
HOUSE BILL 2367

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Reeves, Slatter, Tharinger, Robinson, Kagi, Dolan, Kilduff, Chapman, Doglio, Riccelli, and Stonier

Prefiled 01/03/18. Read first time 01/08/18. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a child care collaborative task
2 force; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The department of commerce shall
5 convene and facilitate a child care collaborative task force to
6 examine the effects of child care affordability and accessibility on
7 the workforce and on businesses. The director of the department of
8 commerce or his or her designee must convene the first meeting of the
9 task force by September 1, 2018.

10 (2) The task force shall develop policies and recommendations to
11 incentivize employer-supported child care and improve child care
12 access and affordability for employees. To accomplish its duties, the
13 task force shall evaluate current available data including, but not
14 limited to:

15 (a) Child care market rate survey reports, including data related
16 to the geographic distribution of licensed child care providers and
17 the demand for, cost, and availability of such providers;

18 (b) Best practices for employer-supported child care; and

19 (c) Research related to the economic and workforce impacts of
20 employee access to high quality, affordable child care.

1 (3) The governor shall appoint the task force chair and shall
2 appoint additional task force members as follows:

3 (a) Seven representatives of private business, including: One
4 representative of a small business; one representative of a medium-
5 sized business; one representative of a large business; two chamber
6 of commerce representatives, one located east of the crest of the
7 Cascade mountains and one located west of the crest of the Cascade
8 mountains; and two representatives of economic development
9 organizations, one located east of the crest of the Cascade mountains
10 and one located west of the crest of the Cascade mountains;

11 (b) Five representatives from the child care industry. At least
12 one of the child care industry representatives must be a provider
13 from a rural community. The five representatives must include: One
14 licensed child day care center provider; one licensed family day care
15 provider; one representative of family, friend, and neighbor child
16 care providers; one representative from a union representing child
17 care providers; and one representative from the statewide child care
18 resource and referral network;

19 (c) Four representatives of advocacy organizations representing
20 parents, early learning, foster care youth, and child care interests;

21 (d) One subject matter expert familiar with the transportation
22 accessibility needs of parents who commute using public transit;

23 (e) One representative of a nonprofit organization providing
24 training and professional development for family day care providers
25 and family, friend, and neighbor child care providers;

26 (f) One representative of an organization representing the
27 interests of licensed child day care centers; and

28 (g) One representative of a private philanthropic organization.

29 (4) One representative from each of the following agencies shall
30 serve as a member of the task force and provide data and information
31 to the task force upon request:

32 (a) The department of commerce;

33 (b) The department of children, youth, and families;

34 (c) The employment security department;

35 (d) The department of revenue;

36 (e) The department of social and health services;

37 (f) The governor's office of Indian affairs; and

38 (g) The office of the governor.

39 (5) The president of the senate shall appoint one member to the
40 task force from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

1 (6) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one
2 member to the task force from each of the two largest caucuses in the
3 house of representatives.

4 (7) The director of commerce or his or her designee may invite
5 additional representatives to participate as nonvoting members of the
6 task force.

7 (8) The task force vice chair must be elected by a majority vote
8 of task force members.

9 (9) Staff support for the task force must be provided by the
10 department of commerce.

11 (10) Legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed
12 for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
13 members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with
14 chapter 43.03 RCW.

15 (11) In accordance with RCW 43.01.036 the task force shall report
16 its findings and recommendations to the governor and the appropriate
17 committees of the legislature by November 1, 2019. The report must
18 include findings related to:

19 (a) Options for the state to incentivize the provision of:

20 (i) Employer-supported child care by public and private
21 employers; and

22 (ii) Back-up child care by public and private employers;

23 (b) Opportunities for streamlining permitting and licensing
24 requirements to facilitate the development and construction of child
25 care facilities;

26 (c) Potential tax incentives for private businesses providing
27 employer-supported child care;

28 (d) A model policy for the establishment of a "bring your infant
29 to work" program for public and private sector employees; and

30 (e) Policy recommendations that address racial, ethnic, and
31 geographic disparity and disproportionality in service delivery and
32 accessibility to services for families.

33 (12) For the purposes of this section:

34 (a) "Back-up child care" means a temporary child care arrangement
35 that is provided when normal child care arrangements are unavailable.

36 (b) "Employer-supported child care" includes:

37 (i) A licensed child care center operated at or near the
38 workplace by an employer for the benefit of employees; or

39 (ii) Financial assistance provided by an employer for licensed
40 child care expenses incurred by an employee.

1 (13) This section expires December 30, 2019.

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