

Notice of Statute Changes Effective July 1, 2010 Lexie's Law

On May 27, 2010, Governor Parkinson signed into law Senate Substitute HB 2356. The bill is also known as Lexie's Law. Lexie's Law went into effect on July 1, 2010. Key elements of the bill as well as the Department's progress with implementation follows:

- **Requires the Department to inspect all child care facilities and eliminates the category of Registered Family Day Care Home effective June 30, 2011; requires the transition of existing Registered homes to Licensed Day Care Homes.**

At the time Lexie's Law passed, there were approximately 2,500 Registered Family Day Care Homes. As of July 1, 2011, all Registered providers transitioned to licensed or closed voluntarily. We have a greater capacity to serve children in our state than we have had since 2005.

- **A requirement to increase licensing fees to fund the additional inspections.**

Effective September 1, 2010, the state license application fee for day care homes and child care centers increased to \$75 plus \$1 per child in the license capacity. The previous fee for day care homes was \$15, and the fee for child care centers was \$35 plus \$1 per child in the license capacity to a maximum of \$75.

- **A requirement that the Department, through the rules and regulation process, develop requirements for the competent supervision of children and additional health and safety requirements necessary for the protection of children.**

The regulations were adopted by the Secretary December 29, 2011, and published in the Kansas Registered January 19, 2012. The new and amended regulations became effective February 3. Regulations can be viewed on the KDHE website at www.kdheks.gov/kidsnet.

- **A requirement to include a sticker on the face of the license stating the expiration date.**

Effective January 2011, licenses issued by the Department have an expiration date printed on the face of the license as well as an expiration sticker. Licensees received a new license valid for 12 months at the time of renewal during 2011. The renewal period is sixty days from expiration. A late fee is assessed if renewal is not received within 30 days of the license expiration date.

- **Each new applicant applying for a license to maintain a child care facility must be a high school graduate or the equivalent, such as having a GED.**

The Law provides a grandfather clause for individuals operating a facility at the time the law passed and applicants who applied before July 1, 2010.