



SENATE BILL 578: Transition Certain Abuse Investigations/DCDEE

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Re-ref to Health Care. If fav, re-ref to Judiciary II	Date:	April 20, 2015
Introduced by:	Sens. Barringer, Hise, Tucker	Prepared by:	Tawanda Foster Committee Counsel
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition S578-CSTV-8		

SUMMARY: *The PCS to House Bill 578 would transition abuse and neglect investigations in child care facilities to the Division of Child Development and Early Education within the Department of Health and Human Services (Department).*

BILL ANALYSIS:

The PCS to House Bill 578 would remove references to child care facilities in investigations for abuse and neglect under Chapter 7B and add new sections in Chapter 110 to define child maltreatment and assign the authority to investigate child abuse and neglect in child care facilities to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education.

Section 1 amends the definition of caretaker under G.S. 7B-101 to remove reference to child care facilities.

Section 2 amends the law on protective service requirements in G.S. 7B-300 to remove reference to child care facilities.

Section 3 removes the requirements that State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) be notified within 24 hours of sexual abuse allegations in child care facilities in G.S. 7B-301(a).

Section 4 amends G.S. 7B-302(a) to provide the assessments and evaluations for abuse, neglect, dependency, and abandonment must include a visit to the place where the juvenile lives and removes references to child care facilities.

Section 5 removes the requirement to notify the SBI within 24 hours when there is an allegation of abuse or neglect in a child care facility and further removes references to child care facilities.

Section 6 amends the law to allow the Department to inspect child care facilities, without notice when there is cause to believe an emergency exists or there is a complaint alleging a violation of licensure law.

Section 7 repeals G.S. 110-105.2

Section 8 adds new sections defining child maltreatment, child care facilities, and establishing procedures for investigation of abuse and neglect allegations in child care facilities. This section also adds sections on the duty to report child maltreatment, establishes the child maltreatment registry, and establishes penalties for child maltreatment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act becomes effective January 1, 2016.

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