

HB0477/933529/1

BY: Ways and Means Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 477
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute “**State Department of Education – Family Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers – Regulatory Analysis**”; strike beginning with “altering” in line 4 down through “centers;” in line 6 and substitute “requiring the State Department of Education to conduct a thorough analysis of the State’s regulatory requirements of certain child care facilities and report the results of its analysis on or before certain dates;”; in line 7, strike “limits on the number of young children in child care settings” and substitute “an analysis of the regulatory requirements for child care facilities in the State”; and strike in their entirety lines 8 through 22, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 23 on page 1 through line 10 on page 4 and substitute:

“SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) In this section, “child care facility” means:

(1) a child care center, as defined under § 9.5–401 of the Education Article;

(2) a family child care home, as defined under § 9.5–301 of the Education Article; or

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(3) a large family child care home, as defined under § 9.5–301 of the Education Article.

(b) The State Department of Education shall conduct a thorough analysis of the State’s regulatory requirements for child care facilities.

(c) (1) In conducting the analysis required under subsection (b) of this section, the Department shall pay particular attention to current regulations that limit the ability of a person to:

(i) register a family child care home or a large family child care home;

(ii) receive a license to operate a child care center; or

(iii) operate a child care facility in a profitable manner while providing quality, affordable child care.

(2) In conducting its analysis, the Department shall, at a minimum, analyze the current regulatory framework governing:

(i) the staffing of child care facilities, including the requirements to work in child care and the supervisory requirements for child care staff;

(ii) the physical requirements for child care facilities; and

(iii) the programs in place to support child care facilities.

(3) The Department shall examine the framework that governs the regulation of child care and child care facilities in different states and regions and how they compare to those in the State.

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(4) For each regulation examined as part of its analysis, the Department shall determine whether the regulation results in or contributes to:

(i) a safer environment for children and child care facility employees;

(ii) a quality early childhood education; or

(iii) a significant impact on the opening or operation of child care facilities.

(d) (1) On or before January 1, 2026, the Department shall provide an interim report on the results of its analysis to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

(2) On or before September 1, 2026, the Department shall issue a final report on the results of its analysis, including any recommended changes to the regulatory framework, to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.”.