

ASSEMBLY, No. 4704

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman BRIAN BERGEN

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

Assemblyman CHRISTOPHER P. DEPHILLIPS

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Assemblywoman AURA K. DUNN

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Allows groups of no more than 15 children in child care center classrooms.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/21/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning the operating capacity of licensed child care
2 centers.

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4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Executive Order No. 149
8 of 2020 and any other executive order to the contrary, a child care
9 center licensed pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1983, c.492
10 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.) shall group no more than 15 children at any one
11 time in each of the child care center's classrooms during the
12 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency.

13
14 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire upon
15 the conclusion of the declared coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-
16 19) public health emergency.

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19 STATEMENT

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21 This bill requires child care centers licensed pursuant to the
22 provisions of P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.) to group no more
23 than 15 children at any one time in each of the child care center's
24 classrooms during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) public
25 health emergency.

26 Executive Order No. 149 of 2020 outlines the rules that licensed
27 child care centers are required to implement in order to facilitate the
28 safety and well-being of child care operators, child care center staff,
29 and the children and families they serve during the COVID-19
30 public health emergency.

31 Although the rules mandate that licensed child care centers are to
32 group no more than 10 children at one time in each of the center's
33 classrooms, child care center operators are concerned that limiting
34 the number of children in a given classroom may be a barrier to
35 providing child care services as New Jersey moves toward
36 reopening, and parents return to work. Increasing the number of
37 children who can be grouped together in child care center
38 classrooms from 10 to 15 would address those concerns while
39 allowing for the continued operation of child care centers during the
40 COVID-19 public health emergency.