## **2SHB 2964** - S COMM AMD

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By Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education

### ADOPTED AS AMENDED 02/28/06

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the 2 following:

3 "PART 1

## DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING CREATED

- 5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 101.** (1) The legislature recognizes that:
- 6 (a) Parents are their children's first and most important teachers 7 and decision makers;
  - (b) Research across disciplines now demonstrates that what happens in the earliest years makes a critical difference in children's readiness to succeed in school and life;
- 11 (c) Washington's competitiveness in the global economy requires a 12 world-class education system that starts early and supports life-long 13 learning;
  - (d) Washington state currently makes substantial investments in voluntary child care and early learning services and supports, but because services are fragmented across multiple state agencies, and early learning providers lack the supports and incentives needed to improve the quality of services they provide, many parents have difficulty accessing high quality early learning services;
  - (e) A more cohesive and integrated voluntary early learning system would result in greater efficiencies for the state, increased partnership between the state and the private sector, improved access to high quality early learning services, and better employment and early learning outcomes for families and all children.
  - (2) The legislature finds that the early years of a child's life are critical to the child's healthy brain development and that the quality of caregiving during the early years can significantly impact the child's intellectual, social, and emotional development.
    - (3) The purpose of this chapter is:

(a) To establish the department of early learning;

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- (b) To coordinate and consolidate state activities relating to child care and early learning programs;
  - (c) To safeguard and promote the health, safety, and well-being of children receiving child care and early learning assistance;
  - (d) To promote linkages and alignment between early learning programs and elementary schools and support the transition of children and families from prekindergarten environments to kindergarten;
- 9 (e) To promote the development of a sufficient number and variety 10 of adequate child care and early learning facilities, both public and 11 private; and
  - (f) To license agencies and to assure the users of such agencies, their parents, the community at large and the agencies themselves that adequate minimum standards are maintained by all child care and early learning facilities.
- 16 (4) This chapter does not expand the state's authority to license 17 or regulate activities or programs beyond those licensed or regulated 18 under existing law.
- 19 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 102.** The definitions in this section apply 20 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
  - (1) "Agency" means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or facility that provides child care and early learning services outside a child's own home and includes the following irrespective of whether there is compensation to the agency:
  - (a) "Child day care center" means an agency that regularly provides child day care and early learning services for a group of children for periods of less than twenty-four hours;
  - (b) "Early learning" includes but is not limited to programs and services for child care; state, federal, private, and nonprofit preschool; child care subsidies; child care resource and referral; parental education and support; and training and professional development for early learning professionals;
- 33 (c) "Family day care provider" means a child day care provider who 34 regularly provides child day care and early learning services for not 35 more than twelve children in the provider's home in the family living 36 quarters;

- 1 (d) "Service provider" means the entity that operates a community 2 facility.
  - (2) "Agency" does not include the following:

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- (a) Persons related to the child in the following ways:
- (i) Any blood relative, including those of half-blood, and including first cousins, nephews or nieces, and persons of preceding generations as denoted by prefixes of grand, great, or great-great;
  - (ii) Stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, and stepsister;
- 9 (iii) A person who legally adopts a child or the child's parent as 10 well as the natural and other legally adopted children of such persons, 11 and other relatives of the adoptive parents in accordance with state 12 law; or
- (iv) Spouses of any persons named in (i), (ii), or (iii) of this subsection (2)(a), even after the marriage is terminated;
  - (b) Persons who are legal guardians of the child;
  - (c) Persons who care for a neighbor's or friend's child or children, with or without compensation, where the person providing care for periods of less than twenty-four hours does not conduct such activity on an ongoing, regularly scheduled basis for the purpose of engaging in business, which includes, but is not limited to, advertising such care;
- 22 (d) Parents on a mutually cooperative basis exchange care of one 23 another's children;
  - (e) Nursery schools or kindergartens that are engaged primarily in educational work with preschool children and in which no child is enrolled on a regular basis for more than four hours per day;
  - (f) Schools, including boarding schools, that are engaged primarily in education, operate on a definite school year schedule, follow a stated academic curriculum, accept only school-age children, and do not accept custody of children;
  - (g) Seasonal camps of three months' or less duration engaged primarily in recreational or educational activities;
    - (h) Facilities providing care to children for periods of less than twenty-four hours whose parents remain on the premises to participate in activities other than employment;
- 36 (i) Any agency having been in operation in this state ten years 37 before June 8, 1967, and not seeking or accepting moneys or assistance

1 from any state or federal agency, and is supported in part by an 2 endowment or trust fund;

- (j) An agency operated by any unit of local, state, or federal government or an agency, located within the boundaries of a federally recognized Indian reservation, licensed by the Indian tribe;
- (k) An agency located on a federal military reservation, except where the military authorities request that such agency be subject to the licensing requirements of this chapter;
- 9 (1) An agency that offers early learning and support services, such 10 as parent education, and does not provide child care services on a 11 regular basis.
  - (3) "Department" means the department of early learning.
- 13 (4) "Director" means the director of the department.

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- 14 (5) "Enforcement action" means denial, suspension, revocation, 15 modification, or nonrenewal of a license pursuant to section 311(1) of 16 this act or assessment of civil monetary penalties pursuant to section 17 311(3) of this act.
- 18 (6) "Probationary license" means a license issued as a disciplinary 19 measure to an agency that has previously been issued a full license but 20 is out of compliance with licensing standards.
- 21 (7) "Requirement" means any rule, regulation, or standard of care 22 to be maintained by an agency.
  - NEW SECTION. Sec. 103. (1) The department of early learning is created as an executive branch agency. The department is vested with all powers and duties transferred to it under this chapter and such other powers and duties as may be authorized by law.
    - (2) The primary duties of the department are to implement state early learning policy and to coordinate, consolidate, and integrate child care and early learning programs in order to administer programs and funding as efficiently as possible. The department's duties include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - (a) To support both public and private sectors toward a comprehensive and collaborative system of early learning that serves parents, children, and providers and to encourage best practices in child care and early learning programs;
    - (b) To improve parent education and support;

- (c) To carry out activities to improve the quality of early learning opportunities for young children including activities in cooperation with the private-public partnership;
  - (d) To administer child care and early learning programs;

- (e) To standardize internal financial audits, oversight visits, performance benchmarks, and licensing criteria, so that programs can function in an integrated fashion;
- (f) To assist in the implementation of the private-public partnership and cooperate with that partnership in pursuing its goals including providing data and support necessary for the successful work of the partnership;
- (g) To work cooperatively and in coordination with the early learning council; and
  - (h) To collaborate with the K-12 school system at the state and local levels to ensure appropriate connections and smooth transitions between early learning and K-12 programs.
  - (3) The department's programs shall be designed in a way that respects and preserves the ability of parents and legal guardians to direct the education, development, and upbringing of their children. The department shall include parents and legal guardians in the development of policies and program decisions affecting their children.
  - NEW SECTION. Sec. 104. (1) The executive head and appointing authority of the department is the director. The director shall be appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The governor shall solicit input from all parties involved in the private-public partnership concerning this appointment. The director shall be paid a salary to be fixed by the governor in accordance with RCW 43.03.040. If a vacancy occurs in the position of director while the senate is not in session, the governor shall make a temporary appointment until the next meeting of the senate when the governor's nomination for the office of director shall be presented.
  - (2) The director may employ staff members, who shall be exempt from chapter 41.06 RCW, and any additional staff members as are necessary to administer this chapter. The director may delegate any power or duty vested in him or her by this chapter, including authority to make final

- decisions and enter final orders in hearings conducted under chapter 34.05 RCW.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 105. It is the intent of the legislature 3 wherever possible to place the internal affairs of the department under 4 the control of the director in order that the director may institute 5 6 therein the flexible, alert, and intelligent management of its business 7 that changing contemporary circumstances require. Therefore, whenever the director's authority is not specifically limited by law, the 8 director has complete charge and supervisory powers over the 9 department. The director may create such administrative structures as 10 11 the director considers appropriate, except as otherwise specified by The director may employ such assistants and personnel as 12 necessary for the general administration of the department. 13 employment shall be in accordance with the state civil service law, 14 chapter 41.06 RCW, except as otherwise provided. 15
- 16 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 106.** The director may appoint such advisory committees or councils as may be required by any federal legislation as 17 a condition to the receipt of federal funds by the department. 18 director may also appoint statewide committees or councils on such 19 20 subject matters as are or come within the department's responsibilities. The committees or councils shall be constituted as 21 22 required by federal law or as the director may determine.
- Members of such state advisory committees or councils may be paid their travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 107. In furtherance of the policy of the state 25 to cooperate with the federal government in all of the programs under 26 27 the jurisdiction of the department, such rules as may become necessary to entitle the state to participate in federal funds may be adopted, 28 29 unless expressly prohibited by law. Any internal reorganization carried out under the terms of this chapter shall meet federal 30 31 requirements that are a necessary condition to state receipt of federal Any section or provision of law dealing with the department 32 that may be susceptible to more than one construction shall be 33 34 interpreted in favor of the construction most likely to comply with

