

MiLEAP Child Care Rule Public Hearing

MiLEAP Child Care Rule Review Ad Hoc		
11.19.2024	1:30 p.m.	TEAMS Platform
Meeting type	Child Care Rule Public Hearing	
Facilitator	Erika Bigelow	
Notetaker	Shellee Carroll	
Attendees	CCLB Staff/Public	
Notes		
Erika Bigelow	<p>This is a public hearing on proposed administrative rules, entitled administrative rules for licensing rules for child care centers. This hearing is being conducted pursuant to a child Care Organization's Act 1973, PA 116, and on behalf of the Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement and Potential. This hearing's being called to order at 1:30 PM on November 19th, 2024, at the Michigan Library and Historical Center. This hearing was published in three newspapers of general circulation as well as the Michigan Register issue #20, published on November 15th, 2024. My name is Erika Bigelow and I will be facilitating the hearing today. Please know we are here today to receive your comments on the proposed rules. If you wish to speak, please make sure you have signed in and indicated your willingness to speak. We will call on speakers in the order on which names are listed on the sign in sheets. When you come forward to speak, please identify yourself with your name, the organization you represent, and both your mailing and e-mail address, so this information may be transcribed into the hearing. Report if you have additional comments to submit in writing, you may leave them at the desk in the back or submit them for a department no later than 5:00 PM. November 22nd, 2024. Each speaker will have a limit of three minutes to speak. The information that you need to share. When you present to share your comments and timer are on the overheads for your convenience. With that, I will now call the speaker. Ryan Wilkes Bridge St. Ministries.</p>	
Ryan Waalkes (continued below)	<p>Ryan Waalkes, US Bridge St. Ministries, 1034 Bridge St. Grand Rapids, ryan@bsmgr.org; I want to start out. Just saying thank you to the MiLEAP team for this process. Been very transparent and vulnerable. I've been involved in a lot of. The work groups that have been reviewing and submitting some proposed revisions, and it's been a very authentic and humble process. I appreciate that. Thank you to the MiLEAP team for the tireless efforts they've given. As a practitioner and somebody who's been involved in this process, I want to propose one more addition to the revised rule. And that would be to Part 8 for fire safety and I'd like to propose an addition specifically to rule 400.8565 and that there's a list of exemptions for programs that are operating in schools, in school buildings, and presumably this is because school buildings would already have fire safety inspections that are completed in the property.</p>	

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<p>Ryan Waalkes (continued from above)</p>	<p>I would like to request and suggest, in addition, that programs operate in commercial buildings or churches for school age children, that have an existing and valid occupancy permit be added to that exemption list. Reason being, any such programs that operate in these type of buildings will have gone through extensive inspections already to get that occupancy permit. And by adding exemptions to this rule, which would also include part 7, table two, row D, which is the same exemption list. By adding, these exemptions would be upholding the intent of this rule to protect our children, which we as practitioners have a vested interest in protecting our children. But it would also provide a much more equitable and efficient pathway to licensing. Our organization has chosen to pursue licensing when this requirement was announced last year for the 32 N grant recipients and rather than trying to find loopholes and exemption which we decided to pursue licensing and have done our due diligence. And just by way of example, we at one of our facilities was fully renovated four years ago. We made all existing building and fire code to get our occupancy permit from the local fire authority. Took one phone call in one week. Trying to pursue inspections for fire safety regulations for this rule for licensing and has taken us over three months. Over 60-man hours. Phone calls, emails. We still don't have inspections scheduled for one facility and these are four facilities that are already certified by the local fire authority or safe occupancy for this type of purpose. So I'll just ask that these types of buildings, these type of programs in current permitted facilities be added to the exemption list to uphold the intent of the rule and create a more efficient equitable pathway. Thank you.</p>
<p>Erika Bigelow</p>	<p>Thank you. Next speaker is Jermaine Robinson.</p>
<p>Jermaine Robinson</p>	<p>I'm fine.</p>
<p>Erika Bigelow</p>	<p>So you don't want to speak, right? Any other speakers signed up at this time? All right. Thank you. Come on down. Thank you very much.</p>
<p>Another speaker</p>	<p>Three mins to speak</p>

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<p>Angelique Nichols</p>	<p>Angelique Nichols – Michigan Afterschool Partnership, and you have your partnership representing the Council 10 sector as well as our organization. My e-mail is Angelique ANGLYQE.at mymiafterschool.org. So we have two recommendations. We appreciate the implementation of the suggestions that we've already submitted and just two more we want to highlight for consideration, the first being the school age, program administrator curriculum pathway. Currently, we have three pathways that are listed in the current draft, however, the minimum age requirements still requires 21 and we would like to recommend reducing of that age to 18, specifically because those pathways listed currently, there are opportunities for young people completing their CTE pathway as well as going throughout an associate's degree that have the experience and requirements necessary but the minimum age requirement. So create the barriers for those young people. So we would like to reduce the age. Then the second is of moving the fire safety we do recommend currently the public and non-public exemptions for fire safety inspections, but would like to equally extend that exemption to commercial buildings being churches and other buildings that already function throughout the day, and then also supplement through after school so they have the necessary inspections that are needed for capacity and safety and health. So just wanting to make those exemptions extendable to commercial buildings as well. Thank you.</p>
<p>Erika Bigelow</p>	<p>Thank you.</p>
<p>Erika Bigelow</p>	<p>Those are the names that I have written. Does anyone else wish to come doesn't and speak no one responded; We can wait in case someone is late; you're welcome to stay; we're going to pause for right now (1:40 pm)</p>
<p>Erika Bigelow</p>	<p>(1:49 pm) Will wait for full hour for hearing. All are welcome to stay</p>

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Erica Willard	<p>So I went ahead to get a few things clarified, but I did want to make a suggestion on. Erica Willard. I'm with the Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children Michigan AEYC, AEYC. And you can reach us at 839 cent. Heading Way, Lansing, MI 48917 and reach me at EWillard at MIAEYc.org. Again, we'll echo the others that have that have said. Thank you for the process and the hearing today. I would Michigan AFC is stand strong for the foundation of developmentally appropriate practice for children, and I know that is infused throughout in a couple different places. One of the areas of concern that's been raised by some of our members is around the lowering of time out. The age of two versus three. So you know there are methods of there are methods of discipline that are more developmentally appropriate, especially for those children between the ages of two and three. That would be marketing. So we would ask that you reconsider that, into the age of two for time out. Then the other thing that has come up that would be helpful would be we noticed that you left the charts in for the ratios. But the chart for the staff qualifications in the program administered qualifications have been eliminated. And so it's really been confusing for folks that have shared feedback with us to be able to clearly see like what the qualifications are for the teacher program administrator like they were in the previous version. So I would just ask that you reconsider putting the charts back in so it's very easy and fair to see what those staff qualifications are.</p>
Erika Bigelow	Thank you.
	No further comments hearing closed 2:30 pm
	Hearing closed at 2:30 pm