

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1494

To amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to improve child safety and reduce the incidence of preventable infant deaths in child care settings.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. HAGAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to improve child safety and reduce the incidence of preventable infant deaths in child care settings.

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 Infant Mor-

5 tality Prevention Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) For millions of today's working families,
2 child care is an essential ingredient of their success.
3 Child care helps children, families, and communities
4 prosper, and helps the Nation maintain its competi-
5 tive edge.

6 (2) Close to 12,000,000 children under age 5,
7 and 10,000,000 over the age of 5, are in some type
8 of child care setting each day.

9 (3) More than 60 percent of children are cared
10 for regularly in a child care setting.

11 (4) Recent polls of working parents found that
12 parents are primarily concerned about safety and
13 quality of care, followed by cost.

14 (5) Nationally, the most common form of death
15 among post-neonatal infants under age 1 is death
16 occurring during sleep, as a result of incorrect sleep-
17 ing practices.

18 (6) According to the Centers for Disease Con-
19 trol and Prevention, each year in the United States,
20 more than 4,500 infants die suddenly of no imme-
21 diately obvious cause. Half of these sudden unex-
22 pected infant deaths are due to Sudden Infant
23 Death Syndrome, the leading cause of sudden unex-
24 pected infant deaths and all deaths among infants

1 who are not younger than 1 month but younger than
2 12 months.

3 (7) Researchers estimate that child care set-
4 tings account for at least 20 percent of sudden unex-
5 pected infant deaths in the United States.

6 (8) In its 2011 report on child care center li-
7 censing regulations, Child Care Aware of America,
8 formerly known as the National Association of Child
9 Care Resource and Referral Agencies, noted that—

10 (A) extensive research and recommenda-
11 tions from organizations like the American
12 Academy of Pediatrics and the National Cen-
13 ters for Disease Control and Prevention favor
14 simple life-saving safe sleep strategies to elimi-
15 nate serious risk factors for Sudden Infant
16 Death Syndrome and sudden unexpected infant
17 death; and

18 (B) the strategies noted in subparagraph
19 (A) are not universally required under the Child
20 Care and Development Block Grant Act of
21 1990 nor in the majority of State child care
22 regulations.

1 **SEC. 3. GOALS.**

2 Section 658A(b)(5) of the Child Care and Develop-
 3 ment Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 note) is
 4 amended to read as follows:

5 “(5) to ensure the health, safety, development
 6 and well-being of children in programs supported
 7 under this subchapter and to assist States in im-
 8 proving the overall quality of child care services and
 9 programs by implementing the health, safety, licens-
 10 ing, and oversight standards established in State law
 11 (including regulations).”.

12 **SEC. 4. APPLICATION AND PLAN.**

13 Section 658E(c)(2)(F) of the Child Care and Devel-
 14 opment Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
 15 6858c(c)(2)(F)) is amended by striking clause (iii) and all
 16 that follows and inserting the following:

17 “(iii) minimum health and safety
 18 training appropriate to the provider set-
 19 ting, including training on cardiopulmo-
 20 nary resuscitation, first aid, safe sleep
 21 practices and other sudden unexpected in-
 22 fant death prevention strategies.”.

23 **SEC. 5. ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE CHILD SAFETY AND IM-**
 24 **PROVE THE QUALITY OF CHILD CARE.**

25 Section 658G of the Child Care and Development
 26 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858e) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “choice, and” and inserting
 2 “choice,”; and

3 (2) by striking the period and inserting “train-
 4 ing (including training in safe sleep practices, first
 5 aid, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation), and other
 6 activities designed to ensure and improve the health
 7 and safety of children receiving child care services
 8 under this subchapter.”.

9 **SEC. 6. DISSEMINATION OF MATERIALS AND INFORMATION**
 10 **ON SAFE SLEEP AND OTHER SUDDEN UNEX-**
 11 **PECTED INFANT DEATH PREVENTION STRAT-**
 12 **EGIES.**

13 Section 658K of the Child Care and Development
 14 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858i) is amended—

15 (1) by striking the section header and inserting
 16 the following:

17 **“SEC. 658K. REPORTS, AUDITS, AND INFORMATION.”;**

18 and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

20 **“(c) INFORMATION ON SUDDEN UNEXPECTED IN-**
 21 **FANT DEATH PREVENTION STRATEGIES.—**The Secretary,
 22 working with the Director of the Centers for Disease Con-
 23 trol and Prevention and the Director of the Eunice Ken-
 24 nedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and
 25 Human Development, shall—

1 “(1) update training, instructional materials,
2 and other information on safe sleep practices and
3 other sudden unexpected infant death prevention
4 strategies; and

5 “(2) widely distribute the training, materials,
6 and information to parents, child care providers, pe-
7 diatricians, home visitors, community colleges, and
8 other individuals and entities.”.

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