- federal laws entitling this state to receive federal funds for the various programs of the department.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 108. (1) In addition to other duties under this 3 chapter, the director shall actively participate in a nongovernmental 4 private-public partnership focused on supporting 5 government's 6 investments in early learning and ensuring that every child in the 7 state is prepared to succeed in school and in life. licensing as required by Washington state law and to the extent 8 permitted by federal law, the director of the department of early 9 learning shall grant waivers from the rules of state agencies for the 10 11 operation of early learning programs requested by the nongovernmental 12 private-public partnership to allow for flexibility to pursue marketbased approaches to achieving the best outcomes for children and 13 families. 14
- 15 (2) In addition to other powers granted to the director, the director may:

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- (a) Enter into contracts on behalf of the department to carry out the purposes of this chapter;
- (b) Accept gifts, grants, or other funds for the purposes of this chapter; and
  - (c) Adopt, in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW, rules necessary to implement this chapter, including rules governing child day care and early learning programs under this chapter. This section does not expand the rule-making authority of the director beyond that necessary to implement and administer programs and services existing July 1, 2006, as transferred to the department of early learning under section 501 of this act. The rule-making authority does not include any authority to set mandatory curriculum or establish what must be taught in child day care centers or by family day care providers.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 109. Two years after the implementation of the department's early learning program, and every two years thereafter by July 1st, the department shall submit to the governor and the legislature a report measuring the effectiveness of its programs in improving early childhood education. The first report shall include program objectives and identified valid performance measures for evaluating progress toward achieving the objectives, as well as a plan

- 1 for commissioning a longitudinal study comparing the kindergarten
- 2 readiness of children participating in the department's programs with
- 3 the readiness of other children, using nationally accepted testing and
- 4 assessment methods. Such comparison shall include, but not be limited
- 5 to, achievement as children of both groups progress through the K-12
- 6 system and identify year-to-year changes in achievement, if any, in
- 7 later years of elementary, middle school, and high school education.
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 110.** A new section is added to chapter 41.06 9 RCW to read as follows:
- In addition to the exemptions under RCW 41.06.070, the provisions
- of this chapter shall not apply in the department of early learning to
- 12 the director, the director's personal secretary, and any other exempt
- 13 staff members provided for in section 104(2) of this act.
- 14 **Sec. 111.** RCW 43.17.010 and 2005 c 333 s 10 are each amended to read as follows:
- There shall be departments of the state government which shall be
- 17 known as (1) the department of social and health services, (2) the
- department of ecology, (3) the department of labor and industries, (4)
- 19 the department of agriculture, (5) the department of fish and wildlife,
- 20 (6) the department of transportation, (7) the department of licensing,
- 21 (8) the department of general administration, (9) the department of
- 22 community, trade, and economic development, (10) the department of
- 23 veterans affairs, (11) the department of revenue, (12) the department
- 24 of retirement systems, (13) the department of corrections, (14) the
- 25 department of health, (15) the department of financial institutions,
- 26 ((and)) (16) the department of archaeology and historic preservation,
- 27 and (17) the department of early learning, which shall be charged with
- 28 the execution, enforcement, and administration of such laws, and
- 29 invested with such powers and required to perform such duties, as the
- 30 legislature may provide.
- 31 **Sec. 112.** RCW 43.17.020 and 2005 c 333 s 11 and 2005 c 319 s 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- 33 There shall be a chief executive officer of each department to be
- 34 known as: (1) The secretary of social and health services, (2) the
- 35 director of ecology, (3) the director of labor and industries, (4) the

director of agriculture, (5) the director of fish and wildlife, (6) the 1 2 secretary of transportation, (7) the director of licensing, (8) the director of general administration, (9) the director of community, 3 trade, and economic development, (10) the director of veterans affairs, 4 (11) the director of revenue, (12) the director of retirement systems, 5 (13) the secretary of corrections, (14) the secretary of health, (15) 6 7 the director of financial institutions, ((and)) (16) the director of the department of archaeology and historic preservation, and (17) the 8 9 director of early learning.

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- Such officers, except the director of fish and wildlife, shall be appointed by the governor, with the consent of the senate, and hold office at the pleasure of the governor. The director of fish and wildlife shall be appointed by the fish and wildlife commission as prescribed by RCW 77.04.055.
- 15 Sec. 113. RCW 42.17.2401 and 2005 c 424 s 17 are each amended to 16 read as follows:
- For the purposes of RCW 42.17.240, the term "executive state 17 officer" includes: 18
- The chief administrative law judge, the director of agriculture, the administrator of the Washington basic health plan, the 20 21 director of the department of services for the blind, the director of the state system of community and technical colleges, the director of 22 23 community, trade, and economic development, the secretary of corrections, the director of early learning, the director of ecology, 24 the commissioner of employment security, the chair of the energy 25 26 facility site evaluation council, the secretary of the state finance committee, the director of financial management, the director of fish 27 28 and wildlife, the executive secretary of the forest practices appeals 29 board, the director of the gambling commission, the director of general 30 administration, the secretary of health, the administrator of the 31 Washington state health care authority, the executive secretary of the health care facilities authority, the executive secretary of the higher 32 education facilities authority, the executive secretary of the horse 33 racing commission, the executive secretary of the human rights 34 commission, the executive secretary of the indeterminate sentence 35 36 review board, the director of the department of information services, 37 the director of the interagency committee for outdoor recreation, the

executive director of the state investment board, the director of labor 1 2 and industries, the director of licensing, the director of the lottery commission, the director of the office of minority and women's business 3 enterprises, the director of parks and recreation, the director of 4 personnel, the executive director of the public disclosure commission, 5 the director of retirement systems, the director of revenue, the 6 7 secretary of social and health services, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the executive secretary of the board of tax appeals, the 8 secretary of transportation, the secretary of the utilities and 9 10 transportation commission, the director of veterans affairs, the president of each of the regional and state universities and the 11 president of The Evergreen State College, each district and each campus 12 13 president of each state community college;

- (2) Each professional staff member of the office of the governor;
- (3) Each professional staff member of the legislature; and

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(4) Central Washington University board of trustees, board of trustees of each community college, each member of the state board for community and technical colleges, state convention and trade center board of directors, committee for deferred compensation, Eastern Washington University board of trustees, Washington economic development finance authority, The Evergreen State College board of trustees, executive ethics board, forest practices appeals board, forest practices board, gambling commission, life sciences discovery fund authority board of trustees, Washington health care facilities authority, each member of the Washington health services commission, higher education coordinating board, higher education facilities authority, horse racing commission, state housing finance commission, human rights commission, indeterminate sentence review board, board of industrial insurance appeals, information services board, interagency committee for outdoor recreation, state investment board, commission on judicial conduct, legislative ethics board, liquor control board, lottery commission, marine oversight board, Pacific Northwest electric power and conservation planning council, parks and recreation commission, personnel appeals board, board of pilotage commissioners, pollution control hearings board, public disclosure commission, public pension commission, shorelines hearing board, public employees' benefits board, salmon recovery funding board, board of tax appeals, transportation commission, University of Washington board of regents,

- 1 utilities and transportation commission, Washington state maritime
- 2 commission, Washington personnel resources board, Washington public
- 3 power supply system executive board, Washington State University board
- 4 of regents, Western Washington University board of trustees, and fish
- 5 and wildlife commission.

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6 PART 2

### POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TRANSFERRED

8 **Sec. 201.** RCW 41.04.385 and 2005 c 490 s 9 are each amended to 9 read as follows:

The legislature finds that (1) demographic, economic, and social trends underlie a critical and increasing demand for child care in the state of Washington; (2) working parents and their children benefit when the employees' child care needs have been resolved; (3) the state of Washington should serve as a model employer by creating a supportive atmosphere, to the extent feasible, in which its employees may meet their child care needs; and (4) the state of Washington should encourage the development of partnerships between state agencies, state employees, state employee labor organizations, and private employers to expand the availability of affordable quality child care. The legislature finds further that resolving employee child care concerns not only benefits the employees and their children, but may benefit the employer by reducing absenteeism, increasing employee productivity, improving morale, and enhancing the employer's position in recruiting and retaining employees. Therefore, the legislature declares that it is the policy of the state of Washington to assist state employees by creating a supportive atmosphere in which they may meet their child care needs. Policies and procedures for state agencies to address employee child care needs will be the responsibility of the director of personnel in consultation with the director of the department of early <u>learning</u> and state employee representatives.

