

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.13.0902 and 1989 c 381 s 6 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 An employer liaison position is established in the department of
4 social and health services to be colocated at the business assistance
5 center established under RCW 43.31.083. The employer liaison shall,
6 within appropriated funds:

7 (1) Staff and assist the child care partnership in the
8 implementation of its duties under RCW 74.13.0901;

9 (2) Provide technical assistance to employers regarding child care
10 services, working with and through (~~local~~) community-based child care
11 resource and referral organizations whenever possible. Such technical
12 assistance shall include at a minimum:

13 (a) Assessing the child care needs of employees and prospective
14 employees;

15 (b) Reviewing options available to employers interested in
16 increasing access to child care for their employees;

17 (c) Developing techniques to permit small businesses to increase
18 access to child care for their employees;

19 (d) Reviewing methods of evaluating the impact of child care
20 activities on employers; and

21 (e) Preparing, collecting, and distributing current information for
22 employers on options for increasing involvement in child care; and

23 (3) Provide assistance to (~~local~~) community-based child care
24 resource and referral organizations to increase their capacity to
25 provide quality technical assistance to employers in their community.

26 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.31.512 and 1989 c 430 s 7 are each amended to read
27 as follows:

28 The child care facility fund committee shall award loan guarantees,
29 loans or grants to those persons, businesses, or organizations meeting

1 the minimum standards set forth in this chapter who will best serve the
2 intent of the chapter to increase the availability of high quality,
3 affordable child care in Washington state. The committee shall
4 (~~promulgate~~) adopt rules regarding the application for and
5 disbursement of loan guarantees, loans, or grants from the fund,
6 including loan terms and repayment procedures.

7 (1) At a minimum, such rules shall require an applicant to submit
8 a plan which includes a detailed description of:

9 (~~(1)~~) (a) The need for a new or improved child care facility in
10 the area served by the applicant;

11 (~~(2)~~) (b) The steps the applicant will take to serve a reasonable
12 number of handicapped children, as (~~defined~~) described in chapter
13 72.40 RCW, sick children, infants, children requiring night time or
14 weekend care, or children whose costs of care are subsidized by
15 government;

16 (~~(3)~~) (c) Why financial assistance from the state is needed to
17 start or improve the child care facility;

18 (~~(4)~~) (d) How the guaranteed loan, loan, or grant will be used,
19 and how such uses will meet the described need;

20 (~~(5)~~) (e) The child care services to be available at the facility
21 and the capacity of the applicant to provide those services; and

22 (~~(6)~~) (f) The financial status of the applicant, including other
23 resources available to the applicant which will ensure the continued
24 viability of the facility and the availability of its described
25 services.

26 (2) Each employer applying for a loan guarantee, loan, or grant
27 shall conduct, either directly or by contract, an assessment of its
28 employees' child care needs. In determining whether to award a loan
29 guarantee, loan, or grant to an employer applicant, the committee shall

1 consider the extent to which the application reflects the results of
2 the employer's child care needs assessment.

3 (3) Recipients shall annually for two years following the receipt
4 of the loan guarantee, loan, or grant, submit to the child care
5 facility fund committee a report on the facility and how it is meeting
6 the child care needs for which it was intended.

7 PART II

8 CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The legislature recognizes that an
10 integrated child care services system is needed to ensure that planning
11 and coordination of child care services occurs and that linkages
12 between employers, consumers, and child care providers are established.
13 The legislature finds that establishment of the office of the child
14 care resources coordinator, the child care coordinating committee, and
15 the child care partnership are first steps toward achieving an
16 integrated child care system. Additional steps, including the support
17 of existing community-based child care resource and referral programs,
18 and the development of new child care resource and referral programs,
19 must be taken to help parents obtain appropriate child care for their
20 children, increase the supply of child care services and coordination
21 with employers, and improve the quality of child care services through
22 training and support of child care providers.

23 The legislature intends that child care resource and referral
24 services be provided in collaboration with local communities,
25 employers, consumers, and state and federal agencies.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW
27 to read as follows:

1 (1) Persons or organizations may apply for funding to establish or
2 operate a community-based child care resource and referral program
3 through the office of the child care resources coordinator. In
4 evaluating applications for funding, the coordinator shall consider
5 the applicant's ability to offer, or make progress towards offering,
6 the activities provided in subsection (2) of this section. The
7 coordinator shall also consider the number of children under age twelve
8 in the geographic area that will be served by the program when
9 determining the level of funding for the program.

