

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5179

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide enhanced Federal matching payments for direct support worker training programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. CASEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide enhanced Federal matching payments for direct support worker training programs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Direct Support Worker
5 Training Reimbursement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MEDICAID FUNDING FOR DIRECT SUPPORT WORK-**
7 **ER TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

8 Section 1903 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
9 1396b) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)(2), by adding at the end
2 the following new subparagraph:

3 “(F) for calendar quarters beginning on or
4 after January 1, 2025, an amount equal to 75 per-
5 cent of so much of the sums expended during such
6 quarter for direct support worker training programs
7 described in subsection (cc) (including the costs for
8 eligible direct support workers (as defined in such
9 subsection) to complete such programs); plus”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
11 section:

12 “(cc) DIRECT SUPPORT WORKER TRAINING PRO-
13 GRAMS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A direct support worker
15 training program described in this subsection is a
16 program approved by the State under which eligible
17 homecare workers are provided with—

18 “(A) training in the core training com-
19 petencies for personal or home care aides de-
20 scribed in section 2008(b)(3)(A); and

21 “(B) opportunities for education, training,
22 and career advancement.

23 “(2) ELIGIBLE DIRECT SUPPORT WORKER.—
24 The term ‘eligible direct support worker’ means a
25 personal or home care aide (as such term is defined

1 in section 2008(b)(6)(C)), a direct support worker,
2 a home health aide, a nursing assistant, or a direct
3 support professional who—

4 “(A) has at least 30 percent of the work-
5 er’s direct support client volume (as estimated
6 in accordance with a methodology established
7 by the Secretary) attributable to individuals
8 who are receiving medical assistance under this
9 title; or

10 “(B) is employed by an agency that is a
11 provider of direct support services that has at
12 least 30 percent of the agency’s direct support
13 client volume (as so estimated) attributable to
14 such individuals.”.

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