SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2202

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SHIELDS.

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DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 210.025, 210.221, and 210.1080, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to child care.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 210.025, 210.221, and 210.1080, RSMo, are repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 210.221 and 210.1080, to read as follows:

- 210.221. 1. The department of health and senior services shall have the following powers and duties:
- (1) After inspection, to grant licenses to persons to operate child-care facilities if satisfied as to the good character and intent of the applicant and that such applicant is qualified and equipped to render care or service conducive to the welfare of children[, and to renew the same when expired. No license shall be granted for a term exceeding two years]. Each license shall specify the kind of child-care services the licensee is authorized to perform, the number of children that can be received or maintained, and their ages and sex;
- (2) To inspect the conditions of the homes and other places in which the applicant operates a child-care facility, inspect their books and records, premises and children being served, examine their officers and agents, deny, suspend, place on probation or revoke the license of such persons as fail to obey the provisions of sections 210.201 to 210.245 or the rules and regulations made by the department of health and senior services. The director also may revoke or suspend a license when the licensee fails to renew or surrenders the license;
- 15 (3) To promulgate and issue rules and regulations the department deems necessary or 16 proper in order to establish standards of service and care to be rendered by such licensees to

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

children. No rule or regulation promulgated by the division shall in any manner restrict or interfere with any religious instruction, philosophies or ministries provided by the facility and shall not apply to facilities operated by religious organizations which are not required to be licensed:

- (4) To approve training concerning the safe sleep recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics in accordance with section 210.223; and
- (5) To determine what records shall be kept by such persons and the form thereof, and the methods to be used in keeping such records, and to require reports to be made to the department at regular intervals.
- 2. Any child-care facility may request a variance from a rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to this section. The request for a variance shall be made in writing to the department of health and senior services and shall include the reasons the facility is requesting the variance. The department shall approve any variance request that does not endanger the health or safety of the children served by the facility. The burden of proof at any appeal of a disapproval of a variance application shall be with the department of health and senior services. Local inspectors may grant a variance, subject to approval by the department of health and senior services.
- 3. The department shall deny, suspend, place on probation or revoke a license if it receives official written notice that the local governing body has found that license is prohibited by any local law related to the health and safety of children. The department may deny an application for a license if the department determines that a home or other place in which an applicant would operate a child-care facility is located within one thousand feet of any location where a person required to register under sections 589.400 to 589.425 either resides, as that term is defined in subsection 3 of section 566.147, or regularly receives treatment or services, excluding any treatment or services delivered in a hospital, as that term is defined in section197.020, or in facilities owned or operated by a hospital system. The department may, after inspection, find the licensure, denial of licensure, suspension or revocation to be in the best interest of the state.
- 4. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in sections 210.201 to 210.245 shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. All rulemaking authority delegated prior to August 28, 1999, is of no force and effect and repealed. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to repeal or affect the validity of any rule filed or adopted prior to August 28, 1999, if it fully complied with all applicable provisions of law. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove

and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 1999, shall be invalid and void.

210.1080. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

- (1) "Child care provider", a person licensed, regulated, or registered to provide child care within the state of Missouri, including the member or members, manager or managers, shareholder or shareholders, director or directors, and officer or officers of any entity licensed, regulated, or registered to provide child care within the state of Missouri;
- (2) "Child care staff member", a child care provider; persons employed by the child care provider for compensation, including contract employees or self-employed individuals; individuals or volunteers whose activities involve the care or supervision of children for a child care provider or unsupervised access to children who are cared for or supervised by a child care provider; [er] individuals residing in a family child care home who are seventeen years of age [and] or older before January 1, 2021, or eighteen years of age or older on or after January 1, 2021; or individuals residing in a family child care home who are under seventeen years of age before January 1, 2021, or under eighteen years of age on or after January 1, 2021 and have been certified as an adult for the commission of an offense;
 - [(2)] (3) "Criminal background check":
 - (a) A Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint check;
- 17 (b) A search of the National Crime Information Center's National Sex Offender Registry; 18 and
 - (c) A search of the following registries, repositories, or databases in Missouri, the state where the child care staff member resides, and each state where such staff member resided during the preceding five years:
 - a. The state criminal registry or repository, with the use of fingerprints being required in the state where the staff member resides and optional in other states;
 - b. The state sex offender registry or repository; and
 - c. The state-based child abuse and neglect registry and database;
 - (4) "Designated department", the department to which criminal background check results are sent; the department of health and senior services for child care staff members or prospective child care staff members of licensed child care facilities; and the department of social services for child care staff members or prospective child care staff members of a license-exempt child care facility or an unlicensed child care facility registered with the department of social services under section 210.027;
 - (5) "Qualifying result" or "qualifying criminal background check", a finding that a child care staff member or prospective child care staff member is eligible for employment or presence in a child care setting described under this section.

