SENATE BILL 223

By Crowe

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 37; Title 39; Title 49; Title 68 and Title 71, relative to the care of children.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The commissioner of human services shall conduct a study using existing resources on staffing levels at child care centers in this state. The purpose of the study is to identify challenges facing child care centers in hiring and maintaining adequate staff; the effects of inflationary pressures on child care staff wages and benefits and the impact of those effects on staff recruitment and retention; and statutory or regulatory changes that may assist child care centers in this state with recruiting qualified staff. The commissioner shall compile a report of study findings and deliver a copy of the report to the chair of the health and welfare committee of the senate, the chair of the health committee of the house of representatives, and the legislative librarian on or before December 31, 2023.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.