

**2SHB 1723 - S AMD 325**

By Senators Litzow, Billig

ADOPTED 04/24/2013

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.215  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 The legislature finds that the first five years of a child's life  
6 establish the foundation for educational success. The legislature also  
7 finds that children who have high quality early learning opportunities  
8 from birth through age five are more likely to succeed throughout their  
9 K-12 education and beyond. The legislature further finds that the  
10 benefits of high quality early learning experiences are particularly  
11 significant for low-income parents and children, and provide an  
12 opportunity to narrow the opportunity gap in Washington's K-12  
13 educational system. The legislature understands that early supports  
14 for high-risk parents of young children through home visiting services  
15 show a high return on investment due to significantly improved chances  
16 of better education, health, and life outcomes for children. The  
17 legislature further recognizes that, when parents work or go to school,  
18 high quality and full-day early learning opportunities should be  
19 available and accessible for their children. In order to improve  
20 education outcomes, particularly for low-income children, the  
21 legislature is committed to expanding high quality early learning  
22 opportunities and integrating currently disparate funding streams for  
23 all birth-to-five early learning services including, working  
24 connections child care and the early childhood education and assistance  
25 program, into a single high quality continuum of learning that provides  
26 essential services to low-income families and prepares all enrolled  
27 children for success in school. The legislature therefore intends to  
28 establish the early start program to provide a continuum of high  
29 quality and accountable early learning opportunities for Washington's  
30 parents and children.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.150.220 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 27 s 1 are each  
2 amended to read as follows:

3       (1) In order for students to have the opportunity to develop the  
4 basic education knowledge and skills under RCW 28A.150.210, school  
5 districts must provide instruction of sufficient quantity and quality  
6 and give students the opportunity to complete graduation requirements  
7 that are intended to prepare them for postsecondary education, gainful  
8 employment, and citizenship. The program established under this  
9 section shall be the minimum instructional program of basic education  
10 offered by school districts.

11       (2) Each school district shall make available to students the  
12 following minimum instructional offering each school year:

13       (a) For students enrolled in grades one through twelve, at least a  
14 district-wide annual average of one thousand hours, which shall be  
15 increased to at least one thousand eighty instructional hours for  
16 students enrolled in each of grades seven through twelve and at least  
17 one thousand instructional hours for students in each of grades one  
18 through six according to an implementation schedule adopted by the  
19 legislature, but not before the 2014-15 school year; and

20       (b) For students enrolled in kindergarten, at least four hundred  
21 fifty instructional hours, which shall be increased to at least one  
22 thousand instructional hours according to the implementation schedule  
23 under RCW 28A.150.315.

24       (3) The instructional program of basic education provided by each  
25 school district shall include:

26       (a) Instruction in the essential academic learning requirements  
27 under RCW 28A.655.070;

28       (b) Instruction that provides students the opportunity to complete  
29 twenty-four credits for high school graduation, subject to a phased-in  
30 implementation of the twenty-four credits as established by the  
31 legislature. Course distribution requirements may be established by  
32 the state board of education under RCW 28A.230.090;

33       (c) If the essential academic learning requirements include a  
34 requirement of languages other than English, the requirement may be met  
35 by students receiving instruction in one or more American Indian  
36 languages;

37       (d) Supplemental instruction and services for underachieving

1 students through the learning assistance program under RCW 28A.165.005  
2 through 28A.165.065;

3 (e) Supplemental instruction and services for eligible and enrolled  
4 students whose primary language is other than English through the  
5 transitional bilingual instruction program under RCW 28A.180.010  
6 through 28A.180.080;

7 (f) The opportunity for an appropriate education at public expense  
8 as defined by RCW 28A.155.020 for all eligible students with  
9 disabilities as defined in RCW 28A.155.020; and

10 (g) Programs for highly capable students under RCW 28A.185.010  
11 through 28A.185.030.

12 (4) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to require  
13 individual students to attend school for any particular number of hours  
14 per day or to take any particular courses.

