
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5901

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senator Braun)

READ FIRST TIME 03/23/17.

1 AN ACT Relating to eligibility for the early childhood education
2 and assistance program; and amending RCW 43.215.456.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.215.456 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 7 s 12 are each
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (1) Funding for the program of early learning established under
7 this chapter must be appropriated to the department. Allocations must
8 be made on the basis of eligible children enrolled with eligible
9 providers.

10 (2) The program shall be implemented in phases, so that full
11 implementation is achieved in the ((2020-21)) 2022-23 school year.

12 (3) For the initial phase of the early learning program in school
13 years 2011-12 and 2012-13, the legislature shall appropriate funding
14 to the department for implementation of the program in an amount not
15 less than the 2009-2011 enacted budget for the early childhood
16 education and assistance program. The appropriation shall be
17 sufficient to fund an equivalent number of slots as funded in the
18 2009-2011 enacted budget.

19 (4) Beginning in the 2013-14 school year, additional funding for
20 the program must be phased in beginning in school districts providing
21 all-day kindergarten programs under RCW 28A.150.315.

1 (5) Funding shall continue to be phased in each year until full
2 statewide implementation of the early learning program is achieved in
3 the ((~~2020-21~~)) 2022-23 school year, at which time any eligible child
4 shall be entitled to be enrolled in the program.

5 (6) School districts and approved community-based early learning
6 providers may contract with the department to provide services under
7 the program. The department shall collaborate with school districts,
8 community-based providers, and educational service districts to
9 promote an adequate supply of approved providers.

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