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HOUSE BILL 1772

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Pruitt, Dorn, Holm, G. Cole, Eide, Cothorn, Jones, R. Meyers, Basich, Quall and Leonard

Read first time 02/08/93. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to parent education; adding new sections to chapter  
2 43.63A RCW; making an appropriation; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A parents as first teachers pilot program is  
5 established to provide support to children and their families during  
6 the child's first four years of life. The program is a voluntary  
7 enrichment program that shall provide clear, usable, and carefully  
8 researched information and assistance to parents in fulfilling their  
9 parenting and teaching roles. The purpose of the program is to promote  
10 parental involvement in the education of their children to help ensure  
11 children are ready to learn before entering the school system.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department of community development  
13 shall administer the parents as first teachers pilot program, in  
14 coordination with the early childhood assistance program, and in  
15 collaboration with other existing programs. The target age group is  
16 from the third trimester of pregnancy through age four. Access to the  
17 program shall be universal on a sliding fee scale, except that the

1 state shall cover costs of services provided to at-risk children and  
2 their families.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) Entities eligible to submit applications  
4 to conduct a parents as first teachers pilot program include school  
5 districts, preschools, providers of health services, early childhood  
6 assistance program providers, and other providers of preschool and  
7 parenting education.

8 (2) Initial applications shall be submitted to the department of  
9 community development by February 1, 1994. Each application shall  
10 include, but not be limited to the following information:

11 (a) The number of children and their families in the prenatal  
12 through age four age group that the applicant is capable of serving;

13 (b) The method by which the applicant will identify and contact the  
14 target families;

15 (c) A proposed plan for providing developmental and parenting  
16 information and assistance to parents;

17 (d) Methods for providing periodic developmental assessment of  
18 children enrolled in the program and for determining that expected  
19 outcomes for the program are being met;

20 (e) The training and experience levels of staff;

21 (f) Budget plans for the project and additional anticipated sources  
22 of funding, including private grants and contributions, if any; and

23 (g) Proposed plans for collaboration with other service providers.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The department of community development  
25 shall establish rules for the award of grant moneys for three pilot  
26 programs, which rules shall include a method to distribute the programs  
27 geographically around the state effectively.

28 (2) The department of community development shall distribute the  
29 initial award grants by May 1, 1994.

30 (3) The parents as first teachers pilot programs may be conducted  
31 for up to six years, subject to available funding.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The department of community development may  
33 accept, receive, and administer such gifts, grants, and contributions  
34 as may be provided from public and private sources, and shall actively  
35 solicit support from business and industry and from the federal  
36 government for the purposes of sections 1 through 7 of this act.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**    The department of community development  
2 shall establish an advisory committee composed of representatives from  
3 the department of health, the division of children and family services  
4 within the department of social and health services, the office of the  
5 superintendent of public instruction, and such other organizations as  
6 deemed necessary by the department to assist with the establishment of  
7 the program and advise the department on matters regarding the ongoing  
8 operation of the program.

9        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**    (1) The department of community development  
10 shall report by December 1, 1997, to the appropriate committees of the  
11 legislature on the expenditures made, the outcomes attained, and other  
12 pertinent aspects of its experience in the implementation of this  
13 program.

14        (2) Each pilot program shall submit an annual report to the  
15 department of community development on the progress of the program.

16        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 8.**    Sections 1 through 7 of this act are each  
17 added to chapter 43.63A RCW.

18        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 9.**    This act shall expire January 1, 2001.

19        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 10.**    The sum of two million dollars, or as much  
20 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending  
21 June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the department of community  
22 development for the purposes of this act.

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