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Expanding Childcare in Rural America Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Jun 7, 2023

Current Status: Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.

Latest Action: Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held. (Apr 10, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1867>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]

Party: Democratic • **State:** OH • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]	R · IN		Jun 7, 2023
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Jun 7, 2023
Sen. Marshall, Roger [R-KS]	R · KS		Jun 7, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 7, 2023
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jun 13, 2023
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Oct 18, 2023
Sen. Ossoff, Jon [D-GA]	D · GA		May 21, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 7, 2023
Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Apr 10, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3922	Identical bill	Jul 28, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development.

Expanding Childcare in Rural America Act of 2023

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish the Expanding Childcare in Rural America Initiative to prioritize certain loans and grants that address childcare in agricultural and rural communities. Under the bill, childcare includes eligible programs that provide quality care and early education for young children who are in kindergarten or have not yet entered kindergarten.

Under the initiative, USDA must give priority to applicants that propose to use certain loans or grants to address the availability, quality, or costs of childcare in an agricultural or rural community. In addition, USDA must prioritize communities in farming-dependent counties and ensure a balanced geographical distribution of the benefits.

USDA must conduct a comprehensive quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the projects carried out under the initiative and submit a report to Congress.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 10, 2024:** Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.
- **Jun 7, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 7, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.