
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5865

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Kauffman, Roach, McAuliffe, Hobbs, Kline, and Shin)

READ FIRST TIME 03/02/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to a report on early learning services for low-
2 income families; creating new sections; and repealing RCW 43.215.125.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The joint legislative audit and review
5 committee shall review and compare the state early childhood education
6 and assistance program and the federal head start program. At a
7 minimum, the joint legislative audit and review committee shall provide
8 comparative data on the following:

9 (a) Eligibility criteria, funding levels that reflect the amount
10 spent per child per hours of service, delivery methods, service hour
11 configurations, facilities, transportation requirements, performance
12 standards, professional development and training, and technical
13 assistance; and

14 (b) Educational outcomes, kindergarten readiness, and processes for
15 ensuring continuous improvement in program quality.

16 (2) Beginning with the work completed by the Washington state
17 institute for public policy under chapter 25, Laws of 2003 1st sp.
18 sess., the joint legislative audit and review committee shall evaluate
19 the latest research and information on early childhood development and

1 identify any new innovations that may further improve the quality of
2 state-supported early learning programs, resulting in improved outcomes
3 for low-income children and their families.

4 (3) The joint legislative audit and review committee shall seek
5 training or technical assistance from the appropriate regional office
6 of federal head start in order to maximize nonstate resources. The
7 joint legislative audit and review committee also shall solicit input
8 from:

9 (a) State early childhood education and assistance program
10 providers on Indian reservations and across the state, including
11 providers who operate solely state-supported programs;

12 (b) Tribal governments operating head start programs and early head
13 start programs in the state;

14 (c) Providers operating migrant and seasonal head start programs in
15 the state; and

16 (d) The early learning advisory council.

17 (4) The joint legislative audit and review committee shall deliver
18 its final report to the appropriate committees of the legislature by
19 July 1, 2010.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.215.125 (Washington head start
21 program proposal--Report) and 2008 c 164 s 2 are each repealed.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
23 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
24 June 30, 2009, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
25 void.

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