
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1454

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Clements, Cooke, Ballasiotes, Dickerson, Tokuda, Wolfe, D. Sommers, Linville, Kessler, Scott, Blalock, Gombosky and Costa)

Read first time 03/05/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to training for child care providers; amending RCW
2 74.13.090; adding new sections to chapter 74.13 RCW; creating new
3 sections; and providing an effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The intent of this act is to improve the
6 quality of care provided to the children in Washington state by:

7 (1) Establishing uniform training and education requirements in the
8 child care industry for personnel in state-licensed child care
9 facilities;

10 (2) Developing and expanding services and systems to enable child
11 care personnel in licensed child care facilities to receive fundamental
12 training in early childhood and school-age care and education; and

13 (3) Establishing the proper regulatory role of the state in
14 assuring that delivery of child care is done by properly trained
15 individuals and businesses.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature finds that:

17 (1) Licensed child care services are delivered each day to as many
18 as one hundred sixty thousand children between the ages of six weeks

1 and twelve years, and that nearly half of Washington families with
2 children under age six use licensed child care;

3 (2) The enactment of federal welfare reform combined with the
4 increase in the number of mothers with young children in the work force
5 means that there will be an increasing need for additional child care
6 workers;

7 (3) The need for quality child care is especially acute for low-
8 income families;

9 (4) A statistically significant link exists between a child's
10 receipt of high quality care from adults, especially in a child's early
11 years, and avoidance of risk factors associated with social and
12 educational failure;

13 (5) Most child care workers are paid low wages and find training
14 expenses to be a financial burden;

15 (6) Mandatory training and education, provided in diverse settings,
16 will improve the quality of care provided by child care employees as
17 well as help attract and retain more qualified persons in the child
18 care industry; and

19 (7) There are more than ten thousand child care businesses in
20 Washington state, many of which are established without previous
21 business experience. Establishment of a training requirement for child
22 care center directors, program supervisors, and licensed family child-
23 care providers will improve management and personnel practices and
24 enhance their chances of having a successful business that provides a
25 safe and positive environment for children.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 (1)(a) Any child care center director, program supervisor, lead
29 staff person, or family child care licensee must successfully complete
30 and provide documentation for twenty clock hours of department-approved
31 training or two college quarter credits in age-appropriate early
32 childhood and school-age care and education based on rules and
33 guidelines adopted by the department and core competencies developed by
34 the child care coordinating committee. This requirement may be
35 satisfied by training approved by the department that was taken (i)
36 after January 1, 1991, for persons licensed on the effective date of
37 this section, or (ii) within the five years before licensure employment
38 for persons licensed after the effective date of this section.

1 (b) The requirements of this subsection may be fulfilled within the
2 first six months of employment in or new licensure of a child care
3 facility, except that for persons employed at a licensed child care
4 facility or licensed on the effective date of this section, the
5 requirements of this subsection may be fulfilled within the first
6 twelve months after the effective date of this section.

7 (2) For the purposes of this section and section 4 of this act,
8 "clock hours" means actual hours spent in instruction.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 Child care center directors, program supervisors, and family child
12 care licensees must successfully complete and provide documentation of
13 yearly department-approved continuing education of a minimum of ten
14 clock hours of training or one college quarter credit based on rules
15 and guidelines adopted by the department and core competencies
16 developed by the child care coordinating committee. Five clock hours
17 of the continuing education shall be in age-appropriate early childhood
18 and school-age care and education, and five clock hours shall be in
19 program management and operation. Satisfaction of the requirements of
20 this subsection satisfies the requirements of subsection (1) of this
21 section.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW
23 to read as follows:

24 Before working with children, any licensee or person employed at a
25 licensed child care facility who is counted in meeting department-
26 required minimum staff-to-child ratios must successfully complete and
27 provide current documentation for training based on rules and
28 guidelines adopted by the department in: Age-appropriate first aid;
29 age-appropriate cardiopulmonary resuscitation; HIV/AIDS related
30 conditions; and blood borne pathogens.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW
32 to read as follows:

33 (1) The department, in collaboration with the child care
34 coordinating committee and other community stakeholders, shall:

35 (a) Design and administer a system for: (i) The approval of
36 training programs, including a requirement that training programs

1 include an evaluation component; (ii) maintaining a registry for
2 approved training programs; and (iii) maintaining a registry of
3 approved training completed by child care center directors, program
4 supervisors, lead staff persons, and family child care licensees;

5 (b) Develop an implementation strategy enabling child care center
6 directors, program supervisors, lead staff persons, and family child
7 care licensees and administrators to meet the training required under
8 sections 3 through 5 of this act;

9 (c) Develop, publicize, and administer a system for providing,
10 within appropriated funds, employees of child care facilities not
11 covered by section 3 of this act with department-approved training in
12 age-appropriate early childhood and school-age care and education based
13 on core competencies developed by the child care coordinating
14 committee. The department may establish admission priorities in the
15 event that the number of eligible persons exceeds the number of persons
16 the department is able to train within appropriated funds;

17 (d) Ensure that training resources for the early childhood and
18 school-age care and education profession are coordinated and used
19 efficiently;

20 (e) Develop a system for tracking the approved training completed
21 by persons under sections 3 through 5 of this act;

22 (f) Develop and administer a system for the approval of training
23 programs and maintenance of a registry of approved trainings; and

24 (g) Develop and administer a program providing scholarships,
25 grants, loans, or other subsidies to low-income persons for the purpose
26 of receiving approved training.

27 (2) The department may contract with public or private entities to
28 provide services with regard to the maintenance of registries for
29 training programs and child care workers.

30 (3) Training approved by the department may be provided by a
31 community-based entity or an institution of higher education.

