

2 **HB 2447** - S COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Education

4 ADOPTED 3/4/94

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "**Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.215.100 and 1985 c 418 s 1 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 It is the intent of the legislature to establish (~~(a preschool)~~) an
10 early childhood state education and assistance program. This special
11 assistance program is a voluntary enrichment program to help prepare
12 some children to enter the common school system and shall be offered
13 only as funds are available. This program is not a part of the basic
14 program of education which must be fully funded by the legislature
15 under Article IX, section 1 of the state Constitution.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.215.110 and 1990 c 33 s 213 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
19 this section apply throughout RCW 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.200 and
20 28A.215.900 through 28A.215.908.

21 (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW
22 28A.215.140.

23 (~~(2) ("At risk" means a child not eligible for kindergarten whose~~
24 ~~family circumstances would qualify that child for eligibility under the~~
25 ~~federal head start program.~~

26 (~~3~~)) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and
27 economic development.

28 (~~(4)~~) (3) "Eligible child" means ((an at risk child as defined in
29 this section)) a child not eligible for kindergarten whose family
30 income is at or below one hundred percent of the federal poverty level,
31 as published annually by the federal department of health and human
32 services, and includes a child whose family is eligible for public
33 assistance, and who is not a participant in a federal or state program
34 providing ((like educational)) comprehensive services and may include
35 children who are eligible under rules adopted by the department if the

1 number of such children equals not more than ten percent of the total
2 enrollment in the (~~preschool~~) early childhood program. Priority for
3 enrollment shall be given to children from families with the lowest
4 income or to eligible children from families with multiple needs.

5 (~~(5)~~) (4) "Approved (~~preschool~~) programs" means those state-
6 supported education and special assistance programs which are
7 recognized by the department of community, trade, and economic
8 development as meeting the minimum program rules adopted by the
9 department to qualify under RCW 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.200 and
10 28A.215.900 through 28A.215.908 and are designated as eligible for
11 funding by the department under RCW 28A.215.160 and 28A.215.180.

12 (5) "Comprehensive" means an assistance program that focuses on the
13 needs of the child and includes education, health, and family support
14 services.

15 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for
16 parents to:

17 (a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;

18 (b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting
19 skills;

20 (c) Further their education and training;

21 (d) Increase their ability to use needed services in the community;

22 (e) Increase their self-reliance.

23 **Sec. 3.** 1988 c 174 s 1 (uncodified) is amended to read as follows:

24 The legislature finds that the early childhood education and
25 assistance program provides for the educational, social, health,
26 nutritional, and cultural development of children at risk of failure
27 when they reach school age. The long-term benefits to society in the
28 form of greater educational attainment, employment, and projected
29 lifetime earnings as well as the savings to be realized, from lower
30 crime rates, welfare support, and reduced teenage pregnancy, have been
31 demonstrated through lifelong research of at-risk children and
32 (~~preschool~~) early childhood programs.

33 (~~The legislature further finds that existing federal head start~~
34 ~~programs and state-supported early childhood education programs provide~~
35 ~~services for less than one-third of the eligible children in~~
36 ~~Washington.))~~

37 The legislature intends to encourage development of community
38 partnerships for children at risk by authorizing a program of voluntary

1 grants and contributions from business and community organizations to
2 increase opportunities for children to participate in early childhood
3 education.

4 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.215.120 and 1988 c 174 s 3 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 The department of community, trade, and economic development shall
7 administer a state-supported (~~((preschool))~~) early childhood education
8 and assistance program to assist eligible children with educational,
9 social, health, nutritional, and cultural development to enhance their
10 opportunity for success in the common school system. Eligible children
11 shall be admitted to approved (~~((preschool))~~) early childhood programs to
12 the extent that the legislature provides funds, and additional eligible
13 children may be admitted to the extent that grants and contributions
14 from community sources provide sufficient funds for a program
15 equivalent to that supported by state funds.

