

18A:70-1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

(Child care center--redefined to include care for child under 6)

NJSA 18A:70-1

LAWS 1982

CHAPTER 141

Bill No. A1168

Sponsor(s) Kern

Date Introduced March 15, 1982

Committee: Assembly Corrections, Health and Human Services

Senate Institutions, Health and Welfare

Amended during passage Yes ~~No~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly June 21, 1982

Senate July 12, 1982

Date of approval Sept. 20, 1982

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~No~~

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~No~~

Senate Yes No

Fiscal Note Yes No

Veto Message Yes No

Message on signing Yes No

Following were printed:

Reports Yes No

Hearings Yes No

Regulations promulgated by the Division of Youth and Family Services on childcare centers:

N.J. Admin. Code, Title 10, § 122-1.1 et seq.

6/22/81
ej JBL 1983

Kern

141 82
9-20-82

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1168

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 15, 1982

By Assemblyman KERN

Referred to Committee on Corrections, Health and Human Services

AN ACT concerning day care centers and amending N. J. S. 18A:70-1.

1 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
2 of New Jersey:

1 1. N. J. S. 18A:70-1 is amended to read as follows:

2 18A:70-1. The term "child care center," as used in this chapter,
3 shall include every private nonsectarian child care center, day
4 nursery school, boarding school, or other establishment of similar
5 character ***[for the care of]*** **in which** children***[**, in which any
6 tuition fee, board, or other form of compensation for the care of
7 children, is charged]* **are cared for less than 24 hours a day** and
8 in which more than five children **[over the age of 2 years and**
8A **under the age of 5]** *under the age of 6 years* are cared for, but it
9 shall not include:

10 a. The **[State Board of Child Welfare of the]** Department of
11 **[Institutions and Agencies]** *Human Services*, or

12 b. Any aid society of a properly organized and accredited church
13 or fraternal society organized for aid and relief of its members, or

14 c. Any children's home, orphan asylum, children's aid society, or
15 society for the prevention of cruelty to children, incorporated under
16 the laws of this State and subject to visitation or supervision by the
17 State Department of **[Institutions and Agencies]** *Human Services*,
18 except in the conduct of a philanthropic day nursery, or

19 d. Any ***[other public agency]*** **child care center** operated by
20 a county, city, municipality or school district***[.]*** *, or*

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

***—Assembly committee amendments adopted May 13, 1982.**

21 **e. Any child care center that is an integral part of a private*
22 *educational institution or system offering elementary education in*
23 *grades K through 6.**

1 2. This act shall take effect ***[on the ninetieth day]*** **180 days**
2 after enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill expands the definition of child care center to include those centers which provide care to children who are under 2 years of age and between 5 and 6 years of age so that such centers will be licensed and regulated by the State.

The law currently limits the State's authority to license and regulate only those centers which provide care to children between the ages of 2 and 5. Over the last two decades, however, the field of day care has expanded to include both infant care and care of older, pre-school children. Centers which provide care to these children should be required to meet the child care center licensing standards established by the Division of Youth and Family Services in the Department of Human Services.

A1168(1982)

ASSEMBLY CORRECTIONS, HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1168

with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 13, 1982

This bill expands the definition of a child care center to include those centers providing care to children who are under 2 years of age and between 5 and 6 years of age so that such centers can be licensed and regulated by the State.

Child care centers in New Jersey are licensed and regulated by the Division of Youth and Family Services in the Department of Human Services. Currently, only centers serving children between the ages of 2 and 5 years are licensed and regulated.

The Division of Youth and Family Services recommended certain amendments to the bill which were accepted by the committee. The first amendment removed the stipulation that only those child care centers charging a tuition fee, board or other form of compensation be licensed and regulated. Secondly, any child care center that is an integral part of a private educational institution or system offering elementary education in grades K through 6 would be exempt from licensing and regulation. The Division of Youth and Family Services believed the regulation of these programs did not fall within its jurisdiction. Finally, the bill would take effect 180 days following enactment to give the division more time to prepare for these expanded licensing responsibilities.

The committee agrees with the bill's intent to provide licensing protection for those children, especially the infant population under 2 years of age.