

Testimony
House Bill 1114 – Department of Human Services
House Human Services Committee
Representative Robin Weisz, Chairman

January 8, 2019

Chairman Weisz and members of the Human Services Committee, I am Amanda Carlson – Early Childhood Services Administrator with Children and Family Services of the Department of Human Services (Department). I appear today to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1114.

House Bill 1114 seeks to transition Self-Declared child care providers to a licensed child care provider due to the minimal difference in requirements.

The reauthorization of the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) in 2014, the Office of Child Care (OCC) within the Administration of Children and Family, emphasized the federal standards to maintain health and safety in all child care settings supported by CCDBG funds.

Self-Declared child care providers voluntarily provide documentation that they are providing early childhood services in a private residence for up to five children through the age of eleven, of which no more than three may be under the age of twenty-four months. Upon meeting the requirements, self-declared providers are issued a certificate. The requirements Self-Declared child care providers must meet are the same as licensed child care providers, except for the minimum number of annual training hours. A Self-Declared child care provider is required to have a minimum three hours per year of annual training, while a Family child care provider (the closest licensed child care setting) is required to have a minimum of nine hours of annual training.

Self-Declared child care providers are required to have background checks completed, maintain minimum sanitation standards, are subject to correction orders, inspections, etc., just like all licensed child care providers.

Transitioning Self-Declared child care providers to a licensed child care provider will allow the State to ensure all child care providers meet the same basic the same standards regarding training, provide consistent child care and support child care providers across the state.

This concludes my testimony, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.