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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Pirtle ORIGINAL DATE 02/02/21
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____
SHORT TITLE Daycare Notices To Parents SB 115
ANALYST Klundt

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY21	FY22	FY23	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD)

No Response Received

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 115 (SB 115) requires child care facilities to notify the parent or guardian of a child if the child does not arrive at the child care center within one hour after the child's scheduled arrival time. This bill also requires private and public schools, including charter schools to revise attendance policies for this notification requirement.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no appropriation contained in this bill and ECECD did not identify any additional operating budget impact to the department.

The Public Education Department did not respond to request for analysis identifying any additional operating impact to the department.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

ECECD reported child care is a voluntary service for families who work, going to school or have other need for care. Families participate in child care settings according to their work or school schedules. This can vary from day to day and week to week. Parents and care providers agree on a tentative schedule with the understanding that changes may happen with or without notice. Reporting mechanism may not be in place as it will be a burden to child care programs to identify the specific timeframe of child arrival and report it to the parent.

SB115 implies that this requirement is only for Child Care Centers. There are different types of child care programs across the state:

- Child Care Centers - these facilities are licensed by the Early Childhood Education and Care Department to provide care for more than 12 children in a home setting following regulatory ratios, group sizes and child ages. Child Care Centers may accept Child Care Assistance payments or may accept parent paid fees.
- Child Care Licensed Homes – these settings are licensed by the Early Childhood Education and Care Department to provide care for less than 12 children in classroom settings following regulatory ratios, group sizes and child ages. Child Care Homes may accept Child Care Assistance payments or may accept parent paid fees.
- Child Care Registered Homes - these settings are registered with the Early Childhood Education and Care Department to provide care for less than 4 children in a residential home and may participate in the Child-Adult Care Food Program. Child Care Registered Homes may accept Child Care Assistance payments or may accept parent paid fees.

Effective February 1, 2021, Child Care Assistance Regulations will require Child Care programs to report to ECECD staff about children participating in the Child Care Assistance Program who have not attended for more than two weeks. There is no requirement in regulation to provide daily reports to families.

Children are transported to child care settings by their parent or caregiver, thus they will be aware of non-attendance issues. However, children who attend school during the day and participate in afterschool child care programs, may be transported either by the child care program personnel or by the public school. Parents may need to know if their child did not arrive at the child care facility immediately after arrival to ensure a child was not left behind. Child care programs have this practice as a courtesy to parents or caregivers, however this is not a requirement.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ECECD believes the fiscal impact of this bill will be directed to the child care providers who may not have the resources or staffing to contact parents daily as the child care participation varies daily or weekly for each child. The department also believes child care programs may not have the reporting mechanisms adjusting the diverse schedules for children throughout the day creating an additional administrative burden for child care programs.

KK/al