

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 5904**

Chapter 16, Laws of 2013

63rd Legislature  
2013 2nd Special Session

EARLY LEARNING

EFFECTIVE DATE: 09/28/13

Passed by the Senate June 28, 2013  
YEAS 46 NAYS 2

BRAD OWEN

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House June 27, 2013  
YEAS 80 NAYS 10

FRANK CHOPP

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved June 30, 2013, 4:49 p.m.

JAY INSLEE

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5904** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

HUNTER G. GOODMAN

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**Secretary**

FILED

July 1, 2013

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 5904**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2013 2nd Special Session

**State of Washington                      63rd Legislature                      2013 2nd Special Session**

**By** Senators Hill, Hargrove, Litzow, and Billig

Read first time 04/09/13. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1            AN ACT Relating to high quality early learning; reenacting and  
2 amending RCW 43.215.405; adding new sections to chapter 43.215 RCW;  
3 creating new sections; recodifying RCW 43.215.141, 43.215.142, and  
4 43.215.143; and providing an expiration date.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that high quality  
7 early learning opportunities are an important factor in lifelong  
8 success. The legislature is committed to expanding high quality  
9 evidence-based early learning opportunities in order to improve  
10 educational outcomes. The legislature further finds that moving toward  
11 effective and research-based practices are critical in achieving  
12 educational and societal outcomes from early learning investments. The  
13 legislature intends to continue improvements in early learning through  
14 ongoing evaluation, application of emerging research, and enhanced  
15 quality assurance. It is the intent of the legislature that additional  
16 investments in early learning will be based on current information  
17 regarding the most efficient, research-based, and cost-effective  
18 investments.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    (1) During the 2013-2015 biennium, the  
2 department of early learning shall increase enrollments in the early  
3 learning program established in RCW 43.215.400 by ten percent from the  
4 2011-2013 biennium enrollments, subject to the availability of amounts  
5 appropriated for this specific purpose. Rates paid for early learning  
6 program enrollments must also be increased by ten percent from the  
7 2011-2013 biennium during the 2013-2015 biennium, subject to  
8 availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose. The  
9 department of early learning shall continue to review and evaluate the  
10 contracts used to provide the early learning program to ensure the  
11 contractors are operating research-based programs in a cost-effective  
12 manner.

13        (2) The department of early learning, along with the office of  
14 financial management, shall develop an implementation plan for  
15 expanding the early learning program established in RCW 43.215.400,  
16 which will include, at a minimum, the number of new enrollments to be  
17 requested for each year, a detailed proposal for recruiting the  
18 necessary contractors, and an oversight and evaluation design. The  
19 department of early learning must deliver this implementation plan to  
20 the appropriate committees of the legislature by September 30, 2013.

21        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    (1) During the 2013-2015 biennium, the  
22 Washington state institute for public policy shall conduct a  
23 comprehensive retrospective outcome evaluation and return on investment  
24 analysis of the early childhood program established in RCW 43.215.400.  
25 To the extent possible based on data availability, the evaluation must:

26        (a) Assess both short-term and long-term outcomes for participants  
27 in the program, including educational and social outcomes;

28        (b) Examine the impact of variables including, but not limited to,  
29 program fiscal support, staff salaries, staff retention, education  
30 level of staff, full-day programming, half-day programming, and  
31 classroom size on short-term and long-term outcomes for program  
32 participants;

33        (c) Report findings from a review of the research evidence on  
34 components of successful early education program strategies;

35        (d) Examine characteristics of parents participating in the early  
36 childhood and education assistance program; and

1 (e) Examine family support services provided through early  
2 childhood programs.

3 (2) The institute shall submit a report to the appropriate  
4 committees of the legislature by December 15, 2014.

5 (3) This section expires on December 31, 2014.

6 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.215.405 and 2010 c 231 s 7 are each reenacted and  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
9 this section apply throughout RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.450,  
10 43.215.141 (as recodified by this act), 43.215.142 (as recodified by  
11 this act), 43.215.143 (as recodified by this act), and 43.215.900  
12 through 43.215.903.

13 (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW  
14 43.215.420.

15 (2) "Approved programs" means those state-supported education and  
16 special assistance programs which are recognized by the department as  
17 meeting the minimum program rules adopted by the department to qualify  
18 under RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.450 and 43.215.900 through  
19 43.215.903 and are designated as eligible for funding by the department  
20 under RCW 43.215.430 and 43.215.440.

21 (3) "Comprehensive" means an assistance program that focuses on the  
22 needs of the child and includes education, health, and family support  
23 services.

24 (4) "Department" means the department of early learning.

25 (5) "Eligible child" means a child not eligible for kindergarten  
26 whose family income is at or below one hundred ten percent of the  
27 federal poverty level, as published annually by the federal department  
28 of health and human services, and includes a child whose family is  
29 eligible for public assistance, and who is not a participant in a  
30 federal or state program providing comprehensive services; a child  
31 eligible for special education due to disability under RCW 28A.155.020;  
32 and may include children who are eligible under rules adopted by the  
33 department if the number of such children equals not more than ten  
34 percent of the total enrollment in the early childhood program.  
35 Priority for enrollment shall be given to children from families with  
36 the lowest income, children in foster care, or to eligible children  
37 from families with multiple needs.

1 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for  
2 parents to:

- 3 (a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;
- 4 (b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting  
5 skills;
- 6 (c) Further their education and training;
- 7 (d) Increase their ability to use needed services in the community;
- 8 (e) Increase their self-reliance.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.215.141, 43.215.142, and 43.215.143  
10 are each recodified as sections under the subchapter heading "early  
11 childhood education and assistance program" in chapter 43.215 RCW.

Passed by the Senate June 28, 2013.

Passed by the House June 27, 2013.

Approved by the Governor June 30, 2013.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State July 1, 2013.