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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 44

Session of  
1995

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INTRODUCED BY HERMAN, GRUPPO, BLAUM, J. TAYLOR, PLATTS, STURLA,  
MANDERINO, BAKER, RUDY, WILLIAMS, CAWLEY, CLARK, GEIST,  
PHILLIPS, HUTCHINSON, COWELL, CARONE, BATTISTO, PESCI,  
CIVERA, TRELLO, JOSEPHS, STEELMAN, M. N. WRIGHT, BEBKO-JONES,  
E. Z. TAYLOR, MILLER, SHANER, MELIO, KAISER, L. I. COHEN,  
RAYMOND, HORSEY, LAUGHLIN, PETRONE, STRITTMATTER, FAJT,  
YOUNGBLOOD, SCHULER, BROWNE, ARMSTRONG, BELFANTI, MERRY,  
BOSCOLA AND HALUSKA, FEBRUARY 7, 1995

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGING AND YOUTH, FEBRUARY 7, 1995

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AN ACT

1 Providing for subsidized child care for caregivers enrolled in  
2 approved training programs.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Definitions.

6 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
7 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
8 context clearly indicates otherwise:

9 "Caretaker." The applicant for child day-care service with  
10 whom the child lives and who is the individual responsible for  
11 documenting family eligibility for subsidized child day-care  
12 service.

13 "Child day-care service." Out-of-home care provided for part  
14 of the 24-hour day and approved by the Department of Public  
15 Welfare, including, but not limited to, care in a child day-care

1 center, group child day-care home or family child day-care home.

2 "Department." The Department of Public Welfare of the  
3 Commonwealth.

4 "Subsidized child day care." Child day-care service, paid  
5 for in part or in full with Federal or State funds, provided to  
6 enable the caretaker of a child to be employed or receive job  
7 training.

8 "Training program." An institutional program which enables  
9 the caretaker to establish a basic level of education, to  
10 establish basic skills in the English language or to attain  
11 skills which qualify the individual for a specific job. The term  
12 includes programs which lead to an associate degree or a  
13 baccalaureate degree.

14 Section 2. Approved training programs for subsidized child  
15 care.

16 (a) Requirement of caregiver regarding enrollment.--A  
17 caretaker who is enrolled in a training program enumerated in  
18 subsection (b) and who provides the department with verification  
19 of enrollment as prescribed by the department shall be  
20 considered to meet the training requirements necessary to  
21 qualify for subsidized child care.

22 (b) Enumeration of training programs.--The following qualify  
23 as approved training programs:

24 (1) Completion of junior high school.

25 (2) Completion of high school.

26 (3) Remedial courses at a secondary or postsecondary  
27 level required for entrance into an accredited training  
28 program.

29 (4) A training program at a postsecondary level which  
30 leads to a specific job.

1           (5) General education development (GED) training for 20  
2 or more hours per week.

3           (6) English as a second language training for 20 or more  
4 hours per week.

5           (7) A 2-year associate degree program which qualifies an  
6 individual for a specific job.

7           (8) A 4-year baccalaureate degree program at a college  
8 or university which qualifies an individual for a specific  
9 job.

10       (c) Other requirements.--In addition to compliance with  
11 training requirements, the caretaker shall reside in this  
12 Commonwealth and shall meet financial eligibility requirements  
13 established in department regulations.

14 Section 3. Department's responsibility to establish waiting  
15 list service priorities.

16       The department shall determine by regulation service  
17 priorities for the children of eligible caretakers who are  
18 placed on a waiting list because public funds for services are  
19 not available to enroll the children in approved child day-care  
20 programs. The service priorities shall include employment,  
21 training and income criteria.

22 Section 4. Effective date.

23       This act shall take effect in 60 days.