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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 177
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 177's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Blessing and Timken

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Jacquelyn Schroeder, Senior Budget Analyst

Highlights

- The bill appropriates \$20.0 million in FY 2026 in GRF line item 830412, Child Care Grants, to support the Workforce Investment Now for Child Care pilot program and reappropriates the available balance of the appropriation for FY 2027.

Detailed Analysis

The bill requires the Department of Children and Youth (DCY) to establish the Workforce Investment Now for Child Care pilot program to provide publicly funded child care (PFCC) to individuals employed as child care staff members regardless of family income. This includes employees of child care centers, type A family child care homes, and licensed type B family child care homes who are primarily responsible for the care and supervision of children. However, the bill excludes employees of approved child day camps and administrators, authorized representatives, or owners of child care facilities. Under the bill, county departments of job and family services are required to exclude all of a family's income in determining eligibility if an applicant demonstrates that the child's caretaker parent is a child care staff member who works a minimum of 20 hours per week. Subject to available funds, the pilot program must operate during both FY 2026 and FY 2027. Within six months after the conclusion of the pilot program, DCY is required to complete a report on the information collected and findings from the pilot program and submit it to the Governor and the General Assembly.

The bill appropriates \$20.0 million in FY 2026 in GRF line item 830412, Child Care Grants, to support the pilot program and reappropriates the available balance of the appropriation at the end of FY 2026 for FY 2027 for the same purpose.