WEST virginia legislature

2022 regular session

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 4662

By Delegates Steele, Crouse, Tully and Dean

[Originating in the House Committee on Health and Human Resources; reported on February 22, 2022]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §49-2-115a, relating to licensure of Head Start facilities in this state.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

**ARTICLE 2. STATE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHILDREN.**

**§49-2-115a. Head Start program licenses.**

(a) A Head Start program in good standing with the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to 42 USC §9381, *et seq.*, may request to be deemed a licensee to operate a child care program for the sole purpose of utilizing the West Virginia Clearance for Access: Registry and Employment Screenings program. At the discretion of the secretary, a deemed licensee does not permit the licensee to access the other services provided by the Bureau for Family Assistance as it relates to the child care program license.

(b) The section may not be construed to prevent the department from investigating complaints regarding the health, safety, or welfare of children.

(c) The department shall propose a legislative rule by July 1, 2022, to effectuate this section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to eliminate duplicative efforts to license Head Start facilities in this state.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.