



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 6840

LCO No. 3824



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT REQUIRING THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD TO STUDY THE AVAILABILITY OF CHILD CARE SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO ADDRESS INFANT AND TODDLER CHILD CARE SERVICES NEEDS FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) Not later than January 1,
2 2026, and annually thereafter, the Office of Early Childhood shall
3 conduct a study of the availability of licensed and license-exempt child
4 care services, as described in section 19a-77 of the general statutes, in the
5 state. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) the total
6 number of child care centers, group child care homes and family child
7 care homes, as such terms are described in section 19a-77 of the general
8 statutes, in the state, (2) the number of such centers and homes in each
9 municipality and region, (3) the total number of slots at such centers and
10 homes, including how many of such slots are (A) designated for infants,
11 toddlers and preschool-age children, (B) filled or open, and (C)
12 subsidized and unsubsidized, (4) an identification of the supply and
13 demand for child care services on a municipal, regional and state-wide
14 basis, and (5) an analysis of the unmet need for child care services on a

15 municipal, regional and state-wide basis.

16 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the office
 17 shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint
 18 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 19 matters relating to children and appropriations, in accordance with the
 20 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

21 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2026, the
 22 Commissioner of Early Childhood shall develop a plan to address
 23 shortages in the availability of infant and toddler child care services, as
 24 described in section 19a-77 of the general statutes, in the state for low-
 25 income families. In developing such plan, the commissioner shall utilize
 26 the findings in the child care services availability study conducted
 27 pursuant to section 1 of this act. Such plan shall include, but need not be
 28 limited to, strategies for (1) identifying low-income families who may
 29 be in need of such child care services, (2) increasing the availability and
 30 number of subsidized slots at child care centers, group child care homes
 31 and family child care homes, as such terms are described in section 19a-
 32 77 of the general statutes, and (3) ensuring that such low-income
 33 families have access to such slots.

34 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the commissioner shall submit the
 35 plan to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
 36 cognizance of matters relating to children and appropriations, in
 37 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Office of Early Childhood to conduct an annual study of child care availability throughout the state and to develop a plan to address infant and toddler childcare needs for low-income families.