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HUMAN RESOURCES
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SENATE/HOUSE FILE

BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF

HUMAN SERVICES BILL)

Passed	Senate,	Date	Passed	House,	Date	
Vote:	Ayes	Nays	Vote:	Ayes	Nays	
	Aŗ	proved				<u> </u>

A BILL FOR 1 An Act relating to child care provisions administered by the department of human services and to the terminology used to describe child care, making an appropriation of civil penalties, and including an effective date and applicability provisions. 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

 Successor SF/HF

1 DIVISION I

2 CHAPTER 237A REWRITE

- 3 Section 1. Section 237A.1, Code 1999, is amended to read 4 as follows:
- 5 237A.1 DEFINITIONS.
- 6 As used in this chapter unless the context otherwise 7 requires:
- 8 1. "Administrator" means the administrator of the division
- 9 of the department designated by the director to administer
- 10 this chapter.
- 11 2. "Child" means a person under eighteen years of age.
- 3. "Child care center" or "center" means a facility
- 13 providing child day care or preschool services for seven or
- 14 more children, except when the facility is registered as a
- 15 family-day child care home or-group-day-care-home.
- 16 4. "Child day care" means the care, supervision, or and
- 17 guidance of a child by a person other than the child's parent,
- 18 quardian, relative, or custodian for periods of less than
- 19 twenty-four hours per day per child on a regular basis in-a
- 20 place-other-than-the-child's-home, but does not include care,
- 21 supervision, or and guidance of a child by any of the
- 22 following:
- 23 a. An instructional program for children who are attending
- 24 prekindergarten as defined by the state board of education
- 25 under section 256.11 or a higher grade level and are at least
- 26 four years of age administered by a any of the following:
- 27 (1) A public or nonpublic school system accredited by the
- 28 department of education or the state board of regents. or-a
- 29 (2) A nonpublic school system which is not accredited by
- 30 the department of education or the state board of regents.
- 31 b. A program provided under section 279.49 or 280.3A.
- 32 b. c. A Any of the following church-related programs:
- 33 (1) An instructional program of-not-more-than-one-day-per
- 34 week.
- 35 (2) A youth program other than a preschool, before or

- 1 after school child care program, or other child care program.
 - (3) A program providing care to children on church
- 3 premises while the children's parents are attending church-
- 4 related or church-sponsored activities on the church premises.
- 5 e. d. Short-term classes of less than two weeks' duration
- 6 held between school terms or during a break within a school
- 7 term.
- 8 d. e. A child care center for sick children operated as
- 9 part of a pediatrics unit in a hospital licensed by the
- 10 department of inspections and appeals pursuant to chapter
- 11 135B.
- 12 e.f. A nonprofit program operated not more than one day
- 13 per week by volunteers for-no-charge which meets all of the
- 14 following conditions:
- 15 (1) Not more than eleven children are served per
- 16 volunteer.
- 17 (2) The program operates for not-more less than two four
- 18 hours during any twenty-four-hour twenty-four-hour period.
- 19 (3) The program is provided at no cost to the children's
- 20 parent, guardian, or custodian.
- 21 fr--A-program-provided-by-the-state-or-a-political
- 22 subdivision; -which-provides-recreational-classes-for-a-period
- 23 of-less-than-two-hours-per-day-
- 24 g. A program administered by a political subdivision of
- 25 the state which is primarily for recreational or social
- 26 purposes and is limited to children who are five years of age
- 27 or older and attending school.
- 28 h.--An-instructional-program-administered-by-a-nonpublic
- 29 school-system-which-is-not-accredited-by-the-department-of
- 30 education-or-the-state-board-of-regents-
- 31 h. An after school program continuously offered throughout
- 32 the school year calendar to children who are at least five
- 33 years of age and are enrolled in school, and attend the
- 34 program intermittently. The program must be provided through
- 35 a nominal membership fee or at no cost.

- i. A special activity program which meets less than four
- 2 hours per day for the sole purpose of the special activity.
- 3 Special activity programs include but are not limited to music
- 4 or dance classes, organized athletic or sports programs,
- 5 recreational classes, scouting programs, and hobby or craft
- 6 clubs or classes.
- 7 j. A nationally accredited camp.
- 8 k. A structured program for the purpose of providing
- 9 therapeutic, rehabilitative, or supervisory services to
- 10 children under any of the following:
- 11 (1) A purchase of service or managed care contract with
- 12 the department.
- 13 (2) A contract approved by a local decategorization
- 14 governance board created under section 232.188.
- 15 (3) An arrangement approved by a juvenile court order.
- 16 1. Care provided on-site to children of parents residing
- 17 in an emergency, homeless, or domestic violence shelter.
- 18 5. "Child day care facility" or "facility" means a child
- 19 care center,-group-day-care-home preschool, or a registered
- 20 family-day child care home.
- 21 6. "Child care home" means a person or program providing
- 22 child care as authorized under section 237A.3A.
- 7. "Children receiving care on a part-time basis" means
- 24 children who are present in a child care home for ninety hours
- 25 per month or less.
- 26 6. "Department" means the department of human services.
- 27 7. 9. "Director" means the director of human services.
- 28 8---a---"Family-day-care-home"-means-a-person-or-program
- 29 which-provides-child-day-care-to-less-than-seven-children-at
- 30 any-one-time-or-to-less-than-twelve-children-at-any-one-time
- 31 as-authorized-by-section-237A-37-subsection-1-
- 32 b--- Group-day-care-home -- means-a-facility-providing-child
- 33 day-care-for-more-than-six-but-less-than-twelve-children-as
- 34 authorized-in-accordance-with-section-237A-37-subsection-27-or
- 35 for-less-than-sixteen-children-at-any-one-time-as-authorized

