
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5049

AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM LICENSING REQUIREMENTS CERTAIN CHILD CARE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN OF MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY.

SUMMARY

This bill exempts from state licensing requirements certain child care programs that only serve military members' children. It exempts these programs if they are administered by (1) the federal government or on federal property (e.g., a military installation) or (2) a family child care provider certified by the United States Coast Guard or a Department of Defense (DOD) military branch (see BACKGROUND). Under federal regulations, in addition to military members' children, family child care providers may serve children of other specified individuals (e.g., certain DOD civilian and contractor employees). It appears that programs serving these other individuals are still subject to state licensure under the bill.

As with other programs exempt from licensure, the program must inform the enrolled children's parents and guardians that it is not licensed to provide child care services by the Office of Early Childhood (CGS § 19a-77(c)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

Family Child Care (FCC) Programs

Under DOD or Coast Guard guidance, military branches oversee child care programs, some of which are provided on-base and others in home settings (either on- or off-base). FCC programs are home-based child care services for up to eight children, generally provided by a military spouse.

FCC providers must be certified to operate by the applicable military branch, or commanding officer, and comply with federal regulations and DOD- or Coast Guard-issued instruction. As with state-licensed child care providers, FCC providers must undergo background checks; periodic health, safety, and sanitation inspections; and orientation and trainings, among other things (32 C.F.R. 79 and DOD Instruction 6060.02).

FCC programs generally may serve military members and their spouses or domestic partners, certain DOD civilian and contractor personnel, surviving spouses, and individuals acting in loco parentis of eligible individuals (32 C.F.R. 79.4(d)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 0 (02/16/2023)