- 31 **Sec. 202.** RCW 74.13.085 and 1989 c 381 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:
- It shall be the policy of the state of Washington to:
- 34 (1) Recognize the family as the most important social and economic 35 unit of society and support the central role parents play in child

- rearing. All parents are encouraged to care for and nurture their 1 2 children through the traditional methods of parental care at home. ((However, there has been a dramatic increase in participation of women 3 in the workforce which has made)) The availability of quality, 4 affordable child care <u>is</u> a ((<del>critical</del>)) concern for ((<del>the state and its</del> 5 citizens. There are not enough child care services and facilities to 6 7 meet the needs of)) working parents, the costs of care are often beyond the resources of working parents, and child care facilities are not 8 9 located conveniently to work places and neighborhoods. Parents are 10 encouraged to participate fully in the effort to improve the quality of child care services. 11
  - (2) Promote a variety of culturally and developmentally appropriate child care settings and services of the highest possible quality in accordance with the basic principle of continuity of care. These settings shall include, but not be limited to, family day care homes, mini-centers, centers and schools.

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- (3) Promote the growth, development and safety of children by working with community groups including providers and parents to establish standards for quality service, training of child care providers, fair and equitable monitoring, and salary levels commensurate with provider responsibilities and support services.
- 22 (4) Promote equal access to quality, affordable, socio-economically 23 integrated child care for all children and families.
- (5) Facilitate broad community and private sector involvement in the provision of quality child care services to foster economic development and assist industry through the department of early learning.
- 28 **Sec. 203.** RCW 74.13.0902 and 1989 c 381 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:
- An employer liaison position is established in the department of ((social and health services to be colocated at the business assistance center established under RCW 43.31.083)) early learning to be colocated with the department of community, trade, and economic development. The employer liaison shall, within appropriated funds:
- 35 (1) Staff and assist the child care partnership in the 36 implementation of its duties ((under RCW 74.13.0901));

1 (2) Provide technical assistance to employers regarding child care 2 services, working with and through local resource and referral 3 organizations whenever possible. Such technical assistance shall 4 include at a minimum:

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- (a) Assessing the child care needs of employees and prospective employees;
- (b) Reviewing options available to employers interested in increasing access to child care for their employees;
- (c) Developing techniques to permit small businesses to increase access to child care for their employees;
- (d) Reviewing methods of evaluating the impact of child care activities on employers; and
- (e) Preparing, collecting, and distributing current information for employers on options for increasing involvement in child care; and
- 15 (3) Provide assistance to local child care resource and referral 16 organizations to increase their capacity to provide quality technical 17 assistance to employers in their community.
- 18 **Sec. 204.** RCW 74.13.0903 and 2005 c 490 s 10 are each amended to 19 read as follows:
  - The ((office of child care policy is established to operate under the authority of the department of social and health services. The duties and responsibilities of the office include, but are not limited to, the following, within appropriated funds)) department of early learning shall:
  - (1) Work in conjunction with the statewide child care resource and referral network as well as local governments, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and community child care advocates to create local child care resource and referral organizations. These organizations may carry out needs assessments, resource development, provider training, technical assistance, and parent information and training;
  - (2) Actively seek public and private money for distribution as grants to the statewide child care resource and referral network and to existing or potential local child care resource and referral organizations;
- 35 (3) Adopt rules regarding the application for and distribution of 36 grants to local child care resource and referral organizations. The

rules shall, at a minimum, require an applicant to submit a plan for achieving the following objectives:

3 (a) Provide parents with information about child care resources, 4 including location of services and subsidies;

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- (b) Carry out child care provider recruitment and training programs, including training under RCW 74.25.040;
- (c) Offer support services, such as parent and provider seminars, toy-lending libraries, and substitute banks;
- 9 (d) Provide information for businesses regarding child care supply and demand;
- 11 (e) Advocate for increased public and private sector resources 12 devoted to child care;
- 13 (f) Provide technical assistance to employers regarding employee 14 child care services; and
  - (g) Serve recipients of temporary assistance for needy families and working parents with incomes at or below household incomes of one hundred seventy-five percent of the federal poverty line;
  - (4) Provide staff support and technical assistance to the statewide child care resource and referral network and local child care resource and referral organizations;
  - (5) Maintain a statewide child care licensing data bank and work with department ((of social and health services)) licensors to provide information to local child care resource and referral organizations about licensed child care providers in the state;
  - (6) Through the statewide child care resource and referral network and local resource and referral organizations, compile data about local child care needs and availability for future planning and development;
  - (7) Coordinate with the statewide child care resource and referral network and local child care resource and referral organizations for the provision of training and technical assistance to child care providers; and
- 32 (8) Collect and assemble information regarding the availability of 33 insurance and of federal and other child care funding to assist state 34 and local agencies, businesses, and other child care providers in 35 offering child care services.
- 36 **Sec. 205.** RCW 74.13.098 and 2005 c 507 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this specific purpose, the ((division of child care and early learning in the)) department ((of social and health services)) shall establish a child care career and wage ladder in licensed child care centers that meet the following criteria: (a) At least ten percent of child care slots are dedicated to children whose care is subsidized by the state or any political subdivision thereof or any local government; (b) the center agrees to adopt the child care career and wage ladder, which, at a minimum, shall be at the same pay schedule as existed in the previous child care career and wage ladder pilot project; and (c) the center meets further program standards as established by rule pursuant to section 4 ((of this act)), chapter 507, Laws of 2005.

The child care career and wage ladder shall include wage increments for levels of education, years of relevant experience, levels of work responsibility, relevant early childhood education credits, and relevant requirements in the state training and registry system.

- (2) The ((division)) department shall establish procedures for the allocation of funds to implement the child care career and wage ladder among child care centers meeting the criteria identified in subsection (1) of this section. In developing these procedures, the ((division)) department shall:
- (a) Review past efforts or administration of the child care career and wage ladder pilot project in order to take advantage of any findings, recommendations, or administrative practices that contributed to that pilot project's success;
- (b) Consult with stakeholders, including organizations representing child care teachers and providers, in developing an allocation formula that incorporates consideration of geographic and demographic distribution of child care centers adopting the child care career and wage ladder; and
- (c) Develop a system for prioritizing child care centers interested in adopting the child care career and wage ladder that is based on the criteria identified in subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (2) of this section, child care centers meeting the criteria in subsection (1) of this section located in urban areas of the department of social and health services region one shall receive a minimum of fifteen percent of the funds allocated through the child care career and wage ladder,

- and of these centers, child care centers meeting the criteria in subsection (1) of this section participating in the ((department of social and health services)) Spokane tiered reimbursement pilot project shall have first priority for child care career and wage ladder funding.
- 6 **Sec. 206.** RCW 74.13.099 and 2005 c 507 s 3 are each amended to 7 read as follows:
- Child care centers adopting the child care career and wage ladder 8 established pursuant to RCW 74.13.098 (as recodified by this act) shall 9 increase wages for child care workers who have earned a high school 10 diploma or GED certificate, gain additional years of experience, or 11 accept increasing levels of responsibility in providing child care, in 12 accordance with the child care career and wage ladder. The adoption of 13 a child care career and wage ladder shall not prohibit the provision of 14 wage increases based upon merit. The department ((of social and health 15 16 services)) shall pay wage increments for child care workers employed by 17 child care centers adopting the child care career and wage ladder established pursuant to RCW 74.13.098 (as recodified by this act) who 18 earn early childhood education credits or meet relevant requirements in 19 20 the state training and registry system, in accordance with the child 21 care career and wage ladder.
- 22 **Sec. 207.** RCW 74.15.350 and 2005 c 490 s 7 are each amended to 23 read as follows:

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- (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the department ((of social and health services)) shall implement the tiered-reimbursement system developed pursuant to section 6, chapter 490, Laws of 2005. Implementation of the tiered-reimbursement system shall initially consist of two pilot sites in different geographic regions of the state with demonstrated public-private partnerships, with statewide implementation to follow.
- 31 (2) In implementing the tiered-reimbursement system, consideration 32 shall be given to child care providers who provide staff wage 33 progression.
- 34 (3) The department shall begin implementation of the two pilot 35 sites by March 30, 2006.

