

HOUSE BILL 944

O4, F1, D5

(11r2016)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Ways and Means and Appropriations/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs* —

Introduced by **Delegate Solomon**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Growing Family Child Care Opportunities Pilot Program – Established**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Growing Family Child Care Opportunities Pilot
4 Program in the State Department of Education; stating the purpose of the Program;
5 requiring the Department to administer the Program in partnership with a certain
6 entity; requiring the Department to award certain grants to certain recipients;
7 requiring grant recipients to use the grants for certain purposes; requiring grant
8 recipients to raise certain funding, collaborate with certain providers during a
9 certain period, provide certain services, and establish certain partnerships for
10 certain purposes; requiring the Governor, *subject to a certain provision of law*, in
11 certain fiscal years, to include in the annual budget bill a certain appropriation for
12 the Program; requiring the Department to develop certain guidelines in partnership
13 with a certain entity; authorizing the Department to seek funding for the Program
14 and to provide grants as soon as possible under a certain circumstance; requiring the

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Department to develop and publish goals for the Program each year; requiring the
2 Department to submit a certain report to the General Assembly on or before a certain
3 date of each year; defining certain terms; providing for the termination of this Act;
4 and generally relating to the Growing Family Child Care Opportunities Pilot
5 Program.

6 BY adding to

7 Article – Education

8 Section 9.5–113

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Education**

14 **9.5–113.**

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

17 (2) “CHILD CARE LICENSING REGION” MEANS ANY ONE OF 13
18 REGIONS DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE LICENSING AND
19 OVERSIGHT FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE PROGRAMS.

20 (3) “FAMILY CHILD CARE” MEANS THE CARE GIVEN TO A CHILD
21 UNDER THE AGE OF 13 YEARS OR TO A DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED PERSON
22 UNDER THE AGE OF 21 YEARS THAT IS IN PLACE OF PARENTAL CARE FOR LESS THAN
23 24 HOURS A DAY, IN A RESIDENCE OTHER THAN THE CHILD’S RESIDENCE, FOR
24 WHICH THE FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDER IS PAID.

25 (4) “FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO
26 CARES FOR CHILDREN IN A REGISTERED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME OR A
27 REGISTERED LARGE FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME.

28 (5) “LOCAL PILOT PROGRAM” MEANS A LOCAL JURISDICTION OR
29 CHILD CARE LICENSING REGION THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM.

30 (6) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE GROWING FAMILY CHILD CARE
31 OPPORTUNITIES PILOT PROGRAM.

32 (7) “START-UP ASSISTANCE” MEANS THE FUNDING FOR STARTING A
33 FAMILY CHILD CARE PROGRAM INCLUDING THE COST OF MATERIALS, CURRICULUM,
34 AND RENOVATIONS.

1 (B) (1) THERE IS A GROWING FAMILY CHILD CARE OPPORTUNITIES
2 PILOT PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

3 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO
4 ESTABLISH AND SUPPORT LOCAL PILOT PROGRAMS IN THE STATE.

5 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PARTNER WITH THE MARYLAND CHILD
6 CARE RESOURCE NETWORK TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

7 (C) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION, ON
8 OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD AT LEAST THREE
9 GRANTS, EACH OF WHICH DOES NOT EXCEED \$150,000 ~~GRANTS TO LOCAL~~
10 ~~JURISDICTIONS OR CHILD CARE LICENSING REGIONS,~~ IN ACCORDANCE WITH
11 PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO ESTABLISH AND SUPPORT FAMILY CHILD
12 CARE PROVIDERS IN THE STATE.

