

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS20321

This bill amends the Daycare licensing law as follows: Clarifies that the child count thresholds for licensing exclude related children; Changes staff to child ratio requirements to a more user-friendly point system, removes maximum caps on group size, and exempts ratio requirements for children of providers; Adds and modifies definitions for clarity; Amends school busing law to use updated references for daycare centers, group daycare homes and child care home, without making substantive changes; Provides for a provisional license in certain circumstances; Adds felony domestic violence, felony controlled substances violations, and grand theft as disqualifying offenses for 5 years; Adds a tiered fee schedule for daycare centers with 13 or more children, increases the maximum licensing fee from \$175 for a two year license to \$250 for daycare centers with 13 to 25 children, and to \$325 for daycare centers with more than 25 children, maximum license fees for group daycare homes (7 to 12 children) remain the same at \$100 for a two year license; Relocates and clarifies the background check requirements for persons providing compensated child care services for 4 to 6 children; Makes various minor changes to clarify licensing and background check procedures.

FISCAL NOTE

There should be no impact to the general fund. Actual revenue generated from daycare licensing fees will depend upon the level of fees adopted by administrative rule of the Department of Health and Welfare within the statutory maximum. The fees are applied to the administrative expense for the daycare licensing program.

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