
HOUSE BILL 2082

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Representatives Klippert, Sutherland, and Graham

Read first time 01/24/22. Referred to Committee on Children, Youth & Families.

1 AN ACT Relating to child care access; creating new sections; and
2 providing expiration dates.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The department of children, youth, and
5 families shall conduct competitive procurements as necessary in
6 accordance with chapter 39.26 RCW to select a private entity to
7 conduct a statewide assessment of child care deserts, with a focus on
8 families of children with intellectual and developmental
9 disabilities, in order to better understand the availability,
10 affordability, and accessibility of child care that meets the needs
11 of all families, including those with children with intellectual and
12 developmental disabilities. The statewide assessment required under
13 this section must be conducted in partnership with a statewide
14 organization representing the interests of children and adults with
15 intellectual and developmental disabilities.

16 (2) The statewide assessment of child care deserts required under
17 this section must be submitted to the appropriate committees of the
18 legislature and the governor in compliance with RCW 43.01.036 by
19 October 1, 2022.

20 (3) The statewide assessment of child care deserts required under
21 this section must, at a minimum:

- 1 (a) Identify cities, counties, areas within cities or counties,
2 and other regions of the state with:
- 3 (i) The highest need related to child care availability,
4 accessibility, and affordability; and
- 5 (ii) The highest need related to child care availability,
6 accessibility, and affordability for children with intellectual and
7 developmental disabilities;
- 8 (b) Identify the statewide need related to child care
9 availability, accessibility, and affordability;
- 10 (c) Identify the statewide need related to child care
11 availability, accessibility, and affordability for families of
12 children with intellectual and developmental disabilities;
- 13 (d) Describe the capacity of the current child care providers in
14 meeting the demand of families;
- 15 (e) Describe the capacity of the current child care providers in
16 meeting the demand of families of children with intellectual and
17 developmental disabilities;
- 18 (f) Include survey results from families with children across the
19 state with intellectual and developmental disabilities describing
20 their child care needs and the availability, affordability, and
21 accessibility of those child care needs; and
- 22 (g) Provide recommendations for assisting families with children
23 across the state with intellectual and developmental disabilities in
24 accessing child care. The recommendations required under this
25 subsection must include discussion of creating a child care liaison
26 housed within an organization outside state government, such as a
27 statewide organization representing the interests of children and
28 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities or the
29 statewide child care resource and referral network. The
30 recommendations required under this section may include a discussion
31 of methods used by other states to assist families in accessing child
32 care for children with intellectual or developmental disabilities.
- 33 (4) This section expires June 30, 2023.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The office of the developmental
35 disabilities ombuds shall, in coordination with the department of
36 children, youth, and families, review the statewide assessment of
37 child care deserts required in section 1 of this act and make
38 recommendations to increase the availability, affordability, and

1 accessibility of child care for families of children with
2 intellectual and developmental disabilities.

3 (2) By December 1, 2022, and in compliance with RCW 43.01.036,
4 the ombuds shall submit a report based on the review required under
5 subsection (1) of this section to the appropriate committees of the
6 legislature and the governor.

7 (3) This section expires June 30, 2023.

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