AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A PILOT PROGRAM
FOR AN EARLY CHILDHOOD BUSINESS INCUBATOR MODEL.

SUMMARY

This bill creates a pilot program for FYs 20-24 that allows the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) to temporarily grant a family child care home license to a person or group of people who have partnered with certain entities to provide child care in a space outside a private family home that is provided by a partner entity. The partner entity may be a public or private association, organization, corporation, institution, or agency.

Under the bill, the OEC commissioner may issue licenses that expire on June 20, 2024, for this type of child care facility. She may only approve facilities located in Bridgeport, New Britain, New Haven, or Stamford and cannot approve more than one facility in each city.

The bill requires the license application for the pilot program to include (1) a copy of the current fire marshal certificate of compliance with the Fire Safety Code and (2) written verification of compliance with the State Building Code, local zoning and building requirements, and local health ordinances. The commissioner may also require applicants to comply with additional conditions related to the attending children’s health and safety.

Additionally, the bill allows the commissioner to waive any requirement that does not apply to this type of family child care facility. (It is unclear to which requirements the bill refers, and therefore the breadth of the commissioner’s discretion cannot be determined.)

Under the bill, the commissioner may suspend or revoke the license for this type of facility at any time using the process outlined in
existing law (see BACKGROUND).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

BACKGROUND

License Suspension or Revocation

Existing law requires the OEC commissioner to issue written notice to a family child care home licensee or approved staff member when she intends to suspend or revoke a license. Suspension or revocation may occur if the person who owns or operates the family child care home, an employee of the home, or a household member is convicted of (1) certain felonies that involve physical force or (2) certain crimes against children (CGS § 19a-87e(a)).

If the licensee or staff member is aggrieved by the suspension or revocation, he or she may apply for a hearing before the commissioner (CGS § 19a-87e(b)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 34  Nay 0  (03/15/2019)