

STATE OF NEW YORK

6914

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 20, 2021

Introduced by Sen. SERINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the COVID-19 childcare provider reimbursement program; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Statement of legislative intent. The legislature recognizes
2 the financial hardship placed on childcare providers during the COVID-19
3 pandemic. As the state re-opens, childcare providers offer necessary
4 essential services to parents and guardians. The intent of this act is
5 to provide an incentive to childcare providers to either expand current
6 programs or re-open programs to help meet the growing need of childcare
7 services within the state that have developed as a direct result of the
8 pandemic.

9 § 2. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 530-a to
10 read as follows:

11 § 530-a. Childcare provider COVID-19 reimbursement program. 1.
12 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law to the contrary, from
13 remaining and future federal funds provided for COVID-19 relief, includ-
14 ing, but not limited to, monies that have been allocated to the state of
15 New York by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security
16 (CARES) Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-136) and the Consolidated Appropriations
17 Act of 2021 (P.L. 116-260) that have not otherwise been obligated, the
18 office of children and family services shall make reimbursement avail-
19 able pursuant to this section, to childcare providers, as defined in
20 section three hundred ninety of the social services law, or as defined
21 in section 20-800 of the administrative code of the city of New York in
22 order to incentivize providers to re-open or expand current programs.

23 2. Reimbursement shall be provided for costs related to the expansion
24 or re-opening of a program. Costs shall include, but not be limited to,

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD07893-02-1

1 costs related to recruiting, retention and training of staff, facility
2 expenses, salary expenses and costs related to maintaining the health
3 and safety of such programs. Funding priority shall be given to programs
4 that expand services or re-open to serve school-aged children.
5 Reimbursements made pursuant to this section shall be equitably distrib-
6 uted among all regions of the state. Payment of reimbursement shall be
7 provided within thirty business days of receipt of such request or
8 application.

9 3. The office of children and family services shall create an applica-
10 tion process for such reimbursement and shall promulgate rules and regu-
11 lations for distributing funding pursuant to this section.

12 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire October
13 1, 2022 when upon such date the provisions of this act shall be deemed
14 repealed.