

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Children and Family Services Act is amended
5 by changing Section 5.15 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 505/5.15)

7 Sec. 5.15. Daycare; Department of Human Services.

8 (a) For the purpose of ensuring effective statewide
9 planning, development, and utilization of resources for the
10 day care of children, operated under various auspices, the
11 Department of Human Services, or any State agency that assumes
12 these responsibilities, is designated to coordinate all day
13 care activities for children of the State and shall develop or
14 continue, and shall update every year, a State comprehensive
15 day-care plan for submission to the Governor that identifies
16 high-priority areas and groups, relating them to available
17 resources and identifying the most effective approaches to the
18 use of existing day care services. The State comprehensive
19 day-care plan shall be made available to the General Assembly
20 following the Governor's approval of the plan.

21 The plan shall include methods and procedures for the
22 development of additional day care resources for children to
23 meet the goal of reducing short-run and long-run dependency

1 and to provide necessary enrichment and stimulation to the
2 education of young children. Recommendations shall be made for
3 State policy on optimum use of private and public, local,
4 State and federal resources, including an estimate of the
5 resources needed for the licensing and regulation of day care
6 facilities.

7 A written report shall be submitted to the Governor and
8 the General Assembly annually on April 15. The report shall
9 include an evaluation of developments over the preceding
10 fiscal year, including cost-benefit analyses of various
11 arrangements. Beginning with the report in 1990 submitted by
12 the Department's predecessor agency and every 2 years
13 thereafter, the report shall also include the following:

14 (1) An assessment of the child care services, needs
15 and available resources throughout the State and an
16 assessment of the adequacy of existing child care
17 services, including, but not limited to, services assisted
18 under this Act and under any other program administered by
19 other State agencies.

20 (2) A survey of day care facilities to determine the
21 number of qualified caregivers, as defined by rule,
22 attracted to vacant positions, or retained at the current
23 positions, and any problems encountered by facilities in
24 attracting and retaining capable caregivers. The report
25 shall include an assessment, based on the survey, of
26 improvements in employee benefits that may attract capable

1 caregivers. The survey process shall incorporate feedback
2 from groups and individuals with relevant expertise or
3 lived experience, including, but not limited to, educators
4 and child care providers, regarding the collection of data
5 in order to inform strategies and costs related to the
6 Child Care Development Fund and the General Revenue Fund,
7 for the purpose of promoting workforce recruitment and
8 retention. The survey shall, at a minimum, be updated
9 every 4 years based on feedback received. Initial survey
10 updates shall be made prior to the 2025 survey data
11 collection.

12 (3) The average wages and salaries and fringe benefit
13 packages paid to caregivers throughout the State, computed
14 on a regional basis, compared to similarly qualified
15 employees in other but related fields.

16 (4) The qualifications of new caregivers hired at
17 licensed day care facilities during the previous 2-year
18 period.

19 (5) Recommendations for increasing caregiver wages and
20 salaries to ensure quality care for children.

21 (6) Evaluation of the fee structure and income
22 eligibility for child care subsidized by the State.

23 The requirement for reporting to the General Assembly
24 shall be satisfied by filing copies of the report as required
25 by Section 3.1 of the General Assembly Organization Act, and
26 filing such additional copies with the State Government Report

1 Distribution Center for the General Assembly as is required
2 under paragraph (t) of Section 7 of the State Library Act.

3 (b) The Department of Human Services shall establish
4 policies and procedures for developing and implementing
5 interagency agreements with other agencies of the State
6 providing child care services or reimbursement for such
7 services. The plans shall be annually reviewed and modified
8 for the purpose of addressing issues of applicability and
9 service system barriers.

10 (c) In cooperation with other State agencies, the
11 Department of Human Services shall develop and implement, or
12 shall continue, a resource and referral system for the State
13 of Illinois either within the Department or by contract with
14 local or regional agencies. Funding for implementation of this
15 system may be provided through Department appropriations or
16 other inter-agency funding arrangements. The resource and
17 referral system shall provide at least the following services:

18 (1) Assembling and maintaining a data base on the
19 supply of child care services.

20 (2) Providing information and referrals for parents.

21 (3) Coordinating the development of new child care
22 resources.

23 (4) Providing technical assistance and training to
24 child care service providers.

25 (5) Recording and analyzing the demand for child care
26 services.

1 (d) The Department of Human Services shall conduct day
2 care planning activities with the following priorities:

3 (1) Development of voluntary day care resources
4 wherever possible, with the provision for grants-in-aid
5 only where demonstrated to be useful and necessary as
6 incentives or supports. By January 1, 2002, the Department
7 shall design a plan to create more child care slots as well
8 as goals and timetables to improve quality and
9 accessibility of child care.

10 (2) Emphasis on service to children of recipients of
11 public assistance when such service will allow training or
12 employment of the parent toward achieving the goal of
13 independence.

14 (3) (Blank).

15 (4) Care of children from families in stress and
16 crises whose members potentially may become, or are in
17 danger of becoming, non-productive and dependent.

18 (5) Expansion of family day care facilities wherever
19 possible.

20 (6) Location of centers in economically depressed
21 neighborhoods, preferably in multi-service centers with
22 cooperation of other agencies. The Department shall
23 coordinate the provision of grants, but only to the extent
24 funds are specifically appropriated for this purpose, to
25 encourage the creation and expansion of child care centers
26 in high need communities to be issued by the State,

1 business, and local governments.

2 (7) Use of existing facilities free of charge or for
3 reasonable rental whenever possible in lieu of
4 construction.

5 (8) Development of strategies for assuring a more
6 complete range of day care options, including provision of
7 day care services in homes, in schools, or in centers,
8 which will enable a parent or parents to complete a course
9 of education or obtain or maintain employment and the
10 creation of more child care options for swing shift,
11 evening, and weekend workers and for working women with
12 sick children. The Department shall encourage companies to
13 provide child care in their own offices or in the building
14 in which the corporation is located so that employees of
15 all the building's tenants can benefit from the facility.

16 (9) Development of strategies for subsidizing students
17 pursuing degrees in the child care field.

18 (10) Continuation and expansion of service programs
19 that assist teen parents to continue and complete their
20 education.

21 Emphasis shall be given to support services that will help
22 to ensure such parents' graduation from high school and to
23 services for participants in any programs of job training
24 conducted by the Department.

25 (e) The Department of Human Services shall actively
26 stimulate the development of public and private resources at

1 the local level. It shall also seek the fullest utilization of
2 federal funds directly or indirectly available to the
3 Department.

4 Where appropriate, existing non-governmental agencies or
5 associations shall be involved in planning by the Department.

6 (f) To better accommodate the child care needs of low
7 income working families, especially those who receive
8 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or who are
9 transitioning from TANF to work, or who are at risk of
10 depending on TANF in the absence of child care, the Department
11 shall complete a study using outcome-based assessment
12 measurements to analyze the various types of child care needs,
13 including but not limited to: child care homes; child care
14 facilities; before and after school care; and evening and
15 weekend care. Based upon the findings of the study, the
16 Department shall develop a plan by April 15, 1998, that
17 identifies the various types of child care needs within
18 various geographic locations. The plan shall include, but not
19 be limited to, the special needs of parents and guardians in
20 need of non-traditional child care services such as early
21 mornings, evenings, and weekends; the needs of very low income
22 families and children and how they might be better served; and
23 strategies to assist child care providers to meet the needs
24 and schedules of low income families.

25 (Source: P.A. 100-1148, eff. 12-10-18.)

26 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,

1 2024.