S.F. _____ H.F. ____

- 1 in-accordance-with-section-237A-37-subsection-3-
- 2 10. "Infant" means a child who is less than twenty-four
- 3 months of age.
- 4 9. 11. "Licensed center" means a center issued a full or
- 5 provisional license by the department under the provisions of
- 6 this chapter or a center for which a license is being
- 7 processed.
- 8 10--- "bow-income-family"-means-a-family-whose-monthly-gross
- 9 income-is-less-than-the-lower-of:
- 10 a---Eighty-percent-of-the-median-income-of-a-family-of-four
- 11 in-this-state-adjusted-to-take-into-account-the-size-of-the
- 12 family;-or
- b:--The-median-income-of-a-family-of-four-in-the-fifty
- 14 states-and-the-District-of-Columbia-adjusted-to-take-into
- 15 account-the-size-of-the-family-
- 16 11: 12. "Preschool" means a child day care facility which
- 17 provides to children ages three through five, for periods of
- 18 time not exceeding three hours per day, programs designed to
- 19 help the children to develop intellectual skills, social
- 20 skills, and motor skills, and to extend their interest and
- 21 understanding of the world about them.
- 22 12:--"Relative"-means-a-person-who-by-marriage;-blood;-or
- 23 adoption-is-a-parenty-grandparenty-brothery-sistery
- 24 stepfather; stepmother; stepbrother; stepsister; uncle; aunt;
- 25 first-cousing-or-quardian-
- 26 13. "School" means kindergarten or a higher grade level.
- 27 13. 14. "State child day care advisory council" means the
- 28 state child day care advisory council established pursuant to
- 29 sections 237A.21 and 237A.22.
- 30 Sec. 2. Section 237A.2, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 31 follows:
- 32 237A.2 LICENSING OF CHILD CARE CENTERS.
- 33 1. A person shall not establish or operate a child care
- 34 center without obtaining a license under the provisions of
- 35 this chapter. A center may operate for a specified period of

- 1 time, to be established by rule of the department, if
- 2 application for a license has been made. If the department
- 3 denies an application for an initial license, notwithstanding
- 4 section 17A.8, the applicant center shall not continue to
- 5 provide child care pending the outcome of an evidentiary
- 6 hearing. The department shall issue a license if it
- 7 determines that all of the following conditions have been met:
- 8 1. a. An application for a license or a renewal has been
- 9 filed with the administrator on forms provided by the
- 10 department.
- 11 2- b. The center is maintained to comply with state health
- 12 and fire laws.
- 13 3- c. The center is maintained to comply with rules
- 14 promutgated adopted under section 237A.12.
- 2. A person denied a license under the provisions of this
- 16 section shall receive written notice of the denial stating the
- 17 reasons for denial and shall be provided with an opportunity
- 18 for an evidentiary hearing. Licenses granted under this
- 19 chapter shall be valid for one year from the date of issuance
- 20 unless revoked or suspended in accordance with the provisions
- 21 of section 237A.8 or reduced to a provisional license under
- 22 subsection 3. A record of the license shall be kept by the
- 23 department. The license shall be posted in a conspicuous
- 24 place in the center and shall state the particular premises in
- 25 which child day care may be offered and the number of
- 26 individuals who may be received for care at any one time. No
- 27 A greater number of children than is authorized by the license
- 28 shall not be kept in the center at any one time.
- 29 3. The administrator may <u>reduce</u> a <u>previously issued</u>
- 30 license to a provisional license or issue a provisional
- 31 license for a period of time not to exceed one year if the
- 32 center does not meet standards required under this section. A
- 33 provisional license shall not be renewable in regard to the
- 34 same standards for more than two consecutive years. A
- 35 provisional license shall be posted in a conspicuous place in

S.F. _____ H.F. ____

- 1 the center as provided in this section. If written plans to
- 2 bring the center up to standards, giving specific dates for
- 3 completion of work, are submitted to and approved by the
- 4 department promulgating-the-regulations, the provisional
- 5 license shall be renewable as provided in this subsection.
- 6 4. A program which is not a child care center by reason of
- 7 the exceptions to the definition of child day care in section
- 8 237A.1, subsection 4, but which provides care, supervision, or
- 9 and guidance to a child may be issued a license if the program
- 10 complies with all the provisions of this chapter.
- 11 5. If the department has denied or revoked a license
- 12 because the applicant or person has continually or repeatedly
- 13 failed to operate a licensed center in compliance with this
- 14 chapter and rules adopted pursuant to this chapter, the person
- 15 shall not own or operate a child care center for a period of
- 16 six months from the date the license is denied or revoked.
- 17 The department shall not act on an application for a license
- 18 submitted by the applicant or person during the six-month
- 19 period.
- 20 6. The administrator may adopt rules in accordance with
- 21 chapter 17A establishing civil penalties for a licensee's or
- 22 registrant's failure to comply with key standards for the
- 23 operation and maintenance of a child care facility. In
- 24 developing the rules, the department shall consult with the
- 25 state child care advisory council, child care facility
- 26 providers, families, and other interested parties. The rules
- 27 shall specify the offenses or acts which are subject to a
- 28 civil penalty. The amount of a civil penalty shall be within
- 29 the discretion of the department but shall not exceed one
- 30 thousand dollars. Any civil penalty collected under this
- 31 subsection is appropriated to the department and shall be used
- 32 to defray the costs of regulatory staffing under this chapter
- 33 or for other activities designed to improve child care
- 34 quality.
- 35 Sec. 3. Section 237A.3A, subsection 1, Code 1999, is

1 amended by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu 2 thereof the following:

- REGISTRATION. A person who operates or establishes a
- 4 child care home may apply to the department for registration
- 5 as a child care home. Registration is not required unless the
- 6 number of children cared for at any one time in a child care
- 7 home meets or exceeds the requirements applicable to any level
- 8 of registration outlined in this section. Two or more persons
- 9 who comply with the individual requirements for registration
- 10 as a child care home provider may request that the certificate
- 11 of registration be issued to the two or more persons jointly
- 12 and the department shall issue the joint certificate provided
- 13 the child care home requirements for registration are met.
- 14 Sec. 4. Section 237A.3A, subsection 2, Code 1999, is
- 15 amended by striking the subsection and renumbering the
- 16 succeeding subsections.
- 17 Sec. 5. Section 237A.3A, subsection 3, paragraph c, Code
- 18 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 19 c. A person or program in-a-pilot-project-county which
- 20 provides care, supervision, or and guidance to a child which
- 21 is not defined as child day care under section 237A.17 may be
- 22 issued a certificate of registration under-this-section as a
- 23 child care home.
- Sec. 6. Section 237A.3A, subsection 3, paragraph d,
- 25 subparagraph (2), Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 26 (2) The rules shall allow a child day care home to be
- 27 registered at level II, III, or IV for which the provider is
- 28 qualified even though the amount of space required to be
- 29 available for the maximum number of children authorized for
- 30 that level exceeds the actual amount of space available in
- 31 that child care home. However, the total number of children
- 32 authorized for the child care home at that level of
- 33 registration shall be limited by the amount of space available
- 34 per child.
- 35 Sec. 7. Section 237A.3A, subsection 4, paragraph a, Code

S.F. _ H.F.

