

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3562

To provide supplemental appropriations for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program, and the Head Start and Early Head Start programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 22, 2020

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Ms. HASSAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Appropriations

A BILL

To provide supplemental appropriations for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program, and the Head Start and Early Head Start programs, 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 “Supporting Child Care
5 Providers and Families Affected by Coronavirus Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) CORONAVIRUS.—The term “coronavirus”
2 means coronavirus as defined in section 506 of the
3 Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supple-
4 mental Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116–
5 123).

6 (2) COVID–19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.—
7 The term “COVID–19 national emergency” means
8 the national emergency declared by the President
9 under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C.
10 1601 et seq.) on March 13, 2020, with respect to
11 coronavirus.

12 (3) ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDER.—The
13 term “eligible child care provider” has the meaning
14 given the term in section 658P of the Child Care
15 Development and Block Grant Act of 1990 (42
16 U.S.C. 9858n).

17 **SEC. 3. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION.**

18 The following sums are hereby appropriated, out of
19 any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated,
20 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for
21 other purposes, namely:

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6 For an additional amount for “Payments to States
7 for the Child Care and Development Block Grant”,
8 \$4,000,000,000, to carry out the Child Care and Develop-
9 ment Block Grant Act of 1990 by enabling States to carry
10 out activities including—

(1) providing direct assistance to eligible child care providers so that reimbursement can be adjusted to be based on the number of enrolled children, rather than the number of children in attendance, with such providers, due to the absence of children or closure of providers, related to the COVID-19 public health emergency;

18 (2) continuing payments to eligible child care
19 providers when there are closures related to the
20 emergency;

(3) providing payments to eligible child care providers so that the providers can provide tuition or copayment assistance for children whose families are temporarily unable to continue making tuition payments or copayments due to the emergency;

1 (4) providing payments to eligible child care
 2 providers to cover the cost of substitute educators
 3 who are needed due to the emergency;

4 (5) providing payments to eligible child care
 5 providers to provide additional training to staff or to
 6 purchase supplies and services needed to keep the
 7 facilities of the eligible child care providers safe, san-
 8 itary, and operational; and

9 (6) ensuring the children of frontline workers,
 10 needed as a result of the emergency, have access to
 11 care.

12 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

13 For an additional amount for “Children and Families
 14 Services Programs”, \$1,000,000,000 for carrying out the
 15 Head Start Act by assisting Head Start programs (includ-
 16 ing Early Head Start programs)—

17 (1) to provide educators with additional train-
 18 ing or to purchase supplies and services needed to
 19 keep the facilities of the programs safe, sanitary,
 20 and operational;

21 (2) to provide mental health supports, needed
 22 due to the COVID–19 public health emergency, to
 23 children in the programs and their families;

24 (3) to provide services to the children and fami-
 25 lies remotely or through alternative delivery meth-

1 ods, including through the provision of needed tech-
2 nology for programs and families, due to the emer-
3 gency;

4 (4) to continue payments for salaries of staff
5 during closures, and to provide the staff with hazard
6 pay when applicable, due to the emergency;

7 (5) without displacing children eligible for a
8 Head Start program (including an Early Head Start
9 program), or disrupting services provided to the
10 families of such children, at the discretion of the
11 grantee involved, to provide care to children of front-
12 line workers needed as a result of the emergency re-
13 gardless of the eligibility of the children; and

14 (6) to provide other services needed as a result
15 of the emergency.

16 **SEC. 4. EMERGENCY REQUIREMENT.**

17 The amounts appropriated under section 3 are des-
18 ignated by Congress as being for an emergency require-
19 ment pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced
20 Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2
21 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)(i)).

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