



## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB4217

by Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Universal Child Care Demonstration Program Act. Requires the Department of Human Services to establish and administer a 5-year statewide Universal Child Care Demonstration Program to provide grants to eligible entities to develop, expand, and provide high-quality and affordable child care services for children age 0 to 6 years old regardless of family income. Provides that grants awarded under the Demonstration may be used to renovate or convert existing child care facilities to meet the goals of the Demonstration Program; to construct and maintain child care facilities in geographical areas with a demonstrated need for safe, affordable, and high-quality child care services; to train and pay child care providers, teachers, and staff; and to provide meal services to children receiving child care services. Provides that the ultimate goal of the Demonstration shall be to develop and evaluate the costs, impact, and quality outcomes of child care services and programs in order to establish an effective expansion toward universal child care services for children from birth to 6 years of age. Contains provisions concerning eligible entities, funding, reporting requirements, defined terms, and Department rules.

LRB099 12112 KTG 34803 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning children.

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

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Universal Child Care Demonstration Program Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose and findings. The General Assembly  
7 declares that it is the policy of this State to provide all  
8 children from birth to 6 years of age with access to  
9 high-quality child care services through a State commitment to  
10 sufficient and sustainable funding for safe and affordable  
11 child care services and programs. The need for this policy is  
12 based on studies which suggest that affordable child care  
13 increases maternal employment and that high-quality child care  
14 can increase children's educational attainment, labor force  
15 participation, and earnings as adults.

16 The policy established by this Act will be developed  
17 through a child care demonstration program the results of which  
18 will be used to establish standards and policies to design and  
19 fund a statewide system of high-quality child care services and  
20 programs accessible to all children from birth to 6 years of  
21 age regardless of family income.

22 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

1 "Child care services" means day care home or center  
2 services as defined by the Child Care Act of 1969 provided to  
3 children from birth to 6 years of age and includes  
4 non-traditional child care services such as early mornings,  
5 evenings, and weekends.

6 "Demonstration" or "Demonstration Program" means the  
7 Universal Child Care Demonstration Program as established  
8 under this Act.

9 Section 15. Universal Child Care Demonstration Program.  
10 The Department of Human Services shall establish and administer  
11 a 5-year statewide Universal Child Care Demonstration Program  
12 to provide grants to eligible entities to develop, expand, and  
13 provide high-quality and affordable child care services for  
14 children age 0 to 6 years old regardless of family income.  
15 Grants awarded under the Demonstration may be used to renovate  
16 or convert existing child care facilities to meet the goals of  
17 the Demonstration Program; to construct and maintain child care  
18 facilities in geographical areas with a demonstrated need for  
19 safe, affordable, and high-quality child care services; to  
20 train and pay child care providers, teachers, and staff; and to  
21 provide meal services to children receiving child care  
22 services. The ultimate goal of the Demonstration shall be to  
23 develop and evaluate the costs, impact, and quality outcomes of  
24 child care services and programs in order to establish an  
25 effective expansion toward universal child care services for

1 children from birth to 6 years of age.

2 Section 20. Eligible entities. Currently funded or new  
3 entities, including but not limited to the following, shall be  
4 eligible to apply for grants awarded under the Demonstration  
5 Program:

6 (1) Day care centers, day care homes, group day care  
7 homes, and part day child care facilities licensed by the  
8 Department of Children and Family Services under the Child  
9 Care Act of 1969.

10 (2) Community-based organizations.

11 (3) Faith-based organizations.

12 Priority for participation in the Demonstration Program  
13 shall be given to entities with experience in providing child  
14 care services and programs in Illinois.

15 The Department shall establish, by rule, application  
16 requirements and additional eligibility criteria for grant  
17 applicants; costs, impact, and outcome goals for the  
18 Demonstration Program; and eligibility criteria for families  
19 seeking child care services under the Demonstration Program  
20 including parent cost sharing and employment or school  
21 requirements.

22 Section 25. Funding. The Universal Child Care  
23 Demonstration Program shall be subject to appropriations,  
24 however the Department of Human Services shall be permitted to

1 accept private funding or private resources at any time to  
2 implement this Act.

3 Section 30. Reports. The Department shall annually report  
4 to the Governor and the General Assembly on the progress of the  
5 Demonstration no later than March 31st of each year of the  
6 Demonstration Program. No later than 6 months after the  
7 Demonstration period ends, the Department shall submit a final  
8 report on its findings, including how well the Demonstration  
9 Program met the costs, impact, and outcome goals established by  
10 the Department.

11 Section 35. Rules. The Department shall adopt any rules  
12 necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.