S of the Child Care Development Block
9 Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858q) is amended to read
10 as follows:

11 **“SEC. 658S. MISCELLANEOUS.**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other law,
13 the value of any child care provided or arranged (or any
14 amount received as payment for such care or reimburse-
15 ment for costs incurred for such care) under this sub-
16 chapter shall not be treated as income for purposes of any
17 other Federal or federally assisted program that bases eli-
18 gibility, or the amount of benefits, on need.

19 “(b) OLDER INDIVIDUALS.—Allowances, earnings,
20 and payments under this subchapter to individuals who
21 are 55 years of age or older shall not be considered as
22 income for the purposes determining eligibility for and the
23 amount of income transfer and in-kind aid under any Fed-
24 eral or federally assisted program based on need.”.

1 **SEC. 5. COMPENSATION FOR CHILD CAREGIVING SERVICES**
2 **OF EMPLOYEES OF ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE**
3 **PROVIDERS DISREGARDED FOR PURPOSES**
4 **OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS TEST.**

5 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 203(f)(3) of the Social
6 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403(f)(3)) is amended by insert-
7 ing “, and in determining an individual’s excess earnings
8 for any taxable year, there shall be excluded any earnings
9 of such individual from employment as a caregiver (as de-
10 fined in section 658P(1) of the Child Care and Develop-
11 ment Block Grant Act of 1990) employed by an eligible
12 child care provider (as defined in section 658P(5)(A) of
13 such Act),” before the period at the end of the 1st sen-
14 tence.

15 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
16 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to taxable years
17 ending on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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