

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2023 and 2024 HB3936

Introduced 2/17/2023, by Rep. Terra Costa Howard

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

225 ILCS 10/4.3

from Ch. 23, par. 2214.3

Amends the Child Care Act of 1969. Requires child care facility license applicants and current and prospective employees of a child care facility who might have contact with children to authorize an investigation of the Central Register to ascertain if they have been the subject of a child abuse or neglect investigation (without regard to whether the Department of Children and Family Services determined the report of child abuse or neglect to be indicated or unfounded).

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1 AN ACT concerning regulations.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Child Care Act of 1969 is amended by changing Section 4.3 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 10/4.3) (from Ch. 23, par. 2214.3)

Sec. 4.3. Child Abuse and Neglect Reports. All child care facility license applicants and all current and prospective employees of a child care facility who have any possible contact with children in the course of their duties, as a condition of such licensure or employment, shall authorize in form prescribed by the writing on a Department investigation of the Central Register, as defined in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, to ascertain if such applicant or employee (i) has been the subject of a child abuse or neglect investigation (without regard to whether the Department determined the report of child abuse or neglect to be indicated or unfounded) or (ii) has been determined to be a perpetrator in an indicated report of child abuse or neglect.

All child care facilities as a condition of licensure pursuant to this Act shall maintain such information which demonstrates that all current employees and other applicants for employment who have any possible contact with children in

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the course of their duties have authorized an investigation of the Central Register as hereinabove required. Only those current or prospective employees who will have no possible contact with children as part of their present or prospective employment may be excluded from provisions requiring authorization of an investigation.

Such information concerning a license applicant, employee or prospective employee obtained by the Department shall be confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying as provided under Section 7 of The Freedom of Information Act, and such information shall not be transmitted outside the Department, except as provided in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, and shall not be transmitted to anyone within the Department except as provided in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, and shall not be transmitted to anyone within the Department except as needed for the purposes evaluation of an application for licensure or consideration by a child care facility of an employee. Any employee of the Department of Children and Family Services under this Section who gives or causes to be given any confidential information concerning any child abuse or neglect reports about a child care facility applicant, child care facility employee, shall be quilty of a Class A misdemeanor, unless release of such information is authorized by Section 11.1 of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act.

Additionally, any licensee who is informed by the

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Department of Children and Family Services, pursuant to 1 2 Section 7.4 of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, approved June 26, 1975, 3 as amended, that a formal investigation has commenced relating to an employee of the 5 child care facility or any other person in frequent contact with children at the facility, shall take reasonable action 6 7 necessary to insure that the employee or other person is restricted during the pendency of the investigation from 8 9 contact with children whose care has been entrusted to the 10 facility.

When a foster family home is the subject of an indicated report under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, the Department of Children and Family Services must immediately conduct a re-examination of the foster family home to evaluate whether it continues to meet the minimum standards for licensure. The re-examination is separate and apart from the formal investigation of the report. The Department must establish a schedule for re-examination of the foster family home mentioned in the report at least once a year.

20 (Source: P.A. 91-557, eff. 1-1-00.)