

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2862

To amend the Child Care Access Means Parents In School Program under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 18 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 16), 2025

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. KIM, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. KELLY) 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 Access Means Parents In School Program under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

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 Access
5 Means Parents In Schools Reauthorization Act” or the
6 “CCAMPIS Reauthorization Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CHILD CARE ACCESS MEANS PARENTS IN SCHOOL.**

2 Section 419N of the Higher Education Act of 1965
3 (20 U.S.C. 1070e) is amended to read as follows:

4 **“SEC. 419N. CHILD CARE ACCESS MEANS PARENTS IN**
5 **SCHOOL.**

6 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to fa-
7 cilitate the success of eligible student parents in postsec-
8 ondary education through the provision of child care serv-
9 ices, including campus-based child care services.

10 “(b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

11 “(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may award
12 grants to eligible institutions to assist the eligible in-
13 stitutions in providing child care services to eligible
14 student parents.

15 “(2) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—

16 “(A) MINIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—A grant
17 under this section shall be awarded in an
18 amount that is not less than \$75,000 per year.

19 “(B) MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—A grant
20 under this section shall be awarded in an
21 amount that is not more than \$2,000,000 per
22 year.

23 “(C) RATABLE INCREASES AND DE-
24 CREASES.—The amount specified in subpara-
25 graph (A) shall be ratably increased or de-
26 creased to the extent that funds available under

1 subsection (i) exceed or are less than (respec-
2 tively) the amount required to provide the
3 amount specified in subparagraph (A).

4 “(3) DURATION AND PAYMENTS.—

5 “(A) DURATION.—The Secretary shall
6 award a grant under this section for a period
7 of 5 years.

8 “(B) PAYMENTS.—Subject to subpara-
9 graphs (C) and (D), the Secretary shall make
10 annual grant payments under this section.

11 “(C) SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS.—The Sec-
12 retary may consider applications from an eligi-
13 ble institution that receives grant funds under
14 this section for additional funds in any subse-
15 quent fiscal year, if such institution dem-
16 onstrates the need for such additional funds,
17 subject to the maximum grant amount under
18 paragraph (2)(B) and the duration of the origi-
19 nal grant under subparagraph (A).

20 “(D) CONTINUATION AWARDS.—The Sec-
21 retary shall make continuation awards under
22 this section to an institution of higher education
23 only if the Secretary determines, on the basis of
24 the reports submitted under subsection (g)(1),
25 that the institution is making a good faith ef-

1 fort to ensure that eligible student parents at
 2 the institution have access to affordable, quality
 3 child care services.

4 “(4) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—
 5 In this section, the term ‘eligible institution’
 6 means—

7 “(A) an institution of higher education, as
 8 defined in section 101, with respect to which
 9 the total number of students eligible for a Fed-
 10 eral Pell Grant enrolled at the institution of
 11 higher education in the most recently completed
 12 award year was equal to or greater than 150;
 13 or

14 “(B) a consortium of institutions of higher
 15 education described in subparagraph (A).

16 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible institution re-
 18 ceiving a grant under this section shall use such
 19 grant funds to support access to child care services
 20 for eligible student parents enrolled at such institu-
 21 tion by carrying out 1 or more of the following ac-
 22 tivities:

23 “(A) Establishing or supporting a campus-
 24 based child care program.

1 “(B) Providing subsidized child care using
2 a sliding fee scale.

3 “(C) Providing subsidized and accessible
4 before and after school services.

5 “(2) PERMITTED USES.—In addition to the re-
6 quired activities described in paragraph (1), an eligi-
7 ble institution receiving a grant under this section
8 may use such grant funds to carry out 1 or more
9 of the following activities:

10 “(A) Providing support services for eligible
11 student parents.

12 “(B) Enhancing the quality of the campus-
13 based child care program supported under this
14 section, including to meet at least one of the
15 purposes described in subparagraphs (A)
16 through (C) of subsection (d)(15).

17 “(3) PROHIBITIONS.—

18 “(A) USE OF FUNDS PROHIBITION.—
19 Funds under this section shall not be used for
20 construction, except for renovation or repair to
21 meet applicable State or local health or safety
22 requirements.

23 “(B) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL ELIGI-
24 BILITY REQUIREMENTS.—No eligible institution
25 receiving a grant under this section may require

1 a student parent to meet requirements (such as
 2 requirements related to work, academic
 3 progress, or enrollment intensity) to be eligible
 4 for child care services under this section other
 5 than the requirements listed in paragraph (5).

