

E2SSB 5237 - H AMD TO CYF COMM AMD (H-1378.1/21) **652**

By Representative Senn

ADOPTED 04/08/2021

1 On page 3, line 24 of the striking amendment, after "(9)" insert
2 "The legislature recognizes that the federal government has provided
3 substantial additional funding through the coronavirus response and
4 relief supplemental appropriations act, P.L. 116-260, division M.,
5 and the American rescue plan act of 2021. The purpose of the
6 additional federal funding is to ensure access to affordable child
7 care and stabilize and support child care providers affected by
8 COVID-19. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to use the
9 additional federal funding to supplement state funding in order to
10 accelerate these investments.

11 (10)"

12

13 Renumber the remaining subsections consecutively and correct any
14 internal references accordingly.

15

16 On page 14, beginning on line 22 of the striking amendment,
17 after "Beginning" strike all material through "younger" on line 27
18 and insert "October 1, 2021, a family is eligible for working
19 connections child care when the household's annual income is at or
20 below 60 percent of the state median income adjusted for family size
21 and:

22 (a) The child receiving care is: (i) Less than 13 years of age;
23 or (ii) less than 19 years of age"

24

25 On page 14, beginning on line 31 of the striking amendment,
26 after "2025," strike all material through "younger" on line 37 and
27 insert "a family is eligible for working connections child care when

1 the household's annual income is above 60 percent and at or below 75
2 percent of the state median income adjusted for family size and:

3 (a) The child receiving care is (i) Less than 13 years of age;
4 or (ii) less than 19 years of age"

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6 On page 15, line 3 of the striking amendment, after "(4)"
7 insert "Beginning July 1, 2027, and subject to the availability of
8 amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, a family is eligible
9 for working connections child care when the household's annual
10 income is above 75 percent of the state median income and is at or
11 below 100 percent of the state median income adjusted for family
12 size and:

13 (a) The child receiving care is: (i) Less than 13 years of age;
14 or (ii) less than 19 years of age and has a verified special need
15 according to department rule or is under court supervision; and

16 (b) The household meets all other program eligibility
17 requirements.

18 (5)"

19
20 Renumber the remaining subsections consecutively and correct
21 any internal references accordingly.

22
23 On page 15, line 6 of the striking amendment, after "July 1,"
24 strike "2021" and insert "2023"

25
26 On page 15, line 8 of the striking amendment, after "July 1,"
27 strike "2021" and insert "2023"

28
29 On page 16, line 25 of the striking amendment, after "~~2020~~)")"
30 strike "July 1" and insert "August 1"

31
32 On page 21, line 19 of the striking amendment, after
33 "available" insert "and subject to the availability of amounts
34 appropriated for this specific purpose"

1
2 On page 38, line 4 of the striking amendment, after
3 "~~((twelve))~~" strike "13" and insert "12"

4
5 On page 51, after line 39 of the striking amendment, insert the
6 following:

7 "**Sec. 508.** RCW 43.216.136 and 2020 c 279 s 2 are each amended
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) The department shall establish and implement policies in
10 the working connections child care program to promote stability and
11 quality of care for children from low-income households. These
12 policies shall focus on supporting school readiness for young
13 learners. Policies for the expenditure of funds constituting the
14 working connections child care program must be consistent with the
15 outcome measures established by the department and the standards
16 established in this section intended to promote stability, quality,
17 and continuity of early care and education programming.

18 (2) As recommended by P.L. 113-186, authorizations for the
19 working connections child care subsidy are effective for twelve
20 months beginning July 1, 2016(~~(, unless an earlier date is provided~~
21 ~~in the omnibus appropriations act)~~).

22 (a) A household's 12-month authorization must begin on the date
23 that child care is expected to begin.

24 (b) If a newly eligible household does not begin care within 12
25 months of being determined eligible by the department, the household
26 must reapply in order to qualify for subsidy.

27 (3)(a) The department shall establish and implement policies in
28 the working connections child care program to allow eligibility for
29 families with children who:

30 (i) In the last six months have:

31 (A) Received child protective services as defined and used by
32 chapters 26.44 and 74.13 RCW;

33 (B) Received child welfare services as defined and used by
34 chapter 74.13 RCW; or

1 (C) Received services through a family assessment response as
2 defined and used by chapter 26.44 RCW;

3 (ii) Have been referred for child care as part of the family's
4 case management as defined by RCW 74.13.020; and

5 (iii) Are residing with a biological parent or guardian.

6 (b) (~~Children~~) Families who are eligible for working
7 connections child care pursuant to this subsection do not have to
8 keep receiving services identified in this subsection to maintain
9 twelve-month authorization.

10 (4)(a) Beginning August 1, 2020, the department may not require
11 an applicant or consumer to meet work requirements as a condition of
12 receiving working connections child care benefits when the applicant
13 or consumer is:

14 (i) A single parent;

15 (ii) A full-time student of a community, technical, or tribal
16 college; and

17 (iii) Pursuing vocational education that leads to a degree or
18 certificate in a specific occupation, not to result in a bachelor's
19 or advanced degree.

20 (b) An applicant or consumer is a full-time student for the
21 purposes of this subsection if he or she meets the college's
22 definition of a full-time student. The student must maintain passing
23 grades and be in good standing pursuant to college attendance
24 requirements.

25 (c) Nothing in this subsection is intended to change how
26 applicants or consumers are prioritized when applicants or consumers
27 are placed on a waitlist for working connections child care benefits.

28 (5)(a) The department must extend the homeless grace period, as
29 adopted in department rule as of January 1, 2020, from a four-month
30 grace period to a twelve-month grace period.

31 (b) For the purposes of this section, "homeless" means being
32 without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as
33 described in the federal McKinney-Vento homeless assistance act (42
34 U.S.C. Sec. 11434a) as it existed on January 1, 2020.

1 (6) For purposes of this section, "authorization" means a
2 transaction created by the department that allows a child care
3 provider to claim payment for care. The department may adjust an
4 authorization based on a household's eligibility status."

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6 On page 52, after line 21 of the striking amendment, insert the
7 following:

8 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 605. Section 202 of this act takes effect
9 August 1, 2021.

10
11 NEW SECTION. Sec. 606. Section 508 of this act expires August
12 1, 2021."

13
14 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct any
15 internal references accordingly.

16
17 On page 52, line 27 of the striking amendment, after "Sections"
18 strike "201, 202,"

EFFECT: Adds language that the legislature recognizes that the federal government has provided substantial additional funding to ensure access to affordable child care and stabilize and support child care providers affected by COVID-19. Changes the eligibility and copayment model for the Working Connection Child Care program. Adds language that makes certain criteria for the Early Childhood Education and Assistance program subject to the amount of funds appropriated. Restores the current definition of "school age child."

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