- 1 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 2 a. The child's parent, guardian, or custodian operates or
- 3 established the child care home and the child is attending
- 4 school or the child receives child day care full-time on a
- 5 regular basis from another person.
- 6 Sec. 8. Section 237A.3A, subsection 6, Code 1999, is
- 7 amended to read as follows:
- 8 6. REVOCATION OR DENIAL OF REGISTRATION. If the
- 9 department has denied or revoked a certificate of registration
- 10 because a person has continually or repeatedly failed to
- 11 operate a registered or licensed child day care facility in
- 12 compliance with this chapter and rules adopted pursuant to
- 13 this chapter, the person shall not operate or establish a
- 14 registered child care home for a period of six months from the
- 15 date the registration or license is denied or revoked. The
- 16 department shall not act on an application for registration
- 17 submitted by the person during the six-month period.
- 18 Sec. 9. Section 237A.3A, subsection 7, unnumbered
- 19 paragraph 1, Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 20 If school classes have been cancelled due to inclement
- 21 weather, a registered or unregistered child care home may have
- 22 additional children present. An unregistered child care home
- 23 shall comply with the requirements for inclement weather
- 24 applicable to a level I registration. A registered child care
- 25 home shall operate in accordance with the authorization for
- 26 the registration level of the child care home and is subject
- 27 to all of the following conditions:
- 28 Sec. 10. Section 237A.4, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 29 follows:
- 30 237A.4 INSPECTION AND EVALUATION.
- 31 The department shall make periodic inspections of licensed
- 32 centers to insure ensure compliance with licensing
- 33 requirements provided in this chapter, and the local boards of
- 34 health may make periodic inspections of licensed centers to
- 35 insure ensure compliance with health-related licensing

- 1 requirements provided in this chapter. The administrator may
- 2 inspect records maintained by a licensed center and may
- 3 inquire into matters concerning these centers and the persons
- 4 in charge. The administrator shall require that the center be
- 5 inspected by the state fire marshal or a designee for
- 6 compliance with rules relating to fire safety before a license
- 7 is granted or renewed. The administrator or a designee may
- 8 periodically visit registered family-day child care homes for
- 9 the purpose of evaluation of an inquiry into matters
- 10 concerning compliance with rules adopted under section
- 11 237A.12. Evaluation of family-day child care homes under this
- 12 section may include consultative services provided pursuant to
- 13 section 237A.6.
- 14 Sec. 11. Section 237A.5, subsections 1, 2, 6, and 7, Code
- 15 1999, are amended to read as follows:
- 16 1. All personnel in licensed or registered facilities
- 17 shall have good health as evidenced by a report following a
- 18 preemployment physical examination taken within six months
- 19 prior to beginning employment. The examination shall include
- 20 communicable disease tests conducted by a licensed physician
- 21 as defined in section 135C.1 and , licensed physician
- 22 assistant, or an advanced registered nurse practitioner. The
- 23 examiner shall determine whether the employee's health status
- 24 would impede or limit the employee's ability to care for
- 25 children in a child care environment. The physical
- 26 examination shall be repeated every three years after initial
- 27 employment. Controlled-medical Medical conditions which would
- 28 not affect the performance of the employee in the capacity
- 29 employed or the health and safety of children shall not
- 30 prohibit employment.
- 31 2. a. If a person is being considered for licensure or
- 32 registration under this chapter, or for employment involving
- 33 direct responsibility for a child or with access to a child
- 34 when the child is alone, by a child day care facility subject
- 35 to licensure or registration under this chapter, or if a

S.F. H.F. ___

1 person will reside in a facility, and if the person has been 2 convicted of a crime or has a record of founded child abuse, 3 the department and-the-licensee-or-registrant-for-an-employee 4 of-the-licensee-or-registrant shall perform an evaluation to 5 determine whether the crime or founded child abuse warrants 6 prohibition of licensure, registration, employment, or 7 residence in the facility. The department shall conduct 8 criminal and child abuse record checks in this state and may 9 conduct these checks in other states. The evaluation shall be 10 performed in accordance with procedures adopted for this 11 purpose by the department. 12 b. If the department determines that a person has 13 committed a crime or has a record of founded child abuse and 14 is licensed, employed by a licensee or registrant or 15 registered under this chapter, or resides in a licensed or 16 registered facility the department shall notify the licensee 17 or registrant that an evaluation will be conducted to 18 determine whether prohibition of the person's licensure, 19 registration, employment, or residence is warranted. 20 In an evaluation, the department and-the-licensee-or 21 registrant-for-an-employee-of-the-licensee-or-registrant shall 22 consider the nature and seriousness of the crime or founded 23 child abuse in relation to the position sought or held, the 24 time elapsed since the commission of the crime or founded 25 child abuse, the circumstances under which the crime or 26 founded child abuse was committed, the degree of 27 rehabilitation, the likelihood that the person will commit the 28 crime or founded child abuse again, and the number of crimes 29 or founded child abuses committed by the person involved. 30 department may permit a person who is evaluated to be 31 licensed, registered, employed, or to reside, or to continue 32 to be licensed, registered, employed, or to reside in a 33 licensed facility, if the person complies with the

34 department's conditions relating to the person's licensure, 35 registration, employment, or residence, which may include

1 completion of additional training. For-an-employee-of-a

- 2 licensee-or-registrant,-these-conditional-requirements-shall
- 3 be-developed-with-the-licensee-or-registrant: The department
- 4 has final authority in determining whether prohibition of the
- 5 person's licensure, registration, employment, or residence is
- 6 warranted and in developing any conditional requirements under
- 7 this paragraph.
- 8 d. If the department determines that the person has
- 9 committed a crime or has a record of founded child abuse which
- 10 warrants prohibition of licensure, registration, employment,
- 11 or residence, the person shall not be licensed or registered
- 12 under this chapter to operate a child day care facility and
- 13 shall not be employed by a licensee or registrant or reside in
- 14 a facility licensed or registered under this chapter.
- 15 e. If it has been determined that a child receiving child
- 16 care from a child care facility is the victim of founded child
- 17 abuse committed by an employee, license or registration
- 18 holder, or resident of the child care facility for which a
- 19 report is placed in the central registry pursuant to section
- 20 232.71D, the administrator shall provide notification at the
- 21 time of the determination to the parents, guardians, and
- 22 custodians of children receiving care from the facility. A
- 23 notification made under this paragraph shall identify the type
- 24 of abuse but shall not identify the victim or perpetrator or
- 25 circumstances of the founded abuse.
- 26 6. A person who receives public funds for providing child
- 27 day care and who is not registered or licensed under this
- 28 chapter and individuals who reside with the person shall be
- 29 subject to the provisions of subsection 2 as though the person
- 30 either is being considered for registration or is registered
- 31 to provide child day care under this chapter. If the person
- 32 or individual residing with the person would be prohibited
- 33 from licensure, registration, employment, or residence under
- 34 subsection 2, the person shall not provide child day care and
- 35 is not eligible to receive public funds to do so. A person

S.F.	H.F.	

