

SENATE BILL 873

F5, O4

3lr2438
CF HB 868

By: **Senator M. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Care Provider Stabilization Program – Established**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Child Care Provider Stabilization Program in the State
4 Department of Education to provide stability funding to eligible child care providers;
5 and generally relating to the establishment of the Child Care Provider Stabilization
6 Program.

7 BY adding to
8 Article – Education
9 Section 9.5–117
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article – Education**

15 **9.5–117.**

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

18 (2) “CCS PROGRAM” MEANS THE CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIP
19 PROGRAM UNDER § 9.5–113 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

20 (3) “ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDER” MEANS A CHILD CARE
21 PROVIDER THAT:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(I) POSSESSES A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OR LICENSE**
2 **THAT IS CURRENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO ANY PENDING REGULATORY ACTION,**
3 **INCLUDING REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION; AND**

4 **(II) SIGNS AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT**
5 **INDICATING THE CHILD CARE PROVIDER IS WILLING AND ABLE TO ENROLL**
6 **CHILDREN WHO RECEIVE A SUBSIDY UNDER THE CCS PROGRAM.**

7 **(4) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE CHILD CARE PROVIDER STABILIZATION**
8 **PROGRAM.**

9 **(5) “STABILITY FUNDING” MEANS FUNDING PROVIDED UNDER THE**
10 **PROGRAM TO AN ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDER THAT MAY BE USED ONLY FOR:**

11 **(I) CLEANING AND FOOD SUPPLIES THAT ARE USED DIRECTLY**
12 **IN THE PROVISION OF CHILD CARE;**

13 **(II) EMPLOYEE WAGES, INCLUDING BONUSES;**

14 **(III) OFFSETTING EXPENSES PAID BY SUBSIDIZED AND**
15 **UNSUBSIDIZED CLIENTS;**

16 **(IV) PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS USED TO PROMOTE THE CHILD**
17 **CARE PROVIDER’S PROGRAM AND CURRICULUM; AND**

18 **(V) ANY OTHER EXPENSES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE**
19 **PROVISION OF CHILD CARE, INCLUDING CAPITAL PROJECTS.**

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

22 **(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE STABILITY**
23 **FUNDING TO ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDERS IN THE STATE.**

24 **(C) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT**
25 **SHALL:**

26 **(1) DEVELOP APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND A PROCESS TO AWARD**
27 **STABILITY FUNDING TO ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDERS;**

28 **(2) EACH MONTH, DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF EACH STABILITY**
29 **FUNDING AWARD FOR EACH ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
30 **SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION; AND**

1 **(3) AWARD STABILITY FUNDING ON A MONTHLY BASIS TO EACH**
2 **ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDER THAT APPLIES AND MAINTAINS ELIGIBILITY AS**
3 **REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

4 **(D) THE AMOUNT OF EACH MONTHLY STABILITY FUNDING AWARD FOR**
5 **EACH ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDER SHALL BE:**

6 **(1) \$2,500 FOR AN ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDER THAT HAS**
7 **ENROLLED CHILDREN WHO RECEIVE A SUBSIDY UNDER THE CCS PROGRAM AS**
8 **FOLLOWS:**

9 **(I) ONE CHILD ENROLLED DURING THE IMMEDIATELY**
10 **PRECEDING MONTH;**

11 **(II) TWO CHILDREN ENROLLED DURING 2 OF THE 3**
12 **IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MONTHS; OR**

13 **(III) FOUR CHILDREN ENROLLED DURING 4 OF THE 6**
14 **IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MONTHS; OR**

15 **(2) \$300 FOR AN ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDER THAT DOES NOT**
16 **MEET THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

17 **(E) (1) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER,**
18 **THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION**
19 **FOR THE PROGRAM IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE STABILITY FUNDING TO**
20 **ALL ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.**

21 **(2) THE FUNDS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE**
22 **SUPPLEMENTAL TO, AND MAY NOT SUPPLANT, FUNDS OTHERWISE AVAILABLE FOR:**

23 **(I) CHILD CARE PROVIDERS THAT ENROLL CHILDREN WHO**
24 **RECEIVE A SUBSIDY UNDER THE CCS PROGRAM; AND**

25 **(II) CHILDREN WHO RECEIVE A SUBSIDY UNDER THE CCS**
26 **PROGRAM.**

27 **(F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS**
28 **SECTION.**

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
30 1, 2023.