**An Act To Build a Child Care System by Recruiting and Retaining Maine's Early Childhood Educators Workforce**

L.D. 1652

Date: (Filing No. H- )

**Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**130th Legislature**

**First Special Session**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “      ” to H.P. 1223, L.D. 1652, “An Act To Build a Child Care System by Recruiting and Retaining Maine's Early Childhood Educators Workforce”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3740-A in subsection 4 in the first line (page 1, line 29 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "Establishing" and inserting the following: 'Beginning January 1, 2024, establishing'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

'**Sec. 2. Future funding.** The Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall include as a part of the Department of Health and Human Services budget estimate for fiscal year 2023-24, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1665, ongoing General Fund appropriations in the amount of $4,500,000 for education-based and experience-based salary supplements for early childhood educators working with young children from birth to 5 years of age described under Title 22, section 3740-A, subsection 4.

**Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.**  The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Child Care Services 0563**

Initiative: Provides ongoing allocations for comprehensive scholarships to early childhood educators working with children from birth to 5 years of age.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** |
| All Other | $200,000 | $200,000 |
|  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND TOTAL | $200,000 | $200,000 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,** **DEPARTMENT OF** |  |  |
| **DEPARTMENT TOTALS** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** |
|  |  |  |
| **FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND** | **$200,000** | **$200,000** |
|  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS** | **$200,000** | **$200,000** |

**LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Employment Services Activity 0852**

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to expand the apprenticeship program for those working in the field of early childhood child care and education offered by the Maine Roads to Quality Professional Development Network in partnership with the State's higher education system and for the staffing and indirect costs to support the program.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **GENERAL FUND** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** |
| All Other | $200,000 | $200,000 |
|  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL | $200,000 | $200,000 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF** |  |  |
| **DEPARTMENT TOTALS** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** |
|  |  |  |
| **GENERAL FUND** | **$200,000** | **$200,000** |
|  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS** | **$200,000** | **$200,000** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SECTION TOTALS** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** |
|  |  |  |
| **GENERAL FUND** | **$200,000** | **$200,000** |
| **FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND** | **$200,000** | **$200,000** |
|  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS** | **$400,000** | **$400,000** |

'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

**SUMMARY**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, moves the start date for salary supplements for providers of child care and early childhood educators working with children up to 5 years of age to January 1, 2024 and shifts the funding associated with that initiative to also begin in fiscal year 2023-24. A section is added providing for the future funding of the salary supplements by directing the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to provide, as part of the Department of Health and Human Services budget estimate for fiscal year 2023-24, ongoing appropriations of $4,500,000 from the General Fund. It also removes the appropriation of $100,000 for funds to support the expansion of early childhood education programs at career and technical centers in the State.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**