
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1863

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Cooke, Dickerson, Boldt, McDonald, Hatfield, Gombosky, Wood, Regala, Blalock, Conway, Costa, Pennington, Anderson, Kessler and Ogden)

Read first time 03/03/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to child care; and adding new sections to chapter
2 74.13 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The department shall contract for a study of families currently
7 on temporary assistance for needy families and those utilizing
8 transitional child care in order to measure the impact of welfare-to-
9 work programs on child care demand. The components of the study shall
10 include, but not be limited to:

11 (a) Ages of children needing care;

12 (b) Geographic location of family residence and work sites of those
13 on transitional child care;

14 (c) Presence of any disability or special care need of children of
15 families within this population, including older children with
16 developmental disabilities; and

17 (d) Type of child care accessed.

18 (2) The department shall contract for a study of child care supply.

19 This study shall include, but not be limited to:

1 (a) Actual and potential capacity of existing programs by age of
2 child; hours of operation; days of the week; part-time/full-time slots;
3 proximity to schools and public transportation; and

4 (b) Training and education attained by the child care providers.

5 (3) Based upon the child care demand and supply studies conducted
6 under this section, the department shall develop a plan for targeted
7 recruitment of new licensed child care providers and expansion of
8 existing child care programs where appropriate.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 The department may support ongoing child care consumer education
12 activities so that parents will be better able to make informed choices
13 about appropriate care. The consumer education activities shall
14 include, but not be limited to, outreach to churches, synagogues,
15 nonprofit service providers, businesses, labor organizations, local
16 governments, and other community organizations.

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

19 (1) Existing community-based, nonprofit child care resource and
20 referral programs shall support families moving from welfare to work
21 with appropriate child care assistance.

22 (2) In order to provide all families in Washington state with equal
23 access to child care information, the department shall within existing
24 funds, support nonprofit child care resource and referral services
25 across the state.

26 (3) The department may support a program of enhanced child care
27 resource and referral in order to provide more in-depth client-centered
28 assistance to recipients who have children under six years of age and
29 are unable to find appropriate, affordable, available child care
30 through conventional means.

--- END ---