15 (5) Each school district's kindergarten through twelfth grade basic  
16 educational program shall be accessible to all students who are five  
17 years of age, as provided by RCW 28A.225.160, and less than twenty-one  
18 years of age and shall consist of a minimum of one hundred eighty  
19 school days per school year in such grades as are conducted by a school  
20 district, and one hundred eighty half-days of instruction, or  
21 equivalent, in kindergarten, to be increased to a minimum of one  
22 hundred eighty school days per school year according to the  
23 implementation schedule under RCW 28A.150.315. However, schools  
24 administering the Washington kindergarten inventory of developing  
25 skills may use up to three school days at the beginning of the school  
26 year to meet with parents and families as required in the parent  
27 involvement component of the inventory. In addition, effective May 1,  
28 1979, a school district may schedule the last five school days of the  
29 one hundred and eighty day school year for noninstructional purposes in  
30 the case of students who are graduating from high school, including,  
31 but not limited to, the observance of graduation and early release from  
32 school upon the request of a student, and all such students may be  
33 claimed as a full-time equivalent student to the extent they could  
34 otherwise have been so claimed for the purposes of RCW 28A.150.250 and  
35 28A.150.260.

36 (6) Nothing in this section precludes a school district from  
37 enriching the instructional program of basic education, such as

1 offering additional instruction or providing additional services,  
2 programs, or activities that the school district determines to be  
3 appropriate for the education of the school district's students.

4 (7) The state board of education shall adopt rules to implement and  
5 ensure compliance with the program requirements imposed by this  
6 section, RCW 28A.150.250 and 28A.150.260, and such related supplemental  
7 program approval requirements as the state board may establish.

8 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.215.010 and 2011 c 295 s 3 and 2011 c 78 s 1 are  
9 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

10 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
11 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

12 (1) "Agency" means any person, firm, partnership, association,  
13 corporation, or facility that provides child care and early learning  
14 services outside a child's own home and includes the following  
15 irrespective of whether there is compensation to the agency:

16 (a) "Child day care center" means an agency that regularly provides  
17 (~~child day care~~) early childhood education and early learning  
18 services for a group of children for periods of less than twenty-four  
19 hours;

20 (b) "Early learning" includes but is not limited to programs and  
21 services for child care; state, federal, private, and nonprofit  
22 preschool; child care subsidies; child care resource and referral;  
23 parental education and support; and training and professional  
24 development for early learning professionals;

25 (c) "Family day care provider" means a child (~~day~~) care provider  
26 who regularly provides (~~child day care~~) early childhood education and  
27 early learning services for not more than twelve children in the  
28 provider's home in the family living quarters;

29 (d) "Nongovernmental private-public partnership" means an entity  
30 registered as a nonprofit corporation in Washington state with a  
31 primary focus on early learning, school readiness, and parental  
32 support, and an ability to raise a minimum of five million dollars in  
33 contributions;

34 (e) "Service provider" means the entity that operates a community  
35 facility.

36 (2) "Agency" does not include the following:

37 (a) Persons related to the child in the following ways:

1 (i) Any blood relative, including those of half-blood, and  
2 including first cousins, nephews or nieces, and persons of preceding  
3 generations as denoted by prefixes of grand, great, or great-great;  
4 (ii) Stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, and stepsister;  
5 (iii) A person who legally adopts a child or the child's parent as  
6 well as the natural and other legally adopted children of such persons,  
7 and other relatives of the adoptive parents in accordance with state  
8 law; or  
9 (iv) Spouses of any persons named in (a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this  
10 subsection (2)((~~a~~)), even after the marriage is terminated;  
11 (b) Persons who are legal guardians of the child;  
12 (c) Persons who care for a neighbor's or friend's child or  
13 children, with or without compensation, where the person providing care  
14 for periods of less than twenty-four hours does not conduct such  
15 activity on an ongoing, regularly scheduled basis for the purpose of  
16 engaging in business, which includes, but is not limited to,  
17 advertising such care;  
18 (d) Parents on a mutually cooperative basis exchange care of one  
19 another's children;  
20 (e) Nursery schools (~~(or kindergartens)~~) that are engaged primarily  
21 in (~~(educational work)~~) early childhood education with preschool  
22 children and in which no child is enrolled on a regular basis for more  
23 than four hours per day;  
24 (f) Schools, including boarding schools, that are engaged primarily  
25 in education, operate on a definite school year schedule, follow a  
26 stated academic curriculum, accept only school-age children, and do not  
27 accept custody of children;  
28 (g) Seasonal camps of three months' or less duration engaged  
29 primarily in recreational or educational activities;  
30 (h) Facilities providing child care for periods of less than  
31 twenty-four hours when a parent or legal guardian of the child remains  
32 on the premises of the facility for the purpose of participating in:  
33 (i) Activities other than employment; or  
34 (ii) Employment of up to two hours per day when the facility is  
35 operated by a nonprofit entity that also operates a licensed child care  
36 program at the same facility in another location or at another  
37 facility;

