

S.1086 – The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014



On March 13th, 2014, the Senate voted to pass S.1086, the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG) of 2014 by a vote of 96-2, which includes basic improvements to the CCDBG program to ensure that children are safe when in child care. Some of the highlights of the bill include requiring providers who receive federal funds to complete background checks before working with children, annual inspections of program to ensure safe environments for children, and training for providers on basic topics, like first aid and CPR. S.1086 would allow for more funds from the CCDBG program to be set-aside specifically for quality improvement activities (from at least 4% currently to 10% in 2018). These funds can be used for a variety of purposes, including Child Care Resource & Referral services, training for child care providers, infant and toddler specialists, and quality rating systems.

Timeline of S.1086 in the Senate:

- June 3, 2013:** Senator Mikulski (D-MD), Senator Burr (R-NC), Senator Harkin (D-IA), and Senator Alexander (R-TN) Introduce S.1086, a bill to reauthorize the Child Care and Development Block Grant.
- September 18, 2013:** The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee passes S.1086 out of committee by unanimous consent via voice vote.
- March 12, 2014:** The Senate begins debate on S.1086.
- March 13, 2014:** After adopting multiple amendments, Senate passes S.1086 by a vote of 96-2.

YEAs - 96

Alexander (R-TN)	Collins (R-ME)	Heitkamp (D-ND)	Menendez (D-NJ)	Sessions (R-AL)
Ayotte (R-NH)	Coons (D-DE)	Heller (R-NV)	Merkley (D-OR)	Shaheen (D-NH)
Baldwin (D-WI)	Corker (R-TN)	Hirono (D-HI)	Mikulski (D-MD)	Shelby (R-AL)
Barrasso (R-WY)	Cornyn (R-TX)	Hoeven (R-ND)	Murkowski (R-AK)	Stabenow (D-MI)
Begich (D-AK)	Crapo (R-ID)	Isakson (R-GA)	Murphy (D-CT)	Tester (D-MT)
Bennet (D-CO)	Cruz (R-TX)	Johanns (R-NE)	Murray (D-WA)	Thune (R-SD)
Blumenthal (D-CT)	Donnelly (D-IN)	Johnson (D-SD)	Nelson (D-FL)	Toomey (R-PA)
Blunt (R-MO)	Durbin (D-IL)	Johnson (R-WI)	Paul (R-KY)	Udall (D-CO)
Booker (D-NJ)	Enzi (R-WY)	Kaine (D-VA)	Portman (R-OH)	Udall (D-NM)
Boozman (R-AR)	Feinstein (D-CA)	King (I-ME)	Pryor (D-AR)	Vitter (R-LA)
Boxer (D-CA)	Fischer (R-NE)	Kirk (R-IL)	Reed (D-RI)	Walsh (D-MT)
Brown (D-OH)	Flake (R-AZ)	Klobuchar (D-MN)	Reid (D-NV)	Warner (D-VA)
Burr (R-NC)	Franken (D-MN)	Landrieu (D-LA)	Risch (R-ID)	Warren (D-MA)
Cantwell (D-WA)	Gillibrand (D-NY)	Leahy (D-VT)	Roberts (R-KS)	Whitehouse (D-RI)
Cardin (D-MD)	Graham (R-SC)	Levin (D-MI)	Rockefeller (D-WV)	Wicker (R-MS)
Carper (D-DE)	Grassley (R-IA)	Manchin (D-WV)	Rubio (R-FL)	Wyden (D-OR)
Casey (D-PA)	Hagan (D-NC)	Markey (D-MA)	Sanders (I-VT)	
Chambliss (R-GA)	Harkin (D-IA)	McCain (R-AZ)	Schatz (D-HI)	
Coats (R-IN)	Hatch (R-UT)	McCaskill (D-MO)	Schumer (D-NY)	
Cochran (R-MS)	Heinrich (D-NM)	McConnell (R-KY)	Scott (R-SC)	

NAYs - 2

Coburn (R-OK) Lee (R-UT)

Not Voting - 2

Inhofe (R-OK) Moran (R-KS)

The full text for S. 1086, as passed by the Senate, with all adopted amendments, can be found here:
<http://beta.congress.gov/113/bills/s1086/BILLS-113s1086es.pdf>

Summary of S.1086:

The key changes that S.1086 would make to Child Care & Development Block Grant program include:

Improving program quality while simultaneously ensuring that federal funds support low-income and at-risk children and families:

- States must set aside three percent of funding to expand access and improve the quality of care for infants and toddlers.
- In addition, the amount states set aside for quality improvement activities must be at least 10 percent within five years of enactment and states must report on what activities they choose to invest in.
- States must describe how they are prioritizing quality care for children from low-income families in areas of concentrated poverty or unemployment.

Addressing the nutritional and physical activity needs of children in child care settings:

- Allows quality funds to support the development of guidelines relating to health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity and development for young kids.
- Incorporates the health and wellness needs of children into professional development.

Strengthening coordination and alignment to contribute to a more comprehensive early childhood education and care system:

- Emphasizes the improvement of service coordination & delivery as a purpose of the law.
- Requires states to consult with their Early Learning Advisory Councils, mandated through Head Start, on major decisions.
- Requires States to coordinate with existing early education and care programs.