- 1 who continues to provide child day care in violation of this
- 2 subsection is subject to penalty under section 237A.19 and
- 3 injunction under section 237A.20.
- 7. A person who serves as an unpaid volunteer in a child
- 5 day care facility shall not be required to complete training
- 6 as a mandatory reporter of child abuse under section 232.69 or
- 7 under any other requirement.
- 8 Sec. 12. Section 237A.7, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
- 9 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 10 Anyone who acquires through the administration of this
- 11 chapter information relative to an individual in a child day
- 12 care facility or to a relative of the individual shall not,
- 13 directly or indirectly, disclose the information except upon
- 14 inquiry before a court of law or with the written consent of
- 15 the individual or, in the case of a child, the written consent
- 16 of the parent or guardian or as otherwise specifically
- 17 required or allowed by law.
- 18 Sec. 13. Section 237A.8, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 19 follows:
- 20 237A.8 SUSPENSION-AND-REVOCATION VIOLATIONS -- ACTIONS
- 21 AGAINST LICENSE OR REGISTRATION.
- 22 The administrator, after notice and opportunity for an
- 23 evidentiary hearing before the department of inspections and
- 24 appeals, may suspend or revoke a license or certificate of
- 25 registration issued under this chapter or may reduce a license
- 26 to a provisional license if the person to whom a license or
- 27 certificate is issued violates a provision of this chapter or
- 28 if the person makes false reports regarding the operation of
- 29 the child day care facility to the administrator or a designee
- 30 of the administrator. The administrator shall notify the
- 31 parent, guardian, or legal custodian of each child for whom
- 32 the person provides child day care if-the-license-or
- 33 certificate-of-registration-is-suspended-or-revoked-or-if
- 34 there-has-been-a-substantiated-child-abuse-case-against-an
- 35 employee, -owner, -or -operator -of-the-child-day-care-facility at

- 1 the time of action to suspend or revoke a license or
- 2 certificate of registration.
- 3 Sec. 14. Section 237A.12, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 4 follows:
- 5 237A.12 RULES.
- 6 1. Subject to the provisions of chapter 17A, the
- 7 administrator shall promulgate adopt rules setting minimum
- 8 standards to provide quality child day care in the operation
- 9 and maintenance of child care centers and registered family
- 10 day child care homes, relating to all of the following:
- 11 1: a. The number and qualifications of personnel necessary
- 12 to assure the health, safety, and welfare of children in the
- 13 facilities. Rules for facilities which are preschools shall
- 14 be drawn so that any staff-to-children ratios which relate to
- 15 the age of the children enrolled shall be based on the age of
- 16 the majority of the children served by a particular class
- 17 rather than on the age of the youngest child served.
- 18 2. b. Physical facilities.
- 19 3. c. The adequacy of activity programs and food services
- 20 available to the children. The administrator shall not
- 21 restrict the use of or apply nutritional standards to a lunch
- 22 or other meal which is brought to the center or family-day
- 23 child care home by a school-age child for the child's
- 24 consumption.
- 25 4. d. Policies established by the center for parental
- 26 participation.
- 27 5. e. Programs for education and in-service training of
- 28 staff.
- 29 6. f. Records kept by the facilities.
- 30 7- g. Administration.
- 31 8. Health, safety, and medical policies for children.
- Rules adopted by the state fire marshal for buildings,
- 33 other than school buildings, used as child care centers as an
- 34 adjunct to the primary purpose of the building shall take into
- 35 consideration that children are received for temporary care

- 1 only and shall not differ from rules adopted for these
- 2 buildings when they are used by groups of persons congregating
- 3 from time to time in the primary use and occupancy of the
- 4 buildings. However, the rules may require a fire-rated
- 5 separation from the remaining portion of the building if the
- 6 fire marshal determines that the separation is necessary for
- 7 the protection of children from a specific flammable hazard.
- 8 3. Rules relating to fire safety shall be adopted under
- 9 this chapter by the state fire marshal in consultation with
- 10 the department. Rules adopted by the state fire marshal for a
- 11 building which is owned or leased by a school district or
- 12 accredited nonpublic school and used as a child day care
- 13 facility shall not differ from standards adopted by the state
- 14 fire marshal for school buildings under chapter 100. Rules
- 15 relating to sanitation shall be adopted by the department in
- 16 consultation with the director of public health. All rules
- 17 shall be developed in consultation with the state child day
- 18 care advisory council. The state fire marshal shall inspect
- 19 the facilities.
- 20 4. If a building is owned or leased by a school district
- 21 or accredited nonpublic school and complies with standards
- 22 adopted by the state fire marshal for school buildings under
- 23 chapter 100, the building is considered appropriate for use by
- 24 a child day care facility. The rules adopted by the
- 25 administrator under this section shall not require the
- 26 facility to comply with building requirements which differ
- 27 from requirements for use of the building as a school.
- 28 5. Standards and requirements set by a city or county for
- 29 a building which is owned or leased by a school district or
- 30 accredited nonpublic school and used as a child day care
- 31 facility shall take into consideration that children are
- 32 received for temporary care only and shall not differ from
- 33 standards and requirements set for use of the building as a
- 34 school.
- 35 Sec. 15. Section 237A.19, unnumbered paragraph 2, Code

