

## **Coburn #2831 – Eliminate requirement for duplicative federal hotline and website**

This amendment would strike a provision requiring the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to create a duplicative hotline and website to track child care providers. The cost of the federal hotline and website would be up to \$1 million, taking away resources that could otherwise be supporting needy families. By eliminating this requirement, CCDBG could fund another 205 children in care for a full year.<sup>1</sup>

States should certainly make it easy for families in need of assistance to find qualified childcare providers. CCDBG already allows states to use their funding to create local and regional clearinghouses for referrals and other information about childcare, and this activity would also be allowed in the reauthorization. In fact, many states have already implemented resources to help their citizens navigate the child care system. For example, last year the state of Maryland spends over \$2 million on 13 regional resource agencies, in part to assist families in finding appropriate child care.<sup>2</sup> California will spend \$22 million on referral and resources programs, including a hotline, in coming years.<sup>3</sup> Colorado plans to spend about \$1 million next year to manage 17 referral and resources agencies.<sup>4</sup>

States and communities are in the best position to collect information about their providers and relay that to families. The federal government does not need to duplicate the work of states.

---

<sup>1</sup> The average monthly payment is \$405, according to Child Care Aware of America, <http://www.naccrra.org/public-policy/resources/data>.

<sup>2</sup> "Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for State/Territory: Maryland, FFY2012-2013," State of Maryland, <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/NR/rdonlyres/28B75D91-0DCF-4B6F-92CB-E21A6A638486/31030/CCDFplan1213.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> "Summary of the Child Care and Development Fund State Plan for the Period of 10/1/13 through 9/30/15 for California," California Department of Education, July 1, 2013, <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/ccdfdraftsum1415.asp>.

<sup>4</sup> "Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for State/Territory: Colorado, FFY2014-2015," State of Colorado, <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251586020166>.