



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 31

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 6180

House of Representatives, March 3, 2025

The Committee on Children reported through REP. PARIS of the 145th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICE OF FIREARMS BY OPERATORS OF FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section, "firearm" has the same meaning as provided in section 53a-3 of
3 the general statutes.

4 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, each
5 operator of a family child care home licensed pursuant to section 19a-
6 87b of the general statutes, in which one or more firearms is stored, shall
7 provide written notification of the presence of each such firearm to a
8 parent or guardian of each child enrolled in such home. Such
9 notification shall (1) include a list of the number and type of each firearm
10 stored in such home, and (2) require a parent or guardian to
11 acknowledge receipt of such notification by providing such parent or
12 guardian's signature. On and after January 1, 2026, such written
13 notification shall be provided to a parent or guardian of each child
14 enrolling in any such home for the first time. Such operator shall

15 maintain each signed acknowledgment of receipt for not less than three
16 years, and make such signed acknowledgments available to the Office
17 of Early Childhood for inspection upon request.

18 (c) Not later than February 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, each
19 operator of a family child care home in which one or more firearms is
20 stored shall, in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of
21 Early Childhood, confirm compliance with the provisions of subsection
22 (b) of this section during the preceding calendar year.

23 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 19a-87e of the general statutes is
24 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
25 *2025*):

26 (a) The Commissioner of Early Childhood may (1) refuse to license
27 under section 19a-87b, a person to own, conduct, operate or maintain a
28 family child care home, as defined in section 19a-77, (2) refuse to
29 approve under section 19a-87b, a person to act as an assistant or
30 substitute staff member in a family child care home, as defined in section
31 19a-77, or (3) suspend or revoke the license or approval or take any other
32 action that may be set forth in regulation that may be adopted pursuant
33 to section 19a-79 if the person who owns, conducts, maintains or
34 operates the family child care home, the person who acts as an assistant
35 or substitute staff member in a family child care home, a person
36 employed in such family child care home in a position connected with
37 the provision of care to a child receiving child care services or a
38 household member, as defined in subsection (c) of section 19a-87b, who
39 is sixteen years of age or older and resides therein, has been convicted,
40 in this state or any other state of a felony, as defined in section 53a-25,
41 involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force
42 against another person, or has a criminal record in this state or any other
43 state that the commissioner reasonably believes renders the person
44 unsuitable to own, conduct, operate or maintain or be employed by a
45 family child care home, or act as an assistant or substitute staff member
46 in a family child care home, or if such persons or a household member
47 has been convicted in this state or any other state of cruelty to persons

48 under section 53-20, injury or risk of injury to or impairing morals of
 49 children under section 53-21, abandonment of children under the age of
 50 six years under section 53-23, or any felony where the victim of the
 51 felony is a child under eighteen years of age, a violation of section 53a-
 52 70b of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2019,
 53 or section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, illegal
 54 manufacture, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing or
 55 administration under section 21a-277 or 21a-278, or illegal possession
 56 under section 21a-279, or if such person, a person who acts as assistant
 57 or substitute staff member in a family child care home or a person
 58 employed in such family child care home in a position connected with
 59 the provision of care to a child receiving child care services, either fails
 60 to substantially comply with the regulations adopted pursuant to
 61 section 19a-87b, or conducts, operates or maintains the home in a
 62 manner [which] that endangers the health, safety and welfare of the
 63 children receiving child care services, including, but not limited to, by a
 64 failure to comply with the provisions of section 1 of this act. Any refusal
 65 of a license or approval pursuant to this section shall be rendered in
 66 accordance with the provisions of sections 46a-79 to 46a-81, inclusive.
 67 Any person whose license or approval has been revoked pursuant to
 68 this section shall be ineligible to apply for a license or approval for a
 69 period of one year from the effective date of revocation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| Section 1 | July 1, 2025 | New section |
| Sec. 2 | July 1, 2025 | 19a-87e(a) |

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b), "19a-97b" was changed to "19a-87b" for accuracy, and "the parent" was changed to "a parent" for clarity; in Section 1(b)(2), "such parent" was changed to "a parent" for clarity, and "2027" was changed to "2026" for consistency; and in Section 2(a), "which endangers" was changed to "[which] that endangers" for consistency with standard drafting conventions, and "by a" was inserted before "failure" for clarity.

KID *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill, which allows the Office of Early Childhood to refuse, suspend, or revoke family child care provider licenses for non-compliance with firearm notification requirements, does not result in a fiscal impact as the provisions of the bill are closely aligned with current practice.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6180*****AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICE OF FIREARMS BY OPERATORS OF FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires family child care home operators to annually notify parents and guardians in writing if there are firearms in the home, starting by January 1, 2026 (see BACKGROUND).

Under the bill, the written notice must require a parent or guardian to acknowledge receipt by signing it. The home operator must (1) keep these acknowledgments for at least three years, (2) make them available for inspection by the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) upon request, and (3) annually report compliance with these requirements to OEC.

The bill authorizes OEC to suspend or revoke the family child care home license or take other allowed action against an operator who violates the above requirements.

Family child care homes are private homes that provide care for up to six children who are not in school full-time and up to three additional children who are in school full-time.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

NOTIFICATION AND RELATED REQUIREMENTS

Under the bill, starting by January 1, 2026, family child care home operators with a firearm stored in the home must annually give parents and guardians written notification of its presence. The notice must (1) list of the number and type of each firearm in the home and (2) require that a parent or guardian sign the notice to acknowledge receipt.

Beginning January 1, 2026, the operators must also give the notice to

a parent or guardian of each child enrolling in the home for the first time.

Beginning by February 1, 2027, each operator of a family child care home in which firearms are kept must annually confirm with the OEC commissioner compliance with the bill's provisions for the previous calendar year on a form she prescribes.

Existing regulations require the OEC annual inspection to check for secure storage of guns, weapons, and ammunition (Conn. Agencies Regs., § 19a-87b-9).

ENFORCEMENT

The bill authorizes the OEC commissioner to suspend or revoke the family child care home license or take other allowed action against operators who violate the notification or related requirements.

By law, one way that a license can be suspended or revoked is if the operator conducts, operates, or maintains the home in a way that endangers the health, safety, and welfare of the children receiving child care services. The bill specifies that this type of endangerment includes failure to comply with the firearms notification and related requirements.

By law, a license can also be suspended or revoked for a number of criminal convictions, including (1) a felony involving the use or threatened use of physical force, (2) injury or risk of injury or impairing the morals of a minor, (3) abandonment of children under the age of 6, or (4) any felony where the victim is a child under 18 years old.

Under OEC regulations, after a case hearing, OEC can suspend, revoke, or place a license on probationary status and impose conditions or require corrective measures that it deems necessary (Conn. Agencies Regs., § 19a-87b-15).

BACKGROUND

Firearm

By law, a firearm is any shotgun or sawed-off shotgun, machine gun, rifle, pistol, revolver, or other weapon, whether loaded or unloaded that may discharge a shot (CGS § 53a-3(19)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable

Yea 11 Nay 6 (02/18/2025)