

The State Advisory Committee on the  
Regulation of Child Care Facilities Minutes  
Thursday, February 12, 2026  
10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
In-person as well as Virtual Meeting  
DSS State Office Rm. 307  
1535 Confederate Ave. Columbia, SC 29201

**Members Present:**

**Person:**

Tammy Compton  
Lisa Corning  
Jessica Sharp (on virtually at 10:00am, then joined in-person at 10:22am)

**Virtual:**

Rachel Ellis  
Bonnye Hughes Peebles  
Althea Benson  
Felicia O'Neal  
BJ Norris Long

**QUORUM met with 8 members present.**

**Members Absent:**

Chasity Lesley, Tami Nix, Edward Brashier, Caroline Mullins, Brandy O'Neill, Reginald Williams

**Staff to Committee:**

Cynthia Lara, Melissa Outen, Rebekah Louis, Karla Juarez

**Guests:**

Nicole Shea, SC Endeavors Program Manager  
Princess Hodges, Assistant General Counsel  
Kena Hall, ABC Quality  
Allyson Boone, Child Care Licensing  
Frankie Peterson, Child Care Licensing Program Manager  
April McDaniel, Child Care Licensing Program Manager  
Tylisha Hickson, Child Care Licensing Program Coordinator  
Kenneth Smith, Child Care Licensing Chief Fire Marshall  
Laura Drew, DSS  
Cathy Kovas, ABC Quality  
Monica Akers-Bellamy, Child Care Resource and Referral  
Martha Strickland, State Director 4-year-old Kindergarten First Steps  
April Winder, Child Care Licensing  
Kayln Tyler, Child Care Licensing

**Meeting called to order**

Tammy Compton called the roll. The quorum was met with 8 members present. Ms. Compton then welcomed all committee members and guests. The meeting was called to order at 10:15 am.

Tammy Compton asked if there was a recommendation to approve the minutes from the December 15th, 2025, meeting, none were voiced. Rachel Ellis voiced corrections needed.

Page 3, 12B was corrected to “provided to children who are being toilet trained”

Page 4, E 4, “at all time when children are present”

Page 5, B 6 “....food preparation staff ~~kitchen preparation staff~~”

It was moved with changes by Lisa Corning to approve, seconded by Rachel Ellis. All in favor, none opposed; so, moved.

Tammy Compton asked if there was a motion to accept the agenda for this meeting, December 15th, 2025. The motion was made by Rachel Ellis, seconded by Althea Benson. All in favor, none opposed; so, moved.

### **Old Business**

No updates from the legislators.

### **New Business**

We continue with the revision in Group childcare homes.

114-510. General Provisions.

B. Applicability

1. No further changes

114-511. Definitions.

No further changes

114-512. Procedures.

No further changes

114-513. Management, Administration, and Staffing.

No further changes.

114-514. Supervision

A. Children shall be directly supervised at all times by qualified staff person.

There was a discussion among the committee members if (2) needed changes.

(2) There shall be an additional teacher/caregiver present when attendance reaches nine children or when four or more of the children are younger than two years old.

Vote to leave as is, made by Lisa Corning seconded by Jessica Sharp,

Lisa Corning – voted yes

Jessica Sharp – voted yes

Felicia O’Neal – voted yes

Bonnye Hughes Peebles – voted yes

BJ Norris Long – voted yes

Rachel Ellis - Abstained

Althea Benson – voted yes

All in favor, it was so moved.

C. Water safety staffing

Committee added the following at the end

(3) Access to swimming pools and wading pools shall be controlled by a device or method that promotes safety of children, including a latch, lock, protective fence, protective cover, or other device or method which enhances a child's safety.

114-515. Health, Sanitation, and Safety.

No further changes.

114-516. Program

No further changes.

114-517. Physical Site.

(9) Doors

(b) The egress doors shall not have child safety locks on them to prevent escape in case of emergency.

114-518. Meal Requirements and Preparation, Serving, Storage and Protection of Food Supplies.

(8) (a) ~~DHEC~~

114-519. Infant and Toddler Care, Care for Mildly Ill Children, and Night Care.

(1) Stimulation and nurturing,

(a) ... was added to "Children shall not remain in restrictive play equipment for more than fifteen (15) minutes at a time."

(3) Feeding. Eating and drinking

(c) Infants shall be held while being bottle fed until they are able to hold their own bottles. Bottles shall not be propped or given in cribs or on mats. If infants are able to hold their own bottle, then they are allowed to be seated upright in a feeding chair.

(5) Sleeping

(j) cribs shall not be placed next to each other so that one child may reach into the other child's crib. (j) was added back

(k).... Was renumbered for "Stacked cribs".....

Vote to approve revisions, all in favor, none opposed: it was so moved.

The next scheduled meeting is for March 23, 2026, at DSS State Office from 10am – 1pm.

The following meeting will be on April 23, 2026, at DSS State Office 10am – 1pm.

The following meeting will be on May 18, 2026, at DSS State Office 10am – 1pm.

Jessica Sharp made a motion to conclude the meeting, seconded by BJ Norris Long. All in favor, none opposed.

Meeting concluded.