

SHB 1329 - S AMD TO S AMD (S-2924.1/09) **353**

By Senators Hatfield, Stevens, Honeyford, Morton, Hewitt, Hobbs, Sheldon, Holmquist, Pridemore, McCaslin, McAuliffe, Parlette, Berkey, Shin, King, Swecker, Haugen, Delvin, Kastama, Fairley, Murray, Oemig and Schoesler

OUT OF ORDER 4/13/2009

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2 Beginning on page 1, line 7 of the amendment, after "suffer."
3 strike all material through "state." on page 24, line 12 and insert
4 "Recognizing that family child care providers have been granted the
5 ability to collectively bargain with the state to improve standards in
6 their profession and to expand opportunities for educational
7 advancement to ensure continuous quality improvement in the delivery
8 of early learning services, it has been suggested that the legislature
9 grant similar bargaining rights to child care center directors and
10 workers. However, because of current economic realities, it is
11 difficult to award such rights before thoroughly studying whether this
12 will, in fact, improve the working conditions of child care center
13 directors and workers.

14 The legislature intends, therefore, to study the effects of the
15 family child care provider system and whether providing equivalent
16 collective bargaining opportunities to child care center directors and
17 workers will lead to better training and opportunities for child care
18 workers and better early learning opportunities for the children in
19 their care. The legislature further intends that the results of this
20 study be delivered to a joint legislative task force which will
21 investigate methods to raise the subsidy through legislation.

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23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of early learning must
24 study issues relating to increasing the child care subsidy and
25 reimbursement rates for child care centers licensed under chapter
26 43.125 RCW. The study must:

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1 (a) Include a review of the results of the collective bargaining
2 provided to family child care providers. This must include whether
3 this has resulted in increased economic compensation, health and
4 welfare benefits, professional development and training, and other
5 economic matters to these providers;

6 (b) Be made in consultation with child care center directors and
7 workers as well as other interested stakeholders. Directors and
8 workers must be consulted in several areas of the state, including
9 centers located in eastern Washington and western Washington;

10 (c) Review alternative methods of raising the child care subsidy
11 rate;

12 (d) Review alternative methods to provide training to child care
13 center directors and workers;

14 (e) Review methods to retain child care center workers and
15 otherwise reduce employee turnover; and

16 (f) Include other items the department determines necessary to
17 study in order to increase educational opportunities for children in
18 child care centers.

19 (2) The study required under this subsection must be completed by
20 August 1, 2010, and delivered to the joint legislative task force on
21 child care center subsidy and reimbursement rates established in
22 section 3 of this act.

23 (3) This section expires December 31, 2010.

24

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The joint legislative task force on child
26 care center subsidy and reimbursement rates is established. The task
27 force shall consist of the following members:

28 (a) The chair and the ranking minority member of the senate labor,
29 commerce and consumer protection committee;

30 (b) The chair and the ranking minority member of the house of
31 representatives commerce and labor committee;

32 (c) Up to eight members appointed jointly by the president of the
33 senate and the speaker of the house of representatives that represent
34 child care centers. These members must include representatives of

1 businesses that own and operate ten or more child care centers;
2 representatives of local nonprofit organizations whose primary mission
3 is to provide social services, such as the YMCA and the YWCA; and
4 representatives of child care centers such as the Washington
5 federation of independent schools, child care consulting, the
6 Washington education association, the American federation of teachers;
7 and the service employees international union; and

8 (d) The director of the department of early learning, or the
9 director's designee.

10 (2) The task force must review the results of the study conducted
11 under section 2 of this act and must develop proposed legislation that
12 is intended to increase the child care subsidy and reimbursement
13 rates. In developing proposed legislation, the task force must
14 consider previous legislative attempts to raise the subsidy rate
15 including SB 5506, which was proposed during the 2009 legislative
16 session.

17 (3) The task force must submit its proposed legislation to the
18 senate labor commerce and consumer protection committee, the senate
19 early learning and K-12 education committee, the house of
20 representatives commerce and labor committee, and the house of
21 representatives early learning and children's services committee by
22 December 1, 2011.

23 (4) This section expires December 31, 2011."
24

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31 On page 24, beginning on line 14 of the title amendment, after
32 "insert" strike the remainder of the title amendment and insert
33 "creating new sections; and providing expiration dates."
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EFFECT: The Department of Early Learning is required to study methods to raise the child care subsidy and reimbursement rates. A Joint Legislative Task Force on Child Care Subsidy and Reimbursement Rates is established to develop legislation based on the Department of Early Learning study. The proposed legislation must address ways to increase the child care subsidy and reimbursement rates and include consideration of past legislative efforts. The proposed legislation must be delivered to the Legislature by December 1, 2011.

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