

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2016 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

Senate Bill 305 (Senator Nathan-Pulliam, *et al.*)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Family Child Care Providers - High School Diploma or GED Test**

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This bill requires the regulations of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) to include a requirement that each registered family child care provider has obtained a high school diploma or a passing score on the General Educational Development test.

The bill's provisions apply prospectively only and do not apply to any family child care provider registered before the bill's October 1, 2016 effective date.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** MSDE can adopt regulations and ensure compliance with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** A family child care provider is an individual who cares for children in a registered family child care home or a registered large family child care home. Generally, a family child care home or large family child care home may not operate unless it is registered. A family child care home is not required to be registered if the child care provider (1) is related to each child by blood or marriage; (2) is a friend of each child's parents or legal guardian and the care is provided on an occasional basis; or (3) has received the care of the child from a child placement agency licensed by the Department of Human Resources or by a local department of social services.

MSDE must adopt regulations relating to the registration of family child care homes and large family child care homes. The regulations must establish minimum standards of environmental health and safety, including provisions for adequate and safe physical surroundings, the physical and mental health of child care providers, and the investigation of any criminal record of a child care provider. In addition to other provisions, regulations adopted by MSDE also include provisions relating to announced and unannounced inspections, mandatory cardio pulmonary resuscitation and first aid training, and emergency preparedness plans.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 15, 2016  
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