1           (i) ~~((Any agency having been in operation in this state ten years~~  
2 ~~before June 8, 1967, and not seeking or accepting moneys or assistance~~  
3 ~~from any state or federal agency, and is supported in part by an~~  
4 ~~endowment or trust fund;~~

5           ~~(j) An agency))~~ A program operated by any unit of local, state, or  
6 federal government or an agency, located within the boundaries of a  
7 federally recognized Indian reservation, licensed by the Indian tribe;

8           ~~((k) An agency))~~ (j) A program located on a federal military  
9 reservation, except where the military authorities request that such  
10 agency be subject to the licensing requirements of this chapter;

11           ~~((l) An agency))~~ (k) A program that offers early learning and  
12 support services, such as parent education, and does not provide child  
13 care services on a regular basis.

14           (3) "Applicant" means a person who requests or seeks employment in  
15 an agency.

16           (4) "Conviction information" means criminal history record  
17 information relating to an incident which has led to a conviction or  
18 other disposition adverse to the applicant.

19           (5) "Department" means the department of early learning.

20           (6) "Director" means the director of the department.

21           (7) "Early achievers" means a program that improves the quality of  
22 early learning programs and supports and rewards providers for their  
23 participation.

24           (8) "Early start" means an integrated high quality continuum of  
25 early learning programs for children birth-to-five years of age.  
26 Components of early start include, but are not limited to, the  
27 following:

28           (a) Home visiting and parent education and support programs;

29           (b) The early achievers program described in RCW 43.215.100;

30           (c) Integrated full-day and part-day high quality early learning  
31 programs; and

32           (d) High quality preschool for children whose family income is at  
33 or below one hundred ten percent of the federal poverty level.

34           (9) "Employer" means a person or business that engages the services  
35 of one or more people, especially for wages or salary to work in an  
36 agency.

37           ~~((8))~~ (10) "Enforcement action" means denial, suspension,

1 revocation, modification, or nonrenewal of a license pursuant to RCW  
2 43.215.300(1) or assessment of civil monetary penalties pursuant to RCW  
3 43.215.300(3).

4 ~~((+9))~~ (11) "Negative action" means a court order, court judgment,  
5 or an adverse action taken by an agency, in any state, federal, tribal,  
6 or foreign jurisdiction, which results in a finding against the  
7 applicant reasonably related to the individual's character,  
8 suitability, and competence to care for or have unsupervised access to  
9 children in child care. This may include, but is not limited to:

- 10 (a) A decision issued by an administrative law judge;
- 11 (b) A final determination, decision, or finding made by an agency  
12 following an investigation;
- 13 (c) An adverse agency action, including termination, revocation, or  
14 denial of a license or certification, or if pending adverse agency  
15 action, the voluntary surrender of a license, certification, or  
16 contract in lieu of the adverse action;
- 17 (d) A revocation, denial, or restriction placed on any professional  
18 license; or
- 19 (e) A final decision of a disciplinary board.

20 ~~((+10))~~ (12) "Nonconviction information" means arrest, founded  
21 allegations of child abuse, or neglect pursuant to chapter 26.44 RCW,  
22 or other negative action adverse to the applicant.

23 ~~((+11))~~ (13) "Probationary license" means a license issued as a  
24 disciplinary measure to an agency that has previously been issued a  
25 full license but is out of compliance with licensing standards.

26 ~~((+12))~~ (14) "Requirement" means any rule, regulation, or standard  
27 of care to be maintained by an agency.

28 (15) "Washington state preschool program" means an education  
29 program for children three-to-five years of age who have not yet  
30 entered kindergarten, such as the early childhood education and  
31 assistance program.

