Bill No. HB 531 (2025)

Amendment No. 1

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	ACTION
ADOPTED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)
OTHER	

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Human Services Subcommittee

Representative Hunschofsky offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove lines 58-219 and insert:

7 (1) "Recreational enrichment program" means an organization

8 providing in-person instruction to children in dance,

9 gymnastics, or martial arts offered on an ongoing basis that

10 takes place partially or fully indoors. The term excludes any

11 organization licensed or registered to provide child care under

12 ch. 402, summer 24-hour camps, and summer day camps.

13 (m) (1) "Residential child-caring agency" means any person,

14 corporation, or agency, public or private, other than the

15 child's parent or legal guardian, that provides staffed 24-hour

16 care for children in facilities maintained for that purpose,

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regardless of whether operated for profit or whether a fee is 17 charged. Such residential child-caring agencies include, but are 18 19 not limited to, maternity homes, runaway shelters, group homes that are administered by an agency, emergency shelters that are 20 21 not in private residences, and wilderness camps. Residential child-caring agencies do not include hospitals, boarding 22 23 schools, summer or recreation camps, recreational enrichment 24 programs, nursing homes, or facilities operated by a 25 governmental agency for the training, treatment, or secure care 26 of delinquent youth, or facilities licensed under s. 393.067 or s. 394.875 or chapter 397. 27

(4)

(6)

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(d) This license requirement does not apply to boarding schools, recreation and summer camps, <u>recreational enrichment</u> <u>programs</u>, nursing homes, hospitals, or to persons who care for children of friends or neighbors in their homes for periods not to exceed 90 days or to persons who have received a child for adoption from a licensed child-placing agency.

(e)1. The department may pursue other remedies provided in this section in addition to denial or revocation of a license for failure to comply with the screening requirements. The disciplinary actions determination to be made by the department and the procedure for hearing for applicants and licensees shall be in accordance with chapter 120.

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42 2. When the department has reasonable cause to believe 43 that grounds for denial or termination of employment exist, it 44 shall notify, in writing, the applicant, licensee, or summer or 45 recreation camp, or recreational enrichment program, and the 46 personnel affected, stating the specific record that indicates 47 noncompliance with the screening requirements.

48 3. Procedures established for hearing under chapter 120 49 shall be available to the applicant, licensee, summer day camp, 50 or summer 24-hour camp, or recreational enrichment program, and 51 affected personnel, in order to present evidence relating either to the accuracy of the basis for exclusion or to the denial of 52 an exemption from disqualification. Such procedures may also be 53 54 used to challenge a decision by a community-based care lead 55 agency's refusal to issue a letter supporting an application for 56 licensure. If the challenge is to the actions of the communitybased care lead agency, the respondent to the challenge shall be 57 58 the lead agency and the department shall be notified of the 59 proceedings.

60 4. Refusal on the part of an applicant to dismiss 61 personnel who have been found not to be in compliance with the 62 requirements for good moral character of personnel shall result 63 in automatic denial or revocation of license in addition to any 64 other remedies provided in this section which may be pursued by 65 the department.

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(1) The department may not license summer day camps, or
summer 24-hour camps, or recreational enrichment programs.
However, the department shall have access to the personnel
records of such facilities to ensure compliance with the
screening requirements. The department may adopt rules relating
to the screening requirements for summer day camps, and summer
24-hour camps, and recreational enrichment programs.

73 (10) (a) The department may institute injunctive 74 proceedings in a court of competent jurisdiction to:

75 1. Enforce the provisions of this section or any license 76 requirement, rule, or order issued or entered into pursuant 77 thereto; or

78 2. Terminate the operation of an agency in which any of79 the following conditions exist:

a. The licensee has failed to take preventive or
corrective measures in accordance with any order of the
department to maintain conformity with licensing requirements.

b. There is a violation of any of the provisions of this
section, or of any licensing requirement promulgated pursuant to
this section, which violation threatens harm to any child or
which constitutes an emergency requiring immediate action.

3. Terminate the operation of a summer day camp or summer 24-hour camp providing care for children <u>or a recreational</u> <u>enrichment program</u> when such camp <u>or program</u> has willfully and knowingly refused to comply with the screening requirements for

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91 personnel or has refused to terminate the employment of 92 personnel found to be in noncompliance with the requirements for 93 good moral character as determined in paragraph (5)(b).