32 **Sec. 7.** RCW 74.13.090 and 1995 c 399 s 204 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 (1) There is established a child care coordinating committee to
35 provide coordination and communication between state agencies
36 responsible for child care and early childhood education services. The
37 child care coordinating committee shall be composed of not (~~less than~~
38 ~~seventeen nor~~) more than thirty-three members who shall include:

1 (a) One representative each from:
2 (i) The department of social and health services~~((~~τ~~))~~;
3 (ii) The department of community, trade, and economic
4 development~~((~~τ~~, the office of the superintendent of public instruction,~~
5 ~~and any other agency having responsibility for regulation, provision,~~
6 ~~or funding of child care services in the state))~~);
7 ~~((~~(b) One representative from~~))~~ (iii) The department of labor and
8 industries;
9 ~~((~~(c) One representative from~~))~~ (iv) The department of revenue;
10 ~~((~~(d) One representative from~~))~~ (v) The employment security
11 department;
12 ~~((~~(e) One representative from~~))~~ (vi) The department of personnel;
13 ~~((~~(f) One representative from~~))~~ (vii) The department of health;
14 ~~((~~(g)~~))~~ (viii) The office of the superintendent of public
15 instruction;
16 (ix) The higher education coordinating board;
17 (x) The state board for community and technical colleges; and
18 (xi) Any other agency having responsibility for regulation,
19 provision, or funding of child care services in the state;
20 (b) At least one representative each of:
21 (i) Family home child care providers ~~((~~and one representative of~~))~~;
22 (ii) Center care providers;
23 ~~((~~(h) At least one representative of~~))~~ (iii) Early childhood
24 development experts;
25 ~~((~~(i) At least one representative of~~))~~ (iv) School districts and
26 teachers involved in the provision of child care and preschool
27 programs;
28 ~~((~~(j) At least one~~))~~ (v) Parent education specialists;
29 ~~((~~(k) At least one representative of~~))~~ (vi) Resource and referral
30 programs;
31 ~~((~~(l) One~~))~~ (vii) Pediatric or other health professional;
32 ~~((~~(m) At least one representative of~~))~~ (viii) College or university
33 child care providers;
34 ~~((~~(n) At least one representative of~~))~~ (ix) A citizen group
35 concerned with child care;
36 ~~((~~(o) At least one representative of~~))~~ (x) A labor organization;
37 ~~((~~(p) At least one representative of~~))~~ (xi) A head start - early
38 childhood education assistance program agency;

1 (~~((q) At least one)~~) (xii) Employers who provide(~~((s))~~) child care
2 assistance to employees;

3 (~~((r))~~) (xiii) Parents (~~((of children receiving, or in need of,~~
4 ~~child care, half of whom shall be parents))~~) needing or receiving
5 subsidized child care (~~((and half of whom shall be))~~); and

6 (xiv) Parents needing or receiving child care who are able to pay
7 for child care.

8 The named state agencies shall select their representative to the
9 child care coordinating committee. The (~~((department of social and~~
10 ~~health services))~~) committee shall select the remaining members,
11 considering recommendations from lists submitted by professional
12 associations and other interest groups (~~((until such time as the~~
13 ~~committee adopts a member selection process))~~). The department shall
14 use any federal funds which may become available to accomplish the
15 purposes of RCW 74.13.085 through 74.13.095.

16 The committee shall elect officers from among its membership and
17 shall adopt policies and procedures specifying the lengths of terms,
18 methods for filling vacancies, and other matters necessary to the
19 ongoing functioning of the committee. (~~((The secretary of social and~~
20 ~~health services shall appoint a temporary chair until the committee has~~
21 ~~adopted policies and elected a chair accordingly.))~~) Child care
22 coordinating committee members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses
23 as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

24 (2) To the extent possible within available funds, the child care
25 coordinating committee shall:

26 (a) Serve as an advisory coordinator for all state agencies
27 responsible for early childhood or child care programs for the purpose
28 of improving communication and interagency coordination;

29 (b) Annually review state programs and make recommendations to the
30 agencies and the legislature which will maximize funding and promote
31 furtherance of the policies set forth in RCW 74.13.085. Reports shall
32 be provided to all appropriate committees of the legislature by
33 December 1 of each year. At a minimum the committee shall:

34 (i) Review and propose changes to the child care subsidy system
35 (~~((in its December 1989 report))~~);

36 (ii) Review alternative models for child care service systems, in
37 the context of the policies set forth in RCW 74.13.085, and recommend
38 to the legislature (~~((a new))~~) possible changes to the child care service
39 structure; and

1 (iii) Review ~~((options and make recommendations on the feasibility~~
2 ~~of establishing an allocation for day care facilities when constructing~~
3 ~~state buildings))~~ and recommend models for financing the child care
4 system to promote affordable, accessible, and quality child care;

5 (c) Review the department's ~~((of social and health services))~~
6 administration of the child care expansion grant program described in
7 RCW 74.13.095;

8 (d) Review rules and policies regarding child care facilities and
9 services ~~((for the purpose of identifying those which))~~ to promote
10 quality of care while avoiding rules and policies that may
11 unnecessarily obstruct the availability and affordability of child care
12 in the state;

13 (e) Advise and assist the office of child care policy in
14 implementing ~~((his or her))~~ its duties under RCW 74.13.0903;

15 (f) Perform other functions to improve the quantity and quality of
16 child care in the state, including compliance with existing and future
17 prerequisites for federal funding; and

18 (g) Advise and assist the department of personnel in its
19 responsibility for establishing policies and procedures that provide
20 for the development of quality child care programs for state employees.

21 NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. If specific funding for the purposes of this
22 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
23 June 30, 1997, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
24 void.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. Sections 3 and 4 of this act take effect
26 January 1, 1999.

--- END ---