



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 83

January Session, 2025

House Bill No. 6903

House of Representatives, March 12, 2025

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY of the 133rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION CONCERNING CHILD CARE SERVICES, EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO PATIENTS RECEIVING PRENATAL CARE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30,
2 2026, the Commissioner of Early Childhood, in consultation with the
3 Commissioner of Social Services, shall develop and administer a one-
4 year pilot program to disseminate information concerning child care
5 services, as defined in section 19a-77 of the general statutes, early
6 intervention programs and financial assistance programs available to
7 expectant mothers receiving prenatal care, as defined in section 19a-912
8 of the general statutes, in hospitals in the state.

9 (b) In developing the pilot program, the Commissioner of Early
10 Childhood shall develop (1) criteria for the selection of hospitals that
11 provide prenatal care in geographically diverse areas of the state, with
12 preference given to hospitals that serve a high proportion of low-income

13 families and are located in areas where the availability of child care
14 services does not meet the demand for such services; (2) requirements
15 for the dissemination of the documents compiled pursuant to subsection
16 (c) of this section to patients receiving prenatal care, including, but not
17 limited to, a requirement that such documents shall be provided during
18 the first trimester of pregnancy whenever possible; and (3) a system for
19 tracking and reporting the number of such documents provided to
20 patients at each selected hospital each month.

21 (c) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall select five hospitals
22 for participation in the pilot program using the criteria developed
23 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and compile documents for
24 dissemination to patients receiving prenatal care at each such hospital.
25 Such documents shall be tailored to each individual hospital and
26 contain the following information: (1) A list of all child care centers,
27 group child care homes and family child care homes, as such terms are
28 described in section 19a-77 of the general statutes, located in the
29 municipalities in which the majority of prenatal patients served by such
30 hospital live, including contact information and Internet web site
31 addresses, if available, for each such center and home; (2) a list of early
32 intervention programs administered by the Office of Early Childhood,
33 including descriptions of such programs and contact information and
34 Internet web site addresses, if available, for each such program; and (3)
35 information concerning financial assistance programs available to
36 families, including instructions on how to apply to such programs.

37 (d) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Early
38 Childhood shall electronically disseminate the documents compiled
39 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section to the administrator of each
40 hospital selected for participation in the pilot program. During the
41 period beginning on January 1, 2026, and ending on December 31, 2026,
42 a copy of the documents tailored to a participating hospital shall be
43 distributed to each patient receiving prenatal care at such hospital.

44 (e) During the period beginning on January 1, 2026, and ending on
45 December 31, 2027, the Commissioner of Early Childhood shall, in a

46 form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, administer a survey
 47 to each parent or guardian that enrolls a child in (1) child care services,
 48 or (2) an early intervention program administered by the Office of Early
 49 Childhood, to determine whether such parent or guardian enrolled in
 50 such services or program as a result of the pilot program administered
 51 pursuant to this section. The completion of such survey shall be
 52 optional.

53 (f) Not later than June 1, 2028, the Commissioner of Early Childhood
 54 shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
 55 of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
 56 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children. Such report
 57 shall include an analysis of the efficacy of the pilot program
 58 administered pursuant to this section and any recommendations for
 59 legislation to expand such program or implement such program on a
 60 state-wide and permanent basis.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

KID *Joint Favorable C/R* PH
PH *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Office of Early Childhood	GF - Cost	103,500	103,500
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	42,024	42,024

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a total state cost of approximately \$145,524 in FY 26 and FY 27 to the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) associated with hiring one Primary Prevention Services Coordinator (PPSC) to meet the provisions of the bill. For reference, the average salary of a PPSC is approximately \$103,500 with associated fringe benefit costs of \$42,024.

The PPSC will assist OEC with (1) developing and administering a one-year pilot program to disseminate information to expectant mothers receiving prenatal care by December 31, 2026, (2) administering a survey to each parent or guardian that enrolls a child in services as a result of the pilot program by December 31, 2027, and (3) producing a report for the Children's Committee by May 30, 2028.

The Out Years

The fiscal impact described above is anticipated to continue through

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26.

FY 28. The bill requires OEC to report by May 30, 2028, on the efficacy of the pilot program and include any recommendations to expand or permanently implement the program.

Sources: Office of Early Childhood Testimony

OLR Bill Analysis

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SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Public Health

Joint Favorable

Yea 24 Nay 8 3/5/2025