General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 5222

February Session, 2020

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY IN THE CARE4KIDS PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES.

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

Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-749 of the 2020 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2020):

(a) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall establish and operate a child care subsidy program to increase the availability, affordability and quality of child care services for families with a parent or caretaker who (1) is working or attending high school, [or] (2) receives cash assistance under the temporary family assistance program from the Department of Social Services and is participating in an education, training or other job preparation activity approved pursuant to subsection (b) of section 17b-688i or subsection (b) of section 17b-689d, or (3) satisfies the criteria described in category 1 or category 4 of the definition of homeless, as defined in 24 CFR Parts 91, 582 and 583 by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, and has been seeking employment while living in a homeless shelter for at least
two consecutive weeks, provided services available under this subdivision for such homeless parent or caretaker shall not exceed twelve weeks. Services available under the child care subsidy program shall include the provision of child care subsidies for children under the age of thirteen or children under the age of nineteen with special needs. The Office of Early Childhood shall open and maintain enrollment for the child care subsidy program and shall administer such program within the existing budgetary resources available. The office shall issue a notice on the office's Internet web site any time the office closes the program to new applications, changes eligibility requirements, changes program benefits or makes any other change to the program's status or terms, except the office shall not be required to issue such notice when the office expands program eligibility. Any change in the office's acceptance of new applications, eligibility requirements, program benefits or any other change to the program's status or terms for which the office is required to give notice pursuant to this subsection, shall not be effective until thirty days after the office issues such notice.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| Section 1 | July 1, 2020 | 17b-749(a) |

ED Joint Favorable C/R APP