
SENATE BILL 5580

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Senators Anderson, Bailey, L. Smith, McCaslin, Wojahn and A. Smith.

Read first time February 8, 1991. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to community-based child care resource and referral
2 agencies; amending RCW 74.13.0903; adding a new section to chapter
3 74.13 RCW; creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that an
6 integrated child care services system is needed in local communities to
7 ensure that planning and coordination of child care services occurs and
8 that linkages between consumers and child care providers are
9 established. The legislature finds that establishment of the state
10 office of the child care resources coordinator, the state child care
11 coordinating committee, and the state child care partnership are only
12 steps toward achieving an integrated child care system. Additional
13 steps, including the support of existing community-based child care
14 resource and referral programs, and the development of new community-
15 based child care resource and referral programs, must be taken to help

1 parents obtain appropriate child care for their children, increase the
2 supply of child care services, and improve the quality of child care
3 services through training and support of child care providers.

4 The legislature intends that community-based child care resource
5 and referral services be provided and funded in collaboration with
6 local community associations, local governments, employers, nonprofit
7 organizations, consumers, and state and federal agencies.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 (1) Persons or organizations may apply for funding through the
11 office of the child care resources coordinator to establish or operate
12 a community-based child care resource and referral program. In
13 evaluating applications for funding, the coordinator shall consider the
14 applicant's ability to collaborate with citizen community associations,
15 public and private organizations, and employer groups to offer, or make
16 progress towards offering, the activities provided in subsection (2) of
17 this section. The coordinator shall also consider the number of
18 children under age twelve in the geographic area that will be served by
19 the program when determining the level of funding for the program.

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

22 (a) Provide parents with information regarding child care,
23 including but not limited to the location of child care services,
24 information regarding child care licensing requirements, how to choose
25 quality child care services, and the availability of funds to subsidize
26 child care costs;

27 (b) Participate with community associations, citizens, and
28 community agencies or organizations in the provision of parent support

1 services, such as parent education classes and information on community
2 services available to families;

3 (c) Provide support to child care providers, such as: Information
4 regarding training opportunities, development of appropriate training
5 as needed, resource libraries, toy lending libraries, meeting space,
6 information regarding the operation of child care as a small business,
7 and liaison with department child care licensors;

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

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

13 (f) Directly or through a coalition of child care resource and
14 referral programs, compile and make public concise information to
15 private and public employers and state and local policymakers regarding
16 child care supply and demand including information on gaps in service
17 specific to geographic areas, needs of families specific to ages and
18 care needs of their children and adolescents, and collaborate with the
19 public and private sector for appropriate levels of child care
20 services; and

21 (g) Collaborate with geographically connected child care providers
22 to accurately describe the demand for quality child care services in
23 their communities and region, and participate in coordinated efforts
24 for delivery of services to families.

25 (3) At least fifty percent of the funding and resources for
26 community-based child care resource and referral agencies under this
27 section shall be local public and private sector matching funds. These
28 matching funds may be provided by outside sources including private
29 charitable and nonprofit organizations, private employers, public
30 entities, local and city governments, and municipal corporations. In-

1 kind contribution for materials, supplies, or physical facilities may
2 be considered as all or part of the matching funds required by this
3 section.

4 (4) Request and receive funds, gifts, grants, or appropriations
5 from the legislature, the federal government or private sources.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 74.13.0903 and 1989 c 381 s 5 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

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

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

13 (2) Work with local governments, nonprofit organizations,
14 businesses, and community child care advocates to create local child
15 care resource and referral organizations(~~(.—These organizations may~~
16 ~~carry out needs assessments, resource development, provider training,~~
17 ~~technical assistance, and parent information and training))~~);

18 (3) Actively seek public and private money for distribution as
19 grants to potential or existing (~~(local))~~ community-based child care
20 resource and referral (~~((organizations. No grant shall be distributed~~
21 ~~that is greater than twenty five thousand dollars))~~ programs as
22 provided in section 2 of this act;

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

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

1 ~~(b) Carry out child care provider recruitment and training~~
2 ~~programs;~~

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

5 ~~(d) Provide information for businesses regarding child care supply~~
6 ~~and demand;~~

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

9 ~~(f) Provide technical assistance to employers regarding employee~~
10 ~~child care services;~~

11 (5)) Provide staff support and technical assistance to local child
12 care resource and referral organizations;

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

15 (7)) (5) Maintain a state-wide (~~(child care referral)~~) data bank
16 of licensed providers and work with department of social and health
17 services licensors to provide information to (~~(local)~~) community-based
18 child care resource and referral organizations about licensed child
19 care providers in the state;

20 (~~(8) Through local resource and referral organizations, compile~~
21 ~~data about local child care needs and availability for future planning~~
22 ~~and development;~~

23 (9)) (6) Coordinate the provision of training and technical
24 assistance to child care providers; and

25 (~~(10)~~) (7) Collect and assemble information regarding the
26 availability of insurance and of federal and other child care funding
27 to assist state and local agencies, businesses, and other child care
28 providers in offering child care services.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of one million six hundred
2 thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is
3 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general
4 fund to the department of social and health services for the purposes
5 of this act.