

KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT FORM
2022 REGULAR SESSION
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Amend printed copy of **HB 222/GA**

On page 7, after line 17 insert the following:

"➔Section 11. KRS 199.896 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) No person, association, or organization shall conduct, operate, maintain, or advertise any child-care center without obtaining a license as provided in KRS 199.892 to 199.896.
- (2) The cabinet may promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A relating to license fees and may, in the administrative regulations, establish standards of care and service for a child-care center, criteria for the denial of a license if criminal records indicate convictions that may impact the safety and security of children in care, and procedures for enforcement of penalties which are not in contravention of this section.
- (3) Each initial application for a license shall be made to the cabinet and shall be accompanied by a fee that shall not exceed administrative costs of the program to the cabinet and shall be renewable annually upon expiration and reapplication when accompanied by a renewal fee that shall not exceed administrative costs of the program to the cabinet. Regular licenses and renewals thereof shall expire one (1) year from their effective date.
- (4) No child-care center shall be refused a license or have its license revoked for failure to meet standards set by the secretary until after the expiration of a period not to exceed six (6) months from the date of the first official notice that the standards have not been met. If, however, the cabinet has probable cause to believe that an immediate threat to the public

Amendment No. SFA 2

Rep. Sen. Adrienne Southworth

Committee Amendment _____

Signed: _____

Floor Amendment _____

LRC Drafter: _____

Adopted: _____

Date: _____

Rejected: _____

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health, safety, or welfare exists, the cabinet may take emergency action pursuant to KRS 13B.125. All administrative hearings conducted under authority of KRS 199.892 to 199.896 shall be conducted in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B.

- (5) If, upon inspection or investigation, the inspector general finds that a child-care center licensed under this section has violated the administrative regulations, standards, or requirements of the cabinet, the inspector general shall issue a statement of deficiency to the center containing:
- (a) A statement of fact;
 - (b) A statement of how an administrative regulation, standard, or requirement of the cabinet was violated; and
 - (c) The timeframe, negotiated with the child-care center, within which a violation is to be corrected, except that a violation that poses an immediate threat to the health, safety, or welfare of children in the center shall be corrected in no event later than five (5) working days from the date of the statement of deficiency.
- (6) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services, in consultation with the Office of the Inspector General, shall establish by administrative regulations promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A an informal dispute resolution process through which a child-care provider may dispute licensure deficiencies that have an adverse effect on the child-care provider's license.
- (7) A child-care center shall have the right to appeal to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services under KRS Chapter 13B any action adverse to its license or the assessment of a civil penalty issued by the inspector general as the result of a violation contained in a statement of deficiency within twenty (20) days of the issuance of the action or assessment of the civil penalty. An appeal shall not act to stay the correction of a violation.

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- (8) In assessing the civil penalty to be levied against a child-care center for a violation contained in a statement of deficiency issued under this section, the inspector general or the inspector general's designee shall take into consideration the following factors:
- (a) The gravity of the threat to the health, safety, or welfare of children posed by the violation;
 - (b) The number and type of previous violations of the child-care center;
 - (c) The reasonable diligence exercised by the child-care center and efforts to correct the violation; and
 - (d) The amount of assessment necessary to assure immediate and continued compliance.
- (9) Upon a child-care center's failure to take action to correct a violation of the administrative regulations, standards, or requirements of the cabinet contained in a statement of deficiency, or at any time when the operation of a child-care center poses an immediate threat to the health, safety, or welfare of children in the center, and the child-care center continues to operate after the cabinet has taken emergency action to deny, suspend, or revoke its license, the cabinet or the cabinet's designee shall take at least one (1) of the following actions against the center:
- (a) Institute proceedings to obtain an order compelling compliance with the administrative regulations, standards, and requirements of the cabinet;
 - (b) Institute injunctive proceedings in Circuit Court to terminate the operation of the center;
 - (c) Institute action to discontinue payment of child-care subsidies; or
 - (d) Suspend or revoke the license or impose other penalties provided by law.
- (10) Upon request of any person, the cabinet shall provide information regarding the denial, revocation, suspension, or violation of any type of child-care center license of the operator.

Identifying information regarding children and their families shall remain confidential.

