

September 7, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H.R. 12455 - Child Day Care and Social Services Amendments. This bill postpones until October 1, 1977, enforcement of Federal child day care staffing standards required under the Title XX social services program; increases the \$2.5 billion annual ceiling on Title XX funding by \$240 million through September 30, 1977, earmarked for child day care services; provides incentives for employment of welfare recipients by child day care providers; provides group eligibility for social services; and makes other changes in Title XX of the Social Security Act.

Eligibility for Title XX social services - H.R. 12455 will permit States to determine eligibility for social services on a group basis. The group would have to be such that the State could reasonably conclude that substantially all members of the group have incomes below 90% of the State's median income.

Day care staffing requirements - The bill will extend the moratorium on the application of Title XX day care staffing standards retroactive to February 1, 1976, through September 30, 1977.

Increased funding for day care services - H.R. 12455 will raise the current \$2.5 billion limit on annual Federal funding of Title XX by \$40 million for the transition quarter and \$200 million for fiscal year 1977. These added funds, earmarked for day care services, would be allocated to the States on the basis of population.

Provisions to encourage employment of welfare recipients - H.R. 12455 will permit States to use the added day care funds to reimburse eligible child care providers for the cost of employing welfare recipients.

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