

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 846

To establish a child care provider scholarship program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 24, 1999

Mr. WEYGAND (for himself, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. WATERS, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To establish a child care provider scholarship program.

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 Worker
5 Incentive Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL CHILD CARE PROVIDER SCHOLARSHIP**
7 **PROGRAM.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—Section 658G
9 of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of
10 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858e) is amended—

1 (1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before
2 “A State”; and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(b) CHILD CARE PROVIDER SCHOLARSHIP PRO-
5 GRAM.—

6 “(1) STATE PLAN REQUIREMENT.—In order to
7 be eligible for funds under section 658J(a)(2), a
8 State shall include in its plan under section 658E a
9 child care provider scholarship program plan, meet-
10 ing the requirements of this subsection, designed to
11 further the goals of child care provider recruitment,
12 training, credentialing, and retention.

13 “(2) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIP
14 APPLICANTS.—The State plan shall provide that, in
15 order for an individual to be eligible for a scholar-
16 ship grant under this subsection, the following re-
17 quirements shall be met:

18 “(A) DEMONSTRATED COMMITMENT TO
19 CHILD CARE CAREER.—The individual—

20 “(i) shall be a child care worker who
21 is (or is employed by) a licensed or reg-
22 istered child care provider, or has a com-
23 mitment for employment from a licensed or
24 registered child care provider; and

1 “(ii) shall agree in writing to continue
2 to be employed in the field of child care for
3 at least one year after receiving the train-
4 ing for which assistance is provided.

5 “(B) COST SHARING BY APPLICANT.—

6 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The individual (ei-
7 ther as provided in clause (ii) or otherwise)
8 shall provide for payment, in cash or in
9 kind, of a share of the cost of the edu-
10 cation or training.

11 “(ii) APPLICATION FOR PELL
12 GRANTS.—In the case of an application for
13 a scholarship intended for use in an edu-
14 cational institution participating in the
15 Pell Grant program under title IV of the
16 Higher Education Act, the individual shall
17 apply for a grant under such program for
18 which the individual is eligible.

19 “(C) EMPLOYER REQUIREMENTS.—In the
20 case of an individual employed by (or who has
21 a commitment for employment from) a licensed
22 or registered child care provider the individual’s
23 employer shall—

24 “(i) pay a share of the cost of the
25 education or training; and

1 “(ii) agree to provide increased finan-
2 cial incentives to the individual, such as a
3 salary increase or bonus, when the individ-
4 ual completes the education or training.

5 “(3) QUALIFYING EDUCATIONAL INSTITU-
6 TIONS.—The State plan shall specify the types of
7 educational and training programs for which schol-
8 arships granted under the State program may be
9 used, which shall be limited to (but may include any
10 or all) programs that—

11 “(A) are administered by institutions of
12 higher education that are eligible to participate
13 in student financial assistance programs under
14 title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965;
15 and

16 “(B) lead to a State or national credential
17 in child care or early childhood or early child-
18 hood special education, or to an associate or
19 bachelor’s degree in child development or early
20 childhood education.

21 “(4) ANNUAL MAXIMUM SCHOLARSHIP GRANT
22 AMOUNT.—The maximum amount of a scholarship
23 awarded to an eligible individual under this section
24 may not exceed \$1,500 per year.

1 “(5) SUPPLEMENTATION OF OTHER FUND-
2 ING.—The State plan shall contain assurances that
3 Federal funds provided to the State under this sub-
4 section will not be used to supplant Federal or non-
5 Federal funds for existing services and activities
6 that promote the purposes of this subsection.”.

7 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
8 658B of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act
9 of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858) is amended

10 (1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before
11 “‘There’”; and

12 (2) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(b) CHILD CARE PROVIDER SCHOLARSHIP PRO-
14 GRAM.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry
15 out section 658G(b) \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years
16 2000 through 2004.”.

17 (c) ALLOTMENT.—Section 658O of the Child Care
18 and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
19 9858m) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a)—

21 (A) in paragraph (1) by striking “this sub-
22 chapter” and inserting “each subsection of sec-
23 tion 658B”; and

24 (B) in paragraph (2) by striking “section
25 658B” and inserting “section 658B(a)”;

1 (2) in subsection (b)(1) in the matter preceding
2 subparagraph (A), by inserting “each subsection of”
3 before “section 658B”; and

4 (3) in subsection (e)(1) by striking “the allot-
5 ment under subsection (b)” and inserting “an allot-
6 ment under subsection (b)”.

7 (d) PAYMENTS.—Section 658J(a) of the Child Care
8 and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
9 9858h) is amended—

10 (1) by inserting “(1)” before “Subject”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(2) A State described in paragraph (1) whose plan
13 under section 658E provides for a child care scholarship
14 program under section 658G(b) shall be entitled to pay-
15 ment under this section in an amount equal to the lesser
16 of its allotment under section 658O or 80 percent of ex-
17 penditures by the State for such program.”.

18 (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 658K(a)(2) of the
19 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42
20 U.S.C. 9858i) is amended—

21 (1) in subparagraph (D) by striking “and” at
22 the end;

23 (2) in subparagraph (E) by adding “and” at
24 the end; and

1 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(F) the child care scholarship program,
4 including—

5 “(i) the number of child care workers
6 receiving scholarship grants;

7 “(ii) the amount of each scholarship
8 grant;

9 “(iii) the number of course credits or
10 credentials completed by individuals receiv-
11 ing scholarships;

12 “(iv) the number and percentage of
13 child care workers receiving scholarship
14 grants in the previous year who fulfilled
15 their 1-year commitment; and

16 “(v) such other data as the Secretary
17 may require.”.

18 **SEC. 3. APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.**

19 The amendments made by this Act shall not apply
20 with respect to fiscal years beginning before the date of
21 the enactment of this Act.

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