

1 AN ACT concerning child care.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Helping Heroes Child Care Program Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

8 "Deployed" means activated to serve in an active military
9 operation or emergency.

10 "Program" means the Helping Heroes Child Care Program
11 established under this Act.

12 Section 10. Program established.

13 (a) The Helping Heroes Child Care Program is established
14 for the purpose of providing vouchers for child care to
15 Illinois families who have one or more parents deployed to Iraq
16 or Afghanistan by the armed services. The Department shall
17 administer the program. The Department shall implement the
18 program only if federal funding is made available for that
19 purpose. Any such federal moneys received by the State shall be
20 deposited into the Fund for Child Care for Deployed Military
21 Personnel, which is created as a special fund in the State
22 treasury. Moneys in the Fund shall be appropriated to the
23 Department for the purpose of administering this Act.

24 (b) Any Illinois resident who (i) is serving in the active
25 military, reserves, or National Guard, (ii) has been deployed
26 to Iraq or Afghanistan by the armed services, and (iii) meets
27 the income eligibility criteria established by the Department
28 by rule is eligible for a child care voucher under the program.
29 A family that received child care assistance before the
30 parent's deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan is eligible only for
31 a voucher for the cost of any additional hours of child care

1 that are necessary by reason of that deployment. A family is
2 not eligible for a child care voucher under the program if the
3 family receives child care services from the United States
4 military.

5 Section 15. Rules. The Department shall adopt rules to
6 implement this Act.

7 Section 80. Repeal. This Act is repealed on July 1, 2010.

8 Section 90. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
9 Section 5.640 as follows:

10 (30 ILCS 105/5.640 new)

11 Sec. 5.640. The Fund for Child Care for Deployed Military
12 Personnel.

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
14 becoming law.