

HOUSE BILL 561

F5

(6lr0701)

ENROLLED BILL

— Appropriations and Ways and Means/Budget and Taxation —

Introduced by ~~Delegate Palakovich Carr~~ Delegates Palakovich Carr and McCaskill

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 **Maryland Child Care Credential Program – Extension of Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring, *for certain fiscal years*, the Governor to appropriate a certain
4 amount of funding for the Maryland Child Care Credential Program ~~annually,~~
5 ~~beginning in a certain fiscal year~~; and generally relating to funding for the Maryland
6 Child Care Credential Program.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Education
9 Section 9.5–904
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

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.



Article – Education

1
2 9.5–904.

3 (a) There is a Maryland Child Care Credential Program.

4 (b) An individual may apply to the Office for a staff credential, including a child
5 development associate credential, or an administrator credential under this subsection.

6 (c) If a person pursues, obtains, or already holds an Office–approved credential,
7 the Office may award to the individual:

8 (1) An achievement bonus;

9 (2) A training reimbursement; or

10 (3) A training voucher.

11 (d) (1) The Governor shall appropriate \$4,000,000 for the program for fiscal
12 year 2021.

13 (2) For each of fiscal years 2022 through 2024, funding for the program
14 shall increase by 10% over the prior fiscal year.

15 (3) For fiscal year 2026, the Governor shall appropriate for the program an
16 amount that is at least equal to the amount appropriated in fiscal year 2024.

17 (4) ~~FOR FISCAL YEAR 2028 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER,~~
18 ~~THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPROPRIATE FOR THE PROGRAM AN AMOUNT THAT IS AT~~
19 ~~LEAST EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED IN FISCAL YEAR 2024~~ EACH OF
20 FISCAL YEARS 2028 THROUGH 2030, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPROPRIATE
21 \$5,687,000 FOR THE PROGRAM.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
23 1, 2026.