

By Senator Yarborough

4-01284-23

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the registration of residential
3 child-caring agencies and family foster homes;
4 amending s. 409.176, F.S.; removing obsolete language;
5 making technical changes; providing an effective date.
6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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9 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraph
10 (b) of subsection (5) of section 409.176, Florida Statutes, are
11 amended to read:

12 409.176 Registration of residential child-caring agencies
13 and family foster homes.—

14 (1) (a) A residential child-caring agency or family foster
15 home may not receive a child for continuing full-time care or
16 custody, and a residential child-caring agency may not place a
17 child for full-time continuing care or custody in a family
18 foster home, unless it has first registered with an association
19 that is certified by a Florida statewide child care organization
20 which ~~was in existence on January 1, 1984, and which publishes,~~
21 and requires compliance with~~,~~ its standards and files copies
22 thereof with the department as provided in paragraph (5) (b). For
23 purposes of this section, such an association is ~~shall be~~
24 referred to as the "qualified association."

25 (5) The licensing provisions of s. 409.175 do not apply to
26 a facility operated by an organization that:

27 (b) Is certified by a Florida statewide child care
28 organization which ~~was in existence on January 1, 1984, and~~
29 which publishes~~,~~ and requires compliance with~~,~~ its standards and

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30 files copies thereof with the department. Such standards must
31 ~~shall~~ be in substantial compliance with published minimum
32 standards that similar licensed child-caring agencies or family
33 foster homes are required to meet, as determined by the
34 department, with the exception of those standards of a
35 curricular or religious nature and those relating to staffing or
36 financial stability. Once the department has determined that the
37 standards for child-caring agencies or family foster homes are
38 in substantial compliance with minimum standards that similar
39 facilities are required to meet, the standards do not have to be
40 resubmitted to the department unless a change occurs in the
41 standards. Any changes in the standards must ~~shall~~ be provided
42 to the department within 10 days after ~~of~~ their adoption.

43 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.