



Rep. Maura Hirschauer

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10400HB4791ham001

LRB104 18416 KTG 36536 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 4791

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 4791 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Smart Start Illinois Act is amended by
5 changing Section 95-10 as follows:

6 (325 ILCS 85/95-10)

7 Sec. 95-10. Smart Start Child Care Workforce Compensation
8 Program.

9 (a) The Department of Human Services shall create and
10 establish the Smart Start Child Care Workforce Compensation
11 Program. The purpose of the Smart Start Child Care Workforce
12 Compensation Program is to invest in early childhood education
13 and care service providers, including, but not limited to,
14 providers participating in the Child Care Assistance Program
15 or in a Head Start or Early Head Start Program; to expand the
16 supply of high-quality early childhood education and care; and

1 to create a strong and stable early childhood education and
2 care system with attractive wages, high-quality services, and
3 affordable costs.

4 (b) The purpose of the Smart Start Child Care Workforce
5 Compensation Program is to stabilize community-based early
6 childhood education and care service providers, raise the
7 wages of early childhood educators, and support quality
8 enhancements that can position service providers to
9 participate in other public funding streams, such as Preschool
10 for All, in order to further enhance and expand quality
11 service delivery.

12 (c) Subject to appropriation, the Department of Human
13 Services shall implement the Smart Start Child Care Workforce
14 Compensation Program for eligible licensed day care centers,
15 licensed day care homes, and licensed group day care homes by
16 October 1, 2024, or as soon as practicable, following
17 completion of a planning and transition year. ~~As By October 1,~~
18 ~~2025, or as~~ soon as practicable, and for each year thereafter,
19 subject to appropriation, the Department of Human Services
20 shall continue to operate the Smart Start Child Care Workforce
21 Compensation Program annually with all licensed day care
22 centers, licensed day care homes, and licensed group day care
23 homes that meet eligibility requirements. Head Start programs
24 and Early Head Start programs may be deemed eligible to
25 participate in the Smart Start Child Care Workforce
26 Compensation Program to the extent that appropriations are

1 made available for new program entrants and shall not result
2 in the reduction, reallocation, or displacement of funding for
3 existing recipients. The Smart Start Child Care Workforce
4 Compensation Program shall operate separately from and shall
5 not supplant the Child Care Assistance Program as provided for
6 in Section 9A-11 of the Illinois Public Aid Code.

7 (d) The Department of Human Services shall adopt
8 administrative rules ~~by October 1, 2024~~ to facilitate
9 administration of the Smart Start Child Care Workforce
10 Compensation Program, including, but not limited to,
11 provisions for program eligibility, the application and
12 funding calculation process, eligible expenses, required wage
13 floors, and requirements for financial and personnel reporting
14 and monitoring requirements. Eligibility and funding
15 provisions shall be based on appropriation and a current model
16 of the cost to provide child care services by a licensed child
17 care center or licensed family child care home.

18 (e) Participation in multiple funding streams. A provider
19 participating in the Smart Start Child Care Workforce
20 Compensation Program may simultaneously receive funding
21 through Head Start or Early Head Start programs. Receipt of
22 funding under one program shall not disqualify or otherwise
23 limit eligibility for funding under the other, provided that:

24 (1) funds are used in accordance with the requirements
25 of each respective program; and

26 (2) funds are not used to supplant existing federal

1 Head Start or Early Head Start funding, but may be used to
2 supplement and enhance workforce compensation and program
3 quality.

4 (Source: P.A. 103-8, eff. 6-7-23; 103-605, eff. 7-1-24.)".