

HB 965 -- HAND-UP PROGRAM

SPONSOR: Quade

Subject to appropriations, this bill reauthorizes the Hand-Up Program, which allows recipients to qualify for transitional child care benefits without ever being qualified for full child care benefits. This program is a pilot program for a county with a charter form of government and with more than 600,000 but fewer than 700,000 inhabitants and county of the first classification with more than 260,000 but fewer than 300,000 inhabitants. At this time, this only applies to Jackson and Greene counties and will begin on July 1, 2020.

Participants must be clients of approved 501(c)3 organizations that are assisting vulnerable individuals, families, or foster children, and the Children's Division must make rules for the Hand-Up Program, including defining eligible 501(c)3 organizations. The division must track recipients of the Hand-Up Program and annually report statistics on the program to the General Assembly.

This bill is similar to HB 1311 (2018).