

5132-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Kohl-Welles, Long, Hargrove, Brown, Patterson, McAuliffe and Costa)

Brief Description: Improving child care services.

SB 5132-S - DIGEST

(AS OF SENATE 2ND READING 2/15/00)

Requires every child day-care center and family day-care provider to prominently post the following items, clearly visible to parents and staff: (1) The license issued under chapter 74.15 RCW;

(2) the notice of any pending enforcement action. The notice must be posted immediately upon receipt. The notice must be posted for at least two weeks or until the violation causing the enforcement action is corrected, whichever is longer;

(3) a notice that inspection reports and any notices of enforcement actions for the previous three years are available from the licensee and the department; and

(4) any other information required by the department.

Requires every child day-care center and family day-care provider to have readily available for review by the department, parents, and the public a copy of each inspection report and notice of enforcement action received by the center or provider from the department for the past three years.

Authorizes the department to place a child day-care center or family day-care provider on nonreferral status or stop placement status if the center or provider has failed or refused to comply with chapter 74.15 RCW or rules adopted under that chapter and an enforcement action has been taken.

Requires the department to compile an annual report summarizing all enforcement actions for the previous fiscal year relating to children in the care of child day-care centers and family day-care providers. The report must be provided to the legislature, the child care coordinating committee, and child care resource and referral agencies by August 1st of each year beginning in 2000.

Directs the department to establish and maintain a toll-free telephone number, and an electronic on-line system for communication of information regarding child day-care centers and family day-care providers. This number shall be available during standard business hours and during nonbusiness hours callers shall be able to leave messages. The number shall be published in reasonably available printed and electronic media. The number shall be easily identifiable as a number for communication of information as set forth in this act.