

**HB 2027 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**House Committee On Human Services and Housing**

**Carrier:** Rep. Schouten

**Action Date:** 04/08/19

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 8-0-1-0

**Yeas:** 8 - Helt, Meek, Mitchell, Noble, Sanchez, Schouten, Williams, Zika

**Exc:** 1 - Keny-Guyer

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

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**Meeting Dates:** 2/20, 4/1, 4/8

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Allows the Office of Child Care (OCC), by rule, to consider any information it obtains that is relevant to enrollment in the Central Background Registry. Specifies that the OCC can take evidence, take depositions, compel appearance of witnesses, require answers to interrogatories, compel production of documents, issue subpoenas, and inspect premises when conducting investigation of regulated subsidy facilities as defined by the Early Learning Council (Council). Adds to definition of "exempt prohibited individual," for purposes of five-year prohibition against providing child care, individuals whose certification, registration, or enrollment in Central Background Registry has been suspended. Permits school district, political subdivision, or governmental agency to apply for child care facility certification. Establishes opportunity for hearing when OCC imposes condition on child care facility's certification or registration. Allows the Council, in consultation with Department of Human Services, to adopt rules to establish minimum health and safety standards for regulated subsidy facilities.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Price of having children in a child care program
- Safety of children in child care programs
- Interpretation of "serious danger" in current measure

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Allows the Office of Child Care (OCC), by rule, to consider any information it obtains that is relevant to enrollment in the Central Background Registry. Removes requirement that State Police must include a check of the national sex offender registry. Specifies that the OCC can take evidence, take depositions, compel appearance of witnesses, require answers to interrogatories, compel production of documents, issue subpoenas, and inspect premises when conducting investigation of regulated subsidy facilities as defined by the Early Learning Council (Council). Removes provisions regarding investigation required under federal law. Allows the Council, in consultation with Department of Human Services, to adopt rules to establish minimum health and safety standards of regulated subsidy facilities.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Office of Child Care (OCC) is part of the Early Learning Division (ELD) in the Department of Education. The OCC supports families through a statewide child care system that promotes safe, quality, and accessible child care. Regulatory staff in nine field offices are responsible for inspecting child care facilities, assessing and investigating complaints against facilities, and providing technical assistance to child care providers. The OCC licenses roughly 1,000 certified child care centers, 350 certified family child care homes, and 4,000 registered family child care homes. It also collects and publishes information on preschool and school-age recorded programs. In addition to licensing child care, OCC supports families seeking information on child care facilities and providers.

**HB 2027 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

House Bill 2027-A clarifies OCC's duties and responsibilities in providing oversight of child care facilities and providers.