SENATE BILL 6297

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2020 Regular Session

By Senators Padden, Wellman, Wagoner, Wilson, C., Hawkins, Billig, and Zeiger

Read first time 01/15/20. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

AN ACT Relating to recognizing the experience of existing early learning providers to meet educational requirements; and adding a new section to chapter 43.216 RCW.

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

5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 43.216 6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The department must provide persons working as early learning 8 providers on the effective date of this section and who are required 9 to have early childhood education initial certificates or short 10 certificates, or both, the option to meet these requirements through 11 an experience-based competency demonstration.

12 (2) An existing early learning provider is eligible for an13 experience-based competency demonstration if the provider:

(a) Has been employed by a licensed child care center or home, orboth, for a total of seven years by August 1, 2024;

(b) Completed all training that was required during the seven years including in-service requirements and health and safety training; and

(c) Is currently employed at a licensed child care family home or center that is in good licensing standing and has no current enforcement action. 1 (3) The department must review applications for the experience-2 based competency demonstration and inform applicants of their results 3 on a quarterly basis.

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