- 1 **Sec. 208.** RCW 74.12.340 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 154 s 111 are each 2 amended to read as follows:
- (1) The department is authorized to ((promulgate)) adopt rules 3 ((and regulations)) governing the provision of day care as a part of 4 5 child welfare services when the secretary determines that a need exists for such day care and that it is in the best interests of the child, 6 7 the parents, or the custodial parent and in determining the need for such day care priority shall be given to geographical areas having the 8 9 greatest need for such care and to members of low income groups in the population: PROVIDED, That where the family is financially able to pay 10 part or all of the costs of such care, fees shall be imposed and paid 11 12 according to the financial ability of the family.
- (2) This section does not affect the authority of the department of
  early learning to adopt rules governing child day care and early
  learning programs.
- 16 **Sec. 209.** RCW 74.08A.340 and 1997 c 58 s 321 are each amended to read as follows:
- The department of social and health services shall operate the Washington WorkFirst program authorized under RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330, 43.330.145, 74.13.0903 and 74.25.040, and chapter 74.12 RCW within the following constraints:

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- (1) The full amount of the temporary assistance for needy families block grant, plus qualifying state expenditures as appropriated in the biennial operating budget, shall be appropriated to the department each year in the biennial appropriations act to carry out the provisions of the program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330, 43.330.145, 74.13.0903 and 74.25.040, and chapter 74.12 RCW.
- (2)(a) The department may expend funds defined in subsection (1) of this section in any manner that will effectively accomplish the outcome measures defined in RCW 74.08A.410 with the following exception:

  Beginning with the 2007-2009 biennium, funds that constitute the working connections child care program, child care quality programs, and child care licensing functions.
- 34 <u>(b) Beginning in the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the legislature</u> 35 <u>shall appropriate and the department of early learning shall expend</u> 36 <u>funds defined in subsection (1) of this section that constitute the</u>

working connections child care program, child care quality programs, and child care licensing functions in a manner that is consistent with the outcome measures defined in RCW 74.08A.410.

- (c) No more than fifteen percent of the amount provided in subsection (1) of this section may be spent for administrative purposes. For the purpose of this subsection, "administrative purposes" does not include expenditures for information technology and computerization needed for tracking and monitoring required by P.L. 104-193. The department shall not increase grant levels to recipients of the program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330 and 43.330.145 and chapter 74.12 RCW.
- (3) The department shall implement strategies that accomplish the outcome measures identified in RCW 74.08A.410 that are within the funding constraints in this section. Specifically, the department shall implement strategies that will cause the number of cases in the program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330 and 43.330.145 and chapter 74.12 RCW to decrease by at least fifteen percent during the 1997-99 biennium and by at least five percent in the subsequent biennium. The department may transfer appropriation authority between funding categories within the economic services program in order to carry out the requirements of this subsection.
- (4) The department shall monitor expenditures against the appropriation levels provided for in subsection (1) of this section. The department shall quarterly make a determination as to whether expenditure levels will exceed available funding and communicate its finding to the legislature. If the determination indicates that expenditures will exceed funding at the end of the fiscal year, the department shall take all necessary actions to ensure that all services provided under this chapter shall be made available only to the extent of the availability and level of appropriation made by the legislature.
- **Sec. 210.** RCW 28A.215.110 and 1999 c 350 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:
- Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout RCW 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.200 and 28A.215.900 through 28A.215.908 (as recodified by this act).
- 36 (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW 37 28A.215.140 (as recodified by this act).

- 1 (2) "Department" means the department of ((community, trade, and economic development)) early learning.
- (3) "Eligible child" means a child not eligible for kindergarten 3 whose family income is at or below one hundred ten percent of the 4 5 federal poverty level, as published annually by the federal department of health and human services, and includes a child whose family is 6 7 eligible for public assistance, and who is not a participant in a federal or state program providing comprehensive services and may 8 include children who are eligible under rules adopted by the department 9 if the number of such children equals not more than ten percent of the 10 total enrollment in the early childhood program. 11 Priority for enrollment shall be given to children from families with the lowest 12 income, children in foster care, or to eligible children from families 13 with multiple needs. 14
  - (4) "Approved programs" means those state-supported education and special assistance programs which are recognized by the department ((efcommunity, trade, and economic development)) as meeting the minimum program rules adopted by the department to qualify under RCW 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.200 and 28A.215.900 through 28A.215.908 (as recodified by this act) and are designated as eligible for funding by the department under RCW 28A.215.160 and 28A.215.180 (as recodified by this act).
- 23 (5) "Comprehensive" means an assistance program that focuses on the 24 needs of the child and includes education, health, and family support 25 services.
- 26 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for 27 parents to:
  - (a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;
- 29 (b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting 30 skills;
  - (c) Further their education and training;
  - (d) Increase their ability to use needed services in the community;
- 33 (e) Increase their self-reliance.

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- 34 **Sec. 211.** RCW 28A.215.120 and 1994 c 166 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
- The department ((of community, trade, and economic development))
- 37 shall administer a state-supported early childhood education and

- assistance program to assist eligible children with educational, 1 2 social, health, nutritional, and cultural development to enhance their opportunity for success in the common school system. Eliqible children 3 shall be admitted to approved early childhood programs to the extent 4 that the legislature provides funds, and additional eligible children 5 may be admitted to the extent that grants and contributions from 6 7 community sources provide sufficient funds for a program equivalent to 8 that supported by state funds.
- 9 **Sec. 212.** RCW 43.63A.066 and 1993 c 280 s 58 are each amended to read as follows:
- The department of ((community, trade, and economic development))

  early learning shall have primary responsibility for providing child

  abuse and neglect prevention training to preschool age children

  participating in the federal head start program or the early childhood

  education and assistance program established under RCW 28A.215.010

  through 28A.215.050, 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.200, and 28A.215.900

  through 28A.215.908 (as recodified by this act).

18 **PART 3** 

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## DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING LICENSING

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 301. It shall be the director's duty with regard to licensing:
  - (1) In consultation and with the advice and assistance of persons representative of the various type agencies to be licensed, to designate categories of child care facilities for which separate or different requirements shall be developed as may be appropriate whether because of variations in the ages and other characteristics of the children served, variations in the purposes and services offered or size or structure of the agencies to be licensed, or because of any other factor relevant thereto;
  - (2) In consultation and with the advice and assistance of persons representative of the various type agencies to be licensed, to adopt and publish minimum requirements for licensing applicable to each of the various categories of agencies to be licensed under this chapter.
- The minimum requirements shall be limited to:

(a) The size and suitability of a facility and the plan of operation for carrying out the purpose for which an applicant seeks a license;

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- (b) The character, suitability, and competence of an agency and 4 other persons associated with an agency directly responsible for the 5 care of children. In consultation with law enforcement personnel, the 6 7 director shall investigate the conviction record or pending charges and dependency record information under chapter 43.43 RCW of each agency 8 and its staff seeking licensure or relicensure. 9 allegation of child abuse or neglect as defined in RCW 26.44.020 may be 10 disclosed to a provider licensed under this chapter. In order to 11 12 determine the suitability of applicants for an agency license, 13 licensees, their employees, and other persons who have unsupervised access to children in care, and who have not resided in the state of 14 Washington during the three-year period before being authorized to care 15 for children shall be fingerprinted. 16 The fingerprints shall be 17 forwarded to the Washington state patrol and federal bureau of investigation for a criminal history records check. The fingerprint 18 criminal history records checks will be at the expense of the licensee. 19 The licensee may not pass this cost on to the employee or prospective 20 21 employee, unless the employee is determined to be unsuitable due to his 22 or her criminal history record. The director shall use the information solely for the purpose of determining eligibility for a license and for 23 24 determining the character, suitability, and competence of those persons or agencies, excluding parents, not required to be licensed who are 25 authorized to care for children. Criminal justice agencies shall 26 27 provide the director such information as they may have and that the director may require for such purpose; 28
  - (c) The number of qualified persons required to render the type of care for which an agency seeks a license;
  - (d) The health, safety, cleanliness, and general adequacy of the premises to provide for the comfort, care, and well-being of children;
  - (e) The provision of necessary care and early learning, including food, supervision, and discipline; physical, mental, and social wellbeing; and educational and recreational opportunities for those served;
  - (f) The financial ability of an agency to comply with minimum requirements established under this chapter; and
    - (g) The maintenance of records pertaining to the care of children;

(3) To issue, revoke, or deny licenses to agencies pursuant to this chapter. Licenses shall specify the category of care that an agency is authorized to render and the ages and number of children to be served;

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- (4) To prescribe the procedures and the form and contents of reports necessary for the administration of this chapter and to require regular reports from each licensee;
- (5) To inspect agencies periodically to determine whether or not there is compliance with this chapter and the requirements adopted under this chapter;
- 10 (6) To review requirements adopted under this chapter at least 11 every two years and to adopt appropriate changes after consultation 12 with affected groups for child day care requirements; and
- 13 (7) To consult with public and private agencies in order to help 14 them improve their methods and facilities for the care and early 15 learning of children.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 302. The chief of the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, shall have the power and it shall be his or her duty:
  - (1) In consultation with the director and with the advice and assistance of persons representative of the various type agencies to be licensed, to adopt recognized minimum standard requirements pertaining to each category of agency established pursuant to this chapter necessary to protect all persons residing therein from fire hazards;
  - (2) To make or cause to be made such inspections and investigations of agencies as he or she deems necessary;
  - (3) To make a periodic review of requirements under section 301(5) of this act and to adopt necessary changes after consultation as required in subsection (1) of this section;
  - (4) To issue to applicants for licenses under this chapter who comply with the requirements, a certificate of compliance, a copy of which shall be presented to the department before a license shall be issued, except that an initial license may be issued as provided in section 309 of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 303. Licensed child day care centers shall provide notice of pesticide use to parents or guardians of students and employees pursuant to chapter 17.21 RCW.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 304.** A copy of the articles of incorporation of any agency or amendments to the articles of existing corporation agencies shall be sent by the secretary of state to the department at the time such articles or amendments are filed.

