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HOUSE BILL 2530

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Santos, Quall, Kagi, Wensman, Kenney, Radcliff, Stensen, Grant, Cody, Haigh, Schual-Berke, Keiser, Talcott, Delvin, Cox, Carlson, Tokuda, D. Schmidt, Regala, Ogden, Linville, Anderson, Conway, Lantz, Voloria, Edmonds, Cooper, Murray, Sullivan, Rockefeller, Wood, O'Brien, Hurst and Kessler

Read first time 01/17/2000. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to after-school care for middle school youth grant  
2 program; amending RCW 74.13.0903; adding a new section to chapter  
3 28A.215 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that middle school  
6 youth, grades six, seven, and eight, are experiencing remarkable  
7 physical and emotional development. These changes often affect how  
8 they perform in school and how they relate to parents and others in the  
9 community. This is the age when adolescents crave excitement and  
10 activities with their peers. Law enforcement officials affirm that if  
11 these needs are not met in quality programs organized by responsible  
12 adults, the adolescents become more likely to participate in unhealthy  
13 or criminal activity.

14 The legislature further finds that there is a lack of affordable,  
15 safe, age-appropriate child care opportunities for middle school youth.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.215  
17 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) The department of social and health services shall establish  
2 a grant program to be administered by the office of child care policy  
3 to provide funding for after-school care for middle school youth.  
4 Under the grant program:

5 (a) Public schools and other public, private, and nonprofit  
6 organizations may apply for grants to provide after-school care to  
7 youth in sixth, seventh, and eighth grades;

8 (b) Grants may be awarded to provide funding to either supplement  
9 existing programs or start new programs;

10 (c) Applicants must provide twenty-five percent matching funds,  
11 either money or in-kind;

12 (d) Preference is to be given to providing grants to programs that  
13 will:

14 (i) Serve low-income youth;

15 (ii) Serve youth with special needs, including youth with  
16 developmental or physical disabilities and youth in individualized  
17 educational programs;

18 (iii) Serve economically depressed areas;

19 (iv) Provide age-appropriate activities for the youth; and

20 (v) Be geographically diverse.

21 (2) In administering the grant program, the office of child care  
22 policy shall:

23 (a) Establish an advisory board that includes representatives from  
24 middle schools, parents of middle school youth, and providers from  
25 community-based organizations and is geographically diverse. The  
26 advisory board shall review and rate applications prior to selection by  
27 the office of child care policy;

28 (b) Develop outcome measures with input from the advisory board  
29 and keep track of program impact using developmental assets as  
30 performance measures; and

31 (c) Encourage participating organizations to participate in  
32 federal food programs.

33 (3) The department of social and health services shall adopt rules  
34 under chapter 34.05 RCW setting forth criteria, application procedures,  
35 and methods to implement this section.

36 **Sec. 3.** RCW 74.13.0903 and 1997 c 58 s 404 are each amended to  
37 read as follows:

1       The office of child care policy is established to operate under the  
2 authority of the department of social and health services. The duties  
3 and responsibilities of the office include, but are not limited to, the  
4 following, within appropriated funds:

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

7       (2) Work in conjunction with the state-wide child care resource and  
8 referral network as well as local governments, nonprofit organizations,  
9 businesses, and community child care advocates to create local child  
10 care resource and referral organizations. These organizations may  
11 carry out needs assessments, resource development, provider training,  
12 technical assistance, and parent information and training;

13       (3) Actively seek public and private money for distribution as  
14 grants to the state-wide child care resource and referral network and  
15 to existing or potential local child care resource and referral  
16 organizations;

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

21       (a) Provide parents with information about child care resources,  
22 including location of services and subsidies;

23       (b) Carry out child care provider recruitment and training  
24 programs, including training under RCW 74.25.040;

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

27       (d) Provide information for businesses regarding child care supply  
28 and demand;

29       (e) Advocate for increased public and private sector resources  
30 devoted to child care;

31       (f) Provide technical assistance to employers regarding employee  
32 child care services; and

33       (g) Serve recipients of temporary assistance for needy families and  
34 working parents with incomes at or below household incomes of one  
35 hundred seventy-five percent of the federal poverty line;

36       (5) Provide staff support and technical assistance to the state-  
37 wide child care resource and referral network and local child care  
38 resource and referral organizations;

1 (6) Maintain a state-wide child care licensing data bank and work  
2 with department of social and health services licensors to provide  
3 information to local child care resource and referral organizations  
4 about licensed child care providers in the state;

5 (7) Through the state-wide child care resource and referral network  
6 and local resource and referral organizations, compile data about local  
7 child care needs and availability for future planning and development;

8 (8) Coordinate with the state-wide child care resource and referral  
9 network and local child care resource and referral organizations for  
10 the provision of training and technical assistance to child care  
11 providers; ((and))

12 (9) Collect and assemble information regarding the availability of  
13 insurance and of federal and other child care funding to assist state  
14 and local agencies, businesses, and other child care providers in  
15 offering child care services;

16 (10) Administer the after-school care for middle school youth grant  
17 program established in section 2 of this act.

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