

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE BILL 5904

63rd Legislature
2013 2nd Special Session

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

President of the Senate

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

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

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

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SENATE BILL 5904

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2013 2nd Special Session

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 2nd Special Session

By Senators Hill, Hargrove, Litzow, and Billig

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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