- 1 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 2 A If registration is required under section 237A.3A, a
- 3 person who establishes, conducts, manages, or operates a group
- 4 day child care home without registering under-this-chapter or
- 5 a person who operates a family-day child care home contrary to
- 6 section 237A.5, is guilty of a simple misdemeanor. Each day
- 7 of continuing violation after conviction, or notice from the
- 8 department by certified mail of the violation, is a separate
- 9 offense. A single charge alleging continuing violation may be
- 10 made in lieu of filing charges for each day of violation.
- 11 Sec. 16. Section 237A.20, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 12 follows:
- 13 237A.20 INJUNCTION.
- 14 A person who establishes, conducts, manages, or operates a
- 15 center without a license or a group-day child care home
- 16 without a certificate of registration, if registration is
- 17 required under section 237A.3A, may be restrained by temporary
- 18 or permanent injunction. A person who has been convicted of a
- 19 crime against a person or a person with a record of founded
- 20 child abuse may be restrained by temporary or permanent
- 21 injunction from providing unregistered, registered, or
- 22 licensed child day care. The action may be instituted by the
- 23 state, the county attorney, a political subdivision of the
- 24 state, or an interested person.
- Sec. 17. Section 237A.21, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 26 follows:
- 27 237A.21 STATE CHILD ĐAY CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL.
- 28 1. A state child day care advisory council is established
- 29 consisting of not more than thirty-five members from urban and
- 30 rural areas across the state. The membership shall include,
- 31 but is not limited to, all of the following persons or
- 32 representatives with an interest in child day care: a
- 33 licensed center, a registered family-day child care home from
- 34 a county with a population of less than twenty-two thousand,
- 35 an unregistered family-day child care home, a parent of a

S.F. _____ H.F. ____

- 1 child in child day care, appropriate governmental agencies,
- 2 and other members as deemed necessary by the director. The
- 3 members are eligible for reimbursement of their actual and
- 4 necessary expenses while engaged in performance of their
- 5 official duties.
- 6 2. Members shall be appointed by the director from a list
- 7 of names submitted by a nominating committee to consist of one
- 8 member of the state council established pursuant to this
- 9 section, one member of the department's child day care staff,
- 10 three consumers of child day care, and one member of a
- ll professional child day care organization. Two names shall be
- 12 submitted for each appointment. Members shall be appointed
- 13 for terms of three years but no member shall be appointed to
- 14 more than two consecutive terms. The state council shall
- 15 develop its own operational policies which are subject to
- 16 departmental approval.
- 17 3. The membership of the council shall be appointed in a
- 18 manner so as to provide equitable representation of persons
- 19 with an interest in child day care and shall include all of
- 20 the following:
- 21 a. Two parents of a child served by a family-or-group-day
- 22 registered child care home.
- 23 b. Two parents of a child served by a licensed center.
- 24 c. Two not-for-profit child day care providers.
- 25 d. Two for-profit child day care providers.
- 26 e. Two family-day child care home providers who are
- 27 registered at level I or level II.
- 28 f. Two group-day child care home providers who are
- 29 registered at level III or level IV.
- 30 g. One child day care resource and referral service
- 31 grantee.
- 32 h. One nongovernmental child advocacy group
- 33 representative.
- 34 i. One designee of the department of human services or the
- 35 Iowa department of public health.

- j. One designee of the department of education.
- 2 k. One head start program provider.
- 3 1. Two legislators appointed in a manner so that both
- 4 major political parties are represented.
- 5 Sec. 18. Section 237A.22, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 6 follows:
- 7 237A.22 DUTIES OF STATE CHILD BAY CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL.
- 8 The state child day care advisory council shall do all of
- 9 the following:
- 10 1. Consult with and make recommendations to the department
- 11 concerning policy issues relating to child day care.
- 12 2. Advise the department concerning services relating to
- 13 child day care, including but not limited to any of the
- 14 following:
- 15 a. Resource and referral services.
- 16 b. Provider training.
- 17 c. Quality improvement.
- 18 d. Public-private partnerships.
- 19 e. Standards review and development.
- 20 3. Assist the department in developing an implementation
- 21 plan to provide seamless service to recipients of public
- 22 assistance which includes child day care services. For the
- 23 purposes of this subsection, "seamless service" means
- 24 coordination, where possible, of the federal and state
- 25 requirements which apply to child day care.
- 26 4. Advise and provide technical services to the director
- 27 of the department of education or the director's designee,
- 28 upon request, relating to prekindergarten, kindergarten, and
- 29 before and after school programming and facilities.
- 30 Sec. 19. Section 237A.26, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 31 follows:
- 32 237A.26 STATEWIDE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL SERVICES --
- 33 GRANTS.
- 34 1. The department shall administer a statewide grant
- 35 program for child day care resource and referral services.

- 1 Grants shall only be awarded to community-based nonprofit
- 2 incorporated agencies and public agencies. Grants shall be
- 3 awarded to facilitate the establishment of regional resource
- 4 and referral agencies throughout the state, based upon the
- 5 distribution of the child population in the state.
- 6 2. The department shall provide oversight of and annually
- 7 evaluate an agency which is awarded a grant to provide
- 8 resource and referral services to a region.
- 9 3. An agency which receives a grant to provide resource
- 10 and referral services shall perform both of the following
- 11 functions:
- 12 a. Organize assistance to family-and-group-day child care
- 13 homes utilizing training levels based upon the homes' degrees
- 14 of experience and interest.
- 15 b. Operate in partnership with both public and private
- 16 interests and coordinate resource and referral services with
- 17 existing community services.
- 18 4. An agency, to be eligible to receive a grant to provide
- 19 resource and referral services, must match the grant with
- 20 financial resources equal to at least twenty-five percent of
- 21 the amount of the grant. The financial resources may include
- 22 a private donation, an in-kind contribution, or a public
- 23 funding source other than a separate state grant for child
- 24 care service improvement.
- 25 5. An agency, to be eligible to receive a grant to provide
- 26 resource and referral services, must have a board of directors
- 27 if the agency is an incorporated nonprofit agency or must have
- 28 an advisory board if the agency is a public agency, to oversee
- 29 the provision of resource and referral services. The board
- 30 shall include providers, consumers, and other persons
- 31 interested in the provision or delivery of child day care
- 32 services.
- 33 6. An agency which receives a child care resource and
- 34 referral grant shall provide all of the following services:
- 35 a. Assist families in selecting quality child care. The

