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From:

Rose, Laura

Sent:

Monday, July 26, 2004 4:43 PM

To: Subject: Asbjornson, Karen RE: Re: Child care CR

Hi Karen,

Robert and Sandra Scheulke apparently testified at the DHFS hearings on the rule, too. Some of their suggestions were incorporated, some weren't. There were tons of comments in the rule report that weren't adopted - and I think some of thier points are good ones. A public hearing on this rule might not be a bad idea.

Have Jennifer give me a call tomorrow about this. It does sound like her wedding was great! I'm so happy for her.

Laura

----Original Message----

From:

Asbjornson, Karen

Sent:

Monday, July 26, 2004 2:02 PM

To:

Rose, Laura

Subject:

RE: Re: Child care CR

No problem...with session looming I thought I better check-in with you on status.

Wedding and reception were awesome!! Here is my quick summary of the day...So pretty and beautiful...it was an Armenian wedding. They got to wear crowns and it symbolized they are now the king and queen of their households. The reception was beautiful with 2 dozen roses at each table, an ice sculpture, fun dj, liqueur in an edible little chocolate cup after dinner, I caught up with Susan, signed a photo with the picture of the bride and groom, etc. It was a good time, beautiful cermony and nice reception.

Karen Asbjornson Office of Senator Carol Roessler (608) 266-5300/1-888-736-8720 Karen.Asbjornson@legis.state.wi.us

----Original Message----

From: Rose, Laura

Sent: Monday, July 26, 2004 1:57 PM

To: Asbjornson, Karen **Subject:** RE: Re: Child care CR

I will get back to you by the end of the day. I was unexpectedly out on Friday.

By the way -- how was the wedding, and where did they go on their honeymoon??

Talk to you soon,

Laura

----Original Message----

From:

Asbjornson, Karen

Sent:

Monday, July 26, 2004 1:17 PM

To: Rose, Laura Subject:

Re: Child care CR

Hi Laura,

Did you have a chance to look at the information I emailed you last week about the CR on child care? Jennifer will be back tomorrow and I'm wondering what I should tell her....

Karen Asbjornson Office of Senator Carol Roessler (608) 266-5300/1-888-736-8720 Karen. Asbjornson@legis.state.wi.us

From: Usealman, Kevin

Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2004 9:46 AM

To: Halbur, Jennifer

Cc: Asbjornson, Karen

Subject: New Group ChildCare Center Rules

Hello Jennifer,

Hope you had a nice honeymoon! Attached are some concerns a constituent of ours has about the clearinghouse rule that is HFS 45 and 46...regarding group day care regulations. I will let him know that the committee has and will consider these concerns.

Thanks in advance. Welcome home and congrats!

Kevin

Representative Gundrum's Office

----Original Message----

From: Robb Schuelke [mailto:kids@execpc.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2004 3:28 PM

To: Usealman, Kevin

Subject: New Group ChildCare Center Rules

Hello Kevin,

Thank you for taking time to talk with me today. Attached are a list of our concerns regarding the new rules. I look forward to you reply regarding the committee, etc.

Thank you! Sincerely, Robb Schuelke Children's Learning Center, Inc.

NEW GROUP CHILD CARE CENTER RULES

Helene Nelson (drafted by) Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services

Rule questions and concerns from:

Robert Schuelke, Program Administrator (home address – 1711 Rempe Drive, Waukesha 53186) Sandra Schuelke, Program Director, Owner-Operator (home address – 16655 Willow Ridge Ln Brookfield, 53005)

Children's Learning Center, Inc. (childcare and preschool) 21005 Gumina Road Pewaukee, WI 53072

As administrators of a preschool and childcare program that has operated in the Brookfield-Waukesha-Pewaukee area for thirty (30) years, we have concerns with the following rules:

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P. 46 (10m) "Emergency" Why is "no heat" listed, but loss of air conditioning is not? Why would extreme outdoor heat or cold be an emergency to a center? We would be inside with conditioned air or heat and would not have to worry about temperatures outside.

For "family situations," without precise wording there are a thousand different scenarios that could constitute an emergency. Are centers going to be allowed to have a broad contingency plan for this emergency, as it will be impossible to define exactly what may constitute a "family situation?" This is poorly written.

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These two statements must be consistent, or either may be used to cite centers. P. 47 must be changed to read "within sight **OR** sound of sleeping children."

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What does this mean? If we want to use a room for threes, or fives, or school age, why does the department need to know? None of the rules are different for these age groups. Should this be defined by stating a room used for children under two? As it is worded, if we want to use a room for a center party, a magic show, etc. we would have to notify the department every time. This

would result in not only unrealistic expectations and paperwork for a Center, but would never allow inspectors time away from their phones!

