

CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Child Care Update Senate Standing Committee on Families & Children Eric C. Friedlander Secretary, Cabinet for Health and Family Services January 9, 2024



Investments to Child Care

Additional Funding

Services

- CARES : Sustainment payments, cleaning stipends, and hero bonuses (liquidated by 9/30/2023)
 - CRRSA: Sustainment payments, background check fees, training and technical assistance (CPR/first aid and trauma-informed care and resiliency) (liquidated by 9/30/2023)
 - ARPA:
 - Increased CCAP reimbursement rate
 - Increased CCAP eligibility threshold making more families eligible
 - Increased add-on incentives for those providing care to children with special needs; providing care during non-traditional hours; and program who are accredited
 - Offered start-up grants for center based and family child care programs
 - Offered public preschool partnership grants
 - Piloted an infant and toddler contracted slots program
 - Provided an array of training opportunities at no cost
 - Increased scholarships to those employee in child care settings
 - Offered technology grants to assist programs with administration
 - Offering free access to a child care management system
 - Supported registered apprenticeship programs
 - Stabilization payments liquidated by 9/30/2023, other funding liquidated by 9/30/2024



 CARES 	\$67.7M

• CRRSA \$192.5M

- ARPA \$763M
 - Stabilization \$470M

\$76M

\$26M

\$50M

- Discretionary \$293M
- State Funds
 - Family copays
 - Stabilization

Annual cost to maintain Child Care Investments

- **\$200M** Recurring quarterly sustainability payments
- **\$40M** Increased provider reimbursement rates (80th percentile of the Market Rate Study)
- **\$40M** Increased CCAP eligibility threshold (200% of the federal poverty guidelines)
- **\$20M** Facility reimbursement based on CCAP enrollment versus attendance
- **\$30M** Income exclusion for child care facility staff

<u>\$330M</u> Total



Governor's Budget Request for Child Care

- \$40M each fiscal year to retain provider reimbursement rates at current level
- \$35M over biennium to increase reimbursement rates to child care providers specifically for the care of children ages 0 through 3 not eligible for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- \$172M each fiscal year to finance universal preschool education for all four-year old children



Universal Preschool

Benefits

- Access to:
 - Transportation services
 - Family Resource and Youth Service Centers (FRYSC)
 - School nurses
 - Nutritional services
 - Intervention staff
 - Afterschool services
 - Access to extracurricular activities
- Improves kindergarten readiness

