

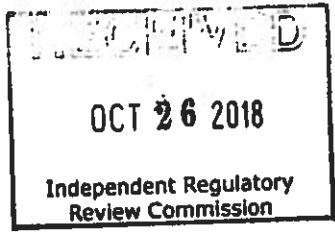
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**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

October 23, 2018

Tamula Ferguson
Bureau of Certification Services
Office of Development and Early Learning
Department of Human Services
333 Market Street, 6th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17105



Dear Ms. Ferguson,

I am submitting a suggestion in regards to 3270.131(a), 3280.131(a) and 3290.131(a) (relating to health information).

In my professional experiences enrolling families, securing documentation of a full child health appraisal from the family's health care provider is often time consuming and costly. Parents new to child care regulations are often unaware that a physical is required when enrolling their children. Furthermore, Pediatrician's offices are flooded with requests, specifically in August and September, when scheduling appointments are frequently backlogged by 2- 3 months.

Some health care providers allow parent access to online records, but this is not widespread in the community, and some of these records are missing provider signatures, which is unacceptable under current child care regulations. I fear the limited time frame for health appraisal requirements will result in, more families losing time from work because they do not have child care services, or incurring higher costs when Urgent Care becomes their only resort.

I recommend keeping the 60 day time frame for health physicals but propose centers and family care providers secure the most recent shot record within 30 days of enrollment. This gives child care providers some health information within a timely manner and the opportunity to ensure families are following the childhood immunization schedule recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Respectfully,

Claire Martorana
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