

# Committee on Children JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-122

AN ACT REQUIRING PARENTAL NOTIFICATION BY CHILD CARE FACILITIES

**Title:** OF CERTAIN INCIDENTS INVOLVING CHILDREN.

**Vote Date:** 3/15/2022

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 2/22/2022

**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Committee on Children

## **CO-SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Sen. Bob Duff

Sen. Saud Anwar

Rep. Jaime S. Foster

Rep. Michael A. Winkler

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

S.B. 122 will require the Commissioner of Early Childhood to adopt regulations to require childcare centers, group childcare homes, and family childcare homes to immediately notify the parent or guardian if a child is transported to a hospital emergency room, doctor's office, or other medical facility upon injury or illness. This bill serves to ensure that a child's caretaker is made aware of their child's condition as soon as possible, so they are fully informed of their child's movements and health.

The substitute language for this bill specifies that childcare providers shall immediately notify the parent or guardians of their child's onset illness or inflicted injury. Additionally, the childcare provider will be expected to create a written record of any illness or injury, the report shall include a description of the ailment, any action taken by an employee responsible for the child, and whether the child was transported elsewhere for treatment. This written record must be provided to the guardian no later than the next business day and maintained by the center or home for a period of at least 2 years and be made immediately available upon request from the Office of Early Childhood. Similarly, video recordings created at such centers or homes must be kept at least 30 days and be made immediately available upon

request from the OEC. This substitute language details the steps to be taken upon the illness or injury of a child in a childcare facility, articulating the necessary aspects for written reports for the benefit of parents as well as the maintenance of such reports by facilities in case of requests from the Office of Early Childhood.

**RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

Commissioner of the Office of Early Childhood, Beth Bye, supports the bill's intention to strengthen existing requirements pertaining to the documentation of child injury or illness. OEC recommends language changes to reflect the current language for family childcare homes. Additionally, they are concerned of the requirement to create written record within an hour of the incident, since employee's priorities are comforting the child and reaching out to guardians after incident.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

Senate Majority Leader of the Connecticut General Assembly, Bob Duff, supports the bill upon learning the story of a 15-month-old belonging to a family in his district. The daycare did not notify the parents of their daughter's fall, which resulted in them taking her to the emergency room. Additionally, food was served to the child that the daycare had been informed was a potentially fatal allergy for the child. Duff is pushing for timely notification and maintained video coverage of incidents.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None expressed.

**Reported by: Molly Lukiwsky**

**Date: 3/23/2022**