

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE

The Committee on Health and Welfare to which was referred Senate Bill No. S. 263, entitled "An act relating to the Parent Child Center Network"

respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. chapter 37 is amended to read:

Chapter 37. ~~PARENT-CHILD~~ PARENT CHILD CENTER PROGRAM NETWORK

§ 3701. ~~PARENT-CHILD~~ PARENT CHILD CENTER PROGRAM NETWORK; ELIGIBILITY

(a) For purposes of As used in this chapter, "parent-child-center":

(1) "Parent Child Center" means a community-based organization established for the purpose of providing prevention and early intervention services such as parenting education, support, training, referral and related services to prospective parents and families with young children including those whose children are medically, socially, or educationally at risk that serves as a central hub and lead provider of services for primary prevention and strengthening protective factors for families with young children on behalf of the State.

(2) "Parent Child Center Network" means an Agency of Human Services' community partner comprised of designated parent child centers that ensures accountability and collaboration among designated parent child centers.

(b) ~~The Secretary of Human Services shall:~~

(1) ~~upon applications made annually, award grants to eligible parent-child centers;~~

(2) ~~establish, by rule, a formula for determining the amount of grants awarded under this chapter and minimum eligibility standards for such awards~~ The Parent Child Center Network may recommend to the Secretary of Human Services or a designee one or more new parent child centers for designation every six years. Upon receipt of the Network's recommendations, the Secretary or designee shall review each parent child center recommended for designation to ensure it meets the criteria set forth in subsection (c) of this section. A parent child center recommended by the Network and determined to meet the criteria in subsection (c) of this section by the Secretary or a designee shall be deemed a designated parent child center.

(c) ~~In order to be eligible for a grant under this chapter, a parent-child center~~ designation pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, a parent child center shall:

(1) Receive some funding from one or more private, local, or federal source. Contributions in kind, whether material, commodities, transportation, or office space, may be used to satisfy the contribution requirement of this subdivision.

(2) Qualify for tax exempt status under the provisions of Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(3) Have parent representation on its board of directors.

(4) Represent a designated geographic catchment area.

(5) Complete:

(A) an annual self-assessment in accordance with national standards for family resource centers; and

(B) a peer review every three years, which shall be conducted by the Parent Child Center Network.

(6) Provide each of the eight core services set forth in subsection (d) of this section.

(7) Indicate an intention to participate in the Parent Child Center Network as a member.

(8) Work to achieve population level quality of life outcomes related to children and families pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 2311.

~~(d) A parent-child center funded under this chapter shall:~~

~~(1) provide leadership in the coordination of services for families with other community service providers;~~

~~(2) provide such financial or programmatic information as may be necessary to enable the Secretary of Human Services to evaluate the services provided through grant funds, the effect of such services on consumers of these services and an accounting of the expenditure of grant funds;~~

~~(3) participate in an annual peer review process conducted by the parent-child center network and the Agency of Human Services~~ designated parent child center shall provide the following eight core services:

(1) home visits;

(2) early childhood services;

(3) parent education;

(4) playgroups;

- (5) parent support groups;
- (6) concrete supports;
- (7) community development; and
- (8) resources and referrals.

(e) Any parent child center in existence on January 1, 2020 shall be deemed to meet the designation criteria in subsection (c) of this section.

§ 3702. FUNDING

(a) The Secretary of Human Services shall annually disperse a joint appropriation for all parent child center services to the Parent Child Center Network, which shall distribute funding to each designated parent child center. Notwithstanding subsection (c) of this section, any increases to base funding shall be based on increased community need, the provision of additional services, or the designation of a new parent child center.

(b) The Parent Child Center Network shall work in partnership with the Agency of Human Services to develop appropriate measures of accountability and to provide any financial or programmatic information as may be necessary to enable the Secretary to evaluate the services provided through grant funds, the effect of services on consumers, and an accounting of the expenditure of grant funds.

(c) In determining the annual appropriation for the Parent Child Center Network, the Secretary shall employ an annual inflation factor that is reasonable and that adequately reflects economic conditions.

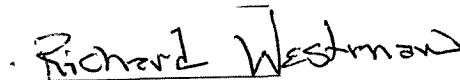
Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION

In fiscal year 2021, \$7,500,000.00 is appropriated to the Parent Child Center Network.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)



Senator Westman
FOR THE COMMITTEE