

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To increase child care options for working families and support child care providers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. REED, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KING, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. LUJÁN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WARNOCK, and Mr. DURBIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To increase child care options for working families and support child care providers.

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 Stabiliza-
5 tion Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CHILD CARE STABILIZATION GRANTS.**

2 (a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are to
3 make child care services more accessible for families and
4 to support the stability and quality of child care providers
5 by—

6 (1) promoting the stability of the child care sec-
7 tor by providing a source of stable funding to eligible
8 child care providers to help offset their operating ex-
9 penses;

10 (2) supporting sustained and increased wages
11 for early childhood educators or other staff of eligi-
12 ble child care providers, in order to stabilize and
13 grow the child care workforce without increasing
14 costs for families;

15 (3) expanding the supply and capacity of eligi-
16 ble child care providers to ensure working families
17 have a range of high-quality, affordable child care
18 options, in a variety of settings, that meet their
19 unique needs; and

20 (4) supporting access to child care services for
21 communities facing a particular shortage of child
22 care options, including child care services for infants
23 and toddlers, child care services during nontradi-
24 tional or extended hours, child care services in rural
25 communities, and inclusive child care services for
26 children with disabilities.

1 (b) APPROPRIATION.—In addition to amounts other-
2 wise available, there is appropriated to the Secretary of
3 Health and Human Services, out of any money in the
4 Treasury not otherwise appropriated to carry out the child
5 care stabilization program established in section 2202
6 (other than subsection (d)(2)(E) of that section) of the
7 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (42 U.S.C. 9858 note)
8 \$16,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, for
9 each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

10 (c) ADMINISTRATION AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-
11 ANCE.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services
12 may reserve not more than 1 percent of the funding appro-
13 priated under subsection (b) for the costs of providing
14 technical assistance, and for the administrative costs, to
15 carry out that section 2202.