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BILL ANALYSIS

Children & Family Services Committee

HJM 4005

Brief Description: Requesting that the dependent care tax credit be expanded to include parents who stay at home to care for children.

Sponsors: Representatives Roach, Kirby, Marine, Miloscia, Cairnes, Bush, Anderson, Morell, Lambert, Pennington, Casada and Ogden.

Brief Summary of Bill

The joint memorial petitions the President and the Congress to extend the Child and Dependent Care Credit to include a parent who stays at home to care for his or her children.

Hearing Date: 2/19/01

Staff: Deborah Frazier (786-7152).

Background:

The Child and Dependent Care Credit is available to federal income tax filers who paid someone to care for a qualifying individual so the filer could work or look for work.

Qualifying individuals must live in the filer's home, and must be dependents under the age of 13 or a spouse who is mentally or physically incapable of self-care. If the dependent is a child, and the parents are married, both parents must have earned income to take advantage of the credit.

The credit is a percentage, based on adjusted gross income, of the amount of work-related child and dependent care expenses paid to a care provider. Filers may use up to \$2,400 of the expenses paid in a year for one qualifying individual, or \$4,800 for two or more qualifying individuals.

Summary of Bill:

The joint memorial petitions the President and the Congress to extend the Child and Dependent Care Credit to include a parent who stays at home to care for his or her children.

Appropriation: Not Applicable.

Fiscal Note: Not Applicable.