

2SSB 5237 - S AMD 423

By Senator Short

NOT ADOPTED 03/06/2021

1 On page 27, after line 7, insert the following:

2 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 313.** The legislature recognizes that certain
3 areas of the state lack access to licensed child care and early
4 learning programs. The legislature acknowledges that family home
5 licensees must provide care in their private residences. The
6 legislature intends to explore a new family home hub model that would
7 allow family home licensees to operate child care and early learning
8 programs in homes where the licensee does not reside. The legislature
9 intends to establish a pilot project to determine if this new model
10 can increase access to licensed child care and early learning
11 programs.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 314.** (1) The department shall establish a
13 family home hub pilot project. The purpose of the pilot project is to
14 allow family home licensees to operate child care and early learning
15 programs in private residences where the licensee does not reside.
16 The pilot project must commence beginning August 31, 2021, and
17 conclude June 30, 2026.

18 (2) The department must select up to 10 family home licensees who
19 live east of the crest of the Cascade mountains and up to 10 family
20 home licensees who live west of the crest of the Cascade mountains to
21 participate in the pilot project. The department must select family
22 home licensees who live in:

23 (a) Areas where there are few or limited licensed child care and
24 early learning programs; or

25 (b) Areas of need where child care and early learning programs
26 are at or near full capacity, and where access may be restricted by
27 one or more enrollment waitlists.

28 (3) The department must adopt rules to implement the pilot
29 project and may waive or adapt licensing requirements when necessary
30 to allow for the family home hub except for staff-to-child ratio
31 requirements. The rules must:

1 (a) Require a supervisor at each private residence who meets
2 training and supervision requirements established by the department;
3 and

4 (b) Allow but not require the family home licensee or supervisor
5 to live at the private residence or in a dwelling unit located on the
6 same lot as the private residence that is the site of the licensed
7 program.

8 (4)(a) By November 30, 2025, the department must report to the
9 appropriate committees of the legislature on findings from the pilot
10 project, including:

- 11 (i) Potential costs of implementing family home hubs;
 - 12 (ii) Impact on new license applications and license capacity; and
 - 13 (iii) Impact on access to child care and early learning programs;
- 14 and

15 (b) The department must recommend whether the family home hub
16 pilot project should be modified or expanded.

17 (5) This section expires August 1, 2026."

18 On page 31, line 22, after "quarters" insert ", except as
19 provided in section 314 of this act"

20 On page 51, line 32, after "312," insert "314,"

EFFECT: (1) Directs the Department of Children, Youth, and Families to establish a five-year family home hub pilot project to allow family home licensees to operate child care and early learning programs in private residences where the licensee does not reside.

(2) Amends the definition of "family home provider," so that care does not need to be provided in the family living quarters for the pilot project.

(3) Expires the pilot project on August 1, 2026.

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