

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 6371

C 231 L 16
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning the definition of "agency" for purposes of early learning programs.

Sponsors: Senators Litzow, Mullet, Dammeier, Hargrove, Fain, Hobbs, Hill and McAuliffe; by request of Department of Early Learning.

Senate Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education
House Committee on Early Learning & Human Services

Background: The Department of Early Learning (DEL) oversees child care licensing, which includes some school-age care programs. School-age care refers to programs that operate before and after school, during the summer, and over holiday breaks.

Under state law, it is unlawful for any agency to care for children unless the agency is licensed by DEL. Agency means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or facility that provides child care and early learning services outside a child's own home and includes certain entities irrespective of whether there is compensation to the agency.

The term "agency" does not include schools, including boarding schools, that are (1) engaged primarily in education, (2) operate on a definite school year schedule, (3) follow a stated academic curriculum, (4) accept only school age children, and (5) do not accept custody of children.

Summary: Within the agency exemption, the definition of schools is modified. The fifth requirement that schools do not accept custody of children is removed.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	49	0
House	92	5

Effective: June 9, 2016

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