

§ 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 military child development center. As part of such program, the Secretary of Defense may establish fees for attendance of children at such a center, in the case of parents who participate in the parent participation program at that center, at rates lower than the rates that otherwise apply.

(Added Pub. L. 104–106, div. A, title V, §568(a)(1), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 334.)

§ 1796. Subsidies for family home day care

The Secretary of Defense may use appropriated funds available for military child care purposes to provide assistance to family home day care providers so that family home day care services can be provided to members of the armed forces at a cost comparable to the cost of services provided by military child development centers. The Secretary shall prescribe regulations for the provision of such assistance.

(Added Pub. L. 104–106, div. A, title V, §568(a)(1), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 334.)

PRIORITY FOR CERTAIN MILITARY FAMILY HOUSING TO A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHOSE SPOUSE AGREES TO PROVIDE FAMILY HOME DAY CARE SERVICES

Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title VI, §627, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3678, provided that:

“(a) PRIORITY.—If the Secretary of a military department determines that not enough child care employees are employed at a military child development center on a military installation under the jurisdiction of that Secretary to adequately care for the children of members of the Armed Forces stationed at that military installation, the Secretary, to the extent practicable, may give priority for covered military family housing to a member whose spouse is an eligible military spouse.

“(b) NUMBER OF PRIORITY POSITIONS.—A Secretary of a military department may grant priority under subsection (a) only to the minimum number of eligible military spouses that the Secretary determines necessary to provide adequate child care to the children of members stationed at a military installation described in subsection (a).

“(c) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to require the Secretary of a military department to provide covered military family housing that has been adapted for disabled individuals to a member under this section instead of to a member with one more dependents enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program.

“(d) RESULT OF FAILURE TO PROVIDE FAMILY HOME DAY CARE SERVICES OR LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary of the military department concerned may re-

move a household provided covered military family housing under this section therefrom if the Secretary determines the spouse of that member has failed to abide by an agreement described in subsection (e)(3) or has ceased to be an eligible military spouse. Such removal may not occur sooner than 60 days after the date of such determination.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The terms ‘child care employee’, ‘family home day care’, and ‘military child development center’ have the meanings given those terms in section 1800 of title 10, United States Code.

“(2) The term ‘covered military family housing’ means military family housing—

“(A) located on a military installation described in subsection (a); and

“(B) that the Secretary of the military department concerned determines is large enough to provide family home day care services to no fewer than six children (not including children in the household of the eligible military spouse).

“(3) The term ‘eligible military spouse’ means a military spouse who—

“(A) is eligible for military family housing;

“(B) is eligible to provide family home day care services;

“(C) has provided family home day care services for at least one year; and

“(D) agrees in writing to provide family home day care services in covered military family housing for a period not shorter than one year.”

§ 1797. Early childhood education program

The Secretary of Defense shall require that all military child development centers meet standards of operation necessary for accreditation by an appropriate national early childhood programs accrediting body.

(Added Pub. L. 104–106, div. A, title V, §568(a)(1), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 335.)

§ 1798. Child care services and youth program services for dependents: financial assistance for providers

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Defense may provide financial assistance to an eligible civilian provider of child care services or youth program services that furnishes such services for members of the armed forces, survivors of members of the armed forces who die in combat-related incidents in the line of duty, and employees of the United States if the Secretary determines that providing such financial assistance—

(1) is in the best interest of the Department of Defense;

(2) enables supplementation or expansion of furnishing of child care services or youth program services for military installations, while not supplanting or replacing such services; and

(3) ensures that the eligible provider is able to comply, and does comply, with the regulations, policies, and standards of the Department of Defense that are applicable to the furnishing of such services.

(b) ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS.—A provider of child care services or youth program services is eligible for financial assistance under this section if the provider—

(1) is licensed to provide those services under applicable State and local law;

(2) has previously provided such services for members of the armed forces or employees of the United States; and