

**AMENDMENT**

**OFFERED BY Ms. Lee**

At the end, add the following:

1 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; SLIDING**  
2 **FEE SCALE.**

3 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section  
4 658B of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act  
5 of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858) is amended to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 658B AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
8 this subchapter such sums as necessary for fiscal years  
9 2026 through 2031.”.

10 (b) SLIDING FEE SCALE.—Section 658E(c)(5) of the  
11 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42  
12 U.S.C. 9858C(5)) is amended to read as follows:

13 “(c) SLIDING FEE SCALE.—

14 “(1) The State plan shall provide that the State  
15 will establish and periodically revise, by rule, a slid-  
16 ing fee scale described in paragraph (2) for cost  
17 sharing (that is not a barrier to families receiving  
18 assistance under this subchapter) by the families  
19 that receive child care services for which assistance  
20 is provided under this subchapter.

1           “(2) SLIDING FEE SCALE FOR COPAYMENTS.—

2                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
3           subparagraph (B)(i), the State plan shall pro-  
4           vide an assurance that the State will for the pe-  
5           riod covered by the plan use a sliding fee scale,  
6           which shall gradually increase copayments as a  
7           percentage of family income for families with  
8           greater family incomes as described in subpara-  
9           graph (B), to determine a copayment for a fam-  
10          ily receiving assistance under this section (or,  
11          for a family receiving part-time care, a reduced  
12          copayment that is the proportionate amount of  
13          the full copayment).

14                   “(B) SLIDING FEE SCALE.—A full copay-  
15          ment described in subparagraph (A) shall be  
16          determined using a sliding fee scale that pro-  
17          vides that, for a family with a family income—

18                           “(i) of not more than 85 percent of  
19                           the State median income for a family of  
20                           the same size, the family shall not pay a  
21                           copayment, toward the cost of the child  
22                           care involved for all eligible children in the  
23                           family;

24                           “(ii) of more than 85 percent but not  
25                           more than 100 percent of the State median

1 income for a family of the same size, the  
2 copayment shall be more than but not  
3 more than 2 percent of that family income,  
4 toward such cost for all such children;

5 “(iii) of more than 100 percent but  
6 not more than 125 percent of the State  
7 median income for a family of the same  
8 size, the copayment shall be more than but  
9 not more than 4 percent of that family in-  
10 come, toward such cost for all such chil-  
11 dren;

12 “(iv) of more than 125 percent but  
13 not more than 150 percent of the State  
14 median income for a family of the same  
15 size, the copayment shall be more than but  
16 not more than 7 percent of that family in-  
17 come, toward such cost for all such chil-  
18 dren; and

19 “(v) of more than 150 percent of the  
20 State median income for a family of the  
21 same size, the copayment shall be 7 per-  
22 cent of that family income, toward such  
23 cost for all such children.”.