- 1 agency must provide referrals to registered and licensed child
- 2 day care facilities, and to persons providing care,
- 3 supervision, or and guidance of a child which is not defined
- 4 as child day care under section 237A.1 and may provide
- 5 referrals to unregistered providers.
- 6 b. Assist child day care providers in adopting appropriate
- 7 program and business practices to provide quality child care
- 8 services.
- 9 c. Provide information to the public regarding the
- 10 availability of child day care services in the communities
- 11 within the agency's region.
- d. Actively encourage the development of new and expansion
- 13 of existing child day care facilities in response to
- 14 identified community needs.
- e. Provide specialized services to employers, including
- 16 the provision of resource and referral services to employee
- 17 groups identified by the employer and the provision of
- 18 technical assistance to develop employer-supported child day
- 19 care programs.
- 20 f. Refer eligible child day care facilities to the federal
- 21 child care food programs.
- 22 g. Loan toys, other equipment, and resource materials to
- 23 child day care facilities.
- 24 h. Administer funding designated within the grant to
- 25 provide a substitute caregiver program for registered family
- 26 and-group-day child care homes to provide substitute care in a
- 27 home when the home provider is ill, on vacation, receiving
- 28 training, or is otherwise unable to provide the care.
- 7. The department may contract with an agency receiving a
- 30 child day care resource and referral grant to perform any of
- 31 the following functions relating to publicly funded services
- 32 providing care, supervision, or and guidance of a child:
- 33 a. Determine an individual's eligibility for the services
- 34 in accordance with income requirements.
- 35 b. Administer a voucher, certificate, or other system for

- 1 reimbursing an eligible provider of the services.
- 2 Sec. 20. Section 237A.27, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 3 follows:
- 4 237A.27 CRISIS CHILD CARE.
- 5 The department shall establish a special child care
- 6 registration or licensure classification for crisis child care
- 7 which is provided on a temporary emergency basis to a child
- 8 when there is reason to believe that the child may be subject
- 9 to abuse or neglect. The special classification is not
- 10 subject to the definitional restrictions of child day care in
- 11 this chapter relating to the provision of child day care for a
- 12 period of less than twenty-four hours per day on a regular
- 13 basis. However, the provision of crisis child care shall be
- 14 limited to a period of not more than seventy-two hours for a
- 15 child during any single stay. A person providing crisis child
- 16 care must be registered or licensed under this chapter and
- 17 must be participating or have previously participated in the
- 18 federal crisis nursery pilot project. The department shall
- 19 adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to implement this section.
- Sec. 21. Section 237A.28, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 21 follows:
- 22 237A.28 CHILD BAY CARE CREDIT FUND.
- 23 A child day care credit fund is created in the state
- 24 treasury under the authority of the department of human
- 25 services. The moneys in the fund shall consist of moneys
- 26 deposited pursuant to section 422.100 and shall be used for
- 27 child day care services as annually directed appropriated by
- 28 the general assembly.
- 29 Sec. 22. Section 237A.29, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 30 follows:
- 31 237A.29 STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING OF CHILD DAY CARE.
- 32 State funds and federal funds provided to the state in
- 33 accordance with federal requirements shall not be used to pay
- 34 for the care, supervision, or and quidance of a child for
- 35 periods of less than twenty-four hours per day on a regular

1 basis in-a-place-other-than-the-child's-home unless the care,

2 supervision, or and guidance is defined as child day care as

3 used in this chapter.

4 DIVISION II

5 CONFORMING AMENDMENTS

- 6 Sec. 23. Section 232.69, subsection 1, paragraph b,
- 7 subparagraph (7), Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 8 (7) An employee or operator of a licensed child care
- 9 center or registered group-day-care-home-or-registered-family
- 10 day child care home.
- 11 Sec. 24. Section 234.6, subsection 6, paragraph a, Code
- 12 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 13 a. Day Child care for children or day care for adults, in
- 14 facilities which are licensed or are approved as meeting
- 15 standards for licensure.
- 16 Sec. 25. Section 237.1, subsection 4, paragraph d, Code
- 17 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 18 d. Child day care furnished by a child care center,-group
- 19 day-care-home, or family-day a child care home as defined in
- 20 section 237A.1.
- 21 Sec. 26. Section 256.9, subsection 35, unnumbered
- 22 paragraph 2, Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:
- 23 Standards and materials developed shall include materials
- 24 which employ developmentally appropriate practices and
- 25 incorporate substantial parental involvement. The materials
- 26 and standards shall include alternative teaching approaches
- 27 including collaborative teaching and alternative dispute
- 28 resolution training. The department shall consult with the
- 29 child development coordinating council, the state day child
- 30 care advisory committee council, the department of human
- 31 services, the state board of regents center for early
- 32 developmental education, the area education agencies, the
- 33 department of child development in the college of family and
- 34 consumer sciences at Iowa state university of science and
- 35 technology, the early childhood elementary division of the

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- 1 college of education at the university of Iowa, and the
- 2 college of education at the university of northern Iowa, in
- 3 developing these standards and materials.
- 4 Sec. 27. Section 256C.3, subsection 5, Code 1999, is
- 5 amended to read as follows:
- 6 5. Training, technical assistance, and other support by
- 7 the family resource center staff to family-day child care home
- 8 providers in the community. The center may serve as an
- 9 information and referral clearinghouse for other child care
- 10 needs and services in the community and shall coordinate the
- 11 center's information and efforts with any child care delivery
- 12 systems that may already exist in the community. The center
- 13 may also provide an adolescent pregnancy prevention program,
- 14 and other programs as the community determines, for
- 15 adolescents emphasizing responsible decision making and
- 16 communication skills.
- 17 Sec. 28. Section 692A.13, subsection 3, paragraph c,
- 18 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 1999, is amended to read as
- 19 follows:
- 20 For offenders who have been classified as "at-risk" in this
- 21 state pursuant to an assessment conducted as provided in
- 22 subsection 6, the department or a criminal or juvenile justice
- 23 agency may also release the offender's name, a photograph,
- 24 locations frequented by the offender, and relevant Iowa
- 25 criminal history information from the registry to public and
- 26 private schools, child day care centers, family-day child care
- 27 home providers, businesses, and organizations that serve
- 28 primarily children, women, or vulnerable adults, and neighbors
- 29 and community groups, or to the public at large. The extent
- 30 of public disclosure of the information shall be rationally
- 31 related to the following:
- 32 Sec. 29. AMENDMENTS TO TERMS "CHILD DAY CARE" AND "DAY
- 33 CARE" -- DIRECTIVE TO CODE EDITOR.
- 34 1. Sections 7I.5, 7I.7, 10A.202, 137F.1, 232.71D, 232.78,
- 35 232.188, 235A.15, 239B.7, 239B.8, 239B.10, 256C.3, 279.49,