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NEW SECTION. Sec. 305. All agencies subject to this chapter shall accord the department, the chief of the Washington state patrol, and the director of fire protection, or their designees, the right of entrance and the privilege of access to and inspection of records for the purpose of determining whether or not there is compliance with the provisions of this chapter and the requirements adopted under it.

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 306. (1) It is unlawful for any agency to care for children unless the agency is licensed as provided in this chapter.
- (2) A license issued under chapter 74.15 RCW before July 1, 2006, for an agency subject to this chapter after July 1, 2006, is valid until its next renewal, unless otherwise suspended or revoked by the department.
  - NEW SECTION. Sec. 307. Each agency shall make application for a license or renewal of license to the department on forms prescribed by the department. Upon receipt of such application, the department shall either grant or deny a license within ninety days. A license shall be granted if the agency meets the minimum requirements set forth in this chapter and the departmental requirements consistent with the chapter, except that an initial license may be issued as provided in section 309 of this act. Licenses provided for in this chapter shall be issued for a period of three years. The licensee, however, shall advise the director of any material change in circumstances which might constitute grounds for reclassification of license as to category. The license issued under this chapter is not transferable and applies only to the licensee and the location stated in the application. For licensed family day care homes having an acceptable history of child care, the license may remain in effect for two weeks after a move.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 308. If a licensee desires to apply for a renewal of its license, a request for a renewal shall be filed ninety days before the expiration date of the license. If the department has

- 1 failed to act at the time of the expiration date of the license, the
- 2 license shall continue in effect until such time as the department
- 3 acts.

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- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 309.** The director may, at his or her
- 5 discretion, issue an initial license instead of a full license, to an
- 6 agency or facility for a period not to exceed six months, renewable for
- 7 a period not to exceed two years, to allow such agency or facility
- 8 reasonable time to become eligible for full license.
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 310.** (1) The department may issue a 10 probationary license to a licensee who has had a license but is 11 temporarily unable to comply with a rule or has been the subject of 12 multiple complaints or concerns about noncompliance if:
- 13 (a) The noncompliance does not present an immediate threat to the 14 health and well-being of the children but would be likely to do so if 15 allowed to continue; and
  - (b) The licensee has a plan approved by the department to correct the area of noncompliance within the probationary period.
  - (2) A probationary license may be issued for up to six months, and at the discretion of the department it may be extended for an additional six months. The department shall immediately terminate the probationary license, if at any time the noncompliance for which the probationary license was issued presents an immediate threat to the health or well-being of the children.
- 24 (3) The department may, at any time, issue a probationary license 25 for due cause that states the conditions of probation.
- 26 (4) An existing license is invalidated when a probationary license 27 is issued.
- 28 (5) At the expiration of the probationary license, the department 29 shall reinstate the original license for the remainder of its term, 30 issue a new license, or revoke the original license.
- 31 (6) A right to an adjudicative proceeding shall not accrue to the 32 licensee whose license has been placed on probationary status unless 33 the licensee does not agree with the placement on probationary status 34 and the department then suspends, revokes, or modifies the license.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 311. (1) An agency may be denied a license, or any license issued pursuant to this chapter may be suspended, revoked, modified, or not renewed by the director upon proof (a) that the agency has failed or refused to comply with the provisions of this chapter or the requirements adopted pursuant to this chapter; or (b) that the conditions required for the issuance of a license under this chapter have ceased to exist with respect to such licenses. RCW 43.20A.205 governs notice of a license denial, revocation, suspension, or modification and provides the right to an adjudicative proceeding.

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- (2) In any adjudicative proceeding regarding the denial, modification, suspension, or revocation of any license under this chapter, the department's decision shall be upheld if it is supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
- (3) The department may assess civil monetary penalties upon proof that an agency has failed or refused to comply with the rules adopted under this chapter or that an agency subject to licensing under this chapter is operating without a license except that civil monetary penalties shall not be levied against a licensed foster home. Monetary penalties levied against unlicensed agencies that submit an application for licensure within thirty days of notification and subsequently become licensed will be forgiven. These penalties may be assessed in addition to or in lieu of other disciplinary actions. Civil monetary penalties, if imposed, may be assessed and collected, with interest, for each day an agency is or was out of compliance. Civil monetary penalties shall not exceed seventy-five dollars per violation for a family day care home and two hundred fifty dollars per violation for child day care centers. Each day upon which the same or substantially similar action occurs is a separate violation subject to the assessment of a separate penalty. The department shall provide a notification period before a monetary penalty is effective and may forgive the penalty levied if the agency comes into compliance during this period. The department may suspend, revoke, or not renew a license for failure to pay a civil monetary penalty it has assessed pursuant to this chapter within ten days after such assessment becomes final. Chapter 43.20A RCW governs notice of a civil monetary penalty and provides the right of an adjudicative proceeding. The preponderance of evidence standard shall apply in adjudicative proceedings related to assessment of civil monetary penalties.

- (4)(a) In addition to or in lieu of an enforcement action being taken, the department may place a child day care center or family day care provider on nonreferral status if the center or provider has failed or refused to comply with this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter or an enforcement action has been taken. The nonreferral status may continue until the department determines that: (i) No enforcement action is appropriate; or (ii) a corrective action plan has been successfully concluded.
- (b) Whenever a child day care center or family day care provider is placed on nonreferral status, the department shall provide written notification to the child day care center or family day care provider.
- (5) The department shall notify appropriate public and private child care resource and referral agencies of the department's decision to: (a) Take an enforcement action against a child day care center or family day care provider; or (b) place or remove a child day care center or family day care provider on nonreferral status.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 312. (1) The office of administrative hearings shall not assign nor allow an administrative law judge to preside over an adjudicative hearing regarding denial, modification, suspension, or revocation of any license to provide child care under this chapter, unless such judge has received training related to state and federal laws and department policies and procedures regarding:
  - (a) Child abuse, neglect, and maltreatment;
  - (b) Child protective services investigations and standards;
  - (c) Licensing activities and standards;
  - (d) Child development; and
- (e) Parenting skills.

- (2) The office of administrative hearings shall develop and implement a training program that carries out the requirements of this section. The office of administrative hearings shall consult and coordinate with the department in developing the training program. The department may assist the office of administrative hearings in developing and providing training to administrative law judges.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 313. The director shall immediately suspend the license or certificate of a person who has been certified pursuant to RCW 74.20A.320 by the department of social and health services as a

- person who is not in compliance with a support order or a residential or visitation order. If the person has continued to meet all other requirements for reinstatement during the suspension, reissuance of the license or certificate shall be automatic upon the director's receipt of a release issued by the department of social and health services stating that the licensee is in compliance with the order.
- 7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 314. Notwithstanding the existence or pursuit 8 of any other remedy, the director may, in the manner provided by law, upon the advice of the attorney general, who shall represent the 9 department in the proceeding, maintain an action in the name of the 10 state for injunction or such other relief as he or she may deem 11 advisable against any agency subject to licensing under the provisions 12 of this chapter or against any such agency not having a license as 13 heretofore provided in this chapter. 14
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 315. Any agency operating without a license shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. This section shall not be enforceable against an agency until sixty days after the effective date of new rules, applicable to such agency, have been adopted under this chapter.