- (11) The cabinet shall provide, upon request, public information regarding the inspections of and the plans of correction for the child-care center within the past year. All information distributed by the cabinet under this subsection shall include a statement indicating that the reports as provided under this subsection from the past five (5) years are available from the child-care center upon the parent's, custodian's, guardian's, or other interested person's request.
- (12) All fees collected under the provisions of KRS 199.892 to 199.896 for license and certification applications shall be paid into the State Treasury and credited to a special fund for the purpose of administering KRS 199.892 to 199.896 including the payment of expenses of and to the participants in child-care workshops. The funds collected are hereby appropriated for the use of the cabinet. The balance of the special fund shall lapse to the general fund at the end of each biennium.
- (13) Any advertisement for child-care services shall include the address of where the service is being provided.
- (14) All inspections of licensed and unlicensed child-care centers by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall be unannounced.
- (15) All employees and owners of a child-care center who provide care to children shall demonstrate within the first three (3) months of employment completion of at least a total of six (6) hours of orientation in the following areas:
 - (a) Basic health, safety, and sanitation;
 - (b) Recognizing and reporting child abuse; and
 - (c) Developmentally appropriate child-care practice.
- (16) All employees and owners of a child-care center who provide care to children shall

annually demonstrate to the department completion of at least six (6) hours of training in child development. These hours shall include but are not limited to one and one-half (1.5) hours one (1) time every five (5) years of continuing education in the recognition and prevention of pediatric abusive head trauma, as defined in KRS 620.020. Training in recognizing pediatric abusive head trauma may be designed in collaboration with organizations and agencies that specialize in the prevention and recognition of pediatric head trauma approved by the secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services The one and one-half (1.5) hours required under this section shall be included in the current number of required continuing education hours.

- (17) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall make available either through the development or approval of a model training curriculum and training materials, including video instructional materials, to cover the areas specified in subsection (15) of this section. The cabinet shall develop or approve the model training curriculum and training materials to cover the areas specified in subsection (15) of this section.
- (18) Child-care centers licensed pursuant to this section and family child-care homes certified pursuant to KRS 199.8982 shall not use corporal physical discipline, including the use of spanking, shaking, or paddling, as a means of punishment, discipline, behavior modification, or for any other reason. For the purposes of this section, "corporal physical discipline" means the deliberate infliction of physical pain and does not include spontaneous physical contact that is intended to protect a child from immediate danger.
- (19) **Notwithstanding any other law, administrative regulation, executive order, or executive directive to the contrary, no child-care center shall be refused a license or certification, have its license or certification revoked, be subject to any fine, or be otherwise penalized for refusing to require the wearing of any type of facial covering in response to the**

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COVID-19 virus or any mutated strain of the COVID-19 virus.

(20) Child-care centers that provide instructional and educational programs for preschool-aged children that operate for a maximum of twenty (20) hours per week and that a child attends for no more than fifteen (15) hours per week shall:

- (a) Notify the cabinet in writing that the center is operating;
- (b) Meet all child-care center licensure requirements and administrative regulations related to employee background checks;
- (c) Meet all child-care center licensure requirements and administrative regulations related to tuberculosis screenings; and
- (d) Be exempt from all other child-care center licensure requirements and administrative regulations.

(21)~~(20)~~ Child-care centers that provide instructional and educational programs for preschool-aged children that operate for a maximum of twenty (20) hours per week and that a child attends for no more than ten (10) hours per week shall be exempt from all child-care licensure requirements and administrative regulations.

(22)~~(21)~~ Instructional programs for school-age children shall be exempt from all child-care licensure administrative regulations if the following criteria are met:

- (a) The program provides direct instruction in a single skill, talent, ability, expertise, or proficiency;
- (b) The program does not provide services or offerings that are not directly related to the single talent, ability, expertise, or proficiency;
- (c) The program operates outside the time period when school is in session, including before or after school hours, holidays, school breaks, teaching planning days, or summer vacation;

- (d) The program does not advertise or otherwise represent that the program is a licensed child-care center or that the program offers child-care services;
- (e) The program informs the parent or guardian:
1. That the program is not licensed by the cabinet; and
 2. About the physical risks a child may face while participating in the program; and
- (f) The program conducts the following background checks for all program employees and volunteers who work with children:
1. Check of the child abuse and neglect records maintained by the cabinet; and
 2. In-state criminal background information check from the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet or Administrative Office of the Courts.

~~(23)~~~~(22)~~ Directors and employees of child-care centers in a position that involves supervisory or disciplinary power over a minor, or direct contact with a minor, shall submit to a criminal record check in accordance with KRS 199.8965.

~~(24)~~~~(23)~~ A director or employee of a child-care center may be employed on a probationary status pending receipt of the criminal background check. Application for the criminal record of a probationary employee shall be made no later than the date probationary employment begins.

~~(25)~~~~(24)~~ The cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations to identify emergency care providers who provide essential child-care services during an identified state of emergency.

