

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to licensing standards for child care
 3 facilities; providing a short title; amending s. 402.305,
 4 F.S.; providing minimum licensing requirements for window
 5 blinds and other window coverings; providing a definition;
 6 authorizing the Department of Children and Family Services
 7 to provide certain information regarding window blinds and
 8 window coverings; providing an effective date.

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 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 12 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "John F. Serrano,
 13 Rachel Lou Napier, and Alexandra Ali Safety and Accountability
 14 Act."

15 Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 402.305, Florida
 16 Statutes, is amended to read:

17 402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

18 (5) PHYSICAL FACILITIES.—Minimum standards shall include
 19 requirements for building conditions, indoor play space, outdoor
 20 play space, napping space, bathroom facilities, food preparation
 21 facilities, outdoor equipment, and indoor equipment.

22 (a) Because of the nature and duration of drop-in child
 23 care, outdoor play space and outdoor equipment shall not be
 24 required for licensure; however, if such play space and
 25 equipment are provided, then the minimum standards shall apply
 26 to drop-in child care. With respect to minimum standards for
 27 physical facilities of a child care program for school-age
 28 children which is operated in a public school facility, the

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29 department shall adopt the State Uniform Building Code for
30 Public Educational Facilities Construction as the minimum
31 standards, regardless of the operator of the program. The
32 Legislature intends that if a child care program for school-age
33 children is operated in a public school, the program need not
34 conform to standards for physical facilities other than the
35 standards adopted by the Commissioner of Education.

36 (b) Minimum requirements for licensure of a child care
37 facility shall prohibit the use or installation of window blinds
38 or other window coverings with long dangling cords, pull cords,
39 or inner cords capable of forming a loop and which thereby pose
40 a risk of strangulation to young children. Window blinds and
41 other window coverings that have been manufactured or properly
42 retrofitted in a manner that eliminates long dangling cords,
43 pull cords, inner cords, or the formation of loops that pose a
44 risk of strangulation are not prohibited under this subsection.
45 Cordless window blinds are recommended and are in compliance
46 with this subsection.

47 1. When developing and periodically reviewing minimum
48 licensing requirements related to the safety and installation of
49 window blinds and other window coverings in child care
50 facilities, the department shall review and take into
51 consideration the recommendations of the United States Consumer
52 Product Safety Commission.

53 2. Child care facilities must properly retrofit existing
54 window blinds, window coverings, pull cords, or inner cords in
55 accordance with this paragraph by January 1, 2011. For purposes
56 of this subparagraph, "properly retrofit" means to modify in a

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57 manner that eliminates long dangling cords or the formation of
58 inner or outer cord loops that pose a risk of child
59 strangulation.

60 3. The department may provide information regarding
61 reduced-cost or no-cost options for retrofitting or replacing
62 unsafe window blinds and window coverings.

63 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.