



# **Child Care Safety Capitol Day Overview**



**Sponsored by:  
Child Care Aware of Virginia  
January 24, 2017**

# Overview

## Child Care Safety Capitol Day!

- What is it?
- Why is Child Care Aware of Virginia doing this?
- What do we hope to achieve?
- How it will work & what to expect!! 😊



# What is Capitol Day?

A chance to come together, split up into teams, and educate legislators in Richmond!

- Packets for each legislator
- Includes one-pagers on major issues (*child care safety generally, background checks, license-exempt care review*)
- Talking points for you (food for thought, use your own words)
- Committee lists
- **WEAR RED & COMFORTABLE WALKING SHOES**



# Why Capitol Day is Important!

## Help Educate & Raise Visibility

- Lots of bills are pending at the General Assembly
- Opportunity to educate about child care safety
- Urge support for child care safety legislation
- Legislative session is short – 45 days in total
  - ✓ Crossover – Feb. 7th (*when each chamber considers the other body's bills*)



# What We Hope to Achieve!

## Laws to Protect the Safety of Children in Child Care!

### Bills we are supporting:

- Support fingerprint background checks
- Support legislation promoting child safety in license-exempt child care programs

More about each on the following slides...



# Fingerprint Background Checks

## Fingerprint background checks:

- Against state & federal records
- To promote safety & comply with fed reqs

## Bills we are supporting:

- **SB897** by Senator Wexton
- **HB1568** by Delegate Orrock

## Current Status:

- **SB897**- approved by Senate Rehabilitation & Social Services Committee, pending in Senate Finance
- **HB1568**- to be considered in the House Health, Welfare and Institutions Committee Jan 24 and referred elsewhere if approved.



3 month-old Cami Lafkin died in a child home. The police found the provider had 5 aliases with a criminal history upon a fingerprint check.

## Resources:

- [Background Check 1 Pager](#)
- [Cami's story](#)

# License-Exempt Care

In 2016, the General Assembly approved legislation requiring a review of VA's 14 categories of license exempt care. In December, a report was issued and recommendations were made.

## Support Safety in License-Exempt Care:

- To comply with the report recommendations

## Bills we are supporting:

- SB1239 by Senator Hanger
- HB2259 by Delegate Filler-Corn

**Current Status:** No Committee action yet.



7 week-old Dylan Cummings died in a religious license exempt program. He was 1 of 10 babies who napped in cribs in a storage closet.

## Resources:

- [License-Exempt Care](#)
- [Dylan's story](#)

# Stop HOA Prohibition on Child Care

Home Owner Associations sometimes prohibit child care programs from operating.

- Allow if comply with state and local law
- GA makes laws, not HOAs

**Bills we are supporting:**

- **SB1096 by Senator Petersen**

**Current Status:**

- No Action scheduled yet.



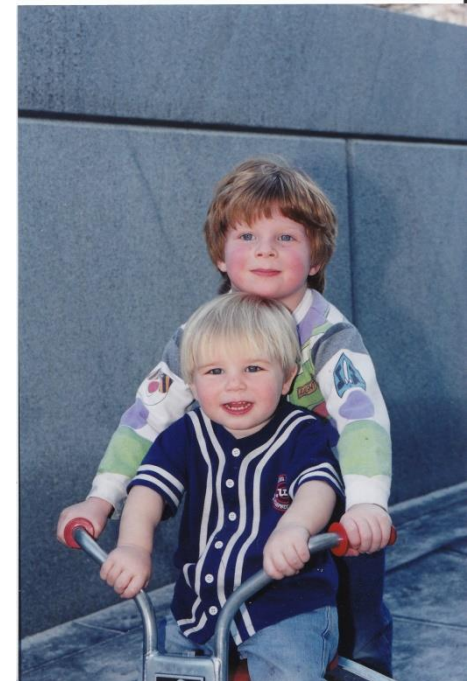


# How Capitol Day Will Work

Meet at 9:00am (or before). We will send you the room # as soon as we have confirmation.  
General Assembly Bldg.

## Child Care Aware of Virginia staff will:

- Hand out packets
- Talking points
- Help organize into teams/regions (so all members get a packet, a visit)
- Ask for a meeting with the member, if not available, ask to speak with staff
- Educate! 😊
- Legislators are divided by region; strategy includes committee targeting



**Advocacy is about education!**  
**Let them know the road to safety begins with our bills!**

# Conclusion



## Child Care Aware of Virginia:

- Supports legislation promoting child care safety.



**Thanks for joining with us! Together, we can make a difference!**

Questions? Ask today or email: [GraceReef2013@gmail.com](mailto:GraceReef2013@gmail.com)