

Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

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FISCAL NOTE

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H. 531 - An act relating to Vermont's child care and early learning system

As introduced by the House Committee on Human Services

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2020/Docs/BILLS/H-0531/H-0531%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

As passed by the House Committee on Appropriations

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2020/WorkGroups/House%20Appropriations/Bills/H.531/H.531-VERMONT'SCHILD CAREANDEARLYLEARNING~House%20Committee%20on%20Appropriations~Committee%20Amendment~3-21-2019.pdf>

Sec. #	Initiative	Fiscal Impact	Explanation / info
Sec. 3	Restore base for the Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP)	\$1,250,000	The Governors recommended FY 2020 budget reduced this based on estimated underutilization. H.531 restores this to the base funding.
	Adjusts sliding fee scale and reimbursement rates	\$6,900,000	For the purpose of adjusting the sliding fee scale and reimbursement rates in the CCFAP. It is assumed that the costs might not be fully annualized in year one due to ramp up, freeing up dollars for Sec. 5.
Sec. 4	Reallocation of funds from Early Child Care Dev Program	(\$2,500,000)	Eliminates the Early Care and Child Development Grant Program and reallocates the funds (\$2.5M) to CCFAP.
Sec. 5	Developing a modernization plan for the Bright Futures Info System		Allows DCF to use up to \$100,000 (one-time) from moneys appropriated in Sec. 3 (\$6.9M) for the purpose of developing a modernization plan for the Bright Futures Information System.
Sec. 5a	Modernize IT System to support CCFAP redesign	\$1,000,000 <i>(Per year for 3 years)</i>	Invests \$1M towards implementing what is estimated to be a \$3.1M cost (funded over 3 years) to modernize the Bright Futures Information System. House Appropriations Amendment
Sec. 6 & 7	Student Loan Repayment Assistance	\$500,000	Provides student loan repayment assistance to any individual employed by a privately operated center-based child care program or family child care home that is regulated by DCF.
	Child Care and Early Learning Workforce Scholarship	\$500,000	For the purpose of contracting for the administration of a need-based scholarship program for individuals employed by a regulated, privately operated center-based child care program or family child care home while acquiring credits in early childhood development of which are related directly to working with children from birth through 8 years old.
Sec. 10	Reimbursement rate increases for Children's Integrated Service	\$309,714	Increases reimbursement rates to providers.

TOTAL (with Sec. 4 offset) \$7,959,714