- 1 279.51, 280.3A, 285.1, 298A.12, and 422.100, Code 1999, are
- 2 amended by striking from the sections the words "child day
- 3 care" or "child day-care" and inserting in lieu thereof the
- 4 words "child care".
- 5 2. Sections 15.285, 15.329, 217.12, 232.69, 235C.3,
- 6 256A.3, 256C.3, 260C.69, and 279.51, Code 1999, are amended by
- 7 striking from the sections the words "day care" or "day-care"
- 8 or "Day care" and inserting in lieu thereof, as appropriate,
- 9 the words "child care" or "Child care".
- 10 3. The Code editor shall substitute the words "child care"
- 11 for the words "child day care" or "child day-care" anywhere in
- 12 the Code if there appears to be no doubt as to the intent to
- 13 refer to child care as defined in chapter 237A, as amended by
- 14 this Act.
- 15 4. The Code editor shall substitute the words "child care"
- 16 for the words "day care" anywhere in the Code if there appears
- 17 to be no doubt as to the intent to refer to child care as
- 18 defined in chapter 237A, as amended by this Act.
- 19 DIVISION III
- 20 REPEAL -- EFFECTIVE DATE -- APPLICABILITY TRANSITION
- 21 Sec. 28.
- 22 1. Section 237A.3, Code 1999, is repealed June 30, 2000.
- 23 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1999. However, the
- 24 provisions of section 237A.3 and associated administrative
- 25 rules adopted under that section shall remain applicable to a
- 26 family or group child day care home registered as of June 30,
- 27 1999, until the renewal date of the registration or upon
- 28 request of the home for registration under the provisions of
- 29 section 237A.3A, as amended by this Act, whichever is earlier.
- 30 3. For unregistered family child day care homes, the
- 31 provisions of section 237A.3 and associated administrative
- 32 rules shall remain applicable through June 30, 2000, unless an
- 33 unregistered home applies for registration on or after July 1,
- 34 1999. The child care home provisions of section 237A.3A, as
- 35 amended by this Act, shall apply to initial applications for

1 registration under chapter 237A received on or after July 1, 2 1999.

3 EXPLANATION

This bill relates to child care provisions administered by the department of human services, expands statewide a pilot project establishing levels for child care home registrations, the terminology used to describe child care, and makes an appropriation of certain civil penalties collected by the department.

Division I makes numerous changes to Code chapter 237A, 11 relating to regulation of child care by the department of 12 human services. The terms "child day care" and "day care" are 13 changed to "child care" throughout the chapter and a pilot 14 project for registration of home providers of child care is 15 expanded statewide.

16 Code section 237A.1, relating to definitions, is amended to 17 strike, rewrite, and add to the list of exceptions to the 18 definition of child care. The bill provides that care 19 provided by a relative of a child and care provided in the 20 child's home would be considered to be child care for purposes 21 of Code chapter 237A. Definitions of "family day care home" 22 and "group day care home" are revised to "child care home". 23 The definitions of "low-income family", and "relative" which 24 are no longer used in Code chapter 237A, or are no longer used 25 in the definitions are stricken.

Code section 237A.2, relating to licensing of child care centers, is amended to number and letter paragraphs. In 28 addition, authority for renewal of a one-year provisional license, allowed when a center does not meet standards, is 30 limited to not more than two consecutive years for the same 31 standard.

The bill includes a new subsection 6 in Code section 237A.2 33 which authorizes the administrator to adopt rules applying 34 civil penalties to child care facilities which do not comply 35 with key standards. The amount of a civil penalty is within

- 1 the discretion of the department but cannot exceed \$1,000.
- 2 Any civil penalties collected are appropriated to the
- 3 department for personnel costs associated with regulation of
- 4 child care and other activities designed to improve child care
- 5 quality.
- 6 Code section 237A.3A, relating to a pilot project for child
- 7 care homes, is amended to make the terminology changes. Under
- 8 current law, the pilot project is limited to not more than two
- 9 counties and establishes four registration levels to a new
- 10 registration category of "child care home". The bill expands
- 11 the pilot project to apply statewide to all home child care
- 12 providers and replaces all references to family and group day
- 13 homes with the new category. The current law for home
- 14 registration, Code section 237A.3, is repealed effective July
- 15 1, 2000.
- 16 The bill amends Code section 237A.3A to include authority
- 17 for a registration certificate to be issued to two or more
- 18 qualified persons. The bill provides that the inclement
- 19 weather exception which allows additional children to be
- 20 present in child care homes when schools are closed for
- 21 weather reasons is the same for unregistered child care homes
- 22 as for level I registered child care homes.
- 23 Code section 237A.4, relating to inspection of child care
- 24 facilities and homes, is amended to make the terminology
- 25 changes.
- 26 Code section 237A.5, relating to requirements for personnel
- 27 of child care facilities, is amended to make the terminology
- 28 changes. In addition, the type of health practitioners
- 29 authorized to perform health examinations is expanded to
- 30 include licensed physician assistants and advanced registered
- 31 nurse practitioners and the criteria for the examinations are
- 32 revised.
- 33 Code section 237A.5 requirements involving criminal and
- 34 child abuse record checks are amended. Under current law, the
- 35 department is required to perform an evaluation if record

- 1 checks indicate persons involved with child care have been
- 2 convicted of a crime or have a record of founded abuse. The
- 3 bill removes a requirement for the employer of a person to
- 4 participate in the evaluation. In addition, if it is
- 5 determined that a child receiving care from a child care
- 6 facility is the victim of founded child abuse placed in the
- 7 central registry that was committed by a registration or
- 8 license holder or an employee of the facility or someone
- 9 residing in the facility, the department is required to notify
- 10 the parents, guardians, and custodians of the children
- 11 receiving care from the facility. However, the notification
- 12 cannot identify the victim or perpetrator or circumstances of
- 13 the founded abuse.
- 14 Code section 237A.7, relating to requirements for keeping
- 15 information confidential concerning recipients of child care
- 16 and their relatives, is amended to make the terminology
- 17 changes.
- 18 Code section 237A.8, relating to provisions for suspension
- 19 and revocation of a license or certificate of registration, is
- 20 amended to make the terminology changes and to allow the
- 21 department to reduce a child care license to a provisional
- 22 license. In addition, the requirement to notify the parents
- 23 of children receiving care if there has been a substantiated
- 24 child abuse case against the provider is stricken in this Code
- 25 section and moved by the bill to Code section 237A.5.
- 26 Code section 237A.12, relating to the child care rules
- 27 adopted by the department, is amended to make the terminology
- 28 changes and to number currently unnumbered paragraphs.
- 29 Code section 237A.20, relating to injunctions for
- 30 restraining persons from providing unauthorized child care, is
- 31 amended to make the terminology changes. In addition, the
- 32 county attorney is specifically authorized to bring an action
- 33 for an injunction.
- 34 Code sections 237A.21, 237A.22, 237A.26, 237A.27, 237A.28,
- 35 and 237A.29 are amended to make the terminology changes and

