
**Early Learning & Human Services
Committee**

HB 2671

Brief Description: Concerning the definition of "agency" for purposes of early learning programs.

Sponsors: Representatives Kagi, Walsh and Stanford; by request of Department of Early Learning.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Modifies the definition of "agency" to exempt school-age programs that operate in schools and meet specified requirements from licensing by the Department of Early Learning.

Hearing Date: 1/26/16

Staff: Ashley Paintner (786-7120).

Background:

The Department of Early Learning (DEL) oversees child care licensing for school-age children, which includes programs that operate before and after school, and during the summer and over holiday breaks. School-age child care currently serves children beginning at age 5 until they reach their twelfth birthday. The DEL serves approximately 11,800 full-time students and 24,500 part-time students through school-age child care programs.

Summary of Bill:

The definition of "agency" is modified to exempt school-age programs from licensing by the DEL if they: (1) are operated by schools, including boarding schools; (2) are engaged primarily in education; (3) operate on a definite school year schedule; (4) follow a stated academic

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curriculum, and (5) accept only school-age children. The requirement that these programs cannot accept custody of children in order to be license exempt is removed.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available. No fiscal impact.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.