Meeting the needs of children with disabilities who require child care:

- Requires States to explain how they will meet the needs of children with disabilities.
- Ensures that the CCDBG provisions are coordinated with IDEA programs for infants and toddlers and preschool-aged children with disabilities.

Providing protections for children and families who receive assistance:

- Children who initially qualify for a subsidy get care for at least a year.
- When parents re-determine their eligibility for the subsidy, States must ensure they will give parents ample opportunity to prove continued eligibility and take into account the needs of families in doing so, including taking into account a parent's irregular work schedule.

Safeguarding the health and safety of children:

- States must provide pre-service health & safety training to all CCDBG providers.
- States must develop health & safety standards related to things such as first aid & CPR, prevention of sudden infant death syndrome, and child abuse prevention.
- States must perform at least one annual inspection of licensed CCDBG providers.
- States must perform at least one pre-licensure inspection of CCDBG providers.
- States must explain how providers who are license-exempt provide care that does not endanger the health or development of children.
- Individuals who provide care for children with the support of CCDBG funding must undergo a background check.

Amendments Adopted:

As part of the floor action in the Senate, there were 18 amendments agreed (4 by roll call vote and 14 by voice vote):

S.Amdt.2809

Description: To amend the Crime Control Act of 1990 to improve the quality of background checks for Federal agencies hiring, or contracting to hire, individuals to provide child care services.

Sponsor: Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA] (Submitted 03/11/2014) (Proposed 03/12/2014)

S.Amdt.2812

Description: To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Secretary of Education, to conduct a review of Federal early learning and care programs and make recommendations for streamlining the various programs.

Sponsor: Sen. Enzi, Michael B. [R-WY] (Submitted 03/11/2014) (Proposed 03/12/2014)

S.Amdt.2813

Description: To allow children in foster care to receive services under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 while their families (including foster families) are taking necessary action to comply with immunization and other health and safety requirements.

Sponsor: Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA] (Submitted 03/11/2014) (Proposed 03/12/2014)

S.Amdt.2814

Description: To require the State plan to describe how the State will coordinate the services supported to carry out the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 with State agencies and programs serving children in foster care and the foster families of such children.

Sponsor: Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA] (Submitted 03/11/2014) (Proposed 03/12/2014)

S.Amdt.2818

Description: To require a statewide child care disaster plan.

Sponsor: Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA] (Submitted 03/11/2014) (Proposed 03/12/2014)

S.Amdt.2821

Description: To prohibit States from providing the Secretary with reports containing personally identifiable information.

Sponsor: Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/12/2014)

S.Amdt.2822

Description: To reserve not less than 2 percent of the amount appropriated under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 in each fiscal year for payments to Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

Sponsor: Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/12/2014)

S.Amdt.2824

Description: To require States that elect to combine funding for early childhood education and care to describe the manner in which they use the combined funding.

Sponsor: Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/12/2014)

S.Amdt.2827

Description: To provide for evidence-based training that promotes early language and literacy development.

Sponsor: Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/13/2014)

S.Amdt.2830

Description: To establish a \$1,000,000 asset limit for eligibility for child care assistance.

Sponsor: Sen. Coburn, Tom [R-OK] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/13/2014)

S.Amdt.2834

Description: To permit the Secretary of Health and Human Services to waive the prohibition on the use of amounts by Indian tribes and tribal organizations for construction or renovation of facilities for child care programs if the use will result in an increase of the level of child care services.

Sponsor: Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/13/2014)

S.Amdt.2837

Description: To clarify parental rights to use child care certificates.

Sponsor: Sen. Scott, Tim [R-SC] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/12/2014)

S.Amdt.2838

Description: To specify that child care certificates may be included in State strategies to increase the supply of child care.

Sponsor: Sen. Thune, John [R-SD] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/13/2014)

S.Amdt.2839

Description: To expand the requirement that space allotted to child care providers in Federal buildings will be used to provide child care services to children of whom at least 50 percent have 1 parent or guardian employed by the Federal Government.

Sponsor: Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/13/2014)

S.Amdt.2842

Description: To allow funds reserved under section 658G(a) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to be used to connect child care staff members with Federal and State financial aid, or other resources, in order to assist the staff members in pursuing relevant training.

Sponsor: Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA] (Submitted 03/12/2014) (Proposed 03/13/2014)

S.Amdt.2845

Description: To require the Secretary (acting through the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families) to prepare an annual report that contains a determination about whether States have complied with a priority requirement, and to require the Secretary to withhold funds from States that fail to comply with such priority requirement.

Sponsor: Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA] (Submitted 03/13/2014) (Proposed 03/13/2014)

S.Amdt.2846

Description: To express the sense of the Senate on significantly reducing child poverty by calendar year 2019.

Sponsor: Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT] (Submitted 03/13/2014) (Proposed 03/13/2014)

S.Amdt.2847

Description: To provide that a child care staff member who has been convicted of a violent misdemeanor against a child or a misdemeanor involving child pornography is ineligible for employment by certain child care providers.

Sponsor: Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH] (Submitted 03/13/2014) (Proposed 03/13/2014)