

ESHB 2519 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

OUT OF ORDER 03/07/2014

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 26.44 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) The family assessment response worker must assess for child  
6 safety and child well-being when collaborating with a family to  
7 determine the need for child care, preschool, or home visiting services  
8 and, as appropriate, the family assessment response worker must refer  
9 children to preschool programs that are enrolled in the early achievers  
10 program and rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 unless:

11 (a) The family lives in an area with no local preschool programs  
12 that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 in the early achievers program;

13 (b) The local preschool programs that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 in  
14 the early achievers program are not able to meet the needs of the  
15 child; or

16 (c) The child is attending a preschool program prior to  
17 participating in family assessment response and the parent or caregiver  
18 does not want the child to change preschool programs.

19 (2) The family assessment response worker may make child care  
20 referrals for nonschool-aged children to licensed child care programs  
21 that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 in the early achievers program  
22 described in RCW 43.215.100 unless:

23 (a) The family lives in an area with no local programs that rate at  
24 level 3, 4, or 5 in the early achievers program;

25 (b) The local child care programs that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5  
26 in the early achievers program are not able to meet the needs of the  
27 child; or

28 (c) The child is attending a child care program prior to  
29 participating in family assessment response and the parent or caregiver  
30 does not want the child to change child care programs.

1 (3) The family assessment response worker shall, when appropriate,  
2 provide referrals to high quality child care and early learning  
3 programs.

4 (4) The family assessment response worker shall, when appropriate,  
5 provide referrals to state and federally subsidized programs such as,  
6 but not limited to, licensed child care programs that receive state  
7 subsidy pursuant to RCW 43.215.135; early childhood education and  
8 assistance programs; head start programs; and early head start  
9 programs.

10 (5) Prior to closing the family assessment response case, the  
11 family assessment response worker must, when appropriate, discuss child  
12 care and early learning services with the child's parent or caregiver.  
13 If the family plans to use child care or early learning services, the  
14 family assessment response worker must work with the family to  
15 facilitate enrollment.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** No later than December 31, 2014, the  
17 department of social and health services and the department of early  
18 learning shall jointly develop recommendations on methods by which the  
19 department of social and health services and the department of early  
20 learning can better partner to ensure children involved in the child  
21 welfare system have access to early learning services and  
22 developmentally appropriate child care services and report these  
23 recommendations to the governor and appropriate legislative committees.

24 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.215.405 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 16 s 4 are each  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
27 this section apply throughout RCW 43.215.400 through (~~43.215.450,~~  
28 ~~43.215.455,~~ ~~43.215.456,~~) 43.215.457(~~(7)~~) and 43.215.900 through  
29 43.215.903.

30 (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW  
31 43.215.420.

32 (2) "Approved programs" means those state-supported education and  
33 special assistance programs which are recognized by the department as  
34 meeting the minimum program rules adopted by the department to qualify  
35 under RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.450 and 43.215.900 through

1 43.215.903 and are designated as eligible for funding by the department  
2 under RCW 43.215.430 and 43.215.440.

3 (3) "Comprehensive" means an assistance program that focuses on the  
4 needs of the child and includes education, health, and family support  
5 services.

6 (4) "Department" means the department of early learning.

7 (5) "Eligible child" means a child not eligible for kindergarten  
8 whose family income is at or below one hundred ten percent of the  
9 federal poverty level, as published annually by the federal department  
10 of health and human services, and includes a child whose family is  
11 eligible for public assistance, and who is not a participant in a  
12 federal or state program providing comprehensive services; children  
13 involved in the child welfare system are eligible; a child who is  
14 eligible for special education due to disability under RCW 28A.155.020;  
15 and may include children who are eligible under rules adopted by the  
16 department if the number of such children equals not more than ten  
17 percent of the total enrollment in the early childhood program.  
18 Priority for enrollment shall be given to children from families with  
19 the lowest income, children (~~in foster care~~) involved in the child  
20 welfare system, or to eligible children from families with multiple  
21 needs. Children in the child welfare system are only included as  
22 eligible within available appropriations and as of the effective date  
23 of this section through fiscal year 2018.

24 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for  
25 parents to:

26 (a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;

27 (b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting  
28 skills;

29 (c) Further their education and training;

30 (d) Increase their ability to use needed services in the community;

31 (e) Increase their self-reliance."

**OUT OF ORDER 03/07/2014**

1        On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "programming;" strike the  
2 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 43.215.405; adding a  
3 new section to chapter 26.44 RCW; and creating a new section."

EFFECT:        Removes certain dates. Allows instead of requires a family assessment response worker to make child care referrals for nonschool-age children to certain licensed child care programs that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5. Requires a family assessment response worker to when appropriate provide referrals to certain child care programs, instead of making every effort. States that prior to closing the family assessment response case, the family assessment response worker must, when appropriate, discuss certain services, instead of requiring the family assessment response worker to discuss certain services. Removes the word successful from the family assessment response workers' obligation to facilitate service enrollment. Adds a new section requiring DSHS and DEL to jointly develop recommendations on methods by which DSHS and DEL can achieve certain goals and requires that these recommendations be reported.

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