94 If the department finds, within 30 days after written (b) 95 notification by registered mail of the requirement for 96 licensure, that a person or agency continues to care for or to place children without a license or, within 30 days after 97 98 written notification by registered mail of the requirement for 99 screening of personnel and compliance with paragraph (5) (b) for the hiring and continued employment of personnel, that a summer 100 day camp, or summer 24-hour camp, or recreational enrichment 101 102 program continues to provide care for or services to children without complying, the department shall notify the appropriate 103 104 state attorney of the violation of law and, if necessary, shall 105 institute a civil suit to enjoin the person or agency from 106 continuing the placement or care of children, or to enjoin the 107 summer day camp, or summer 24-hour camp, or recreational 108 enrichment program from continuing the care of, or providing 109 services to, children.



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(c) Such injunctive relief may be temporary or permanent.(12)(a) It is unlawful for any person or agency to:1. Provide continuing full-time care for or to receive or

113 place a child apart from her or his parents in a residential 114 group care facility, family foster home, or adoptive home

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115 without a valid license issued by the department if such license 116 is required by subsection (5); or

117 2. Make a willful or intentional misstatement on any 118 license application or other document required to be filed in 119 connection with an application for a license.

(b) It is unlawful for any person, agency, family foster home, summer day camp, or summer 24-hour camp providing care for children to:

123 1. willfully or intentionally fail to comply with the 124 requirements for the screening of personnel and family foster 125 homes or the dismissal of personnel or removal of household 126 members found not to be in compliance with the requirements for 127 good moral character as specified in paragraph (5)(b).

128 (c)2. It is unlawful for any person, agency, family foster 129 home, summer day camp, summer 24-hour camp providing care for 130 children, or recreational enrichment program providing services 131 to children, to use information from the criminal records 132 obtained under this section for any purpose other than screening 133 a person for employment as specified in this section or to 134 release such information to any other person for any purpose 135 other than screening for employment as specified in this 136 section.

137 <u>(d) (c)</u> It is unlawful for any person, agency, family 138 foster home, summer day camp, or summer 24-hour camp providing 139 care for children, or recreational enrichment program providing 334545 - H0531 line 58.docx

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140 <u>services to children</u>, to use information from the juvenile 141 records of any person obtained under this section for any 142 purpose other than screening for employment as specified in this 143 section or to release information from such records to any other 144 person for any purpose other than screening for employment as 145 specified in this section.

(e) (d) 1. A first violation of paragraph (a), or paragraph
(b), or paragraph (c) is a misdemeanor of the first degree,
punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

149 2. A second or subsequent violation of paragraph (a), or
150 paragraph (b), or paragraph (c) is a felony of the third degree,
151 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

3. A violation of paragraph (d) paragraph (c) is a felony
of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
775.083, or s. 775.084.

155 Section 2. Section 409.1751, Florida Statutes, is created 156 to read:

157 409.1751 Statewide background screening public awareness 158 campaign.-Subject to legislative appropriation, the department, 159 in conjunction with the Agency for Health Care Administration 160 and the Department of Law Enforcement, must develop and maintain 161 a statewide public awareness campaign of the state's background screening requirements in s. 409.175 for summer day camps, 162 summer 24-hour camps, and recreational enrichment programs. The 163 164 campaign communication must include, but is not limited to, the 334545 - H0531 line 58.docx Published On: 3/10/2025 5:24:10 PM

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165	Internet, television, radio, and outdoor advertising; and public
166	service announcements.
167	Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 409.1676,
168	Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
169	409.1676 Comprehensive residential group care services to
170	children who have extraordinary needs
171	(2) As used in this section, the term:
172	(b) "Residential group care" means a living environment
173	for children who have been adjudicated dependent and are
174	expected to be in foster care for at least 6 months with 24-
175	hour-awake staff or live-in group home parents or staff. Each
176	facility must be appropriately licensed in this state as a
177	residential child caring agency as defined in <u>s. 409.175(2)(m)</u>
178	s. 409.175(2)(1) and must be accredited by July 1, 2005. A
179	residential group care facility serving children having a
180	serious behavioral problem as defined in this section must have
181	available staff or contract personnel with the clinical
182	expertise, credentials, and training to provide services
183	identified in subsection (4).
184	
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186	TITLE AMENDMENT
187	Remove lines 14-15 and insert:
188	screening public awareness campaign; conforming a
189	cross-reference; providing an effective date.
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