HB 1049 2011

ידטו טוו

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to Pinellas County; amending chapter 61-2681, Laws of Florida, as amended; redefining the term "family day care home" and defining the term "large family child care home"; revising and providing requirements for licensing and regulating such homes; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 2 of chapter 61-2681, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 70-893 and 2007-277, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 2. Definitions; capacity and time limitations.-

- home" means an occupied a facility for child care in a place of residence in which child care is regularly provided for children from at least two unrelated households, with or without compensation. A family child care home shall be allowed to provide care for one of the following groups of children, which shall include household preschool-aged children, whether present or not, and household school-aged children under 13 years of age, when on the premises of the family child care home or on a field trip with children enrolled in care:
- 1. A maximum of six children, if no more than three of those children are under 18 months of age.
- 2. A maximum of eight children, if no more than five of those children are preschool aged, and of those five, no more

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than three are under 18 months of age, and of those three, no more than two are under 12 months of age of a family, person, or persons who receive no more than four (4) children under seventeen (17) years of age away from their own homes who are not related to such person or persons by blood, marriage, or adoption, for the purpose of providing family care and training for such children. No more than three (3) of the four (4) children may be under two (2) years of age. This term shall not be construed to include children above first grade level except in homes where children below first grade level are also received for care.

(b) A "large family child care home" means a home that is licensed under section 402.3131, Florida Statutes. A "large family child care home" means an occupied residence in which child care is regularly provided for children, with or without compensation, from at least two unrelated households and which has at least two full-time child care personnel on the premises during the hours of operation. One of the two full-time child care personnel must be the operator or the operator's substitute. A large family child care home must first have operated as a licensed family child care home for 2 consecutive years, with an operator who has had a child development associate credential or its equivalent for 1 year, before seeking licensure as a large family child care home. The 2 consecutive years of operation as a licensed family child care home must have been in this state and within 5 years before the date of application to operate a large family child care home. A large family child care home shall be allowed to provide care

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for one of the following groups of children, which shall include those children under 13 years of age who are related to the caregiver:

- 1. A maximum of eight children from birth to 24 months of age.
- 2. A maximum of twelve children, with no more than four children under 24 months of age.

A large family child care home must meet and comply with this paragraph at all times unless there is an insufficient number of children in care to meet the definition of a large family child care home, in which case additional personnel are not required.

(c) (b) Child care may be provided for 24 hours or longer for a child whose parent or legal guardian works a shift of 24 hours or more. The requirement that a parent or legal guardian work a shift of 24 hours or more must be certified in writing by the employer, and the written certification must be maintained in the facility by the child care provider and made available to the license board and the state child care licensing agency. The time that a child remains in child care, however, may not exceed 72 consecutive hours in any 7-day period. During a declared state of emergency, the license board or the state child care licensing agency may temporarily waive the time limitations provided in this paragraph.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.