Agenda

Final Reading Item: IV. D.

Standards for School-Administered Child Care Programs Health and Safety Rule 0520-12-01-.10

The Background:

T.C.A. §§ 49-1-1101 through 1108 allows the State Board of Education through the Commissioner of Education to set rules for all school-administered childcare programs. Additionally, T.C.A. § 49-6-1601 requires all schools and child care programs to designate a child abuse coordinator. Chapter 781 of the Public Acts of 2022 (PC 781) revised the requirements of child abuse reporting for schools to clarify that if a person suspects child abuse, the individual may report the information directly to the Department of Children Services and law enforcement before notifying the designated child abuse coordinator. This item recommends revisions to the Health and Safety Rule section -.10 to align with PC 781.

State Board staff held a rulemaking hearing on January 6, 2023 to collect public feedback. No comments were submitted.

Minor clerical revisions were made between first and final reading.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Connection to the Master Plan:

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring the Rule aligns with changes in law to ensure the effective implementation of education policy.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.