

Dear Parents:

During its 1998 session, the Virginia General Assembly passed House Bill 946, effective July 1, 1998, to help locate missing children.

63.1-196.002 added. Childcare; proof of identity. Requires that all regulated child day programs obtain information from the person enrolling the child regarding the child's previous childcare and school attendance and proof of identity and age. Regulated child day programs include licensed child day centers and family day homes, certified preschool or nursery school programs, voluntarily registered family day homes, and religiously exempt child day programs. Failure to obtain such information within seven business days of initial attendance of the child will trigger the regulated child day program to notify the local law-enforcement agency who will submit an inquiry to the Missing Children Information Clearinghouse if available information warrants and, with the assistance of local department of social services, determine if the child is missing. HB 946; CH. 860

It requires that all schools **“view” one of the following documents** for each child enrolled.

- a certified copy of the child's birth certificate;
- birth registration card;
- notification of birth (hospital, physician or midwife record);
- passport;
- copy of the placement agreement or other proof of the child's identity from a child placing agency (foster care and adoption agencies);
- record from a public school in Virginia;
- certification by a principal or his designee of a public school in the U.S. that a certified copy of the child's birth record was previously presented; or
- copy of the entrustment agreement conferring the temporary legal custody of a child to an independent foster parent.

If the above documentation has not been provided by the 7th day of enrollment, we are required to report to the Department of Social Services the child's name and address.

Any one of the following administrative staff is authorized to sign off on this information: Nimila Banerjee, Rebecca Bell, Darlene Marschak or Grainne Murray.