



Welcome

CFSA ANC Presentation





Child and Family Services Agency

CFSA is the District agency responsible for:

Child welfare

Care and placement of the District's foster children



In the District, children can remain in foster care until age 21

Generally, until they

1. Attain Permanency
2. Leave Foster Care
3. Age out (turn 21)



While in care, we provide our older youth with:

Opportunities to develop life skills

Gain access to housing

Supports to make their transition into adulthood



CFSA petitioned before the Zoning Commission to Amend the definition of a Youth Residential Care Home



Youth Residential Care Home

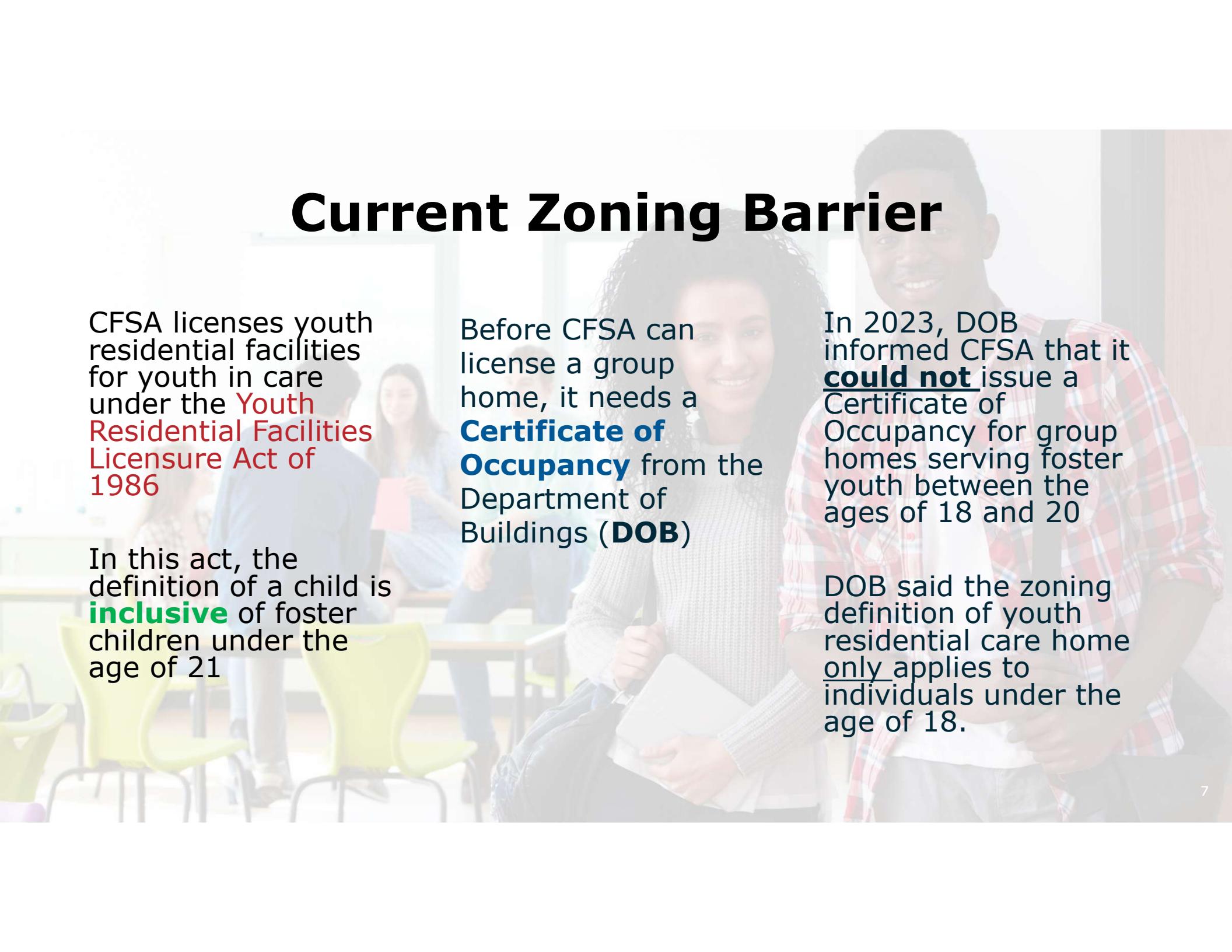
Current Definition

- A facility providing safe, hygienic, sheltered living arrangements for one (1) or more individuals less than 18 years of age, not related by blood, adoption, or marriage to the operator of the facility, who are ambulatory and able to perform the activities of daily living with minimal assistance.

Proposed Definition

- A facility providing safe, hygienic, sheltered living arrangements for one (1) or more children, not related by blood, adoption, or marriage to the operator of the facility, who are ambulatory and able to perform the activities of daily living with minimal assistance. **For purposes of this definition, a child means any individual who is: a. Under 18 years old; or b. 18 to 20 years of age and in the care and custody of the Child and Family Services Agency or its successor agency**

Current Zoning Barrier



CFSA licenses youth residential facilities for youth in care under the **Youth Residential Facilities Licensure Act of 1986**

In this act, the definition of a child is **inclusive** of foster children under the age of 21

Before CFSA can license a group home, it needs a **Certificate of Occupancy** from the Department of Buildings (**DOB**)

In 2023, DOB informed CFSA that it **could not** issue a Certificate of Occupancy for group homes serving foster youth between the ages of 18 and 20

DOB said the zoning definition of youth residential care home only applies to individuals under the age of 18.

Why is CFSA requesting that the Zoning Definition of Youth Residential Care Home be amended?

- Allow CFSA to continue licensing group homes for older youth. This process has been in place for several years.
- It will align the Zoning Regulations with District law which allows for the licensure of group homes for older youth.
- It will allow CFSA to fulfill its statutory duty to provide for the care and well being of foster youth.



CFSA Needs Your Support

**Help Us Help Our Older
Youth in Care**

They ARE The FUTURE!

THANK YOU

