

Floor Amendment to SB 596-FN

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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3 1 New Subparagraph; New Hampshire Employment Program and Family Assistance Program;
4 Rulemaking; Child Care Scholarship Program. Amend RSA 167:83, II by inserting after
5 subparagraph (q) the following new subparagraph:

6 (r) The development and administration of the child care scholarship program as a
7 component of the Child Care Development Block Grant. Such rules shall:

8 (1) Identify a protected class for children at-risk of or diagnosed with a disability or
9 special needs under the Child Care Development Block Grant.

10 (2) Consider in its definition delays across all domains of child development
11 including but not limited to a child's physical, cognitive, communication, social, emotional, and/or
12 behavioral skills.

13 (A) The definition of "disability" or "special needs" under the child care
14 scholarship program shall include any child who displays, or is at risk for, delayed social or
15 emotional development.

16 (B) An eligible child shall not require a formal diagnosis or formal special
17 education code, but rather shall qualify under this category so long as the child is screened and
18 found to be delayed or at risk of delay through an approved early childhood developmental screening
19 tool and the results verified by an approved by a child care provider and licensed treating clinician,
20 or other approved licensed professional.

21 (3) Identify the standardized and/or approved early childhood developmental
22 screening tools necessary to determine eligibility and establish the verification process by which a
23 child's child care provider, licensed treating clinician, or other licensed professional as reasonably
24 identified by the department, shall verify, or otherwise certify the results of the tool.

25 2 Appropriation. The sum of \$375,000 for the biennium ending June 30, 2025 is appropriated to
26 the department of health and human services for the purpose of adopting rules and administering
27 the child care scholarship program in accordance with the criteria specified in section 1 of this act.
28 The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum from any funds in the treasury not
29 otherwise appropriated.

30 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2025.