

# ASSEMBLY HEALTH COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY, No. 1256

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 19, 1996

The Assembly Health Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 1256.

As amended by the committee, this bill prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center and on the grounds outside the center when children are present, and in all vehicles when used for center-sponsored transportation. The amended bill also prohibits smoking in an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not present unless a fire wall separates the indoor area from any other indoor area in which children are present.

In addition, the amended bill requires the sponsor or other person who has control of the child care center to post a sign in the child care center which is clearly visible to employees and the public stating "Smoking Prohibited" or "Smoking Prohibited When Children Are Present," as appropriate, in lettering not less than one inch in height or which provides the "Smoking Prohibited" international symbol. The letters or symbol are to contrast in color with the sign.

The amended bill provides that the Department of Human Services may deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a child care center's license for failure to comply with the provisions of the bill.

"Smoking" is defined in the bill as the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which contains tobacco.

The bill takes effect on the 60th day after its enactment.

The committee amendments:

- C change the prohibition against smoking in and on the grounds of child care centers to a prohibition against smoking in an indoor area of a child care center and on the grounds outside the center when children are present;
- C stipulate that smoking is prohibited in an indoor area of a child care center even when children are not present unless a fire wall separates the indoor area from any other indoor area in which children are present; and
- C delete references to a monetary penalty for violations of the provisions of the bill and, instead, make such violations grounds for a denial, suspension, revocation or refusal to renew a child care

center's license under the "Child Care Center Licensing Act," P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.).

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 1996-97 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.