6 “(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
 7 this section shall be construed to prohibit an institu-
 8 tion of higher education that receives grant funds
 9 under this section from serving the child care needs
 10 of the community served by such institution.

11 “(5) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE STUDENT PAR-
 12 ENT.—For the purpose of this section, the term ‘eli-
 13 gible student parent’ means a student who—

14 “(A) is the parent or guardian of 1 or
 15 more dependent child;

16 “(B) is enrolled at an eligible institution;
 17 and

18 “(C) for the award year for which the de-
 19 termination is made—

20 “(i) is eligible to receive a Federal
 21 Pell Grant; or

22 “(ii) meets the financial eligibility cri-
 23 teria for receiving a Federal Pell Grant
 24 under section 401, but is not eligible for a

1 Federal Pell Grant for such award year be-
2 cause—

3 “(I) the student has not com-
4 pleted the Free Application for Fed-
5 eral Student Aid described in section
6 483;

7 “(II) the student does not meet
8 the eligibility requirements of section
9 484; or

10 “(III) the student is enrolled in a
11 graduate or first professional course
12 of study.

13 “(6) PUBLICITY.—The Secretary shall publicize
14 the availability of grants under this section, in addi-
15 tion to publication in the Federal Register, and shall
16 inform appropriate educational, nonprofit, and child
17 care organizations of such availability.

18 “(7) SPECIAL RULE.—Any assistance provided
19 to eligible student parents from grants provided
20 under this section shall not be treated as other fi-
21 nancial assistance for the purposes of section
22 471(3).

23 “(d) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible institution desiring
24 a grant under this section shall submit an application to
25 the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accom-

1 panied by such information as the Secretary may require.

2 Such application shall—

3 “(1) demonstrate that the institution is an eligi-
4 ble institution described in subsection (b)(4);

5 “(2) specify the amount of funds requested;

6 “(3) demonstrate the need of eligible student
7 parents at the institution for accessible and afford-
8 able child care services by including in the applica-
9 tion—

10 “(A) information regarding student demo-
11 graphics;

12 “(B) an assessment of child care capacity
13 on or near campus;

14 “(C) information regarding the existence of
15 waiting lists for child care services on or near
16 campus;

17 “(D) information regarding additional
18 needs created by concentrations of poverty or
19 by geographic isolation; and

20 “(E) other relevant data;

21 “(4) contain a description of the activities to be
22 assisted, including whether the grant funds will sup-
23 port an existing child care program or a new child
24 care program;

1 “(5) identify the resources, including technical
2 expertise and financial support, the institution will
3 draw upon to support the child care program and
4 the participation of eligible student parents in the
5 program (such as accessing social services funding,
6 using student activity fees to help pay the costs of
7 child care, using resources obtained by meeting the
8 needs of parents who are not eligible student par-
9 ents, and accessing foundation, corporate, or other
10 institutional support) and demonstrate that the use
11 of the resources will not result in increases in stu-
12 dent tuition and fees;

13 “(6) contain an assurance that the institution
14 will meet the child care needs of eligible student par-
15 ents through the provision of services, or through a
16 contract for the provision of services;

17 “(7) describe the extent to which the child care
18 program will coordinate with the institution’s early
19 childhood education curriculum, to the extent the
20 curriculum is available, to meet the needs of the stu-
21 dents in the early childhood education program at
22 the institution, and the needs of the parents and
23 children participating in the child care program as-
24 sisted under this section;

1 “(8) in the case of an institution seeking assist-
2 ance to establish a campus-based child care pro-
3 gram—

4 “(A) provide a timeline, covering the pe-
5 riod from receipt of the grant through the pro-
6 vision of the child care services, delineating the
7 specific steps the institution will take to achieve
8 the goal of providing eligible student parents
9 with child care services;

10 “(B) specify any measures the institution
11 will take to assist eligible student parents with
12 child care during the period before the institu-
13 tion provides child care services;

14 “(C) include a plan for identifying re-
15 sources needed for the child care services, in-
16 cluding space in which to provide child care
17 services, and technical assistance if necessary;
18 and

19 “(D) include plans to assure quality of
20 campus-based child care facilities;

21 “(9) in the case of an institution seeking assist-
22 ance for a campus-based child care program in exist-
23 ence on the date of the application—

