

House Bill 525

By: Representatives Watson of the 60<sup>th</sup>, Post 2 and Drenner of the 57<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To provide for the application of certain standards to certain public schools, part-time  
2 day-care centers, day camping programs, and day-care centers that are not paid for their  
3 services; to amend Chapter 1A of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
4 relating to the Office of School Readiness, so as to provide that certain contracts for  
5 pre-kindergarten programs require compliance with certain licensing requirements; to amend  
6 Chapter 5 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to programs and  
7 protection for children and youth, so as to revise a definition; to prohibit certain exemptions  
8 from day-care licensing requirements; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting  
9 laws; and for other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 Chapter 1A of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Office of  
13 School Readiness, is amended by inserting a new Code section to be designated Code  
14 Section 20-1A-8 to read as follows:

15 "20-1A-8.

16 Each contract with a public school or local board of education for the provision of one or  
17 more pre-kindergarten programs shall include a requirement that the specific staff,  
18 classrooms, facilities, and playgrounds used for a pre-kindergarten program shall comply  
19 with licensing requirements applicable to day-care centers for children and applicable to  
20 child care learning centers."

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 Chapter 5 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to programs and  
23 protection for children and youth, is amended in Code Section 49-5-3, relating to definitions,  
24 by striking paragraph (4) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

1       "(4) 'Day-care center' means any place operated by a person, society, agency,  
2       corporation, institution, or group wherein are received for pay for group care for fewer  
3       than 24 hours per day without transfer of legal custody 19 or more children under 18  
4       years of age."

5   **SECTION 3.**

6       Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 49-5-12, relating to licensing of child  
7       welfare agencies and child care facilities, by inserting a new subsection to be designated  
8       subsection (t) to read as follows:

9       "(t) The department may exempt certain day-care centers from licensing requirements,  
10       including but not limited to specialized day-care centers qualified to furnish care and  
11       training to mentally handicapped individuals that have been granted a certificate of  
12       approval in accordance with Code Section 37-6-6, and short-term baby sitting service  
13       provided by an establishment on its premises to children for the convenience of their  
14       parents who are participating in activities provided by the establishment. The department  
15       shall not grant an exemption from day-care licensing requirements to a day-care center  
16       because such center operates for less than a specified number of hours daily or for less than  
17       a specified number of days weekly or because such center limits the weekly attendance of  
18       a child to a specified number of hours. The department shall not grant exemptions from  
19       day-care licensing requirements to day camping programs that have outdoor education and  
20       recreation as their primary emphasis."

21   **SECTION 4.**

22       All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.