20 **PART 4** 

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## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES LICENSING REVISIONS

- **Sec. 401.** RCW 74.15.020 and 2001 c 230 s 1, 2001 c 144 s 1, and 2001 c 137 s 3 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- For the purpose of chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031, and unless otherwise clearly indicated by the context thereof, the following terms shall mean:
  - (1) "Agency" means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or facility which receives children, expectant mothers, or persons with developmental disabilities for control, care, or maintenance outside their own homes, or which places, arranges the placement of, or assists in the placement of children, expectant mothers, or persons with developmental disabilities for foster care or placement of children for adoption, and shall include the following

irrespective of whether there is compensation to the agency or to the children, expectant mothers or persons with developmental disabilities for services rendered:

- (a) (("Child day care center" means an agency which regularly provides care for a group of children for periods of less than twenty-four hours;
- (b))) "Child-placing agency" means an agency which places a child or children for temporary care, continued care, or for adoption;
- (((c))) (b) "Community facility" means a group care facility operated for the care of juveniles committed to the department under RCW 13.40.185. A county detention facility that houses juveniles committed to the department under RCW 13.40.185 pursuant to a contract with the department is not a community facility;
- $((\frac{d}{d}))$  (c) "Crisis residential center" means an agency which is a temporary protective residential facility operated to perform the duties specified in chapter 13.32A RCW, in the manner provided in RCW 74.13.032 through 74.13.036;
- ((\(\frac{(\decomposite}{e}\))) (d) "Emergency respite center" is an agency that may be commonly known as a crisis nursery, that provides emergency and crisis care for up to seventy-two hours to children who have been admitted by their parents or guardians to prevent abuse or neglect. Emergency respite centers may operate for up to twenty-four hours a day, and for up to seven days a week. Emergency respite centers may provide care for children ages birth through seventeen, and for persons eighteen through twenty with developmental disabilities who are admitted with a sibling or siblings through age seventeen. Emergency respite centers may not substitute for crisis residential centers or HOPE centers, or any other services defined under this section, and may not substitute for services which are required under chapter 13.32A or 13.34 RCW;
- ((f) "Family day care provider" means a child day care provider who regularly provides child day care for not more than twelve children in the provider's home in the family living quarters;
- (g))) (e) "Foster-family home" means an agency which regularly provides care on a twenty-four hour basis to one or more children, expectant mothers, or persons with developmental disabilities in the family abode of the person or persons under whose direct care and supervision the child, expectant mother, or person with a developmental disability is placed;

(((\frac{(h)}{h})) (f) "Group-care facility" means an agency, other than a
foster-family home, which is maintained and operated for the care of a
group of children on a twenty-four hour basis;

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- $((\frac{1}{2}))$  (g) "HOPE center" means an agency licensed by the secretary 4 to provide temporary residential placement and other services to street 5 A street youth may remain in a HOPE center for thirty days 6 7 while services are arranged and permanent placement is coordinated. No street youth may stay longer than thirty days unless approved by the 8 9 department and any additional days approved by the department must be based on the unavailability of a long-term placement option. A street 10 youth whose parent wants him or her returned to home may remain in a 11 12 HOPE center until his or her parent arranges return of the youth, not 13 longer. All other street youth must have court approval under chapter 14 13.34 or 13.32A RCW to remain in a HOPE center up to thirty days;
  - $((\frac{1}{2}))$  (h) "Maternity service" means an agency which provides or arranges for care or services to expectant mothers, before or during confinement, or which provides care as needed to mothers and their infants after confinement;
  - ((\(\frac{(k)}{k}\))) (i) "Responsible living skills program" means an agency licensed by the secretary that provides residential and transitional living services to persons ages sixteen to eighteen who are dependent under chapter 13.34 RCW and who have been unable to live in his or her legally authorized residence and, as a result, the minor lived outdoors or in another unsafe location not intended for occupancy by the minor. Dependent minors ages fourteen and fifteen may be eligible if no other placement alternative is available and the department approves the placement;
  - $((\frac{1}{1}))$  <u>(j)</u> "Service provider" means the entity that operates a community facility.
    - (2) "Agency" shall not include the following:
- 31 (a) Persons related to the child, expectant mother, or person with 32 developmental disability in the following ways:
  - (i) Any blood relative, including those of half-blood, and including first cousins, nephews or nieces, and persons of preceding generations as denoted by prefixes of grand, great, or great-great;
    - (ii) Stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, and stepsister;
- 37 (iii) A person who legally adopts a child or the child's parent as

well as the natural and other legally adopted children of such persons, and other relatives of the adoptive parents in accordance with state law;

- (iv) Spouses of any persons named in (i), (ii), or (iii) of this subsection (2)(a), even after the marriage is terminated; or
- (v) Extended family members, as defined by the law or custom of the Indian child's tribe or, in the absence of such law or custom, a person who has reached the age of eighteen and who is the Indian child's grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or stepparent who provides care in the family abode on a twenty-four-hour basis to an Indian child as defined in 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1903(4);
- (b) Persons who are legal guardians of the child, expectant mother, or persons with developmental disabilities;
- (c) Persons who care for a neighbor's or friend's child or children, with or without compensation, where((; (i) The person providing care for periods of less than twenty four hours does not conduct such activity on an ongoing, regularly scheduled basis for the purpose of engaging in business, which includes, but is not limited to, advertising such care; or (ii))) the parent and person providing care on a twenty-four-hour basis have agreed to the placement in writing and the state is not providing any payment for the care;
- (d) ((Parents on a mutually cooperative basis exchange care of one another's children;
  - (e))) A person, partnership, corporation, or other entity that provides placement or similar services to exchange students or international student exchange visitors or persons who have the care of an exchange student in their home;
  - $((\frac{f}{f}))$  (e) A person, partnership, corporation, or other entity that provides placement or similar services to international children who have entered the country by obtaining visas that meet the criteria for medical care as established by the United States immigration and naturalization service, or persons who have the care of such an international child in their home;
- (((g) Nursery schools or kindergartens which are engaged primarily in educational work with preschool children and in which no child is enrolled on a regular basis for more than four hours per day;

- (h)) (f) Schools, including boarding schools, which are engaged primarily in education, operate on a definite school year schedule, follow a stated academic curriculum, accept only school-age children and do not accept custody of children;
  - (((i) Seasonal camps of three months' or less duration engaged primarily in recreational or educational activities;
  - (j))) (g) Hospitals licensed pursuant to chapter 70.41 RCW when performing functions defined in chapter 70.41 RCW, nursing homes licensed under chapter 18.51 RCW and boarding homes licensed under chapter 18.20 RCW;
    - ((<del>(k)</del>)) <u>(h)</u> Licensed physicians or lawyers;

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- 12 ((<del>(1) Facilities providing care to children for periods of less</del>
  13 than twenty-four hours whose parents remain on the premises to
  14 participate in activities other than employment;
- 15 (m))) (i) Facilities approved and certified under chapter 71A.22 16 RCW;
  - ((<del>(n)</del>)) <u>(j)</u> Any agency having been in operation in this state ten years prior to June 8, 1967, and not seeking or accepting moneys or assistance from any state or federal agency, and is supported in part by an endowment or trust fund;
    - (((+o))) (k) Persons who have a child in their home for purposes of adoption, if the child was placed in such home by a licensed child-placing agency, an authorized public or tribal agency or court or if a replacement report has been filed under chapter 26.33 RCW and the placement has been approved by the court;
    - $((\frac{p}{p}))$  (1) An agency operated by any unit of local, state, or federal government or an agency, located within the boundaries of a federally recognized Indian reservation, licensed by the Indian tribe;
  - $((\frac{q}{q}))$  (m) A maximum or medium security program for juvenile offenders operated by or under contract with the department;
    - $((\frac{r}{r}))$  (n) An agency located on a federal military reservation, except where the military authorities request that such agency be subject to the licensing requirements of this chapter.
  - (3) "Department" means the state department of social and health services.
- 36 (4) "Juvenile" means a person under the age of twenty-one who has 37 been sentenced to a term of confinement under the supervision of the 38 department under RCW 13.40.185.