1 “(A) provide information regarding the
2 number of eligible student parents served
3 through campus-based child care on such date;

4 “(B) provide information on the age
5 groups of children to be served;

6 “(C) specify any measures the institution
7 will take to assist eligible student parents who
8 are waitlisted for the campus-based child care
9 program;

10 “(D) provide information regarding the ap-
11 plication of subsidies or a sliding fee scale for
12 child care services;

13 “(E) specify what staff positions will be
14 supported by funding under this section, and
15 how those staff positions support the purpose
16 under subsection (a);

17 “(F) provide information on the total num-
18 ber of children served by the campus-based
19 child care program, and number of children of
20 students served; and

21 “(G) specify if funding will be used to en-
22 hance program quality as described in sub-
23 section (c)(2)(B);

1 “(10) in the case of an institution seeking as-
 2 sistance that will contract for the provision of child
 3 care services—

4 “(A) provide information on the age
 5 groups of children to be served;

6 “(B) provide information regarding the ap-
 7 plication of subsidies or a sliding fee scale for
 8 child care services; and

9 “(C) provide information regarding param-
 10 eters the institution will use in selecting child
 11 care providers in contracting for the provision
 12 of services, including—

13 “(i) assessment of program quality;
 14 and

15 “(ii) geographic location;

16 “(11) contain an assurance that any child care
 17 facility assisted under this section will meet the ap-
 18 plicable State and local government licensing, certifi-
 19 cation, approval, or registration requirements;

20 “(12) describe how information regarding the
 21 availability of subsidized child care will be provided
 22 to students;

23 “(13) contain an assurance that the institution
 24 will assist student parents receiving child care serv-
 25 ices provided under this section in enrolling in Fed-

1 eral, State, Tribal, or local means-tested benefits
2 programs for which they may be eligible, including—

3 “(A) the supplemental nutrition assistance
4 program established under the Food and Nutri-
5 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), a nu-
6 trition assistance program carried out under
7 section 19 of such Act (7 U.S.C. 2028), or a
8 nutrition assistance program carried out by the
9 Secretary of Agriculture in the Northern Mar-
10 iana Islands;

11 “(B) the supplemental security income pro-
12 gram under title XVI of the Social Security Act
13 (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.);

14 “(C) the program of block grants to States
15 for temporary assistance for needy families
16 under part A of title IV of the Social Security
17 Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

18 “(D) the special supplemental nutrition
19 program for women, infants, and children es-
20 tablished by section 17 of the Child Nutrition
21 Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786);

22 “(E) the Medicaid program under title
23 XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396
24 et seq.);

1 “(F) Federal housing assistance programs,
2 including tenant-based assistance under section
3 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937
4 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)), and public housing, as
5 defined in section 3(b)(1) of such Act (42
6 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(1));

7 “(G) Federal child care assistance pro-
8 grams, including assistance under the Child
9 Care and Development Block Grant Act of
10 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9857 et seq.);

11 “(H) the free and reduced price school
12 lunch program established under the Richard
13 B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42
14 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.);

15 “(I) refundable credit for coverage under a
16 qualified health plan under section 36B of the
17 Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

18 “(J) the earned income tax credit under
19 section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of
20 1986;

21 “(K) the child tax credit under section 24
22 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

23 “(L) any other means-tested Federal pro-
24 gram determined by the Secretary to be appro-
25 priate;

1 “(14) contain an abstract summarizing the con-
2 tents of such application and how the institution in-
3 tends to achieve the purpose under subsection (a);

4 “(15) contain a plan for any child care program
5 assisted under this section to, not later than 3 years
6 after the date the institution first receives assistance
7 under this section—

8 “(A) meet standards that are equivalent to
9 Head Start program performance standards de-
10 scribed in section 641A(a)(1)(B) of the Head
11 Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836a(a)(1)(B)) or other
12 equivalent evidence-based standards approved
13 by the Secretary;

14 “(B) be in the top tier of the quality rating
15 improvement system for such facilities used by
16 the State in which the facility is located; or

17 “(C) be accredited by a national early
18 childhood accrediting body with demonstrated
19 valid and reliable program quality standards;
20 and

21 “(16) contain an assurance that the institution
22 will comply with the prohibitions described in sub-
23 section (c)(3).

