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**SENATE BILL 5509**

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**State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Alvarado, Salomon, Bateman, Conway, Nobles, Saldaña, Trudeau, Valdez, and C. Wilson

AN ACT Relating to the siting of child care centers; adding a new section to chapter 35.21 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 35A.21 RCW.

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

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 35.21 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Cities and towns must allow child care centers, and the conversion of existing buildings for use as child care centers, as an outright permitted use in all zones except industrial zones.

(2) Cities may impose reasonable restrictions on the permit, including pickup and drop-off areas.

(3) Cities must adopt or amend by ordinance, and incorporate into their development regulations, zoning regulations, and other official controls, the requirements in this section no later than one year after their next periodic comprehensive plan update required under RCW 36.70A.130, or within one year of the effective date of this section if not a city or town planning under chapter 36.70A RCW.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 35A.21 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Code cities and towns must allow child care centers, and the conversion of existing buildings for use as child care centers, as an outright permitted use in all zones except industrial zones.

(2) Code cities may impose reasonable restrictions on the permit, including pickup and drop-off areas.

(3) Code cities must adopt or amend by ordinance, and incorporate into their development regulations, zoning regulations, and other official controls, the requirements in this section no later than one year after their next periodic comprehensive plan update required under RCW 36.70A.130, or within one year of the effective date of this section if not a city or town planning under chapter 36.70A RCW.

**--- END ---**