

Subject Video security cameras in child care centers

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Overview

This bill requires that licensed child care centers install and maintain video security cameras to monitor and record the infants and toddlers in the center by January 1, 2026. The bill also appropriates \$250,000 annually to the commissioner of children, youth, and families for grants to centers to help them comply with this requirement.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Video security cameras in child care centers.
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This section provides that all licensed child care centers in the state must have video security cameras in place to monitor and record infants and toddlers.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines the terms “facility” and “video security camera” for use in the section.

Subd. 2. Requirements for video security cameras. Provides that by January 1, 2026, licensed child care centers must have video security cameras in infant and toddler rooms in the center and covering the outdoor spaces used by infants and toddlers. Lists requirements for the cameras.

Subd. 3. Retention and disposal of recordings. Requires that centers retain the recordings required under this section for 60 calendar days. Provides that centers must dispose of the recordings after 60 calendar days, unless the center has been notified by a law enforcement official that the recording is needed as part of an investigation of a suspected crime committed against a child at the center or the recording is related to an incident involving a child’s welfare that the center is required to report to the commissioner. Requires that the center comply with any additional requirements related to retention and disposal of the recordings issued by the commissioner.

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Subd. 4. Dissemination of recordings. Prohibits a center from selling, sharing, transmitting, or disseminating a recording required under this section, except as authorized under the subdivision.

Subd. 5. Hold harmless. Paragraph (a) provides that the commissioner cannot take a specified licensing action against a license holder for a licensing violation that does not imminently endanger the health or safety of the children in the center if the only evidence for the violation comes from video recordings reviewed under this section. Paragraph (b) modifies this hold harmless provision to account for impending implementation of the weighted risk system.

Subd. 6. Written policy required. Requires that a center maintain a written policy on the center's use of cameras.

Subd. 7. Notices. Provides that a center must notify all parents and legal guardians who apply for placement in or enroll a child in the center about the use of video security cameras in the center. Requires that a center post notification at each entrance accessible to visitors about the use of cameras in the facility.

Subd. 8. Data practices. Provides that video footage collected or maintained by the commissioner under this section is classified as welfare data, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 13.46.

2 **Eligible uses of money.**

Amends § 142D.23, subd. 3. Modifies the eligible uses of child care provider access to technology grants to provide that the grants may be used to cover the costs of video security cameras and related training that are required for compliance with the video security camera requirements established under this act.

3 **Appropriation; child care provider access to technology grants.**

Makes an ongoing annual appropriation of \$250,000 to the commissioner of children, youth, and families for technology grants to licensed child care centers for equipment and training needed to comply with the video security camera requirements established under this act. Provides that the appropriation cannot be used for administrative costs.



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