24 “(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may
25 provide technical assistance—

1 “(1) to eligible institutions to help such institu-
 2 tions qualify for, apply for, and maintain a grant
 3 under this section; and

4 “(2) to institutions receiving grants under this
 5 section to help such institutions meet the reporting
 6 requirements described in subsection (g).

7 “(f) PRIORITY.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall give
 9 priority in awarding grants under this section to eli-
 10 gible institutions that submit applications describing
 11 programs that—

12 “(A) leverage local or institutional re-
 13 sources, including in-kind contributions, to sup-
 14 port the activities assisted under this section;

15 “(B) utilize a sliding fee scale for child
 16 care services provided under this section in
 17 order to support a high number of eligible stu-
 18 dent parents pursuing postsecondary education
 19 at the institution; and

20 “(C) provide additional resources or sup-
 21 ports to students who are single parents.

22 “(2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not es-
 23 tablish a priority in awarding grants under this sec-
 24 tion to eligible institutions that—

1 “(A) propose projects solely with off-cam-
2 pus child care providers; or

3 “(B) that are designed to support 2 or
4 more child care providers.

5 “(g) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; CONTINUING ELI-
6 GIBILITY.—

7 “(1) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Each eligi-
8 ble institution receiving a grant under this section
9 shall report to the Secretary annually information
10 on—

11 “(A) the population of eligible student par-
12 ents who received child care services under this
13 section, including—

14 “(i) the number of such eligible stu-
15 dent parents, disaggregated by full- and
16 part-time status;

17 “(ii) information on such eligible stu-
18 dent parents, including demographic infor-
19 mation disaggregated by—

20 “(I) sex;

21 “(II) status as a single parent;

22 “(III) race and ethnicity;

23 “(IV) age groups of the depend-
24 ents of such student parents;

1 “(V) classification as a student
2 with a disability;

3 “(VI) recipients of educational
4 assistance under laws administered by
5 the Secretary of Defense or the Sec-
6 retary of Veterans Affairs;

7 “(VII) status as a first-genera-
8 tion college student; and

9 “(VIII) levels of degree or cre-
10 dential pursued by such eligible stu-
11 dent parents; and

12 “(iii) the number of such eligible stu-
13 dent parents who—

14 “(I) remain enrolled at the insti-
15 tution during the academic year for
16 which they received such services;

17 “(II) remain enrolled at the insti-
18 tution during the subsequent aca-
19 demic year after which they first re-
20 ceived such services;

21 “(III) graduate from the institu-
22 tion during the academic year for
23 which they received such services;

1 “(IV) transfer to a different in-
2 stitution during the academic year for
3 which they received such services; or

4 “(V) withdrew from the institu-
5 tion during the academic year for
6 which they received such services;

7 “(B) the fee structure for eligible student
8 parents to receive child care services under this
9 section, including any sliding scale;

10 “(C) the percentage of the institution’s
11 grant that was used directly to subsidize any
12 fees charged for—

13 “(i) campus-based child care services
14 for eligible student parents; and

15 “(ii) off-campus child care services for
16 eligible student parents;

17 “(D) information on institutional or local
18 resources, including in-kind contributions, lever-
19 aged to help eligible student parents access
20 child care services; and

21 “(E) the relevant quality information of
22 the child care services supported by a grant
23 under this section, including—

24 “(i) the name of the accrediting agen-
25 cy or association that is providing accredi-

1 tation to such child care services, if appli-
2 cable; and

3 “(ii) the tier or level of the State
4 tiered and transparent system for meas-
5 uring the quality of child care providers
6 that is associated with such child care
7 services, if applicable.

8 “(2) REPORT.—

9 “(A) REPORT REQUIRED.—On an annual
10 basis, the Secretary shall make publicly avail-
11 able a report that includes a summary of the
12 information described in paragraph (1).

13 “(B) STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION.—The
14 Secretary shall work with relevant stakeholders
15 to determine the manner in which the data de-
16 scribed under paragraph (1) and summarized
17 under subparagraph (A) is collected.

18 “(h) NONDISCRIMINATION.—No person in the United
19 States shall, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color,
20 religion, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation,
21 gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth, a medical condition
22 related to pregnancy or childbirth, or sex stereotype), or
23 disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the
24 benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination by any pro-
25 gram funded, in whole or in part, with funds made avail-

1 able under this section or with amounts appropriated for
2 grants, contracts, or certificates administered with such
3 funds.

4 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
6 \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through
7 2031.”.

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