



Nov. 17, 2016

Pamela Wentworth, MSW, LSW  
Office of Policy & Regulatory Development  
Department of Children & Families  
PO Box 717  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0717

Dear Ms. Wentworth:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed changes to Proposed Readoption with Amendments: N.J.A.C. 10:122 and Proposed New Rule: N.J.A.C. 10:122-5.1 in the New Jersey Register. I am submitting these comments to the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) on behalf of the New Jersey Child Care Association (NJCCA), an organization that represent more than 200 private child care centers throughout the state.

NJCCA proposed changes to proposed regulations:

**Under 10:122-2.3 - Location of a center (Page 20):**

Section 3 iv: Currently as proposed – “Not share common areas, such as hallways, gyms, or bathrooms”;

**NJCCA suggests the addition of: “except in the case of emergency evacuation egress”.**

**Under 10:122-6.1 - Activities (Page 51):**

Section 6 iv: Currently as proposed - “The use of infant equipment including swings, exersaucers, and bouncers shall be limited to periods of 30 minutes at a time.”

**Based on our collective experience, NJCCA respectfully suggests that this period shall be limited to 15 minutes in duration.**

**Under 10:122-6.4 - Rest and sleep requirements for early childhood programs (Page 54)**

Currently written: “(a) For early childhood programs, the center shall provide opportunities for daily rest and sleep as follows: 2. For children from 13 to 18 months of age [and younger], the center shall provide daily rest and sleep according to the child's physical needs and ensure that blankets or pillows do not cover the child's face

**This item makes reference to pillows not covering the face of a child. Therefore, these regulations imply that the use of pillows in a center as sleeping equipment is acceptable.**

**Except that within “3. Swaddling of children during rest and sleep is prohibited.”**

**Under ii on page 54, it states: “Sleeping equipment shall be free of pillows and soft bedding, including, but not limited to, bumper pads, when occupied by a sleeping child.” Please clarify use or outright prohibition of pillows.**

**Under 10:122-6.8 - Parent and community participation (Page 55-56)**

Currently proposed: (d) Staff member(s) shall inform the parent(s) of enrolled children in advance of any field trip(s), outing(s), or special event(s) involving the transportation of children away from the center. The center shall inform parents whether a school bus, other approved school vehicle, or private passenger vehicle will be used, and whether the driver will be a staff member, a parent, or another person. The center shall provide each parent with the name and telephone number of any bus company providing service. Before taking a child on such a field trip, outing, or special event, the center shall either.

**NJCCA was advised that any use of passenger vehicles is prohibited, so this section requires clarification to the extent that the passenger vehicle prohibition is indeed accurate.**

On behalf of NJCCA, I thank you for your anticipated review of these comments. If you need to contact me, I can be reached at (609) 223-2223, or via e-mail at [curt@nj-cca.org](mailto:curt@nj-cca.org).

Sincerely,

Curt Macysyn  
NJCCA Executive Director

c. Brian Ross, Esq., Assistant Commissioner