



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 378

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1381

Senate, April 1, 2025

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. GASTON of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT WING CIVIL AIR PATROL YOUTH CAMPS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 19a-421 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 (a) No person shall establish, conduct or maintain a youth camp
4 without a license issued by the office. Applications for such license shall
5 be made in writing at least thirty days prior to the opening of the youth
6 camp on forms provided and in accordance with procedures established
7 by the commissioner and shall be accompanied by a fee of eight
8 hundred fifteen dollars or, if the applicant is a nonprofit, nonstock
9 corporation or association, a fee of three hundred fifteen dollars or, if
10 the applicant is a day camp affiliated with a nonprofit organization, for
11 no more than five days duration and for which labor and materials are
12 donated, no fee. All such licenses shall be valid for a period of one year
13 from the date of issuance unless surrendered for cancellation or
14 suspended or revoked by the commissioner for violation of this chapter

15 or any regulations adopted under section 19a-428 and shall be
16 renewable upon payment of an eight-hundred-fifteen-dollar license fee
17 or, if the licensee is a nonprofit, nonstock corporation or association, a
18 three-hundred-fifteen-dollar license fee or, if the applicant is a day camp
19 affiliated with a nonprofit organization, for no more than five days
20 duration and for which labor and materials are donated, no fee.

21 (b) On and after October 1, 2022, any licensee shall require any
22 prospective employee eighteen years of age or older, who is applying
23 for a position at a youth camp that requires the provision of care to a
24 child or involves unsupervised access to a child, to submit to a
25 comprehensive background check. The background check shall include,
26 but not be limited to, a (1) (A) criminal history records check conducted
27 (i) in accordance with section 29-17a, or (ii) by searching the electronic
28 criminal record system maintained on the Internet web site of the
29 Judicial Department for convictions matching the prospective
30 employee's name and date of birth, (B) state child abuse registry
31 established pursuant to section 17a-101k, (C) registry established and
32 maintained pursuant to section 54-257, and (D) National Sex Offender
33 Registry Public Website maintained by the United States Department of
34 Justice, or (2) check by a third-party provider of national criminal
35 history record checks that is conducted through a centralized database
36 utilizing the prospective employee's fingerprints, provided such
37 provider appears on a list of such providers published on the Internet
38 web site of the Office of Early Childhood. Prior to each check of the state
39 child abuse registry conducted pursuant to this subsection, a licensee
40 shall submit to the office an authorization for the release of personal
41 information signed by the prospective employee, on a form prescribed
42 by the office, and the office shall submit such authorization to the
43 Department of Children and Families. Any prospective employee who
44 holds a J-1 visa, H-1B visa or R-1 visa issued by the United States
45 Department of State shall not be required to submit to a background
46 check under this section.

47 (c) Pending completion of all comprehensive background check
48 components described in subsection (b) of this section, a prospective

49 employee may begin work on a provisional basis, provided such
50 prospective employee is supervised at all times by an employee who
51 was subjected to a comprehensive background check described in
52 subsection (b) of this section within the past five years.

53 (d) Each licensee shall require any employee of a youth camp holding
54 a position that requires the provision of care to a child or involves
55 unsupervised access to a child to submit to a comprehensive
56 background check described in subsection (b) of this section not later
57 than five years after the date such employee was hired, and at least once
58 every five years thereafter. Nothing in this section prohibits a licensee
59 from requiring any such employee to submit to a comprehensive
60 background check more than once during a five-year period.

61 (e) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall have the discretion to
62 refuse to license under sections 19a-420 to 19a-429, inclusive, a person
63 to establish, conduct or maintain a youth camp, as described in section
64 19a-420, or to suspend or revoke the license or take any other action set
65 forth in any regulation adopted pursuant to section 19a-428 if, the
66 person who establishes, conducts or maintains such youth camp or a
67 person employed therein in a position connected with the provision of
68 care to a child or involving unsupervised access to a child, has (1) been
69 convicted in this state or any other state of (A) a felony as defined in
70 section 53a-25 involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of
71 physical force against another person, (B) cruelty to persons under
72 section 53-20, (C) injury or risk of injury to or impairing morals of
73 children under section 53-21, (D) abandonment of children under the
74 age of six years under section 53-23, (E) any felony where the victim of
75 the felony is a child under eighteen years of age, or (F) a violation of
76 section 53a-70b of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to
77 January 1, 2019, 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, (2)
78 a criminal record in this state or any other state that the commissioner
79 reasonably believes renders the person unsuitable to establish, conduct
80 or maintain or be employed by a youth camp, or (3) held a license to
81 establish, conduct or maintain a youth camp in another state that was
82 revoked by such state's licensing authority. However, no refusal of a

83 license shall be rendered except in accordance with the provisions of
84 sections 46a-79 to 46a-81, inclusive.

