

E2SSB 5237 - H AMD TO CYF COMM AMD (H-1378.1/21) **646**

By Representative Eslick

WITHDRAWN 04/08/2021

1 On page 29, after line 20 of the striking amendment, insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 315. SUPPORT FOR CHILD CARE DESERTS. (1)
4 Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific
5 purpose, the department shall establish an incentive program to
6 identify, recruit, and support former, prospective, and existing child
7 care providers located in child care deserts to return, enter, or
8 expand child care in those communities. Incentive program supports for
9 providers in child care deserts must include:

10 (a) Providing grants to providers, who are currently licensed or
11 are in the process of becoming licensed. Grants must be used for one-
12 time costs associated with the opening or expansion of a child care
13 site, including program costs; and

14 (b) Providing extra time to meet certain licensing requirements
15 and specific early achievers program ratings for licensed or certified
16 child care centers and homes serving nonschool-age children including
17 those receiving state subsidy payments.

18 (2) The department shall establish procedures to implement the
19 incentive program established in subsection (1) of this section.
20 When developing these procedures, the department shall:

21 (a) Consider the information included in the child care industry
22 assessment published by the child care collaborative task force
23 pursuant to RCW 43.330.529 in order to identify and target child
24 care deserts and take advantage of any findings, recommendations, or
25 administrative practices; and

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1 (b) Consult with stakeholders, including organizations
2 representing child care providers and families located in child care
3 deserts.

4 (3) Beginning December 31, 2021, and annually thereafter, the
5 department shall submit a report to the governor and the appropriate
6 committees of the legislature describing the effectiveness of the
7 child care incentive program in addressing the need for more
8 providers in areas identified as child care deserts. The first
9 report must include program objectives and performance measures for
10 evaluating progress toward achieving the program objectives,
11 including a plan for implementing program supports to increase the
12 number of child care providers in child care deserts. Subsequent
13 annual reports must include a description of the supports
14 implemented and the number of children and families served.

15 (4) The department must use the child care industry insights
16 dashboard from the child care industry assessment as a tool to
17 identify areas in which additional investments are needed in order
18 to expand existing child care capacity to meet family demand and
19 reduce child care deserts.

20 (5) This section expires June 30, 2031."
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22 On page 52, line 23 of the striking amendment, after "311
23 through" strike "314" and insert "315"

EFFECT: Requires the Department of Children, Youth, and Families
to establish a child care incentive program to identify, recruit,
and support former, prospective, and existing child care providers
located in child care deserts. Requires the department to report
annually on the effectiveness of the program.

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