2. (1) Prior to the employment or presence of a child care staff member in a [family child care home, group child care home, child care center, or license-exempt] licensed child care facility, the child care provider shall request the results of a criminal background check for such child care staff member from the department of health and senior services.

- (2) Prior to the employment or presence of a child care staff member in a license-exempt child care facility or an unlicensed child care facility registered with the department of social services, the child care provider shall request the results of a criminal background check for such child care staff member from the department of social services.
- (3) A prospective child care staff member may begin work for a child care provider after the [criminal background check has been requested] qualifying result of either a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint check or a search of the Missouri criminal registry or repository with the use of fingerprints has been received from the designated department; however, pending completion of the criminal background check, the prospective child care staff member shall be supervised at all times by another child care staff member who received a qualifying result on the criminal background check within the past five years.
- [(3) A family child care home, group child care home, child care center, or license-exempt child care facility that has child care staff members at the time this section becomes effective shall request the results of a criminal background check for all child care staff members by January 31, 2019, unless the requirements of subsection 5 of this section are met by the child care provider and proof is submitted to the department of health and senior services by January 31, 2019.]
- 3. The costs of the criminal background check shall be the responsibility of the child care staff member but may be paid or reimbursed by the child care provider at the provider's discretion. The fees charged for the criminal background check shall not exceed the actual cost of processing and administration.
- 4. [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 of this section,] Upon completion of the criminal background check, any child care staff member or prospective child care staff member shall be ineligible for employment or presence at a [family child care home, a group child care home, a licensed child care center, or a license-exempt] licensed or license-exempt child care facility or an unlicensed child care facility registered with the department of social services and shall be disqualified from receipt of state or federal funds for providing child care services either by direct payment or through reimbursement to an individual who receives child care benefits if such person:
 - (1) Refuses to consent to the criminal background check as required by this section;
- 69 (2) Knowingly makes a materially false statement in connection with the criminal 70 background check as required by this section;

- 71 (3) Is registered, or is required to be registered, on a state sex offender registry or 72 repository or the National Sex Offender Registry;
- 73 (4) [Has a finding] Is listed as a perpetrator of child abuse or neglect under [section 210.145 or 210.152] sections 210.109 to 210.183 or any other finding of child abuse or neglect based on any other state's registry or database; or
- 76 (5) Has [been convicted of a felony consisting of] pled guilty or nolo contendere to or 77 been found guilty of:
 - (a) [Murder, as described in 18 U.S.C. Section 1111;
- 79 (b) Child abuse or neglect;
- 80 (c) A crime against children, including child pornography;
- 81 (d) Spousal abuse;
- 82 (c) A crime involving rape or sexual assault;
- 83 (f) Kidnapping,
- 84 (g) Arson;

