

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to child care facility transportation;
 3 providing a short title; amending s. 402.305, F.S.;
 4 requiring certain vehicles, by a specified date, to be
 5 equipped with a reliable alarm system that meets
 6 specified criteria; requiring the Department of
 7 Children and Families to adopt by rule minimum safety
 8 standards for such systems and to maintain a list of
 9 approved alarm manufacturers and alarm systems; making
 10 technical changes; providing an effective date.

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 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 14 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Child Safety
 15 Alarm Act."

16 Section 2. Subsection (10) of section 402.305, Florida
 17 Statutes, is amended to read:

18 402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

19 (10) TRANSPORTATION SAFETY.—

20 (a) Minimum standards shall include all of the following:

21 1. Requirements for child restraints or seat belts in
 22 vehicles used by child care facilities and large family child
 23 care homes to transport children.τ

24 2. Requirements for annual inspections of such ~~the~~
 25 vehicles.τ

26 3. Limitations on the number of children that may be
27 transported in such the vehicles.

28 4. Procedures to ensure that ~~avoid leaving~~ children are
29 not inadvertently left in vehicles when transported by the
30 facility or home, and that systems are in place to ensure
31 accountability for children transported by such facilities and
32 homes ~~the child care facility.~~

33 (b) By January 1, 2022, all vehicles used by child care
34 facilities and large family child care homes to transport
35 children must be equipped with a reliable alarm system approved
36 by the department which prompts the driver to inspect the
37 vehicle for children before exiting the vehicle. The department
38 shall adopt by rule minimum safety standards for such systems
39 and shall maintain a list of approved alarm manufacturers and
40 alarm systems that meet or exceed those standards.

41 (c) A child care facility or large family child care home
42 is not responsible for the safe transport of children when they
43 are being transported by a parent or guardian.

44 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2021.