

HOUSE No. 4429

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 20, 2020.

The committee on Education, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 442) of Carolyn C. Dykema, Hannah Kane and others that the Department of Early Education and Care promulgate regulations requiring that private child care programs ensure that license-exempt programs serving infants through kindergarten-age children comply with basic health and safety standards, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 4429), ought to pass.

For the committee,

ALICE HANLON PEISCH.

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In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)

An Act to ensure the health and safety of children.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1: Section 1A of chapter 15D of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words “child development center” the
3 following:-

4 “private child care program,”

5 SECTION 2. Said section 1A of chapter 15D of the General Laws is hereby further
6 amended by striking in line 22 the words “unless the services of that system are primarily limited
7 to ” and inserting in place thereof:-

8 “if said part of a system does not provide”

9 SECTION 3. Said section 1A of chapter 15D of the General Laws is hereby further
10 amended by inserting after the definition “Preschool-aged” the following definition:-

11 “Private child care program,” a program or facility operated on a regular basis as part of a
12 private, organized educational system, whether known as a child nursery, nursery school,

13 kindergarten, child play school, progressive school, child development center, preschool or
14 known under any other name, which receives children not of common parentage under 7 years of
15 age, or under 16 years of age if those children have special needs, for nonresidential custody and
16 care during part or all of the day separate from their parents. Such a program may operate before
17 and after school and may also operate during school vacation and holidays. Private child care
18 program shall not include services provided as part of a private, organized educational system to
19 children not of common parentage above 6 years of age, or above 15 years of age if those
20 children have special needs.