

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 390

To amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to authorize a national toll-free referral line and website, to develop and disseminate child care consumer education information for parents and to help parents access child care in their community, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2013

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BEGICH, and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to authorize a national toll-free referral line and website, to develop and disseminate child care consumer education information for parents and to help parents access child care in their community, 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 “Child Care and Re-  
5 sources Education Act of 2013”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 The purposes of this Act are—

3 (1) to develop and disseminate child care con-  
4 sumer education information for parents; and

5 (2) to assist parents in finding safe, affordable,  
6 and quality child care in their community.

7 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress makes the following findings:

9 (1) Nearly 11,000,000 children under age 5 are  
10 in some type of child care setting every week.

11 (2) Numerous reports have found that child  
12 care is hard to find in many communities through-  
13 out the United States.

14 (3) A 2010 study by the National Institute of  
15 Child Health and Human Development found chil-  
16 dren who received high-quality care in the first few  
17 years of life scored higher on measures of academic  
18 and cognitive achievement when the children were 15  
19 years old, and were less likely to misbehave, than  
20 children enrolled in low-quality care in those years.

21 (4) More than 1,000,000 families a year receive  
22 assistance in finding child care through a national  
23 child care referral line and website, with nearly half  
24 the calls to the referral line coming from military  
25 families, including those who are faced with deploy-  
26 ment.

1           (5) The national child care referral line had  
2           57,000,000 page views by parents looking for child  
3           care in their community as well as parents looking  
4           for information about selecting a child care provider.

5           (6) Over 200,000 publications were mailed to  
6           parents last year, in both English and Spanish, by  
7           the operator of the national referral line and  
8           website, to provide consumer education to parents  
9           looking for child care.

10 **SEC. 4. AMENDMENT.**

11           Section 6580(a) of the Child Care and Development  
12 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858m) is amended  
13 by adding at the end the following:

14           “(3) NATIONAL TOLL-FREE REFERRAL LINE  
15           AND WEBSITE.—The Secretary shall reserve not less  
16           than \$1,000,000 of the amount appropriated under  
17           this subchapter for each fiscal year for the operation  
18           of a national toll-free referral line and website, to  
19           develop and disseminate child care consumer edu-  
20           cation information for parents and to help parents  
21           access safe, affordable, and quality child care in  
22           their community.”.

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