32 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. (1)(a) The chairs of the early learning  
33 committees of the legislature shall convene a technical working group  
34 to:

- 35 (i) Review federal and state early education funding streams;
- 36 (ii) Develop technical options for aligning eligibility  
37 requirements for child care and Washington state preschool;

1 (iii) Develop recommendations for an effective and responsive  
2 eligibility system;

3 (iv) Develop technical options for system designs that blend and  
4 braid disparate federal and state funding streams into a single  
5 program, including the option of applying for waivers from existing  
6 federal requirements; and

7 (v) Present findings and options in a report to the early learning  
8 committees of both houses of the legislature by December 1, 2013.

9 (b) At a minimum, the technical working group must be composed of  
10 financial and policy staff from the department of social and health  
11 services and the department of early learning.

12 (2) The technical working group shall provide monthly progress  
13 reports to the staff of the legislative early learning committees and  
14 the relevant legislative fiscal committees. The legislative staff  
15 shall share the progress reports with the chairs of the legislative  
16 committees. The chairs of the committees may provide additional  
17 guidance to the working group through legislative staff depending on  
18 the information that is shared with the chairs.

19 (3) This section expires December 31, 2013.

20 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.215.020 and 2010 c 233 s 1, 2010 c 232 s 2, and  
21 2010 c 231 s 6 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

22 (1) The department of early learning is created as an executive  
23 branch agency. The department is vested with all powers and duties  
24 transferred to it under this chapter and such other powers and duties  
25 as may be authorized by law.

26 (2) The primary duties of the department are to implement state  
27 early learning policy and to coordinate, consolidate, and integrate  
28 child care and early learning programs in order to administer programs  
29 and funding as efficiently as possible. The department's duties  
30 include, but are not limited to, the following:

31 (a) To support both public and private sectors toward a  
32 comprehensive and collaborative system of early learning that serves  
33 parents, children, and providers and to encourage best practices in  
34 child care and early learning programs;

35 (b) To make early learning resources available to parents and  
36 caregivers;



1 (c) To carry out activities, including providing clear and easily  
2 accessible information about quality and improving the quality of early  
3 learning opportunities for young children, in cooperation with the  
4 nongovernmental private-public partnership;

5 (d) To administer child care and early learning programs;

6 (e) To apply data already collected comparing the following factors  
7 and make biennial recommendations to the legislature regarding working  
8 connections subsidy and state-funded preschool rates and compensation  
9 models that would attract and retain high quality early learning  
10 professionals:

11 (i) State-funded early learning subsidy rates and market rates of  
12 licensed early learning homes and centers;

13 (ii) Compensation of early learning educators in licensed centers  
14 and homes and early learning teachers at state higher education  
15 institutions;

16 (iii) State-funded preschool program compensation rates and  
17 Washington state head start program compensation rates; and

18 (iv) State-funded preschool program compensation to compensation in  
19 similar comprehensive programs in other states.

20 (f) To serve as the state lead agency for Part C of the federal  
21 individuals with disabilities education act (IDEA);

22 ((+f)) (g) To standardize internal financial audits, oversight  
23 visits, performance benchmarks, and licensing criteria, so that  
24 programs can function in an integrated fashion;

25 ((+g)) (h) To support the implementation of the nongovernmental  
26 private-public partnership and cooperate with that partnership in  
27 pursuing its goals including providing data and support necessary for  
28 the successful work of the partnership;

29 ((+h)) (i) To work cooperatively and in coordination with the  
30 early learning council;

31 ((+i)) (j) To collaborate with the K-12 school system at the state  
32 and local levels to ensure appropriate connections and smooth  
33 transitions between early learning and K-12 programs;

34 ((+j)) (k) To develop and adopt rules for administration of the  
35 program of early learning established in RCW 43.215.141;

36 ((+k)) (l) To develop a comprehensive birth-to-three plan to  
37 provide education and support through a continuum of options including,  
38 but not limited to, services such as: Home visiting; quality

1 incentives for infant and toddler child care subsidies; quality  
2 improvements for family home and center-based child care programs  
3 serving infants and toddlers; professional development; early literacy  
4 programs; and informal supports for family, friend, and neighbor  
5 caregivers; and

6 ~~((+1))~~ (m) Upon the development of an early learning information  
7 system, to make available to parents timely inspection and licensing  
8 action information and provider comments through the internet and other  
9 means.

