



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 342**

February Session, 2024

Substitute Senate Bill No. 249

*Senate, April 9, 2024*

The Committee on Commerce reported through SEN. HARTLEY of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD BUSINESS INCUBATOR PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (l) of section 19a-87b of the 2024 supplement to  
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

4 (l) [For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, to June 30, 2026,  
5 inclusive, the] The Commissioner of Early Childhood may issue a  
6 license to maintain a family child care home [in New Britain, New  
7 Haven, Bridgeport, Stamford, Hartford, Danbury or Waterbury] in  
8 accordance with the provisions of this chapter to a person or group of  
9 persons who have partnered with an association, organization,  
10 corporation, institution or agency, public or private, to provide child  
11 care services in a space provided by such association, organization,  
12 corporation, institution or agency, provided such space has been  
13 approved by the commissioner and is not in a private family home. The  
14 commissioner shall not approve more than [one facility in each such

15 city] a total of twenty facilities throughout the state to be used for  
 16 licenses issued under this subsection. An application for a license under  
 17 this subsection shall include a copy of the current fire marshal certificate  
 18 of compliance with the Fire Safety Code, and written verification of  
 19 compliance with the State Building Code, local zoning and building  
 20 requirements and local health ordinances. The commissioner may  
 21 require an applicant for a license under this subsection to comply with  
 22 additional conditions relating to the health and safety of the children  
 23 who will be served in such facility. The commissioner may waive any  
 24 requirement that does not apply to such facility. [Any license issued  
 25 under this subsection shall expire on June 30, 2026, except that the] The  
 26 commissioner may suspend or revoke any [such] license issued under  
 27 this subsection at any time in accordance with the provisions of section  
 28 19a-87e.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2024	19a-87b(1)

**CE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill allows the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) commissioner to license up to 20 facilities across the state to be used for the Early Childhood Business Incubator Program and removes the limit on the duration of the licenses issued under the program. This is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as it does not expand eligibility for state-subsidized childcare, and OEC has the expertise to meet related licensing requirements.

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 249*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD BUSINESS INCUBATOR PROGRAM.*****SUMMARY**

This bill allows the early childhood commissioner to license up to 20 facilities across the state to be used for the Early Childhood Business Incubator Program. It replaces the allowance under current law that limits the commissioner to only issuing a license for one facility in each of seven specified cities (see BACKGROUND).

The bill also removes the limit on the duration of the licenses issued under the program, which are set to expire at the end of fiscal year 2026 under current law. However, it retains the commissioner's right to suspend or revoke a license at any time.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2024

**BACKGROUND*****Early Childhood Business Incubator Program***

The Early Childhood Business Incubator Program allows the Office of Early Childhood to issue family child care home licenses to a person or group who provides child care services in a commissioner-approved space outside of a family home in partnership with an association, organization, corporation, institution, or public or private agency. Under current law, the commissioner may license up to one facility under the program in each of the following seven cities: Bridgeport, Danbury, Hartford, New Britain, New Haven, Stamford, and Waterbury. Prior to the creation of the program, family child care home licenses were only issued for child care services provided in the licensee's private home.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 24 Nay 0 (03/22/2024)