



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

***Raised Bill No. 933***

LCO No. 3913



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN FAMILIES IN THE CARE4KIDS PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 17b-749 of the general  
2 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall establish and  
5 operate a child care subsidy program to increase the availability,  
6 affordability and quality of child care services for families with a  
7 parent or caretaker who (1) is working or attending high school, or (2)  
8 receives cash assistance under the temporary family assistance  
9 program from the Department of Social Services and is participating in  
10 an education, training or other job preparation activity approved  
11 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 17b-688i or subsection (b) of  
12 section 17b-689d. Services available under the child care subsidy  
13 program shall include the provision of child care subsidies for children  
14 under the age of thirteen or children under the age of nineteen with  
15 special needs. The Office of Early Childhood shall open and maintain

16 enrollment for the child care subsidy program and shall administer  
17 such program within the existing budgetary resources available. The  
18 office shall issue a notice on the office's Internet web site any time the  
19 office closes the program to new applications, changes eligibility  
20 requirements, changes program benefits or makes any other change to  
21 the program's status or terms. [, except the office shall not be required  
22 to issue such notice when the office expands program eligibility.] Any  
23 change in the office's acceptance of new applications, eligibility  
24 requirements, program benefits or any other change to the program's  
25 status or terms for which the office is required to give notice pursuant  
26 to this subsection, shall not be effective until thirty days after the office  
27 issues such notice.

28 (b) The commissioner shall establish income standards for  
29 applicants and recipients at a level to include a family with gross  
30 income up to [fifty] seventy-five per cent of the state-wide median  
31 income, except the commissioner (1) [may increase the income level to  
32 up to seventy-five per cent of the state-wide median income, (2)] upon  
33 the request of the Commissioner of Children and Families, may waive  
34 the income standards for adoptive families so that children adopted on  
35 or after October 1, 1999, from the Department of Children and Families  
36 are eligible for the child care subsidy program, and [(3)] (2) on and  
37 after March 1, 2003, shall reduce the income eligibility level to up to  
38 fifty-five per cent of the state-wide median income for applicants and  
39 recipients who qualify based on their loss of eligibility for temporary  
40 family assistance. The commissioner may adopt regulations in  
41 accordance with chapter 54 to establish income criteria and durational  
42 requirements for such waiver of income standards.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2019	17b-749(a) and (b)

***Statement of Purpose:***

To expand the eligibility of the Care4Kids program to include families with a gross income of up to seventy-five per cent of the state-wide median income and require advance notice of expanded program eligibility.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*