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- 85 (h) Physical assault or battery; or
- 86 (i) Subject to subsection 5 of this section, a drug-related offense committed during the preceding five years] Any felony for an offense against the person as defined in chapter 565;
- 88 **(b)** Any other offense against the person involving the endangerment of a child as prescribed by law;
 - (c) Any misdemeanor or felony for a sexual offense as defined in chapter 566;
 - (d) Any misdemeanor or felony for an offense against the family as defined in chapter 568;
 - (e) Burglary in the first degree as defined in 569.160;
 - (f) Any misdemeanor or felony for robbery as defined in chapter 570;
- 95 **(g)** Any misdemeanor or felony for pornography or related offense as defined in 96 chapter 573;
 - (h) Any felony for arson as defined in chapter 569;
 - (i) Any felony for armed criminal action as defined in section 571.015, unlawful use of a weapon as defined in section 571.030, unlawful possession of a firearm as defined in section 571.070, or the unlawful possession of an explosive as defined in section 571.072;
- 101 (j) Any felony for making a terrorist threat as defined in section 574.115, 574.120, 102 or 574.125;
 - (k) A felony drug-related offense committed during the preceding five years; or
- 104 (l) Any similar offense in any federal, state, municipal, or other court of similar 105 jurisdiction of which the director of the designated department has knowledge;

106 [(6) Has been convicted of a violent misdemeanor committed as an adult against a child, 107 including the following crimes: child abuse, child endangerment, or sexual assault, or of a 108 misdemeanor involving child pornography; or

(7) Has been convicted of any similar crime in any federal, state, municipal, or other court.

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- Adult household members seventeen years of age and older in a family child care home shall be incligible to maintain a presence at a family child care home if any one or more of the provisions of this subsection applies to them.]
 - 5. Household members seventeen years of age or older before January 1, 2021, or eighteen years of age or older on or after January 1, 2021, or household members under seventeen years of age before January 1, 2021, or under eighteen years of age on or after January 1, 2021 and have been certified as an adult for the commission of an offense shall be ineligible to maintain a presence at a facility licensed as a family child care home during child care hours if any one or more of the provisions of subsection 4 of this section apply to such members.
 - 6. A child care provider may also be disqualified from receipt of state or federal funds for providing child care services either by direct payment or through reimbursement to an individual who receives child care benefits if such person, or any person seventeen years of age or older before January 1, 2021, or eighteen years of age or older on or after January 1, 2021, residing in the household in which child care is being provided, excluding child care provided in the child's home, has been refused licensure or has experienced licensure suspension or revocation under section 210.221 or 210.496.
- 7. A child care provider shall not be required to submit a request for a criminal background check under this section for a child care staff member if:
 - (1) The staff member received a **qualifying** criminal background check within five years before the latest date on which such a submission may be made and while employed by or seeking employment by another child care provider within Missouri;
 - (2) The department of health and senior services **or the department of social services** provided to the first provider a qualifying criminal background check result, consistent with this section, for the staff member; and
 - (3) The staff member is employed by a child care provider within Missouri or has been separated from employment from a child care provider within Missouri for a period of not more than one hundred eighty consecutive days.
- **[6.] 8.** (1) The department [of health and senior services shall process] processing the request for a criminal background check for any prospective child care staff member or child care

staff member **shall do so** as expeditiously as possible, but not to exceed forty-five days after the date on which the provider submitted the request.

- (2) The department shall provide the results of the criminal background check to the child care provider in a statement that indicates whether the prospective child care staff member or child care staff member is eligible or ineligible for employment or presence at the child care facility or receipt of state or federal funds for providing child care services either by direct payment or through reimbursement to an individual who receives child care benefits. The department shall not reveal to the child care provider any disqualifying crime or other related information regarding the prospective child care staff member or child care staff member.
- (3) If such prospective child care staff member or child care staff member is ineligible for employment or presence at the child care facility, the department shall, when providing the results of criminal background check, include information related to each disqualifying crime or other related information, in a report to such prospective child care staff member or child care staff member, along with information regarding the opportunity to appeal under subsection [7] 9 of this section.
- (4) If a prospective child care provider or child care provider has been denied state or federal funds by the department of social services for providing child care, he or she may appeal such denial to the department of social services.
- [7.] 9. (1) The prospective child care staff member or child care staff member may appeal a finding of ineligibility for employment or presence at a child care facility in writing to the department that made the determination of ineligibility to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in his or her criminal background check[,-or] if his or her finding of ineligibility is based on one or more of the following offenses:
 - (a) Murder, as described in 18 U.S.C. Section 1111;
- **(b)** Felony child abuse or neglect;
 - (c) A felony crime against children, including child pornography;
- 168 (d) Felony spousal abuse;
- (e) A felony crime involving rape or sexual assault;
- **(f)** Felony kidnapping;
- **(g)** Felony arson;
 - (h) Felony physical assault or battery;
- 173 (i) A violent misdemeanor offense committed as an adult against a child, including 174 the offense of child abuse, child endangerment, or sexual assault, or a misdemeanor offense 175 involving child pornography; or
 - (j) Any similar offense in any federal, state, municipal, or other court.