~~(26)~~~~(25)~~ Notwithstanding any state law, administrative regulation, executive order, or executive directive to the contrary, during the 2020 or 2021 state of emergency declared by the Governor in response to COVID-19, including but not limited to any mutated strain of the COVID-19 virus, the cabinet shall not establish any restrictions on capacity for class or

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group size or the ability to combine classes and groups for capacity limits in the morning or afternoon that is below the number that was in effect on February 1, 2020.

➔SECTION 12. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 158 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) Notwithstanding any state law, administrative regulation, executive order, executive directive, school board policy, or school policy to the contrary, any requirement that is imposed in response to the COVID-19 virus or any mutated strain of the COVID-19 virus to:

(a) Wear any type of medical device, including but not limited to any type of facial covering on any public school premises, on school-sponsored transportation, or at a school-sponsored event; or

(b) Submit to any type of medical procedure or treatment, including but not limited to any type of vaccination or testing;

shall provide a parent or guardian the opportunity to opt a student out of the requirement for any reason.

(2) A parent or guardian that opts out in accordance with subsection (1) of this section shall not be required to submit any type of certification or documentation to secure an exemption from any requirement described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to contradict the requirements of KRS 158.035 regarding certificates of immunization.

➔SECTION 13. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 164 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) A public postsecondary education institution shall not impose any of the following requirements in response to the COVID-19 virus or any mutated strain of the COVID-19

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virus on property located in the Commonwealth that is owned, leased, or operated by the institution that is not used for the delivery of medical or dental services:

(a) The wearing of any type of medical device, including but not limited to any type of facial covering; and

(b) Submission to any type of medical procedure or treatment, including but not limited to any type of vaccination or testing.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prohibit an institution from implementing or enforcing a requirement described in subsection (1) of this section that is not responsive to the COVID-19 virus or mutated strand of the COVID-19 virus, including but not limited to:

(a) A requirement in a postsecondary health care program that existed prior to January 1, 2020; and

(b) A requirement necessary to maintain the integrity of the clinical research conducted by the institution.

➔SECTION 14. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 344 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Immunization status" means the status of either having received or not having received a vaccination against COVID-19, the novel coronavirus identified as SARS-CoV-2, or a virus mutating from SARS-CoV-2, or any variant of SARS-CoV-2; and

(b) "Public entity" means the Commonwealth of Kentucky, a county, city, urban-county government, consolidated local government, unified local government, or charter county government, or any of their agencies or departments, or a public

Unofficial Document

agency as defined in KRS 7.107.

(2) No public entity shall require an employee, as a condition of employment, to:

(a) Be immunized against disease;

(b) Provide proof of immunization status against disease; or

(c) Submit to any type of medical procedure or treatment, including but not limited to any type of vaccination or testing.

(3) No public entity shall, without the express written consent of the individual affected:

(a) Disclose an individual's immunization status, medical testing status, or other medical information to a third party for a purpose other than healthcare; or

(b) Otherwise publish or share any individual's immunization status or similar health information for a purpose other than healthcare.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be used to restrict access to services provided by a public entity on the basis of an individual:

(a) Providing, or failing to provide, proof of immunization status against disease; or

(b) Providing, or failing to provide, written consent for release of medical records or any other record relating to that individual's immunization status.

➔SECTION 15. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 446 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) As used in this section, "religion" shall have the same meaning as in KRS 344.030.

(2) Any employer that requires an employee, as a condition of employment, to be immunized against disease shall:

(a) Grant an exemption to any employee based upon the employee's religion upon the employee's written statement; and

(b) Provide notice of the required immunization to each employee in a written

Unofficial Document

document that:

1. Advises in plain language the available exemption from the required immunization based upon the employee's religion; and

2. Requires each employee to acknowledge, in writing, receipt of the requirement and receipt of the available exemption.

(3) Any person injured by any act in violation of the provisions of this section shall have a civil cause of action in the Circuit Court of the county in which the person resides to enjoin further violations, and to recover the actual damages sustained, including reasonable attorney's fees, together with the costs of the action."; and

On page 7, line 18, delete "This Act" and insert in lieu thereof "Sections 1 to 10 of this Act"; and

On page 7, line 22, delete "This Act" and insert in lieu thereof "Sections 1 to 10 of this Act"; and

Renumber sections accordingly; and

On page 7, after line 23, insert the following:

"➔Section 18. Whereas the ability of parents to opt children out of mandated masking in education settings has been unjustly subverted throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, an emergency is declared to exist, and Sections 11 to 15 of this Act takes effect upon its passage and approval by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law."