
HOUSE BILL 2670

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Kilduff, Muri, Stonier, Stambaugh, Sawyer, Kagi, Sells, Reeves, Ormsby, Jenkins, Santos, Bergquist, Doglio, McBride, Ortiz-Self, Stanford, and Pollet

Read first time 01/12/18. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing services and supports to pregnant
2 and parenting minors to improve educational attainment; adding a new
3 section to chapter 74.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.216
4 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.04 RCW; adding a new section
5 to chapter 28A.300 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.160 RCW;
6 creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the graduation,
9 reality, and dual-role skills program was reported by the Washington
10 state institute for public policy to deliver a benefit-cost ratio of
11 three dollars for every program dollar spent and that graduation,
12 reality, and dual-role skills program students have a ten percent
13 greater high school graduation rate when compared to pregnant and
14 parenting students not in a graduation, reality, and dual-role skills
15 program. The legislature further finds that the United States census
16 reported for 2016 that nearly twenty-five percent of people ages
17 twenty-five and older without a high school diploma lived in poverty
18 and that intergenerational poverty can affect the lives of future
19 generations unless the cycle of poverty is interrupted with effective
20 services. Therefore, the legislature intends to improve family unity,
21 student outcomes, and the development of our future workforce by

1 removing programmatic barriers and promoting coordination among
2 programs that deliver services to pregnant and parenting minors.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.12
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) An applicant who is under eighteen years of age and is
6 pregnant or has a dependent child or children in the applicant's care
7 is eligible to receive temporary assistance for needy families
8 regardless of the applicant's income or available resources.

9 (2) In order to be eligible, the minor parent must be actively
10 progressing towards meeting the education requirements established
11 under RCW 74.08A.380 and be otherwise qualified to receive assistance
12 under this title.

13 (3) If a minor parent lives with a parent or guardian who is not
14 receiving assistance under this title, the income and resources of
15 the parent or guardian of the applicant may not be considered for the
16 purposes of determining the minor parent's eligibility for
17 assistance.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.216
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 A parent who is under eighteen years of age and is attending high
21 school or is working toward completing a general educational
22 development certificate is eligible to receive working connections
23 child care. When determining consumer eligibility and copayment under
24 this section, the department of social and health services:

25 (1) Must, within existing resources, authorize full-day
26 subsidized child care during the school year in cases where the
27 consumer is participating in one hundred ten hours of approved
28 activities per month;

29 (2) May not consider the employment status of either the consumer
30 or the other biological parent; and

31 (3) May not require a copayment that is greater than the minimum
32 copayment established by the department for the program in rule.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 74.04
34 RCW to read as follows:

35 There is established an assistance unit for minor parents within
36 the department for the purpose of providing assistance and support to
37 minor parents. The unit shall:

1 (1) Assist parents under the age of eighteen with accessing
2 public services for which they may be eligible including, but not
3 limited to: The special supplemental nutrition program for women,
4 infants, and children; medicaid; home visiting; temporary assistance
5 for needy families; and working connections child care;

6 (2) Develop coordinated case management plans, to the extent
7 possible, in partnership with other state and local agencies serving
8 minor parents who are or are likely to be receiving services from
9 multiple public programs;

10 (3) Provide case management and support for minors who are
11 parents; and

12 (4) Consult at least annually with the office of the
13 superintendent of public instruction graduation, reality, and dual-
14 role skills program staff to determine program effectiveness and
15 identify service delivery improvements.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this
19 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public
20 instruction shall establish a competitive application process to
21 provide grants to school districts for the establishment of a
22 graduation, reality, and dual-role skills program.

23 (2) Grants awarded under this section must be used for start-up
24 costs associated with opening a child care center located on school
25 premises; graduation, reality, and dual-role skills program staff
26 salaries; support group facilitation; mentoring; or other expenses
27 associated with the operation of a graduation, reality, and dual-role
28 skills program.

29 (3) No later than December 1, 2025, the Washington state
30 institute for public policy must evaluate the effectiveness of the
31 grants awarded under this section. The evaluation must include a
32 cost-benefit analysis and an assessment of student outcomes for
33 graduation, reality, and dual-role skills program participants at
34 five years after participation. Outcomes evaluated must include data
35 related to participants' educational attainment, employment, and
36 participation in public assistance programs. The institute shall
37 report these outcomes to the governor and appropriate committees of
38 the legislature no later than December 1, 2025.

39 (4) This section expires December 30, 2025.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.160
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) By July 1, 2020, at the request of an eligible student, a
4 school district:

5 (a) May allow the student to transport his or her infant on a
6 school bus or other student transportation vehicle provided by the
7 district. The infant must be transported in a rear-facing child
8 restraint system as defined in the federal motor vehicle safety
9 standards in 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.213;

10 (b) Must, in cases where a district denies a student's request to
11 transport his or her infant by school bus, authorize other
12 arrangements for individual transportation in accordance with RCW
13 28A.160.030.

14 (2) For the purposes of this section, "eligible student" has the
15 same meaning as set forth in RCW 28A.160.160.

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