85 (f) Any person who is licensed to establish, operate or maintain a
86 youth camp shall notify the Commissioner of Early Childhood if such
87 licensee or any person employed by such youth camp is convicted of a
88 crime listed in subsection (e) of this section, if such licensee or person
89 employed by such youth camp is employed in a position connected with
90 the provision of care to a child or involving unsupervised access to a
91 child, immediately upon obtaining knowledge of the conviction. Failure
92 to comply with the notification requirement may result in the
93 suspension or revocation of the license or the imposition of any action
94 set forth in regulation, and shall subject the licensee to a civil penalty of
95 not more than one hundred dollars per day for each day after the
96 licensee obtained knowledge of the conviction, provided such civil
97 penalty shall not exceed the aggregate sum of four thousand five
98 hundred dollars.

99 (g) Each licensee shall maintain, and make available for inspection
100 upon request of the Office of Early Childhood, any documentation
101 associated with a comprehensive background check described in
102 subsection (b) of this section, for a period of not less than five years from
103 the date of (1) completion of such background check, if the subject of the
104 comprehensive background check was not hired by the licensee, or (2)
105 separation from employment, if the subject of the comprehensive
106 background check was hired by the licensee.

107 (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 368r, the Connecticut
108 Wing Civil Air Patrol within the Department of Emergency Services and
109 Public Protection may establish, conduct or maintain a youth camp
110 without obtaining a license issued by the office, provided the
111 Connecticut Wing Civil Air Patrol (1) establishes, conducts or maintains
112 any such youth camp on property owned or leased by the state and
113 utilizes a facility operated exclusively by the Military Department, and
114 (2) complies with any regulations adopted by the commissioner
115 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-428 relating to the

116 administration of (A) tests to monitor glucose levels in children with
117 diagnosed diabetes mellitus, and (B) medicinal preparations to children.

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

Section 1	October 1, 2025	19a-421
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Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Subsec. (h)(2), "pursuant to section 19a-428 relating to (A) the administration of medication, or (B) the monitoring of diabetes" was changed to "pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-428 relating to the administration of (A) tests to monitor glucose levels in children with diagnosed diabetes mellitus, and (B) medicinal preparations to children" for accuracy and consistency with other provisions of the general statutes.

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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 Connecticut Wing of the Civil Air Patrol to operate a youth camp without an Office of Early Childhood license, results in no fiscal impact to the state.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1381*****AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT WING CIVIL AIR PATROL YOUTH CAMPS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill allows the Connecticut Wing of the Civil Air Patrol to open, operate, and maintain a youth camp without an Office of Early Childhood (OEC) license. However, to be exempt, the camp must (1) be opened, operated, and maintained on state controlled property and use a facility the Connecticut Military Department exclusively operates, and (2) comply with any regulations the OEC commissioner adopted on tests to monitor glucose levels in children with diabetes and medicinal preparations to children.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

BACKGROUND***Civil Air Patrol***

The Civil Air Patrol is a congressionally chartered (36 U.S.C. § 40301), federally funded nonprofit corporation and serves as the volunteer civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force.

Youth Camps

By law, among other criteria, a youth camp is any regularly scheduled program or organized group activity advertised as a camp or operated only during school vacations or on weekends by a person, entity, or state or municipal agency for recreational or educational purposes that accommodates at least five children from ages 3 through 15 (CGS § 19a-420).

For youth camps to operate in the state, they generally must complete a comprehensive licensing process OEC runs, including background

checks for employees who provide care or have unsupervised access to a child. There is a license fee of \$815 or \$315 depending on the entity.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/18/2025)