

# Informational Meeting on Proposed Rule Revisions



Christie Bearden- Legal Services Supervisor  
Amy Page- Quality Improvement Coordinator

# Legislation

- In April, the 2015 Georgia General Assembly passed House Bill 401 (HB401)
- Changes and key updates will affect all facility types
- Bill is now referred to as an Act and will become effective on January 1, 2016
- May 2015- DECAL board authorized necessary revisions to existing licensing rules

# Rule Updates required by HB 401- Impact to CCLC & GDCH

- Child Care Learning Center (CCLC) and Group Day Care Home (GDCH) rule books are merging
  - Rules that differ have been revised to differentiate by capacity, for example:
    - Playground size
    - First aid/ CPR
    - Caregiver/aide requirements

# Rule Updates required by HB 401- Impact to Family Providers

- “Family Day Care Homes” changing to  
**“Family Child Care Learning Homes”**
- Changing from ‘registered’ to  
‘licensed’



# Additional Rule Updates required by HB 401

- New Rule book for establishment of *Support Centers*
- Key revisions for some Criminal Records Check rules
- Creation of *Permits*

# Records Check Overview – The Upcoming Legislative Changes

- Creates a **PERMIT** for change of ownership applicants
- The permit period allows the program to continue to operate and care for children while they come into 100% compliance with the records check requirements
- If an employee was “grandfathered in” and allowed to work under the former ownership, s/he can continue to work under the new ownership during the permit period, so long as they submit fingerprints before the permit period expires.

# Records Check Overview – The Upcoming Legislative Changes

- Creates **SUPPORT CENTERS**
- Legal Definition – “any business entity registered with the department that makes available potential employees for family child care learning homes or child care learning centers and that receives no children for care.”
- Includes universities, staffing agencies and independent contractors.

# Records Check Overview – The Upcoming Legislative Changes

- Allows programs that are not licensed but receive funds through DECAL to apply for records check clearances for their employees and residents.
  - Unlicensed Head Start Programs
  - Informal providers that receive CAPS subsidy

# Records Check Overview – The Upcoming Legislative Changes

- Loosens the requirements for **PARENTS** of children in care to have fingerprint clearance
- Currently, parents that want to routinely help out in the classroom must have a fingerprint clearance
- Beginning January 1, 2016, only parents that are deemed an employee by the center or that receive compensation by the center must have fingerprint clearance.
- Parents that are not also employees with fingerprint clearance cannot be left unsupervised with children

# Records Check Overview – The Upcoming Legislative Changes

- Extends the portability period for Students-in-Training
  - Eligible students will have two years of portability instead of one
  - Must submit evidence of enrollment in an early childhood education program of study
  - Applies to students enrolled in a high school recognized by Dept. of Education or an accredited college/university

# Records Check Overview – The Upcoming Legislative Changes

- Eliminates the **notary** requirement for records check applications
  - Less expensive for the applicant
  - Less cumbersome for the applicant
  - Allows for electronic submission – COMING SOON

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# Next Steps

- Proposed rules will be posted for public comment- October 9<sup>th</sup>
- Public hearing during DECAL board meeting- November 12<sup>th</sup>
- Potential Implementation date- January 1, 2016



# Questions/ Comments



# Contact Us

Bright from the Start:

Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE

Suite 670, East Tower

Atlanta, GA 30334

404-657-5562

[www.dec.al.ga.gov](http://www.dec.al.ga.gov)

Records Check Unit:

**1-855-884-7444**

**[CRC@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:CRC@dec.al.ga.gov)**

Child Care Services:

**404-657-5562**

**[CCSRuleRevisions@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:CCSRuleRevisions@dec.al.ga.gov)**