



2019 Public Policy Agenda

1. Eliminate Rule 2 and compile all applicable rules and regulations into one area of statute so adjustments can be made when needed and providers can find all governing regulations in one place.
2. Expand upon the violations that qualify for a fix-it ticket; those that do not impose an immediate risk to the health and safety of children in our care and/or can be corrected immediately. Chapter 245A.065
3. Protect providers from false accusations. Chapter 626.556
 - A. Make it a crime to knowingly report false allegations against a DHS licensed program,
 - B. Allow providers to seek restitution from individuals who are found to have made false allegations, including but not limited to legal fees and loss of revenue, and
 - C. Require individuals to include identifying information when reporting abuse or neglect.
4. Prevent homeowner's insurance companies from rating or denying homeowner's policies to family child care providers who carry a liability policy. Chapter 65A.30
 - A. Tie liability policy to homeowner's for notification purposes.
 - B. Allow providers who close temporarily to suspend liability coverage.
5. Require health insurance companies to cover injuries or illness that occur on a family child care or center property when the injury or illness did not occur due to the abuse or negligence of the provider.
6. Change the requirement for reporting of injuries to one that **requires or required** medical attention by a physician.

7. Streamline required training components such as SUIDS, AHT, Active Supervision, and any new requirements resulting from the Child Care Development Block Grant reauthorization into one, 2-hour class as an annual refresher course for license holders who have already taken the full course. Allow an option for this to be a self-study course available for all providers online or through their licensur. Chapter 245A.50
8. Classes required to be completed bi-annually and those required every five years would need to be taken before a relicensing visit at the end of a two- or five-year term, respectively. This would protect providers from a violation if their class is canceled or unavailable by the same date it was taken two years prior and would make the statute consistent with the requirements for annual trainings. Chapter 245A.02, Chapter 245A.50
9. Simplify training requirements for helpers/substitutes.
 - A. Helpers who assist with care on a regular basis under the direct supervision of the license holder are exempt from training requirements. Chapter 245A.50
 - B. Clarify that there are no trainings or background checks required for emergency substitutes, nor is a list of emergency substitutes a licensing requirement, despite some counties requiring providers to list any emergency substitutes and verify they have training hours. Providers should not receive violations when emergency substitutes are used for justifiable reasons (an incident to a child, significant other, the provider, or their own family member that requires immediate treatment). Rule 9502.0435
10. Increase the number of days a substitute can provide care in one program from up to 30 days to either 60 days or 180 hours, whichever is greater. If a provider requires medical treatment, such as surgery or cancer treatment, they are often unable to work for several weeks. This change would show compassion for the rare circumstances when this is needed, ensure consistency of care for children, and prevent further exacerbation of the child care crisis. Chapter 245A.50

11. Require county licensors to seek clarification from DHS when a dispute over interpretation arises, before issuing a correction order or negative action. Chapter 245A.04
12. Clarify exemptions (trainings, background studies, and/or ability to take their own family members to an unlicensed area of the home) for family members/visiting family members who care for their own family's children and would have no unsupervised contact with other child care children. Chapter 245C.02, Chapter 245C.03
13. Remove any requirement for currently licensed providers who move to take county orientation classes meant for new providers. Chapter 245A.50
14. Streamline and eliminate unnecessary paperwork by allowing forms to be transmitted and stored electronically.
15. Add language clarifying that there is no minimum temperature for water in family child care homes. The CDC and numerous scientific studies show that soap and water at any temperature below 140 degrees is equally effective. Bacteria aren't typically killed at temperatures below 140 degrees, which is 20 degrees hotter than the maximum water temperature allowed by Rule 9502. Rule 9502.0435
16. Change Exit Interview language to remove the ability to issue correction orders not discussed during the exit interview. Providers are often surprised to receive correction orders days or weeks after what they thought was a perfect licensing inspection. This will encourage more open dialogue between licensors and providers and allow providers to collect timely documentation related to any violations. Chapter 245A.04
17. Remove requirement to give parents a copy of the Emergency Plan. This current requirement poses a threat to the health and safety of the children in care and increases liability as providers cannot give an exhaustive list of emergency routes/locations for every situation. Chapter 245A.51
18. Oppose any funding for Voluntary PreK/Universal Preschool programs.