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1 other changes involving the elimination of family and group 2 child care home registration classifications. Division II provides for conforming amendments to make the 3 4 terminology changes throughout the Code, including general 5 authority for the Code editor to apply the changes where 6 clearly warranted. Division III of the bill includes special effective dates 7 8 and applicability provisions in transition to the new system 9 of registration of child care homes during fiscal year 1999-10 2000. The new registration approach would be applicable upon 11 initial application for registration, at registration renewal, 12 or upon request of the registrant during that fiscal year. 13 Code section 237A.3 remains applicable to unregistered 14 providers during the transition year. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

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THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR SALLY J. PEDERSON, LT. GOVERNOR **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES** CHARLES M. PALMER, DIRECTOR

DATE:

January 22, 1999

TO:

Members of the General Assembly

FROM:

Karla Fultz McHenry, Legislative Liaison July McHenry Department of Human Services

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is proposing legislation to rewrite Chapter 237A regarding the regulation of child care facilities.

This proposal makes terminology changes throughout all sections of the chapter to update "child day care" to "child care". This is to use terminology which is consistent with that used nationally.

Following is specific information related to each section of the proposed bill:

DIVISION I

Section 1

Provides clarification to the definitions of child care center and the service of child care. Clarifies existing and adds new child care settings that are exempt from regulation.

Deletes the word "relative" and "in a place other than the child's home" from the exclusions in the definition of child care. The Code currently states that child care is the "care, supervision or guidance of a child by a person other than the child's parent, guardian, relative or custodian in a place other than the child's home." Removing the word "relative" clarifies that care, supervision and guidance provided by a relative is child care by definition and therefore subject to reimbursement from the child care assistance program and to the provisions of registration when applicable. The Child Care Development Fund requires that relatives are an eligible provider and recipient of federal child care funds.

Eliminates the terminology "family day care home" and "group day care home" and replaces it with the terminology "child care home." The tiered registration system no longer distinguishes between a family and group care home on the basis of numbers served, but rather categorizes providers into tiers based on experience, training, the number and ages of children served, etc.

Provides definitions for "infant," "school," "child care home," and "children receiving care on a part-time basis" relative to the new tiered registration system.

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Section 2

Allows the Department to downgrade a license to a provisional license if violations warrant a change during the license year. The action affords the Department a more timely administrative remedy to respond to centers found to be out-of-compliance during the license year.

Limits a one-year provisional license of a child care center to not more than two consecutive years for the same deficiency. It is our belief that two years is adequate time for correcting deficiencies.

Prevents the continued operation of a new child care center, pending the outcome of an evidentiary hearing, if the Department denies the <u>initial</u> application for license. Doing so prevents children from remaining in a potentially harmful environment that from its inception has been determined inadequate to provide care. Currently, a center denied an initial license can remain in operation for months, sometimes into years, pending appeal.

Authorizes the Department to establish civil penalties for child care providers who violate key standards that pose a jeopardy to children's health and safety. The Department will consult with the State Child Care Advisory Council, providers, families, and other interested parties prior to promulgating rules. Funds obtained would be used to support the costs of regulatory staffing or for quality improvement activities in the child care system. Building consensus on key standards of compliance and the enforcement of a financial penalty for noncompliance reinforces to providers the importance of providing quality environments to children. Currently, no timely administrative or legal remedy of significant consequence exists to respond to providers offering poor quality care.

Section 3

Eliminates the tiered registration pilot project and implements the tiered registration requirements on a state-wide basis.

Section 6

Expands on the tiered registration available to registered child care providers.

Section 9

Authorizes unregistered child care homes to comply with the requirements for inclement weather applicable to registered child care homes.

Section 11

Expands the type of health practitioners authorized to perform health examinations to include licensed physician assistants and advanced registered nurse practitioners and the criteria for the examinations are revised. This is consistent with current practices and recommendations from the Department of Public Health.

Removes the requirement for the employer of an individual with a criminal conviction or a record of founded abuse to formally participate in the evaluation process. Logistically, this requirement is cumbersome and does not play out in actual practice. Employers can and do participate informally in the evaluation process by providing collateral information to the Department that impacts the decision, making their own determinations on the employability of the staff, developing their own corrective action plans for staff, etc.

Requires the department to make timely notification to parents, guardians, and custodians of children receiving care in a facility if it is determined that a child receiving care in that facility is the victim of founded and registered child abuse by an employee of the facility. The notification would only specify the type of abuse and would not identify the perpetrator or the child. Notification to parents at the time of determination of a founded abuse allows parents to assess any residual impact on their own children, particularly relative to sexual and physical abuse. Doing so also supports our efforts to keep parents well informed and allow them to make decisions regarding their own children's welfare based on more comprehensive information.

Section 13

Clarifies under "Actions Against License or Registration" that notification will be provided to parents at the time of the Department's action to suspend or revoke a license or registration. Again, this supports our efforts of keeping parents informed regarding concerns that may arise regarding the environment in which their child is being served and allows them to make informed consumer decisions about child care.

Section 15

Clarifies the legal ramifications for those child care providers who are required to be registered operating a child care home without registering or those providers who are operating a child care home out of compliance.

Section 16

Adds county attorneys to those authorized to bring an action for an injunction for restraining persons from providing unauthorized child care. This was requested by county attorneys who felt this clarification was necessary.

Section 17

Expands upon the membership requirements of the State Child Care Advisory Council to make it consistent with the tiered level registration program.

DIVISION II

Provides for conforming amendments to make the terminology changes throughout the Code. Nationally, the terminology now used is "child care," and it is important to be consistent when dealing with other states and the federal government.

DIVISION III

The effective date for the elimination of the pilot project and the implementation of the tiered registration's requirements will be July 1, 1999. However, the administrative rules shall remain applicable to family or group child care homes registered as of June 30, 1999 until the renewal date of the registration or upon request of the registered home. In addition, the new registration approach will be applicable upon initial application for registration, at registration renewal, or upon request of the registrant during that fiscal year.