

Banking Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1400

Title: AN ACT CONCERNING A CHILD CARE SERVICES LOAN PROGRAM.

Vote Date: 3/11/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/4/2025

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

The Banking Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

A current problem facing prospective parents is the high cost of childcare and the additional financial obligations that come with it. This has made potential parents hesitant when considering whether to have children and how they will be able to provide for them. This bill seeks to help parents by mandating the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority to create a program that provides loans for families to access affordable childcare and support providers within the state.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Chris Senecal, Hartford Foundations, Senior Public Policy: He discussed how this bill would address the financial barriers associated with childcare and explained that low-interest loans, totaling up to \$5,000 would help parents access proper childcare in a more manageable way, alleviating potential financial burdens.

Anonymous: They highlighted the importance of families obtaining the financial support needed to care for their children. They discussed the nature of financial insecurity and hardship, noting that these loans would not only help families care for their children but also support workers in childcare facilities and potentially attract future employees.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed

GENERAL COMMENTS:

[Jeanette W. Weldon, Connecticut Health & Educational Facilities Authority, Executive Director:](#) She acknowledged the importance of childcare in a developing workforce and how they appreciate the goal of the bill to make childcare more affordable. While she claimed that they do approve of the bill's concepts, they ask the committee to establish a working group to review the concepts.

Reported by: Morgan Dlugoleski

Date: 03/12/2025