(2) If a finding of ineligibility is based on an offense not provided for in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the prospective child care staff member or child care staff member may appeal to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in his or her criminal background check or to offer information mitigating the results and explaining why an eligibility exception should be granted. [The department of health and senior services shall attempt to verify the accuracy of the information challenged by the individual, including making an effort to locate any missing disposition information related to the disqualifying crime.]

- (3) The appeal shall be filed with the department that made the determination within ten days from the [delivery or] mailing of the notice of ineligibility. [The department shall make a decision on the appeal in a timely manner.] Such department shall attempt to verify the accuracy of the information challenged by the individual, including making an effort to locate any missing disposition information related to the disqualifying offense. After the department verifies the accuracy of the information challenged by the individual, the department shall forward the appeal to the child care background screening review committee established in subdivision (4) of this subsection. The child care background screening review committee shall make a final decision on the written appeal, and such decision shall be made in a timely manner. Such decision shall be considered a noncontested final agency decision by the department that made the determination of ineligibility under this section and appealable under section 536.150. Such decision shall be appealed within thirty days of the mailing of the decision.
- (4) There is hereby established a "Child Care Background Screening Review Committee", which shall consist of the directors of the department of health and senior services and the department of social services or the directors' designee or designees.
- (5) Any decision by the child care background screening review committee to grant an eligibility exception as allowed in this section shall only be made upon the approval of all committee members.
- 10. The department of health and senior services and the department of social services are authorized to enter into any agreements necessary to facilitate the sharing of information between the departments for the enforcement of this section including, but not limited to, the results of the criminal background check or any of its individual components.
- 11. Nothing in this section shall prohibit either the department of health and senior services or the department of social services from requiring more frequent checks of the family care safety registry established under section 210.903 or the central registry for child abuse established under section 210.109 in order to determine eligibility for

employment or presence at the child care facility or receipt of state or federal funds for providing child care services either by direct payment or through reimbursement to an individual who receives child care benefits.

[8-] 12. The department of health and senior services and the department of social services may each adopt emergency rules to implement the requirements of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2018, shall be invalid and void.

[9. (1)] 13. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any child care facility, as defined in section 210.201, maintained or operated under the exclusive control of a religious organization, as described in subdivision (4) of subsection 1 of section 210.211, unless such facility is a recipient of federal funds for providing care for children, except for federal funds for those programs that meet the requirements for participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program under 42 U.S.C. Section 1766.

[(2) The provisions of this section, and any rules or regulations promulgated under this section, shall expire if 42 U.S.C. Section 9858f, as enacted by the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014, and 45 CFR 98.43 are repealed or if Missouri no longer receives federal funds from the CCDBG.]

[210.025. 1. An applicant child care provider; persons employed by the applicant child care provider for compensation, including contract employees or self-employed individuals; individuals or volunteers whose activities involve the care or supervision of children for the applicant child care provider or unsupervised access to children who are cared for or supervised by the applicant child care provider; or individuals residing in the applicant's family child care home who are seventeen years of age or older shall be required to submit to a criminal background check under section 43.540 prior to an applicant being granted a registration and every five years thereafter and an annual check of the central registry for child abuse established in section 210.109 in order for the applicant to qualify for receipt of state or federal funds for providing child-care services either by direct payment or through reimbursement to a child-care beneficiary. Any costs associated with such checks shall be paid by the applicant.