10 (3) When additional funds are appropriated for the specific purpose  
11 of home visiting and parent and caregiver support, the department must  
12 reserve at least eighty percent for home visiting services to be  
13 deposited into the home visiting services account and up to twenty  
14 percent of the new funds for other parent or caregiver support.

15 (4) Home visiting services must include programs that serve  
16 families involved in the child welfare system.

17 (5) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
18 specific purpose, the legislature shall fund the expansion in the  
19 Washington state preschool program pursuant to RCW 43.215.142 in fiscal  
20 year 2014.

21 (6) The department's programs shall be designed in a way that  
22 respects and preserves the ability of parents and legal guardians to  
23 direct the education, development, and upbringing of their children,  
24 and that recognizes and honors cultural and linguistic diversity. The  
25 department shall include parents and legal guardians in the development  
26 of policies and program decisions affecting their children.

27 **Sec. 6.** RCW 43.215.100 and 2007 c 394 s 4 are each amended to read  
28 as follows:

29 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
30 specific purpose, the department, in collaboration with community and  
31 statewide partners, shall implement a voluntary quality rating and  
32 improvement system, called the early achievers program, that is  
33 applicable to licensed or certified child care centers and homes and  
34 early education programs.

35 (2) The purpose of the ~~((voluntary quality rating and improvement~~  
36 system)) early achievers program is: (a) To give parents clear and  
37 easily accessible information about the quality of child care and early

1 education programs, support improvement in early learning programs  
2 throughout the state, increase the readiness of children for school,  
3 and close the disparity in access to quality care; and (b) to establish  
4 a common set of expectations and standards that define, measure, and  
5 improve the quality of early learning settings.

6 (3) Participation in the early achievers program is voluntary for  
7 licensed or certified child care centers and homes.

8 (4) By fiscal year 2015, Washington state preschool programs  
9 receiving state funds must enroll in the early achievers program and  
10 maintain a minimum score level.

11 (5) Before final implementation of the ((voluntary quality rating  
12 and improvement system)) early achievers program, the department shall  
13 report on program progress, as defined within the race to the top  
14 federal grant award, and expenditures to the appropriate policy and  
15 fiscal committees of the legislature. Nothing in this section changes  
16 the department's responsibility to collectively bargain over mandatory  
17 subjects.

18 **Sec. 7.** RCW 43.215.430 and 1994 c 166 s 8 are each amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 The department shall review applications from public or private  
21 nonsectarian organizations for state funding of early childhood  
22 education and assistance programs ((and award funds as determined by  
23 department rules and based on)). The department shall consider local  
24 community needs ((and)), demonstrated capacity ((to provide services)),  
25 and the need to support a mixed delivery system of early learning that  
26 includes alternative models for delivery including licensed centers and  
27 licensed family child care providers when reviewing applications.

28 **Sec. 8.** RCW 43.215.545 and 2006 c 265 s 204 are each amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 The department of early learning shall:

31 (1) Work in conjunction with the statewide child care resource and  
32 referral network as well as local governments, nonprofit organizations,  
33 businesses, and community child care advocates to create local child  
34 care resource and referral organizations. These organizations may  
35 carry out needs assessments, resource development, provider training,  
36 technical assistance, and parent information and training;

1 (2) Actively seek public and private money for distribution as  
2 grants to the statewide child care resource and referral network and to  
3 existing or potential local child care resource and referral  
4 organizations;

5 (3) Adopt rules regarding the application for and distribution of  
6 grants to local child care resource and referral organizations. The  
7 rules shall, at a minimum, require an applicant to submit a plan for  
8 achieving the following objectives:

9 (a) Provide parents with information about child care resources,  
10 including location of services and subsidies;

11 (b) Carry out child care provider recruitment and training  
12 programs, including training under RCW 74.25.040;

13 (c) Offer support services, such as parent and provider seminars,  
14 toy-lending libraries, and substitute banks;

15 (d) Provide information for businesses regarding child care supply  
16 and demand;

17 (e) Advocate for increased public and private sector resources  
18 devoted to child care;

19 (f) Provide technical assistance to employers regarding employee  
20 child care services; and

