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SECOND ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5157

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senate Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Carrell, Pearson, Schoesler, Hill, and Fain)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to child care; adding a new section to chapter  
2 43.215 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that child care  
5 providers positively contribute to local communities by offering  
6 important services that support the well-being of children and their  
7 families. The legislature further recognizes that most child care  
8 providers make every effort to ensure that subsidy payments received  
9 are correct and align with agency rules. When a child care provider is  
10 found to have fraudulently accepted subsidy payments, however, it is  
11 the legislature's intent to prohibit such a provider from receiving  
12 future child care subsidy payments.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.215 RCW  
14 to read as follows:

15 (1) The department must refer all suspected incidents of child care  
16 subsidy fraud to the department of social and health services office of  
17 fraud and accountability for appropriate investigation and action.

1           (2) For the purposes of this section, "fraud" has the definition in  
2 RCW 74.04.004.

3           (3) This section does not limit or preclude the department or the  
4 department of social and health services from establishing and  
5 collecting overpayments consistent with federal regulation or seek  
6 other remedies that may be legally available, including but not limited  
7 to criminal investigation or prosecution.

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