2. Upon receipt of an application for state or federal funds for providing child-care services in the home, the children's division shall:

(1) Determine if a finding of child abuse or neglect by probable cause prior to August 28, 2004, or by a preponderance of the evidence after August 28,

18 2004, involving the applicant or any person over the age of seventeen who is 19 living in the applicant's home has been recorded pursuant to section 210.145 or 210.221; 20 21 (2) Determine if the applicant or any person over the age of seventeen who is living in the applicant's home has been refused licensure or has 22 experienced licensure suspension or revocation pursuant to section 210.221 or 23 24 210.496; and 25 (3) Upon initial application, require the applicant to submit to fingerprinting and request a criminal background check of the applicant and any 26 27 person over the age of seventeen who is living in the applicant's home pursuant 28 to section 43.540 and section 210.487, and inquire of the applicant whether any children less than seventeen years of age residing in the applicant's home have 29 ever been certified as an adult and convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere 30 31 to any crime. 32 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4 of this section, upon completion of the background checks in subsection 2 of this section, an applicant 33 shall be denied state or federal funds for providing child care if such applicant, 34 35 any person over the age of seventeen who is living in the applicant's home, and any child less than seventeen years of age who is living in the applicant's home 36 37 and who the division has determined has been certified as an adult for the commission of a crime: 38 39 (1) Has had a finding of child abuse or neglect by probable cause prior 40 to August 28, 2004, or by a preponderance of the evidence after August 28, 2004, pursuant to section 210.145 or section 210.152; 41 42 (2) Has been refused licensure or has experienced licensure suspension 43 or revocation pursuant to section 210.496; 44 (3) Has pled guilty or nolo contendere to or been found guilty of any 45 felony for an offense against the person as defined by chapter 565, or any other offense against the person involving the endangerment of a child as prescribed 46 47 by law; of any misdemeanor or felony for a sexual offense as defined by chapter 566; of any misdemeanor or felony for an offense against the family as defined 48 49 in chapter 568, with the exception of the sale of fireworks, as defined in section 50 320.110, to a child under the age of eighteen; of any misdemeanor or felony for pornography or related offense as defined by chapter 573; or of any similar crime 51 in any federal, state, municipal or other court of similar jurisdiction of which the 52 53 director has knowledge or any offenses or reports which will disqualify an applicant from receiving state or federal funds. 54 4. An applicant shall be given an opportunity by the division to offer any 55 extenuating or mitigating circumstances regarding the findings, refusals or 56 violations against such applicant or any person over the age of seventeen or less 57 58 than seventeen who is living in the applicant's home listed in subsection 2 of this

section. Such extenuating and mitigating circumstances may be considered by

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federal funds from the CCDBG.1

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60 the division in its determination of whether to permit such applicant to receive state or federal funds for providing child care in the home. 61 5. An applicant who has been denied state or federal funds for providing 62 child care in the home may appeal such denial decision in accordance with the 63 provisions of section 208.080. 64 65 6. If an applicant is denied state or federal funds for providing child care in the home based on the background check results for any person over the age 66 of seventeen who is living in the applicant's home, the applicant shall not apply 67 for such funds until such person is no longer living in the applicant's home. 68 7. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, 69 70 that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, 71 if applicable, section 536.028. All rulemaking authority delegated prior to 72 73 August 28, 1999, is of no force and effect and repealed. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to repeal or affect the validity of any rule filed or adopted 74 prior to August 28, 1999, if it fully complied with all applicable provisions of 75 law. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers 76 77 vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held 78 79 unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 1999, shall be invalid and void. 80 8. (1) The provisions of subsection 1 of this section shall not apply to 81 82 any child care facility, as defined in section 210.201, maintained or operated under the exclusive control of a religious organization, as described in 83 84 subdivision (4) of subsection 1 of section 210.211, unless such facility is a recipient of federal funds for providing care for children, except for federal funds 85 86 for those programs that meet the requirements for participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program under 42 U.S.C. Section 1766. 87 88 (2) The provisions of subsection 1 of this section, as enacted by the 89 ninety-ninth general assembly, second regular session, and any rules or regulations promulgated under such section, shall expire if 42 U.S.C. Section 90 91 9858f, as enacted by the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014, and 45 CFR 98.43 are repealed or if Missouri no longer receives 92

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