

## S. 2726 Reducing Obesity in Youth Act of 2018

**Sponsor: Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ)**

**Other Key Legislation: H.R. 6586**

**Co-Sponsors: Sen. Nelson (D-FL), Sen. Coons (D-DE), Se. Carper (D-DE)**

**Latest Action: 4/23/18 Referred to Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions Committee**

### SUMMARY

The purpose of the Reducing Obesity in Youth Act of 2018 is to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote healthy eating and physical activity among children. This will set aside \$4,000,000 each fiscal year (2019-2023) to give grants to early childhood care and education settings (i.e.

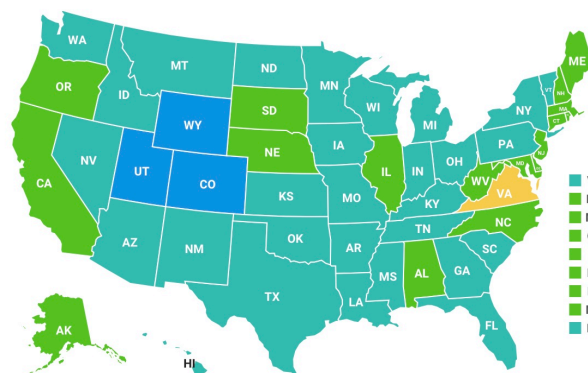
pre-school, day-care), the ability to facilitate programs that promote healthy eating and physical activity. These 5-year grants will create atmospheres that instill healthy behaviors in children through 5 years old that can be carried with them throughout life.

#### Obesity Rate: WIC Participants Ages 2-4, 2014

Select years with the slider to see historical data. Hover over states for more information. Click a state to lock the selection. Click again to unlock.

Percent of WIC participants ages 2-4 with obesity

0 - 9.9% 10 - 14.9% 15 - 19.9% 20 - 24.9% 25 - 29.9% 30 - 34.9% 35%+



(CDC)

14.5%

of WIC participants aged 2-4 years of age had obesity in 2014. (CDC)

18.5%

of U.S. youth (aged 2-19 years old), were obese in 2014-2015 (CDC)

### IMPORTANCE

The Pennsylvania under 18 obesity prevalence in 2017 was 27% (Kids Count). Of this, over 27,000 children are on childcare subsidies, and over 30,000 0-4 year olds are enrolled in CHIP (Kids Count). It is known that a lower socioeconomic-economic status puts one at a higher risk for obesity. These statistics also infer an increased prevalence of childhood, adolescent, and adult obesity later in life.

Childhood obesity is also associated with premature death and disability in adulthood (WHO). It is important to ensure early childhood care and education centers are properly promoting healthy behavioral habits. This Act allows 5 programs start to do the work that is needed to create a healthier future.

#### What Senator Casey Can Do

1

Support the movement of the Reducing Obesity in Youth Act of 2018 from the HELP Committee onto the Senate floor to be voted on

2

Continue his commitment to a healthier generation of children

3

Co-Sponsor the Reducing Obesity in Youth Act of 2018