

Connecticut
After School
Network

Written Testimony
to the Public Health Committee
Commenting on RHB 5306
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In addition to my testimony in support of HRB 5306, there are two other bills being considered by the Public Health Committee that deserve comment.

S.B. No. 264 (RAISED) AN ACT PROHIBITING SMOKING IN LICENSED CHILD CARE FACILITIES.

For licensed after school programs operating in public school facilities, the inclusion of the grounds in this smoking ban would be too extensive to enforce. Licensed child care centers can be a portion of a much larger facility, such as a school or a business, with extensive grounds and we urge you to eliminate the reference to “the grounds” although we support the bill overall.

H.B. No. 5304 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DROP-IN CHILD-CARE OPERATIONS AT HEALTH CLUBS.

Drop-in Child care operations are exempt from child day care licensing by the Department of Public Health. There is one element of these regulations that I would like to propose adding to this bill to strengthen the quality safeguards it already includes, and that is the requirement that **any such operation include two staff eighteen years of age or older at all times**. In the case of emergency or illness, this allows one person to stay with the other children while the other helps the child in need. This is generally considered a standard practice by child care centers for liability purposes, and inclusion in this bill would provide a necessary safety precaution.

Thank you for your consideration.