

Hi,

My name is Liliya Aukhimovich. I am a home family child care provider from Pierce county. I came here to express my frustration and feelings about the upcoming changes. I do my very best to provide high quality child care for the children and their families. This week was extremely exhausting for me, teaching staff, parents of the child care and even children. On Monday and Tuesday I had a data collector from the University of Washington. It took 3 to 4 hours every day. I had a planned appointment with the technical assistant from Child Care Aware on Wednesday during nap time. On Thursday, I had a monitoring visit from the licensors of DEL. On Friday morning I woke up with the thought: who can come to my child care next: Food Program or somebody will call from the next governmental structure? I totally understand that changes should come. However, some rules are not real at all. Some wonderful child care providers are thinking about going out of business, from the job that they love, all due to the unrealistic WAC's being presented.

After reading the new version of WAC, I realized that it was created by a team of people who do not work in a modern/present home family child care. The parents bring their children to the **HOME** family child care. It is supposed to be a real home.

I am not only a child care provider, I am also a teacher, family support specialist, psychologist, accountant, housekeeper, cook, participant of Early Achievers, marketing person, and a business owner. I forgot to add that I am a student as well.

With all these duties, the child care providers do not have time to go meticulously through the new mandatory rules and then go to meetings for public comments on a regular basis.

The proposed rules are complicated or in some cases there is no possibility to follow them:

p.42 Food service, equipment, and practices

Why is it that we cannot teach the children to eat using napkins? It's a part of human-being culture. In my culture, the children should eat quietly. We even have proverbs and saying about how quietly you should eat at the table. What about diversity in this case? When the children eat and talk all the time, they can lose control of how much they eat.

170-300-0200 Handwashing and hand sanitizer p.46

How can the children wash their hands outside after gardening activities? Water or sand table? Can you give a ready and valid decision in this situation? Should we walk inside of the house with the children to wash their hands after gardening activities? Consider the situation with 1 teacher and infants among the children.

Diapers changing areas and disposal 170-300-0221 p.48

Some houses cannot be rebuilt to accommodate the requirements. In addition, some three and four-year old's are pretty tall children, which makes standard equipment currently on the market inadequate.

p.37 Menus, milk and food.

Are we required to hire a nutritionist? My parents can smell the homemade food every morning. Should we spend more time on writing a menu instead of spending time with children? Will you require us to sign the menu by the Health Department, Food Program, and licenser weekly in the near future? Can we hang the sample menu without dates?

170-300-0100

The education requirement is so strict it will make it close to impossible to find temporary, emergency or part time employees to assist. There also needs to be a consideration for the many hours on record for providers that have received training throughout their many years of service.

170-300-0125 Preservice requirements

The people who are originally from Europe and some countries from Asia have TB immunizations. It means they can have a positive TB test results here, in the USA. The guests who come to visit their relatives (they can be counted as household members) for a short period of time in the USA can be stuck with this problem. These people can have current negative x rays from their countries. Who will cover their costs for doing the X ray's in the USA if a TB test is positive?

The bulbs. New generation of technology brings new innovations. The industry offers a heavy duty commercial bulb. Soon it's going hard to find shatter resistant bulbs.

Routine care, play, learning, relaxation, and comfort p.11

The home family child cares can enroll children from new born to 12 years old. How many tables should I offer to 12 different age children. Should I change the length of the rectangle table legs from one side and lower from another? In this case the children can learn the meaning of gravitation as all of the plates and cups can roll from up to down. How many tables should I store in my garage as the children grow and I have new enrollments on a regular basis? This a home family child care where the children grow together!!!!!!

p.14 Room arrangement, child related displays,private space, and belongings.

The children should freely move from one interest area to another. Some houses do not have enough space in one room. The children can go to another room. Should we make specific windows for observation in the walls? This would be prohibitively expensive. Is it legal according to the construction code? We are not able to afford additional teachers to cover all the rooms.

170-300-0145 Space and furnishings-Outdoor early learning program space.

Gates to and from the licensed outdoor play area must be equipped with self-closing or self-latching mechanisms. The latch or securing device must be high enough or of a type that children cannot open.

Who will pay for these changes? Should I enroll only children with certain heights and when they reach this height, I ask their parents to leave the child care? We are allowed to have a 4-foot fence. In this case should the fence of a whole outdoor area be changed? If in the case of severe emergency, the fence needs to be opened by the child, it's never happened? What type of self-closing or self-latching mechanism do you offer for a chain link fence with 4 feet height and remember that I can have children up to 12 years old?

I brought traditional male clothes from my dramatic play area. You can't find any buttons. It's a choking hazard! What about teaching children to look nice not like a homeless person and teach them how to button their clothing. It's great that I found pants without buttons. Can you come to work in clothing without buttons? Why should the children dress up like this? It's part of their lives.

Who will pay for the all the expenses that need to be incurred according to somebody's opinion? It includes but not limited to: ADA requirements, remodeling the toilet, changing the fence, creating shade structures, purchasing new dishwashers, hiring an attorney to get legal advice etc? Who covers the cost? Even if we, home family child care providers, have the opportunity to deduct some expenses and even they can be required by new WAC, we can deduct only time/space percentage. Not 100 percent! However, time/space percentage is still part of our expenses. Who of those that created these rules are eager to voluntarily change their houses drastically and live in a business structure instead of a **HOME**! The parents bring their children to the **HOME** family child care where the children feel like they are in a real home not at a business structure. Should we close our child cares during the time we are making all these unnecessary and drastic changes?

We are stuck with the rules. With all required extra paperwork, I will not have enough time to work with children. I should create so many reports and finish unnecessary paperwork. When can I start teaching the children? Can the new WAC's be realistic? Can I stop be frustrated that the new WAC's are pushing out the unique structure of home family child care's out of business?