

- Sec.
1799. Child care services and youth program services for dependents: participation by children and youth otherwise ineligible.
1800. Definitions.

AMENDMENTS

1999—Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, § 584(a)(2), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 636, added items 1798, 1799, and 1800 and struck out former item 1798 “Definitions”.

§ 1791. Funding for military child care

It is the policy of Congress that the amount of appropriated funds available during a fiscal year for operating expenses for military child development centers and programs shall be not less than the amount of child care fee receipts that are estimated to be received by the Department of Defense during that fiscal year.

(Added Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title V, § 568(a)(1), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 332.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this subchapter were contained in Pub. L. 101-189, div. A, title XV, Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1589, which was set out as a note under section 113 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-106, § 568(e)(2).

REPORTS ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHILD CARE FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title V, § 587, Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4230, provided that:

“(a) **REPORTS REQUIRED.**—Not later than six months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 7, 2011], and every two years thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on Department of Defense child development centers and financial assistance for child care provided by the Department of Defense off-installation to members of the Armed Forces.

“(b) **ELEMENTS.**—Each report required by subsection (a) shall include the following, current as of the date of such report:

“(1) The number of child development centers currently located on military installations.

“(2) The number of dependents of members of the Armed Forces utilizing such child development centers.

“(3) The number of dependents of members of the Armed Forces that are unable to utilize such child development centers due to capacity limitations.

“(4) The types of financial assistance available for child care provided by the Department of Defense off-installation to members of the Armed Forces (including eligible members of the reserve components).

“(5) The extent to which members of the Armed Forces are utilizing such financial assistance for child care off-installation.

“(6) The methods by which the Department of Defense reaches out to eligible military families to increase awareness of the availability of such financial assistance.

“(7) The formulas used to calculate the amount of such financial assistance provided to members of the Armed Forces.

“(8) The funding available for such financial assistance in the Department of Defense and in the military departments.

“(9) The barriers to access, if any, to such financial assistance faced by members of the Armed Forces, including whether standards and criteria of the Department of Defense for child care off-installation may affect access to child care.

“(10) Any other matters the Secretary considers appropriate in connection with such report, including

with respect to the enhancement of access to Department of Defense child care development centers and financial assistance for child care off-installation for members of the Armed Forces.”

§ 1792. Child care employees

(a) **REQUIRED TRAINING.**—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations implementing a training program for child care employees. Those regulations shall apply uniformly among the military departments. Subject to paragraph (2), satisfactory completion of the training program shall be a condition of employment of any person as a child care employee.

(2) Under those regulations, the Secretary shall require that each child care employee complete the training program not later than six months after the date on which the employee is employed as a child care employee.

(3) The training program established under this subsection shall cover, at a minimum, training in the following:

(A) Early childhood development.

(B) Activities and disciplinary techniques appropriate to children of different ages.

(C) Child abuse prevention and detection.

(D) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency medical procedures.

(b) **TRAINING AND CURRICULUM SPECIALISTS.**—

(1) The Secretary of Defense shall require that at least one employee at each military child development center be a specialist in training and curriculum development. The Secretary shall ensure that such employees have appropriate credentials and experience.

(2) The duties of such employees shall include the following:

(A) Special teaching activities at the center.

(B) Daily oversight and instruction of other child care employees at the center.

(C) Daily assistance in the preparation of lesson plans.

(D) Assistance in the center’s child abuse prevention and detection program.

(E) Advising the director of the center on the performance of other child care employees.

(3) Each employee referred to in paragraph (1) shall be an employee in a competitive service position.

(c) **COMPETITIVE RATES OF PAY.**—For the purpose of providing military child development centers with a qualified and stable civilian workforce, employees at a military installation who are directly involved in providing child care and are paid from nonappropriated funds—

(1) in the case of entry-level employees, shall be paid at rates of pay competitive with the rates of pay paid to other entry-level employees at that installation who are drawn from the same labor pool; and

(2) in the case of other employees, shall be paid at rates of pay substantially equivalent to the rates of pay paid to other employees at that installation with similar training, seniority, and experience.

(d) **COMPETITIVE SERVICE POSITION DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “competitive service position” means a position in the competitive service, as defined in section 2102(a)(1) of title 5.

