

HB 1311 -- THE HAND-UP PROGRAM

SPONSOR: Quade

This bill reauthorizes the Hand-Up Program, which allows recipients of child care subsidy benefits to continue to receive their benefits through a cost-sharing program. This program is a pilot program for Jackson and Greene counties and will begin on January 1, 2019. The program is designed to prevent a person who is receiving child care benefits from suddenly losing child care assistance should his or her income rise above the maximum allowable income.

A participant in the Hand-Up Program must pay a share of child care costs monthly and directly to the child care provider. The participant's portion is 44% of his or her excess income over the maximum allowable income. A participant who fails to pay their share will lose child care subsidy benefits all together after 60 days of non-payment.

The Children's Division must make rules for the Hand-Up Program. The Division must track recipients of the Hand-Up Program and annually report statistics on the program to the General Assembly.