21 (g) Serve recipients of temporary assistance for needy families and  
22 working parents with incomes at or below household incomes of ~~((one))~~  
23 two hundred ~~((seventy-five))~~ percent of the federal poverty line;

24 (4) Provide staff support and technical assistance to the statewide  
25 child care resource and referral network and local child care resource  
26 and referral organizations;

27 (5) Maintain a statewide child care licensing data bank and work  
28 with department licensors to provide information to local child care  
29 resource and referral organizations about licensed child care providers  
30 in the state;

31 (6) Through the statewide child care resource and referral network  
32 and local resource and referral organizations, compile data about local  
33 child care needs and availability for future planning and development;

34 (7) Coordinate with the statewide child care resource and referral  
35 network and local child care resource and referral organizations for  
36 the provision of training and technical assistance to child care  
37 providers; ~~((and))~~

1 (8) Collect and assemble information regarding the availability of  
2 insurance and of federal and other child care funding to assist state  
3 and local agencies, businesses, and other child care providers in  
4 offering child care services;

5 (9) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
6 specific purpose, beginning September 1, 2013, increase the base rate  
7 for all child care providers by ten percent;

8 (10) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
9 specific purpose, provide tiered subsidy rate enhancements to child  
10 care providers if the provider meets the following requirements:

11 (a) The provider enrolls in quality rating and improvement system  
12 levels 2, 3, 4, or 5;

13 (b) The provider is actively participating in the early achievers  
14 program;

15 (c) The provider continues to advance towards level 5 of the early  
16 achievers program; and

17 (d) The provider must complete level 2 within thirty months or the  
18 reimbursement rate returns the level 1 rate; and

19 (11) Require exempt providers to participate in continuing  
20 education, if adequate funding is available.

21 **Sec. 9.** RCW 43.215.135 and 2012 c 253 s 5 and 2012 c 251 s 1 are  
22 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

23 (1) The department shall establish and implement policies in the  
24 working connections child care program to promote stability and quality  
25 of care for children from low-income households. Policies for the  
26 expenditure of funds constituting the working connections child care  
27 program must be consistent with the outcome measures defined in RCW  
28 74.08A.410 and the standards established in this section intended to  
29 promote continuity of care for children.

30 (2) Beginning in fiscal year 2013, authorizations for the working  
31 connections child care subsidy shall be effective for twelve months  
32 unless a change in circumstances necessitates reauthorization sooner  
33 than twelve months. The twelve-month certification applies only if the  
34 enrollments in the child care subsidy or working connections child care  
35 program are capped.

36 (3) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
37 specific purpose, beginning September 1, 2013, working connections

1 child care providers shall receive a five percent increase in the  
2 subsidy rate for enrolling in level 2 in the early achievers programs.  
3 Providers must complete level 2 and advance to level 3 within thirty  
4 months in order to maintain this increase."

**2SHB 1723** - S AMD

By Senators Litzow, Billig

**ADOPTED 04/24/2013**

5 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "programs;" strike the  
6 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.150.220,  
7 43.215.100, and 43.215.430; reenacting and amending RCW 43.215.010,  
8 43.215.020, and 43.215.135; adding a new section to chapter 43.215 RCW;  
9 creating a new section; and providing an expiration date."

EFFECT: Makes the following changes to the underlying version of the bill adopted by the Senate:

Sets a statutory definition for the Early Start program and notes the components of that program. Leaves a statutory definition for the Early Achievers program unchanged.

The Department of Early Learning is required to produce a biennial report with recommendations to the Legislature regarding Working Connections subsidy and state-funded preschool rates and compensation models that would attract and retain high quality early learning professionals. The amendment lists new factors DEL must consider when creating the report.

A requirement that the Legislature fund the expansion of the Washington state preschool program in fiscal year 2014 is made subject to appropriated funding.

Subject to appropriated funding, the base rate for all child care providers is increased by 10 percent on September 1, 2013.

Subject to appropriated funding, various tiered subsidy rate enhancements are available to child care providers meeting certain requirements in the Early Achievers rating system.

Subject to appropriated funding, Working Connections child care providers will receive a 5 percent increase in the subsidy rate for enrolling level 2 in the Early Achievers program and must maintain the increase.

--- END ---