(Added Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title V, § 568(a)(1), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 332; amended Pub. L.

105-85, div. A, title X, §1073(a)(34), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1902; Pub. L. 105-261, div. A, title XI, §1106, Oct. 17, 1998, 112 Stat. 2142.)

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsecs. (d), (e). Pub. L. 105-261 redesignated subsec. (e) as (d) and struck out former subsec. (d) which read as follows:

“(d) EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE PROGRAM FOR MILITARY SPOUSES.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall conduct a program under which qualified spouses of members of the armed forces shall be given a preference in hiring for the position of child care employee in a position paid from nonappropriated funds if the spouse is among persons determined to be best qualified for the position.

“(2) A spouse who is provided a preference under this subsection at a military child development center may not be precluded from obtaining another preference, in accordance with section 1784 of this title, in the same geographic area as the military child development center.”

1997—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 105-85, §1073(a)(34)(A), struck out comma after “implementing”.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 105-85, §1073(a)(34)(B), substituted “section 1784” for “section 1794”.

§ 1793. Parent fees

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations establishing fees to be charged parents for the attendance of children at military child development centers. Those regulations shall be uniform for the military departments and shall require that, in the case of children who attend the centers on a regular basis, the fees shall be based on family income.

(b) LOCAL WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Defense may provide authority to installation commanders, on a case-by-case basis, to establish fees for attendance of children at child development centers at rates lower than those prescribed under subsection (a) if the rates prescribed under subsection (a) are not competitive with rates at local non-military child development centers.

(Added Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title V, §568(a)(1), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 333.)

§ 1794. Child abuse prevention and safety at facilities

(a) CHILD ABUSE TASK FORCE.—The Secretary of Defense shall maintain a special task force to respond to allegations of widespread child abuse at a military installation. The task force shall be composed of personnel from appropriate disciplines, including, where appropriate, medicine, psychology, and childhood development. In the case of such allegations, the task force shall provide assistance to the commander of the installation, and to parents at the installation, in helping them to deal with such allegations.

(b) NATIONAL HOTLINE.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall maintain a national telephone number for persons to use to report suspected child abuse or safety violations at a military child development center or family home day care site. The Secretary shall ensure that such reports may be made anonymously if so desired by the person making the report. The Secretary shall establish procedures for following up on complaints and information received over that number.

(2) The Secretary shall publicize the existence of the number.

(c) ASSISTANCE FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations requiring that, in a case of allegations of child abuse at a military child development center or family home day care site, the commander of the military installation or the head of the task force established under subsection (a) shall seek the assistance of local child protective authorities if such assistance is available.

(d) SAFETY REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations on safety and operating procedures at military child development centers. Those regulations shall apply uniformly among the military departments.

(e) INSPECTIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall require that each military child development center be inspected not less often than four times a year. Each such inspection shall be unannounced. At least one inspection a year shall be carried out by a representative of the installation served by the center, and one inspection a year shall be carried out by a representative of the major command under which that installation operates.

(f) REMEDIES FOR VIOLATIONS.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), any violation of a safety, health, or child welfare law or regulation (discovered at an inspection or otherwise) at a military child development center shall be remedied immediately.

(2) In the case of a violation that is not life threatening, the commander of the major command under which the installation concerned operates may waive the requirement that the violation be remedied immediately for a period of up to 90 days beginning on the date of the discovery of the violation. If the violation is not remedied as of the end of that 90-day period, the military child development center shall be closed until the violation is remedied. The Secretary of the military department concerned may waive the preceding sentence and authorize the center to remain open in a case in which the violation cannot reasonably be remedied within that 90-day period or in which major facility reconstruction is required.

(Added Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title V, §568(a)(1), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 333.)

§ 1795. Parent partnerships with child development centers

(a) PARENT BOARDS.—The Secretary of Defense shall require that there be established at each military child development center a board of parents, to be composed of parents of children attending the center. The board shall meet periodically with staff of the center and the commander of the installation served by the center for the purpose of discussing problems and concerns. The board, together with the staff of the center, shall be responsible for coordinating the parent participation program described in subsection (b).

(b) PARENT PARTICIPATION PROGRAMS.—The Secretary of Defense shall require the establishment of a parent participation program at each