13 (2) ~~GRANTS SHALL BE AWARDED WITHIN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING~~
14 ~~AREAS:~~

15 ~~(I) URBAN;~~

16 ~~(II) SUBURBAN; AND~~

17 ~~(III) A CHILD CARE LICENSING REGION LOCATED IN A RURAL~~
18 ~~AREA~~

19 (I) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT UNDER THIS SECTION, A
20 COUNTY GOVERNING BODY OR MULTIPLE COUNTY GOVERNING BODIES SHALL SIGN
21 A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH A CHILD CARE RESOURCE CENTER THAT
22 SERVES THE CHILD CARE LICENSING REGION THAT CONTAINS ONE OF THE
23 COUNTIES.

24 (II) THE COUNTY OR COUNTIES AND THE CHILD CARE
25 RESOURCE CENTER JOINTLY SHALL APPLY FOR THE GRANT AND ADMINISTER THE
26 LOCAL PILOT PROGRAM.

27 (D) GRANT RECIPIENTS SHALL:

28 (1) USE THE GRANTS TO:

29 (I) ESTABLISH AND SUPPORT A LOCAL PILOT PROGRAM; AND

30 (II) TARGET THE USE OF THE GRANT TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY
31 AND ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS IN AREAS

1 WITH ABOVE AVERAGE RATES OF POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT OR AREAS WITH A
2 LACK OF AVAILABLE CHILD CARE PROVIDERS;

3 (2) RAISE LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS, INCLUDING IN-KIND MATCHING
4 RESOURCES AT A 1:1 MATCH;

5 (3) COLLABORATE WITH EXISTING FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS
6 DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM;

7 (4) PROVIDE MULTILINGUAL OUTREACH TO RECRUIT INDIVIDUALS
8 TO BECOME REGISTERED FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS WITH THE DEPARTMENT;

9 (5) PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, FINANCIAL INCENTIVES, AND
10 START-UP ASSISTANCE FOR RECRUITED INDIVIDUALS AS THEY NAVIGATE THE
11 DEPARTMENT'S PROCESS TO BECOME A REGISTERED FAMILY CHILD CARE
12 PROVIDER;

13 (6) ASSIST NEWLY REGISTERED AND ESTABLISHED FAMILY CHILD
14 CARE PROVIDERS THROUGH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ACHIEVE QUALITY
15 BENCHMARKS, PEER-TO-PEER MENTORING, AND FINANCIAL INCENTIVES; AND

16 (7) ESTABLISH PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL CHAMBERS OF
17 COMMERCE, OR OTHER LOCAL OR STATE ORGANIZATIONS FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE
18 PROVIDERS THAT SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES AND WOMEN AND
19 MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES TO PROVIDE:

20 (I) ASSISTANCE TO RECRUITED INDIVIDUALS OR REGISTERED
21 FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS IN IMPLEMENTING BEST BUSINESS PRACTICES;
22 AND

23 (II) ASSISTANCE IN ACHIEVING FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY.

24 (E) (1) ~~FOR~~ SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, FOR
25 EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE
26 ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF \$450,000 TO THE PROGRAM.

27 (2) TO THE EXTENT AUTHORIZED UNDER FEDERAL LAW, THE
28 GOVERNOR SHALL USE FEDERAL FUNDS TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENT OF
29 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

30 (F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP GUIDELINES, IN CONSULTATION
31 WITH THE MARYLAND CHILD CARE RESOURCE CENTER, FOR THE GRANT
32 APPLICATION PROCESS AND GRANT RECIPIENTS.

1 **(G) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK FUNDING TO START THE PROGRAM.**

2 **(2) IF THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES FUNDING BEFORE JULY 1, 2022,**
3 **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL BEGIN AWARDING GRANTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNDER**
4 **THE PROGRAM.**

5 **(H) EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND PUBLISH GOALS**
6 **FOR THE PROGRAM.**

7 **(I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2021, AND EACH DECEMBER 1**
8 **THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN**
9 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE**
10 **STATUS OF THE PROGRAM AND AN EVALUATION OF LOCAL PILOT PROGRAMS IN**
11 **MEETING THE PROGRAM GOALS.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
13 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and, at the end of June 30, 2025,
14 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
15 of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.