

ASSEMBLY, No. 5672

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 12, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman P. CHRISTOPHER TULLY

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman LISA SWAIN

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Increases maximum number of monthly respite care service hours funder through DCF for certain families.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning respite care and supplementing Title 30 of the
2 Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. As used in this act:

8 "Respite care" means the provision of temporary, short-term care
9 for, or the supervision of, an eligible child on behalf of the
10 caregiver, in emergencies or on an intermittent basis to relieve the
11 daily stresses and demands of caring for a child with a functional
12 impairment. Respite care may be provided hourly, daily, overnight,
13 or on weekends, may be paid or volunteer, but may not exceed
14 service and cost limitations as determined by the Commissioner of
15 Children and Families.

16 b. The family of a child that is eligible to receive respite care
17 services for the child, which services are funded through the
18 Division of the Children's System of Care in the Department of
19 Children and Families, shall be eligible to receive no more than 30
20 hours of respite care each calendar month through funding provided
21 by the department.

22 c. The Commissioner of Children and Families shall use
23 available State and federal funds to effectuate the provisions of
24 subsection b. of this section.

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26 2. The Commissioner of Children and Families shall adopt
27 rules and regulations, in accordance with the "Administrative
28 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as are
29 necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act.

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31 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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36 This bill increases the maximum number of monthly respite care
37 service hours funded through the Department of Children and
38 Families (department) for certain families.

39 Under the bill, the family of a child that is eligible to receive
40 respite care services for the child, which services are funded
41 through the Division of the Children's System of Care in the
42 department, is to be eligible to receive no more than 30 hours of
43 respite care each calendar month through funding provided by the
44 department. The Commissioner of Children and Families
45 (commissioner) is to use available State and federal funds to
46 effectuate the bill's provisions.

47 The bill defines "respite care" to mean the provision of
48 temporary, short-term care for, or the supervision of, an eligible

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1 child on behalf of the caregiver, in emergencies or on an
2 intermittent basis to relieve the daily stresses and demands of caring
3 for a child with a functional impairment. Respite care may be
4 provided hourly, daily, overnight, or on weekends, may be paid or
5 volunteer, but may not exceed service and cost limitations as
6 determined by the commissioner.