16 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.215.130 and 1988 c 174 s 4 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 Approved (~~((preschool))~~) early childhood programs shall receive
19 state-funded support through the department. (~~((School districts, and
20 existing head start grantees in cooperation with school districts))~~)
21 Public or private nonsectarian organizations, including, but not
22 limited to school districts, educational service districts, community
23 and technical colleges, local governments, or nonprofit organizations,
24 are eligible to participate as providers of the state (~~((preschool))~~)
25 early childhood program. (~~((School districts may contract with other
26 governmental or nongovernmental nonsectarian organizations to conduct
27 a portion of the state program.))~~) Funds appropriated for the state
28 program shall be used to continue to operate existing programs or to
29 establish new or expanded (~~((preschool))~~) early childhood programs, and
30 shall not be used to supplant federally supported head start programs.
31 Funds obtained by providers through voluntary grants or contributions
32 from individuals, agencies, corporations, or organizations may be used
33 to expand or enhance preschool programs so long as program standards
34 established by the department are maintained, but shall not be used to
35 supplant federally supported head start programs or state-supported
36 (~~((preschool))~~) early childhood programs. Persons applying to conduct
37 the (~~((preschool))~~) early childhood program shall identify targeted

1 groups and the number of children to be served, program components, the
2 qualifications of instructional and special staff, the source and
3 amount of grants or contributions from sources other than state funds,
4 facilities and equipment support, and transportation and personal care
5 arrangements.

6 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.215.150 and 1988 c 174 s 6 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 The department shall adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW for the
9 administration of the ~~((preschool))~~ early childhood program. ~~((Federal~~
10 ~~head start program criteria, including set aside provisions for the))~~
11 Approved early childhood programs shall conduct needs assessments of
12 their service area, identify any targeted groups of children, to
13 include but not be limited to children of seasonal and migrant
14 farmworkers and native American populations living either on or off
15 reservation, ~~((to the extent practicable, shall be considered as~~
16 ~~guidelines for the state preschool early childhood assistance program))~~
17 and provide to the department a service delivery plan, to the extent
18 practicable, that addresses these targeted populations.

19 The department in developing rules for the ~~((preschool))~~ early
20 childhood program shall consult with the advisory committee, and shall
21 consider such factors as coordination with existing head start and
22 other ~~((preschool))~~ early childhood programs, the preparation necessary
23 for instructors, qualifications of instructors, adequate space and
24 equipment, and special transportation needs. The rules shall
25 specifically require the ~~((preschool))~~ early childhood programs to
26 provide for parental involvement ~~((at a level not less than that~~
27 ~~provided under the federal head start program criteria))~~ in
28 participation with their child's program, in local program policy
29 decisions, in development and revision of service delivery systems, and
30 in parent education and training.

31 **Sec. 7.** 1987 c 518 s 1 (uncodified) is amended to read as follows:

32 The long-term social, community welfare, and economic interests of
33 the state will be served by an investment in our children. Conclusive
34 studies and experiences show that providing children with ~~((certain))~~
35 developmental experiences and providing parents with effective parental
36 ~~((guidance))~~ partnership, empowerment, opportunities for involvement
37 with their child's developmental learning, and expanding parenting

1 skills, learning, and training can greatly improve (~~their~~) children's
2 performance in school as well as increase the likelihood of (~~their~~)
3 children's success as adults. National studies have also confirmed
4 that special attention to, and educational assistance for, children
5 (~~and~~), their school environment (~~is~~), and their families are the
6 most effective ways in which to meet the state's social and economic
7 goals.

8 The legislature intends to enhance the readiness to learn of
9 certain children and students by: Providing for an expansion of the
10 state early childhood education and assistance program for children
11 from low-income families and establishing an adult literacy program for
12 certain parents; assisting school districts to establish elementary
13 counseling programs; instituting a program to address learning problems
14 due to drug and alcohol use and abuse; and establishing a program
15 directed at students who leave school before graduation.

16 The legislature intends further to establish programs that will
17 allow for parental, business, and community involvement in assisting
18 the school systems throughout the state to enhance the ability of
19 children to learn.

