

LD 1149 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Improve Child Care Facilities in Maine

Bill Sponsor: Rep. Gary Connor

Referred to: Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Committee vote: ONTP

SUMMARY

LD 1149 proposed to authorize the issuance of a bond in the amount of \$2 Million to establish a combination of low-interest loans and grants to develop new child care options in all communities. The funds would be used to bring existing child care facilities and programs up to higher quality standards and to assist existing high quality programs in repaying existing loans and mortgage expenses during an expansion. Issuance of this bond is contingent upon approval by the voters of the state.

Supporters state that recent studies identify lack of quality facilities as a key barrier to the availability of quality child care. This bond would provide both no-interest and low-interest loans and grants to allow community-based child care providers to both expand on levels and quality of care provided.

General Fund cost: Bond \$2,000,000