10 (2) Community-based child care resource and referral programs shall
11 develop a service plan that includes the following components:

12 (a) Provide parents with information regarding child care,
13 including but not limited to the location of child care services,
14 information regarding child care licensing requirements, how to choose
15 quality child care services, and the availability of funds to subsidize
16 child care costs;

17 (b) Participate with other community agencies or organizations in
18 the provision of parent support services, such as parent education
19 classes and information on community services available to families;

20 (c) Provide support to child care providers, such as: Information
21 regarding training opportunities, development of appropriate training
22 as needed, resource libraries, toy lending libraries, meeting space,
23 information regarding the operation of child care as a small business,
24 and liaison with department child care licensors;

25 (d) Recruit licensed child care providers, emphasizing geographic
26 or program areas that have an inadequate supply of child care services;

27 (e) In cooperation with the child care partnership established
28 under this chapter, provide technical assistance to employers regarding
29 employee child care benefits;

1 (f) Directly or through a coalition of child care resource and
2 referral programs, and in collaboration with the office of the child
3 care resources coordinator where appropriate, provide information to
4 local and state policy makers regarding child care supply and demand,
5 and advocate for increased public and private sector resources for
6 child care services; and

7 (g) Coordinate a local response to the demand for quality child
8 care services, and participate in coordinated efforts for delivery of
9 services to families.

10 (3)(a) At least twenty-five percent of the funding for community-
11 based child care resource and referral agencies under this section
12 shall be community matching funds provided by private or public
13 entities in the community served by the program requesting funding.
14 Contributions of materials, supplies, or physical facilities may be
15 considered as all or part of the matching funds provided.

16 (b) Community-based child care resource and referral agencies under
17 this section may establish reasonable fees for services provided on an
18 ability to pay basis.

19 **Sec. 6.** RCW 74.13.0903 and 1989 c 381 s 5 are each amended to read
20 as follows:

21 The office of the child care resources coordinator is established
22 to operate under the authority of the department of social and health
23 services. The office shall, within appropriated funds:

24 (1) Staff and assist the child care coordinating committee in the
25 implementation of its duties under RCW 74.13.090;

26 (2) Work with local governments, nonprofit organizations,
27 businesses, and community child care advocates to create local child
28 care resource and referral organizations(~~(. These organizations may~~

1 ~~carry out needs assessments, resource development, provider training,~~
2 ~~technical assistance, and parent information and training));~~

3 (3) Actively seek public and private money for distribution as
4 grants to potential or existing ((local)) community-based child care
5 resource and referral ((organizations. No grant shall be distributed
6 that is greater than twenty five thousand dollars)) programs as
7 provided in section 5 of this act;

8 (4) ((Adopt rules regarding the application for and distribution of
9 grants to local child care resource and referral organizations. The
10 rules shall, at a minimum, require an applicant to submit a plan for
11 achieving the following objectives:

12 (a) ~~Provide parents with information about child care resources,~~
13 ~~including location of services and subsidies;~~

14 (b) ~~Carry out child care provider recruitment and training~~
15 ~~programs;~~

16 (c) ~~Offer support services, such as parent and provider seminars,~~
17 ~~toy-lending libraries, and substitute banks;~~

18 (d) ~~Provide information for businesses regarding child care supply~~
19 ~~and demand;~~

20 (e) ~~Advocate for increased public and private sector resources~~
21 ~~devoted to child care;~~ and

22 (f) ~~Provide technical assistance to employers regarding employee~~
23 ~~child care services;~~

24 (5)) Provide staff support and technical assistance to ((local))
25 community-based child care resource and referral organizations and
26 coalitions thereof;

27 ((6) ~~Organize the local child care resource and referral~~
28 ~~organizations into a state-wide system;~~

29 (7)) (5) As a component of licensing maintain a ((state-wide child
30 care referral)) data bank ((and work with department of social and

1 ~~health services licensers~~) of licensed providers to provide
2 information, including periodic updates of providers' license status,
3 to ~~((local))~~ community-based child care resource and referral
4 organizations about licensed child care providers in the state;

5 ~~((+8))~~ (6) Through local resource and referral organizations,
6 compile data about local child care needs and availability for future
7 planning and development;

8 ~~((+9))~~ (7) Coordinate the provision of training and technical
9 assistance to child care providers; and

10 ~~((+10))~~ (8) Collect and assemble information regarding the
11 availability of insurance and of federal and other child care funding
12 to assist state and local agencies, businesses, and other child care
13 providers in offering child care services.

14 PART III

15 MISCELLANEOUS

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The sum of one million six hundred
17 seventy-five thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary,
18 is appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, of which eight
19 hundred seventy-five thousand dollars shall come from the general fund
20 and eight hundred thousand dollars shall be matched by federal child
21 care and development block grant funds to the department of social and
22 health services for the purposes of sections 4 through 6 of this act.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** If any provision of this act or its
24 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
25 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
26 persons or circumstances is not affected.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Part headings as used in this act
2 constitute no part of the law.