

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6558

AN ACT CONCERNING ISSUES RELATING TO THE PROVISION
OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND SERVICES IN
CONNECTICUT.

As Amended by House "A" (LCO 9463)

House Calendar No.: 465

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: See Below

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) associated with expanding eligibility for the Care4kids program to parents and caretakers participating in various higher education, job training, and adult education programs. The bill also specifies those qualifying under these provisions can participate in a program provided at a state-contracted child care center. The extent of the cost depends on the number of qualifying participants and subsidy amount paid under the program. The bill specifies that individuals are only eligible under the expansion if certain federal funds are designated for such benefits, and therefore does not require the expenditure of state funds.

The bill also allows the OEC to issue a family child care home license to provide care in a space outside a private family home from FY 22 through FY 26. The bill limits the issuance of the license to one facility per city in New Britain, New Haven, Bridgeport, Stamford, Hartford, Danbury or Waterbury. This is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as it does not expand eligibility for state-subsidized

childcare, and OEC has the expertise necessary to meet related licensing requirements.

The bill establishes a task force to analyze and make recommendations on issues related to early childhood workforce development needs in the state, which is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact. The task force must report and terminate by January 1, 2023.

House "A" expands Care4Kids eligibility pending the designation of federal funds to support such benefits. The amendment makes other technical and conforming changes that have no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the designation of federal funds.