The attached file is being sent to child day centers, short-term child day centers, certified preschools, voluntarily registered family day homes, family day homes, family day systems, religiously exempt child day centers and unlicensed child day programs receiving child care subsidy assistance from the Virginia Department of Social Services Email Distribution Service.

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Notice Regarding Public Comment Period for Final Regulation: Amend Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers to Address Federal Health and Safety Requirements

The final regulation to amend Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers (22VAC40-185) to address federal health and safety requirements will be published in the Virginia Register of Regulations (Volume 37, Issue 17) on April 12, 2021, starting a 30-day public comment period that continues through May 12, 2021.

The final regulation amends the current Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers (22VAC 40-185) to reflect federal health and safety standards and to provide additional protections for the health, safety, and welfare of children in care. The final regulation aligns the Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers (22VAC40-185) with federal requirements described in the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014. In addition, this proposed action: (i) updates regulations to comply with new federal requirements for child care providers; (ii) updates current licensing regulations to ensure consistency with requirements for Child Care and Development Fund recipients; and (iii) presents a clearly written regulation that reflects current federal guidelines and practices in child care. The final regulation can be found at https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewXML.cfm?textid=15030.

Comments for this final regulation may be submitted via Regulatory Town Hall at https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/comments.cfm?stageid=8313; or by mail, fax or email to Tatamishia Armstrong, Program Consultant, Virginia Department of Social Services, Division of Licensing-Children’s Programs, 801 East Main Street, 9th Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23219; fax (804) 726-7132; tatanishia.armstrong@dss.virginia.gov.