20 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.215.160 and 1988 c 174 s 7 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 The department shall review applications from public or private
23 nonsectarian organizations for state funding of early childhood
24 education and assistance programs and award funds (~~on a competitive~~
25 ~~basis~~) as determined by department rules and based on local community
26 needs and demonstrated capacity to provide services.

27 **Sec. 9.** RCW 28A.215.170 and 1988 c 174 s 8 are each amended to
28 read as follows:

29 The governor shall report to the legislature before each regular
30 session of the legislature convening in an odd-numbered year, on the
31 (~~merits of continuing and expanding the preschool program or~~
32 ~~instituting other means of providing early childhood development~~
33 ~~assistance. The~~) current status of the program, the state-wide need
34 for early childhood program services, and the plans to address these
35 needs. The department shall consult with the office of the
36 superintendent of public instruction (~~shall assist the governor~~) in

1 the preparation of the biennial report and (~~shall be consulted~~) on
2 all issues of mutual concern addressed in (~~said~~) the report.

3 (~~If the governor recommends the continuation of a state-funded~~
4 ~~preschool program, then~~) The governor's report shall include specific
5 recommendations on at least the following issues:

6 (1) The desired relationships of a state-funded (~~preschool~~) early
7 childhood education and assistance program with the common school
8 system;

9 (2) The types of children and their needs that the program should
10 serve;

11 (3) The appropriate level of state support for implementing a
12 comprehensive (~~preschool~~) early childhood education and assistance
13 program for all eligible children, including related programs to
14 prepare instructors and provide facilities, equipment, and
15 transportation;

16 (4) The state administrative structure necessary to implement the
17 program; and

18 (5) The establishment of a system to examine and monitor the
19 effectiveness of (~~preschool~~) early childhood educational and
20 assistance services for (~~disadvantaged~~) eligible children to measure,
21 among other elements, if possible, how the average level of performance
22 of children completing this program compare to the average level of
23 performance of all state students in their grade level, and to the
24 average level of performance of those (~~at-risk~~) eligible students who
25 (~~do~~) did not have access to this program. The evaluation system
26 shall examine how the percentage of these children needing access to
27 special education or remedial programs compares to the overall
28 percentage of children needing such services and compares to the
29 percentage of (~~at-risk~~) eligible students who (~~do~~) did not have
30 access to this program needing such services.

31 **Sec. 10.** RCW 28A.215.180 and 1990 c 33 s 214 are each amended to
32 read as follows:

33 For the purposes of RCW 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.200 and
34 28A.215.900 through 28A.215.908, the department may award state support
35 under RCW 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.160 to increase the numbers of
36 eligible children assisted by the federal or state-supported
37 (~~preschool~~) early childhood programs in this state (~~by up to five~~
38 ~~thousand additional children~~). Priority shall be given to (~~groups~~

1 in)) those geographical areas which include a high percentage of
2 families qualifying under the ((federal "at risk")) "eligible child"
3 criteria. The overall program funding level shall be based on an
4 average grant per child consistent with state appropriations made for
5 program costs: PROVIDED, That programs addressing special needs of
6 selected groups or communities shall be recognized in the department's
7 rules.

8 **Sec. 11.** RCW 28A.215.200 and 1990 c 33 s 215 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 The department may solicit gifts, grants, conveyances, bequests and
11 devises for the use or benefit of the ((preschool)) early childhood
12 state education and assistance program established by RCW 28A.215.100
13 through 28A.215.200 and 28A.215.900 through 28A.215.908. The
14 department shall actively solicit support from business and industry
15 and from the federal government for the ((preschool)) state early
16 childhood education and assistance program and shall assist local
17 programs in developing partnerships with the community for ((children-
18 at-risk)) eligible children.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** This act shall take effect July 1, 1994."

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21 By Committee on Education

22 ADOPTED 3/4/94

23 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "program;" strike the
24 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.215.100,
25 28A.215.110, 28A.215.120, 28A.215.130, 28A.215.150, 28A.215.160,
26 28A.215.170, 28A.215.180, and 28A.215.200; amending 1988 c 174 s 1
27 (uncodified); amending 1987 c 518 s 1 (uncodified); and providing an
28 effective date."

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