



News From State Representative Dennis Reboletti

For Immediate Release
Sept. 16, 2011

Contact: Rep. Dennis Reboletti
(630) 530-2730

New laws protects kids in DCFS facilities

Addison... State Representative Dennis Reboletti (R-Elmhurst) sponsored legislation to help enhance current laws in protecting children in childcare facilities from sexually dangerous persons.

House Bill 275 amends the Children and Family Services Act to provide that no person may be employed by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) who has been declared a sexually dangerous person.

The original Child Care Act's prohibition on hiring sexually dangerous persons only applied to employees of child care facilities licensed by DCFS and did not include actual DCFS facilities.

A recent arbitration case resulted in the rehiring of an employee with DCFS who had previously been fired as a result of a prior conviction for attempted murder of a 15 year-old girl. The arbitrator determined that the Child Care Act's prohibition on hiring sexually dangerous persons only applied to employees of child care facilities licensed by the DCFS and not the DCFS itself.

Reboletti, a former prosecutor, was approached by DCFS and asked to carry the legislation after having worked on juvenile justice issues with the department.

"I was glad to work with DCFS in this collaborative effort to help enhance the safety of the children in Illinois," Reboletti said.

The bill was signed by Governor Quinn on July 14, 2011 and put into effect immediately.

###