- **P. 49 (i)** Some clarification is needed. If a child leaves the premises, definitely report that to the state. However, if a child hides in a room and we enact a missing child policy by searching all equipment, cabinets, etc, and the child is found hiding, do we need to report that to the state? This would result in excessive paperwork for centers and licensors.
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- **P. 49** (L) What does "any construction or remodeling" mean? Does it mean adding cubbies to a wall or painting, or adding blinds? As it's worded, such things supposedly "affect" the premises. This item needs clarification.
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- **P. 55 (b)** On what basis does the department have the right to request an examination? This could be construed as an infringement on personal rights. It is the department's place to recommend that a Center ask employees to visit a doctor for an examination, and it is the Center's responsibility to ensure that the workers are competent. It is the Center's insurance that handles any risk and "covers" the staff, not the State. Allowing the department to "require" an examination of staff will open a veritable can of worms. Worst case scenario: a licensor does not get along with an owner or employee, and mandates an examination. We do not feel it is the place of an inspector to do so.
- **P. 56 # 6** CPR This rule as designed is unrealistic. With a staff of 20+, it is not realistic to expect a staff member to be trained within six months. We rotate our staff members to be trained, about half one year, and the other half the following year. With the law as stated, we would have to have an in-house trainer to do CPR training. More realistic would be wording that states a Center should have a minimum number of staff members trained in first aide and CPR at the Center at all times, and have all staff members trained within 12 months.
- **P. 57 (h)** Smoking What does "premises" mean? This is a vague statement. Why will the state allow smoking when children are not present? If you have a crew working in the building on a weekend, and there is smoking, you will notice it on Monday. Plus, child care centers do

not have receptacles for used cigarettes, the odor lingers, and there is a fire danger. We prefer that child care centers be completely smoke free at all times. If there are situations where there is a conflict with other businesses (such as in a strip mall), could it be worded that free standing Centers are totally smoke free? Do premises include staff member's cars, delivery trucks, etc?

- **P. 57 HFS 46.06 (2) (k)** Hot Tub rules do not apply to group centers. Children under the age of 12 are not permitted in hot tubs anyway.
- P. 60 # 5 and # 9 are identical items and one should be eliminated.
- P. 62 # 3 Clarification on this rule is needed. For an unruly child who is lashing out and may hurt another student or staff members, are bear hugs allowed or are these against the law? Also, with EC students we have been instructed by EC teachers (within the public school system) that this practice may be done for the child's safety. Also, are seat belts allowed for safety of the children during feeding? If they are not using high chairs can they be bucked in for safety? We understand that binding or tying to restrict movement is a concern, but holding such as a bear hug does need to be done occasionally. Does a child then have to left alone somewhere to lash out? Are Centers going to be required to provide a "padded room?" Rules will be needed for special education students who attend child care centers.
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We hope these comments help strengthen the laws and look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Robert K. Schuelke Sandra Schuelke Children's Learning Center, Inc.

From: Asbjornson, Karen

Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2004 11:43 AM

To: Usealman, Kevin

Subject: RE: New Group ChildCare Center Rules

Hi Kevin,

Fyi - I forwarded the email you sent to the Laura Rose at the Legislative Council for her review as well. Thanks!

Karen Asbjornson Office of Senator Carol Roessler (608) 266-5300/1-888-736-8720 Karen.Asbjornson@legis.state.wi.us

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Sincerely,

Robert K. Schuelke Sandra Schuelke Children's Learning Center, Inc.

- Kevin Usealman from Representative Gundrum's office called on 7-21 about the CR 03-052 about childcare rules. Not knowing what I should do I called Laura Rose and she said to email them to her so I did. - KA
- 3. Tammy Dannhoff, OSH/CR 03-052: Tammy said she didn't receive a response from DHFS about the concerns she raised with CR 03-052 so I faxed her the rule as well as the parts of the graph that pertained to her. She said DHFS answered her concerns about the treated lumber in the faxed information, but that there was one sentence in their response that she didn't understand. I too didn't understand it, so I called DHFS. DHFS told us that basically DHFS will now have the option (rather than a mandatory requirement) of requiring licensees to submit a plan of correction when a violation or infraction has been found. Basically DHFS won't require a plan to be submitted if it was something corrected while on site or it was a smaller infraction. Larger violations will still require plans of correction to be submitted. The department feels it will cut down on unnecessary paperwork for the licensee as well as DHFS. I told Tammy and CR and both were fine with the answer I got from DHFS. I logged all my actions in forward under Tammy, printed the note details and put them in your committee folder in your inbox. K

Health Committee Stuff:

Child care rules:

- Response from Laura Rose. I emailed Laura Rose last week the information and asked for her thoughts. Since I hadn't heard from her, I called her Monday/yesterday. Here is her email back: (see #2 for what she is responding to)
 - Hi Karen, Robert and Sandra Scheulke apparently testified at the DHFS hearings on the rule, too. Some of their suggestions were incorporated, some weren't. There were tons of comments in the rule report that weren't adopted and I think some of thier points are good ones. A public hearing on this rule might not be a bad idea. Have Jennifer give me a call tomorrow about this. It does sound like her wedding was great! I'm so happy for her. Laura