- 1 (5) "Probationary license" means a license issued as a disciplinary 2 measure to an agency that has previously been issued a full license but 3 is out of compliance with licensing standards.
  - (6) "Requirement" means any rule, regulation, or standard of care to be maintained by an agency.
    - (7) "Secretary" means the secretary of social and health services.
  - (8) "Street youth" means a person under the age of eighteen who lives outdoors or in another unsafe location not intended for occupancy by the minor and who is not residing with his or her parent or at his or her legally authorized residence.
  - (9) "Transitional living services" means at a minimum, to the extent funds are available, the following:
  - (a) Educational services, including basic literacy and computational skills training, either in local alternative or public high schools or in a high school equivalency program that leads to obtaining a high school equivalency degree;
  - (b) Assistance and counseling related to obtaining vocational training or higher education, job readiness, job search assistance, and placement programs;
  - (c) Counseling and instruction in life skills such as money management, home management, consumer skills, parenting, health care, access to community resources, and transportation and housing options;
    - (d) Individual and group counseling; and

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- (e) Establishing networks with federal agencies and state and local organizations such as the United States department of labor, employment and training administration programs including the job training partnership act which administers private industry councils and the job corps; vocational rehabilitation; and volunteer programs.
- 29 **Sec. 402.** RCW 74.15.030 and 2005 c 490 s 11 are each amended to 30 read as follows:
- The secretary shall have the power and it shall be the secretary's duty:
- 33 (1) In consultation with the children's services advisory 34 committee, and with the advice and assistance of persons representative 35 of the various type agencies to be licensed, to designate categories of 36 facilities for which separate or different requirements shall be 37 developed as may be appropriate whether because of variations in the

- ages, sex and other characteristics of persons served, variations in the purposes and services offered or size or structure of the agencies to be licensed hereunder, or because of any other factor relevant thereto;
  - (2) In consultation with the children's services advisory committee, and with the advice and assistance of persons representative of the various type agencies to be licensed, to adopt and publish minimum requirements for licensing applicable to each of the various categories of agencies to be licensed.

The minimum requirements shall be limited to:

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- (a) The size and suitability of a facility and the plan of operation for carrying out the purpose for which an applicant seeks a license;
- (b) The character, suitability and competence of an agency and other persons associated with an agency directly responsible for the care and treatment of children, expectant mothers or developmentally disabled persons. In consultation with law enforcement personnel, the secretary shall investigate the conviction record or pending charges and dependency record information under chapter 43.43 RCW of each agency and its staff seeking licensure or relicensure. No unfounded allegation of child abuse or neglect as defined in RCW 26.44.020 may be disclosed to a child-placing agency, private adoption agency, or any other provider licensed under this chapter. In order to determine the suitability of applicants for an agency license, licensees, their employees, and other persons who have unsupervised access to children in care, and who have not resided in the state of Washington during the three-year period before being authorized to care for children shall be fingerprinted. The fingerprints shall be forwarded to the Washington state patrol and federal bureau of investigation for a criminal history records check. The fingerprint criminal history records checks will be at the expense of the licensee except that in the case of a foster family home, if this expense would work a hardship on the licensee, the department shall pay the expense. The licensee may not pass this cost on to the employee or prospective employee, unless the employee is determined to be unsuitable due to his or her criminal history record. The secretary shall use the information solely for the purpose of determining eligibility for a license and for determining the character, suitability, and competence of those persons or agencies,

excluding parents, not required to be licensed who are authorized to care for children, expectant mothers, and developmentally disabled persons. Criminal justice agencies shall provide the secretary such information as they may have and that the secretary may require for such purpose;

- (c) The number of qualified persons required to render the type of care and treatment for which an agency seeks a license;
- (d) The safety, cleanliness, and general adequacy of the premises to provide for the comfort, care and well-being of children, expectant mothers or developmentally disabled persons;
- (e) The provision of necessary care, including food, clothing, supervision and discipline; physical, mental and social well-being; and educational, recreational and spiritual opportunities for those served;
- (f) The financial ability of an agency to comply with minimum requirements established pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031; and
- (g) The maintenance of records pertaining to the admission, progress, health and discharge of persons served;
  - (3) To investigate any person, including relatives by blood or marriage except for parents, for character, suitability, and competence in the care and treatment of children, expectant mothers, and developmentally disabled persons prior to authorizing that person to care for children, expectant mothers, and developmentally disabled persons. However, if a child is placed with a relative under RCW 13.34.065 or 13.34.130, and if such relative appears otherwise suitable and competent to provide care and treatment the criminal history background check required by this section need not be completed before placement, but shall be completed as soon as possible after placement;
  - (4) On reports of alleged child abuse and neglect, to investigate agencies in accordance with chapter 26.44 RCW, including child day-care centers and family day-care homes, to determine whether the alleged abuse or neglect has occurred, and whether child protective services or referral to a law enforcement agency is appropriate;
- (5) To issue, revoke, or deny licenses to agencies pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031. Licenses shall specify the category of care which an agency is authorized to render and the ages, sex and number of persons to be served;

1 (6) To prescribe the procedures and the form and contents of 2 reports necessary for the administration of chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 3 74.13.031 and to require regular reports from each licensee;

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- (7) To inspect agencies periodically to determine whether or not there is compliance with chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 and the requirements adopted hereunder;
- (8) To review requirements adopted hereunder at least every two years and to adopt appropriate changes after consultation ((with affected groups for child day care requirements and)) with the children's services advisory committee for requirements for other agencies; and
- 12 (9) To consult with public and private agencies in order to help 13 them improve their methods and facilities for the care of children, 14 expectant mothers and developmentally disabled persons.

# 15 **Sec. 403.** RCW 74.15.100 and 1995 c 302 s 8 are each amended to 16 read as follows:

Each agency shall make application for a license or renewal of license to the department of social and health services on forms prescribed by the department. A licensed agency having foster-family homes under its supervision may make application for a license on behalf of any such foster-family home. Such a foster home license shall cease to be valid when the home is no longer under the supervision of that agency. Upon receipt of such application, the department shall either grant or deny a license within ninety days unless the application is for licensure as a foster-family home, in which case RCW 74.15.040 shall govern. A license shall be granted if the agency meets the minimum requirements set forth in chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 and the departmental requirements consistent herewith, except that an initial license may be issued as provided in Licenses provided for in chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW RCW 74.15.120. 74.13.031 shall be issued for a period of three years. The licensee, however, shall advise the secretary of any material change in circumstances which might constitute grounds for reclassification of license as to category. The license issued under this chapter is not transferable and applies only to the licensee and the location stated in the application. For licensed foster-family ((and family day-care))

- 1 homes having an acceptable history of child care, the license may
- 2 remain in effect for two weeks after a move, except that ((for the
- 3 foster family home)) this will apply only if the family remains intact.
- 4 **Sec. 404.** RCW 74.15.130 and 2005 c 473 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

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- (1) An agency may be denied a license, or any license issued pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 may be suspended, revoked, modified, or not renewed by the secretary upon proof (a) that the agency has failed or refused to comply with the provisions of chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 or the requirements promulgated pursuant to the provisions of chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031; or (b) that the conditions required for the issuance of a license under chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 have ceased to exist with respect to such licenses. RCW 43.20A.205 governs notice of a license denial, revocation, suspension, or modification and provides the right to an adjudicative proceeding.
- (2) In any adjudicative proceeding regarding the denial, modification, suspension, or revocation of a foster family home license, the department's decision shall be upheld if there is reasonable cause to believe that:
  - (a) The applicant or licensee lacks the character, suitability, or competence to care for children placed in out-of-home care, however, no unfounded report of child abuse or neglect may be used to deny employment or a license;
  - (b) The applicant or licensee has failed or refused to comply with any provision of chapter 74.15 RCW, RCW 74.13.031, or the requirements adopted pursuant to such provisions; or
- (c) The conditions required for issuance of a license under chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 have ceased to exist with respect to such licenses.
- 31 (3) In any adjudicative proceeding regarding the denial, 32 modification, suspension, or revocation of any license under this 33 chapter, other than a foster family home license, the department's 34 decision shall be upheld if it is supported by a preponderance of the 35 evidence.
- 36 (4) The department may assess civil monetary penalties upon proof 37 that an agency has failed or refused to comply with the rules adopted

under the provisions of this chapter and RCW 74.13.031 or that an 1 2 agency subject to licensing under this chapter and RCW 74.13.031 is operating without a license except that civil monetary penalties shall 3 not be levied against a licensed foster home. Monetary penalties 4 levied against unlicensed agencies that submit an application for 5 licensure within thirty days of notification and subsequently become 6 7 licensed will be forgiven. These penalties may be assessed in addition to or in lieu of other disciplinary actions. Civil monetary penalties, 8 if imposed, may be assessed and collected, with interest, for each day 9 10 an agency is or was out of compliance. Civil monetary penalties shall not exceed ((seventy-five dollars per violation for a family day-care 11 12 home and)) two hundred fifty dollars per violation for group homes((7 13 child day-care centers,)) and child-placing agencies. Each day upon 14 which the same or substantially similar action occurs is a separate violation subject to the assessment of a separate penalty. 15 department shall provide a notification period before a monetary 16 penalty is effective and may forgive the penalty levied if the agency 17 comes into compliance during this period. The department may suspend, 18 revoke, or not renew a license for failure to pay a civil monetary 19 penalty it has assessed pursuant to this chapter within ten days after 20 21 such assessment becomes final. Chapter 43.20A RCW governs notice of a 22 civil monetary penalty and provides the right of an adjudicative The preponderance of evidence standard shall apply in 23 24 adjudicative proceedings related to assessment of civil monetary 25 penalties.

