

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1644

By: Representative Bentley
By: Senator B. Davis

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE CHILDCARE FACILITY LICENSING ACT; TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "CHILDCARE FACILITY" AS IT RELATES TO THE CHILDCARE FACILITY LICENSING ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE CHILDCARE FACILITY LICENSING ACT; AND TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "CHILDCARE FACILITY" AS IT RELATES TO THE CHILDCARE FACILITY LICENSING ACT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-78-202(2)(A)(ii), concerning the definition of "childcare facility" as it relates to the Childcare Facility Licensing Act, is amended to read as follows:

(ii) For the purposes of this subdivision (2), "related minor child" means a minor child:

(a) ~~related~~ Related by blood, marriage, or adoption to the owner or operator of the facility or a minor child who is a ward of the owner or operator of the facility pursuant to a guardianship order issued by an Arkansas court of competent jurisdiction; or

(b) Known through a close family relationship.



including without limitation friends and social groups with which the caretaker of the child has been associated for more than six (6) months.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 78, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-78-229. Educational requirements.

(a) The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education shall not impose minimum postsecondary education requirements higher than a high school diploma or four (4) years of experience in a related field and the requirements of § 20-78-222 as a prerequisite to being a director at a childcare facility.

(b)(1) The division shall not impose minimum postsecondary education requirements higher than a high school diploma or GED as a prerequisite to work or volunteer at a childcare facility.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of state law, to the extent a staff member in a childcare facility or home-based childcare arrangement is required to meet minimum postsecondary educational requirements, the division shall consider a staff member who is enrolled and working toward meeting the minimum postsecondary educational requirements as having met the minimum requirements for as long as the staff member is actively enrolled.