

**MINUTES of the  
Child Care Advisory  
Committee  
July 23, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The WebEx hosted meeting of the Child Care Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:30pm. Copies of the agenda were emailed in advance to the Committee Members and posted on the Child Care Licensing website. Rita Krusemark, DHHS Public Health, Program Specialist, Children’s Services Licensing, placed a link to the Open Meetings Act in the Webex chat box.

**ROLL CALL**

The following Advisory Committee members were present to answer roll call:

- Denita Julius
- Stoney Straatman
- Adriana Chavez
- Adela Yanez
- Sandra Kosierowski
- Michele Lawson
- Lisset Christian
- Stephanie Dowding
- Penny Gerking
- Kimberly Ricker
- Erin Branch

The following Advisory Committee members were absent: Christopher Dean. The following staff members from the Department were also present during all or part of the meeting:

- Rita Krusemark, DHHS Public Health, Program Specialist, Children’s Services Licensing

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Penny Gerking made the motion, seconded by Erin Branch, to adopt the agenda for the July 23, 2025, Child Care Advisory Meeting.

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Denita Julius made the motion, seconded by Michele Lawson, to approve the minutes for the April 12, 2025, Child Care Advisory Meeting.

**OPEN SESSION DISCUSSION**

1. Criminal Background Check update:

Rita Krusemark provided updates on the following:

- Fingerprint data was shared with the committee regarding the amount of fingerprint background checks completed, and the average days taken to complete checks.
- The LiveScan fingerprinting pilot project at the Lincoln NSOB began on May 12 with the first person printed on May 13. Additional locations are in the planning stage and will begin operation as soon as all logistics and trainings are established.

These minutes have not been approved by  
the Child Care Advisory Committee.  
Translation will be completed after the  
minutes are approved.

## 2. Legislative Update – Rita Krusemark

Updates on the following legislative bills were provided:

- LB13: Change state requirements to where subsidy funds will be dispersed based on enrollment instead of attendance. This would match federal requirements. Placed in select file.
- LB376 that would remove the set \$10,000 amount for child care start-up grants and allow grants to be awarded in more feasible dollar amounts. Passed and approved by the governor on June 4, 2025.
- LB274: Proposes to amend sections of the Child Care Licensing Act pertaining to liability insurance coverage required for licensed child care programs.

The minimum required dollar amount per occurrence for child care provider liability insurance coverage would increase from \$100,000 to \$200,000. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) would require licensees to maintain the required level of liability insurance as long as a child is in the care of such licensee. If a licensee cannot provide proof of active liability insurance within three days of an inspection by Children’s Services Licensing (CSL), the license will be suspended until the licensee provides such proof. The licensee would also be required to provide proof of active liability insurance coverage at each Fire and Health investigation. The inspector would then verify that insurance. Postponed on June 6, 2025.

- LB457 creates a new requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), in consultation with the State Department of Education (NDE), to develop model anaphylaxis policies available for use in school districts and licensed child care programs, with input from medical, educational, parental, and other appropriate entities. Passed and approved by the governor April 14, 2025.
- LB462 relates to child abuse and neglect. The bill amends the Nebraska Criminal Code, the Nebraska Juvenile Code, and the Child Protection and Family Safety Act.

The bill amends definitions of child abuse and neglect.

The definition of a mandatory reporter of child abuse and neglect is amended to include employees of a facility or program licensed under the Child Care Licensing Act, the Children’s Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act, and employees of a youth rehabilitation and treatment center or juvenile detention facility. Mandatory reporter also includes a list of health care providers and other personnel who would be present in health care settings. No movement on the bill after amendment.

## 3. Update on addition of Committee Members:

- Review of existing Child Care Advisory Committee applicants is ongoing. Children’s Services Licensing is working to select and offer Committee membership based on geographic and license type representation.

## 4. Subcommittee Updates/Reports:

- Regulations: Subcommittee is working to involve the full Child Care Advisory Committee and other stakeholders in the review of regulation revisions.

## **CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7pm.