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## **SENATE BILL NO. 596**

Offered January 17, 2002

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 63.1-202.02, relating to licensed child day centers; qualifications.

## Patron—Hanger

Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services

 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 63.1-202.02 as follows:

§ 63.1-202.02. Program leaders and child-care supervisors at licensed child day centers; qualifications.

A. As used in this section:

"Approved credential" means a competency-based credential awarded to individuals who work with children ages five and under in either a teaching, supervisory or administrative capacity and that is specifically awarded or administered by the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition; the Association of Christian Schools International; the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation; the National Accreditation Council for Early Childhood Professional Personnel and Programs; the International Academy for Private Education; Standards for the American Montessori Society Accreditation; the International Accreditation and Certification of Childhood Educators, Programs and Trainers; the National Accreditation Commission; the Virginia Community College System or other institution of higher learning or its equivalent as determined by the Department.

"Program leader" or "child-care supervisor" means the individual designated to be responsible for the direct supervision of children and for the implementation of the activities and services for a group of

children in a licensed child day center.

B. Program leaders and child-care supervisors shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall have a high school diploma or a general education development (GED) diploma or verification of completion of a home school program approved by the state. In addition, any such program leaders or child-care supervisors may possess an approved credential.