(((5)(a) In addition to or in lieu of an enforcement action being taken, the department may place a child day care center or family day care provider on nonreferral status if the center or provider has failed or refused to comply with this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter or an enforcement action has been taken. The nonreferral status may continue until the department determines that: (i) No enforcement action is appropriate; or (ii) a corrective action plan has been successfully concluded.

(b) Whenever a child day care center or family day care provider is placed on nonreferral status, the department shall provide written notification to the child day care center or family day care provider.

(6) The department shall notify appropriate public and private child care resource and referral agencies of the department's decision

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- 1 to: (a) Take an enforcement action against a child day-care center or
- 2 family day-care provider; or (b) place or remove a child day-care
- 3 center or family day-care provider on nonreferral status.))

4 PART 5

## 5 TRANSFER OF POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS

NEW SECTION. Sec. 501. (1) All powers, duties, and functions of the office of the superintendent of public instruction and the department of community, trade, and economic development pertaining to the early childhood education and assistance (ECEAP) program and the early reading initiative are transferred to the department of early learning. All references to the director or the department of community, trade, and economic development in the Revised Code of Washington shall be construed to mean the director or the department of early learning when referring to the functions transferred in this section.

- (2) All powers, duties, and functions of the division of child care and early learning in the department of social and health services pertaining to the working connections child care program, child care licensing, child care quality activities, and the head start collaboration office are transferred to the department of early learning. However, eligibility staffing and eligibility payment functions for the working connections child care program shall not be transferred to the department of early learning. All references to the secretary or the department of social and health services in the Revised Code of Washington shall be construed to mean the director or the department of early learning when referring to the functions transferred in this section.
- 28 (3) Child day care services provided through the children's 29 administration within the department of social and health services are 30 not transferred to the department of early learning.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 502. All reports, documents, surveys, books, records, files, papers, or written material in the possession of the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the department of social and health services, and the department of community, trade, and economic development pertaining to the powers, functions, and duties

transferred in section 501 of this act shall be delivered to the custody of the department of early learning. All cabinets, furniture, office equipment, motor vehicles, and other tangible property employed by the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the department of social and health services, and the department of community, trade, and economic development in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall be made available to the department of early learning. All funds, credits, or other assets held in connection with the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall be assigned to the department of early learning.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 503. (1) Any appropriations made to the office of the superintendent of public instruction or the department of community, trade, and economic development for carrying out the powers, functions, and duties transferred in section 501 of this act shall, on the effective date of this section, be transferred and credited to the department of early learning;

(2) Any appropriations made to the department of social and health services for carrying out the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall, on the effective date of this section, be transferred to the department of early learning through an interagency agreement.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 504. (1) All employees of the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the department of social and health services, and the department of community, trade, and economic development engaged in performing the powers, functions, and duties transferred in section 501 of this act are transferred to the jurisdiction of the department of early learning. All employees classified under chapter 41.06 RCW, the state civil service law, are assigned to the department of early learning to perform their usual duties upon the same terms as formerly, without any loss of rights, subject to any action that may be appropriate thereafter in accordance with the laws and rules governing state civil service.

(2) Nothing contained in this section may be construed to alter any existing collective bargaining unit or the provisions of any existing collective bargaining agreement until the agreement has expired or until the bargaining unit has been modified by action of the public employment relations commission as provided by law.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 505. (1) All rules and all pending business before the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the department of social and health services, and the department of community, trade, and economic development pertaining to the powers, functions, and duties transferred in section 501 of this act shall be continued and acted upon by the department of early learning. All existing contracts and obligations shall remain in full force and shall be performed by the department of early learning.

- (2) The transfer of the powers, duties, functions, and personnel of the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the department of social and health services, and the department of community, trade, and economic development shall not affect the validity of any act performed before the effective date of this section.
- (3) Whenever any question arises as to the transfer of any personnel, funds, books, documents, records, papers, files, equipment, or other tangible property used or held in the exercise of the powers and the performance of the duties and functions transferred, the director of financial management shall make a determination as to the proper allocation and certify the same to the state agencies concerned.
- (4) If apportionments of budgeted funds are required because of the transfers directed by this section and sections 501 through 504 of this act, the director of financial management shall certify the apportionments to the agencies affected, the state auditor, and the state treasurer. Each of these shall make the appropriate transfer and adjustments in funds and appropriation accounts and equipment records in accordance with the certification.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 506. By November 15, 2006, the department of early learning, in collaboration with the early learning council, shall prepare a report and make recommendations to the governor and appropriate committees of the legislature detailing:
- (1) Coordination and collaboration between the department and the K-12 system at the state and local levels to ensure appropriate connections and smooth transitions between early learning and K-12;
- 34 (2) Ongoing coordination and collaboration between the department 35 and other programs not included in the department;
  - (3) Ways the department will support local communities in

- encouraging public-private partnerships, innovative solutions to local issues, coordination of early learning services, and improved transitions from early learning to kindergarten;
  - (4) The relationship between the department and the private-public partnership;
- 6 (5) Internal governance of the department, to be implemented July 7 1, 2007, upon termination of the early learning council; and
- 8 (6) Transition of any additional early learning programs and 9 responsibilities, including administration of federal child care funds 10 and subsidy eligibility and payment functions.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 507. By July 1, 2010, the joint legislative audit and review committee shall conduct an evaluation of the implementation and operation of the department of early learning to assess the extent to which:
- 15 (1) Services and programs that previously were administered 16 separately have been effectively integrated;
  - (2) Reporting and monitoring activities have been consolidated and made more efficient;
- 19 (3) Consolidation has resulted in administrative efficiencies 20 within the department;
  - (4) Child care and early learning services are improved;
  - (5) Subsidized child care is available;

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- (6) Subsidized child care is affordable;
- 24 (7) The department has been an effective partner in the 25 private-public partnership;
  - (8) Procedures have been put in place to respect parents and legal guardians and provide them the opportunity to participate in the development of policies and program decisions affecting their children; and
- 30 (9) The degree and methods by which the agency conducts parent 31 outreach and education.

# 32 PART 6 33 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

34 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 601.** The following sections are each recodified as new sections in the new chapter created in section 603 of this act:

- RCW 74.13.097 1 2 RCW 74.13.098 RCW 74.13.099 3 RCW 74.15.063 4 RCW 74.15.310 5 RCW 74.15.320 6 7 RCW 74.15.330 RCW 74.15.340 8 RCW 74.15.350 9 RCW 28A.215.100 10 RCW 28A.215.110 11 RCW 28A.215.120 12 13 RCW 28A.215.130 RCW 28A.215.140 14 RCW 28A.215.150 15 RCW 28A.215.160 16 RCW 28A.215.170 17 RCW 28A.215.180 18 RCW 28A.215.190 19 RCW 28A.215.200 20 21 RCW 28A.215.900 22 RCW 28A.215.904 RCW 28A.215.906 23 RCW 28A.215.908 24
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 602. PART HEADINGS NOT LAW. Part headings used in this act are not any part of the law.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 603. Sections 101 through 109, 301 through 315, and 501 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.
- 29 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 604.** This act takes effect July 1, 2006.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 605. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected."

### **2SHB 2964** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education

### ADOPTED 02/28/06

On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "learning;" strike the 1 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 43.17.010, 42.17.2401, 2 41.04.385, 74.13.085, 74.13.0902, 74.13.0903, 74.13.098, 74.13.099, 3 4 74.15.350, 74.12.340, 74.08A.340, 28A.215.110, 28A.215.120, 43.63A.066, 5 74.15.030, 74.15.100, and 74.15.130; reenacting and amending RCW 43.17.020 and 74.15.020; adding a new section to chapter 41.06 RCW; 6 7 adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; creating new sections; recodifying RCW 74.13.097, 74.13.098, 74.13.099, 74.15.063, 74.15.310, 8 74.15.320, 74.15.330, 74.15.340, 74.15.350, 28A.215.100, 28A.215.110, 9 28A.215.120, 28A.215.130, 28A.215.140, 28A.215.150, 28A.215.160, 10 28A.215.170, 28A.215.180, 28A.215.190, 28A.215.200, 28A.215.900, 11 28A.215.904, 28A.215.906, and 28A.215.908; prescribing penalties; and 12 13 providing an effective date."

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