

1 Sec. D.103 RESERVES

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3 (b) In fiscal year 2025, \$5,000,000 shall be reserved within the Child Care
4 Contribution Special Fund. If in fiscal year 2026 the Child Care Contribution
5 Special Fund is found to have an undesignated fund deficit, these funds shall
6 be unreserved and used to the extent necessary to offset the deficit as
7 determined by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. If these funds are
8 used in fiscal year 2026, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall
9 report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, or the Joint
10 Fiscal Committee when the General Assembly is not in session, on the amount
11 used.

1 Sec. E.318 33 V.S.A. § 3505 is amended to read:

2 § 3505. SUPPLEMENTAL CHILD CARE GRANTS

3 (a)(1) The Commissioner for Children and Families may ~~reserve~~ utilize up
4 to one-half of one percent of ~~the child care family assistance program~~ funds
5 appropriated for the Child Care Financial Assistance Program in a fiscal year
6 for extraordinary financial relief to assist child care programs that are at risk of
7 closing due to financial hardship. The Commissioner shall develop guidelines
8 for providing assistance and shall prioritize extraordinary financial relief to
9 child care programs in areas of the State with high poverty and low access to
10 high quality child care. If the Commissioner determines a child care program
11 is at risk of closure because its operations are not fiscally sustainable, ~~he or she~~
12 they may provide assistance to transition children served by the child care
13 operator in an orderly fashion and to help secure other child care opportunities
14 for children served by the program in an effort to minimize the disruption of
15 services. The Commissioner has the authority to request tax returns and other
16 financial documents to verify the financial hardship and ability to sustain
17 operations.

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