

CHAPTER 2026-198

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 4033

An act relating to Palm Beach County; amending chapter 59-1698, Laws of Florida, as amended; revising the definitions of the terms “family day care home” and “large family child care home” to specify the maximum number of children allowed to receive care in such homes in the county; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 1 of chapter 59-1698, Laws of Florida, as amended, is amended to read:

Section 1. DEFINITIONS. The following words and phrases shall mean:

1. Children - Persons related to the operator of a facility regulated under this act under 13 years of age, and all other persons under 18 years of age.

2. Family Day Care Home - An occupied residence in which custodial care is rendered to ~~one to six~~ children, inclusive, and for which the owner or operator receives a payment, fee, or grant for any of the children receiving care, whether or not operating for profit, subject to the exemptions contained in Section 9. The number of children receiving care shall never exceed the number of children allowed by the Florida Statutes and by administrative rules of the Florida Department of Children and Families.

3. Large Family Child Care Home - An occupied residence in which custodial care is regularly provided for children, and for which the owner or operator receives a payment, fee, or grant for any of the children receiving care, whether or not operated for profit, and which has at least two full-time child care personnel on the premises during the hours of operation. One of the full-time child care personnel must be the owner or occupant of the residence. A large family child care home must first have operated as a licensed family day care home for 2 years, with an operator who has had a child development associate credential or its equivalent for 1 year, before seeking licensure as a large family child care home. The number of children receiving care shall never exceed the number of children allowed by the Florida Statutes and by administrative rules of the Florida Department of Children and Families ~~A large family child care home shall be allowed to provide care for one of the following groups of children, which shall include those children under 13 years of age who are related to the caregiver:~~

- a. ~~A maximum of eight children from birth to 24 months of age.~~
- b. ~~A maximum of 12 children with no more than four children under 24 months of age.~~

4. Child Care Facility - Any building or shelter in which custodial care is rendered to six or more children, and for which the owner or operator receives a payment, fee, or grant for any of the children receiving care, whether or not operating for profit, or which is held out to the public to be an establishment which regularly provides child custodial services.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 10, 2026.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 10, 2026.