

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

H.P. 71 - L.D. 103

Resolve, Directing the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council to Study Incentives for the Provision of Child Care in Maine

Sec. 1. Directive to study incentives for employers. Resolved: That the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council, as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 24051, shall complete the following tasks:

1. Identify and review obstacles to the availability of child care in this State, including, but not limited to, the relevant costs for parents and providers and the difference between the amount of child care that is available in this State and the amount of child care that is needed;
2. Identify and consider mechanisms that could be used to overcome the obstacles identified in subsection 1 and to support the child care providers that currently operate in this State, including, but not limited to, state funding, grant programs, workforce incentives and tax credits; and
3. Conduct a review of other states that have faced child care obstacles similar to those in this State, identify the measures taken by those states to address the obstacles and determine whether similar measures may be effectively implemented in this State.

To the extent any task identified in this section is already being conducted by one or more state entities, the council may, instead of completing the task on its own, identify the entities conducting the task, review the work being conducted by those entities and evaluate whether there is a need for increased resources or coordination related to that task.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, no later than January 15, 2024, the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business summarizing its findings and recommendations related to the tasks identified in section 1. The Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.