SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2964

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Talcott, Walsh, Quall, Haler, Shabro, Fromhold, Kessler, Hunt, Appleton, Lantz, Darneille, Kenney, Chase, Hasegawa, Sells, Roberts, Hunter, Moeller, McCoy, Santos, Green and Simpson; by request of Governor Gregoire)

READ FIRST TIME 2/7/06.

AN ACT Relating to a department of early learning; amending RCW 1 2 43.17.010, 42.17.2401, 41.04.385, 74.13.085, 74.13.0902, 74.13.0903, 74.13.098, 74.13.099, 74.15.350, 74.12.340, 74.08A.340, 28A.215.110, 3 28A.215.120, 43.63A.066, 74.15.030, 74.15.100, and 4 74.15.130; reenacting and amending RCW 43.17.020 and 74.15.020; adding a new 5 section to chapter 41.06 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; 6 7 creating new sections; recodifying RCW 74.13.097, 74.13.098, 74.13.099, 74.15.063, 74.15.310, 74.15.320, 74.15.330, 74.15.340, 74.15.350, 8 28A.215.100, 28A.215.110, 28A.215.120, 28A.215.130, 9 28A.215.140, 28A.215.150, 28A.215.160, 28A.215.170, 28A.215.180, 10 28A.215.190, 28A.215.200, 28A.215.900, 28A.215.904, 28A.215.906, and 28A.215.908; 11 12 prescribing penalties; and providing an effective date.

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

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PART 1

DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING CREATED

16 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 101. (1) The legislature recognizes that:
17 (a) Parents are their children's first and most important teachers
18 and decision makers;

(b) Research across disciplines now demonstrates that what happens
 in the earliest years makes a critical difference in children's
 readiness to succeed in school and life;

4 (c) Washington's competitiveness in the global economy requires a
5 world-class education system that starts early and supports life-long
6 learning;

7 (d) Washington state currently makes substantial investments in 8 voluntary child care and early learning services and supports, but 9 because services are fragmented across multiple state agencies, and 10 early learning providers lack the supports and incentives needed to 11 improve the quality of services they provide, many parents have 12 difficulty accessing high quality early learning services;

(e) A more cohesive and integrated voluntary early learning system would result in greater efficiencies for the state, increased partnership between the state and the private sector, improved access to high quality early learning services, and better employment and early learning outcomes for families and all children.

18 (2) The legislature finds that the early years of a child's life 19 are critical to the child's healthy brain development and that the 20 quality of caregiving during the early years can significantly impact 21 the child's intellectual, social, and emotional development.

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(3) The purpose of this chapter is:

(a) To establish the department of early learning, the purpose of
 which is to coordinate and consolidate child care and early learning
 programs;

(b) To safeguard the health, safety, and well-being of children
receiving child care and early learning services, which is paramount
over the right of any person to provide care;

(c) To promote linkages and alignment between early learning programs and elementary schools and support the transition of children and families from prekindergarten environments to kindergarten;

32 (d) To promote the development of a sufficient number and variety 33 of adequate child care and early learning facilities, both public and 34 private; and

35 (e) To license agencies and to assure the users of such agencies, 36 their parents, the community at large and the agencies themselves that 37 adequate minimum standards are maintained by all child care and early 38 learning facilities. NEW SECTION. Sec. 102. The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise. (1) "Agency" means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, or facility that provides child care and early learning services outside a child's own home and includes the following irrespective of whether there is compensation to the agency:

7 (a) "Child day care center" means an agency that regularly provides 8 child day care and early learning services for a group of children for 9 periods of less than twenty-four hours;

10 (b) "Family day care provider" means a child day care provider who 11 regularly provides child day care and early learning services for not 12 more than twelve children in the provider's home in the family living 13 quarters;

14 (c) "Service provider" means the entity that operates a community 15 facility.

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(2) "Agency" does not include the following:(a) Persons related to the child in the following ways:

(i) Any blood relative, including those of half-blood, and
 including first cousins, nephews or nieces, and persons of preceding
 generations as denoted by prefixes of grand, great, or great-great;

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(ii) Stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, and stepsister;

(iii) A person who legally adopts a child or the child's parent as well as the natural and other legally adopted children of such persons, and other relatives of the adoptive parents in accordance with state law; or

26 (iv) Spouses of any persons named in (i), (ii), or (iii) of this
27 subsection (2)(a), even after the marriage is terminated;

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(b) Persons who are legal guardians of the child;

(c) Persons who care for a neighbor's or friend's child or children, with or without compensation, where the person providing care for periods of less than twenty-four hours does not conduct such activity on an ongoing, regularly scheduled basis for the purpose of engaging in business, which includes, but is not limited to, advertising such care;

35 (d) Parents on a mutually cooperative basis exchange care of one 36 another's children;

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(e) Nursery schools or kindergartens that are engaged primarily in

educational work with preschool children and in which no child is
 enrolled on a regular basis for more than four hours per day;

3 (f) Schools, including boarding schools, that are engaged primarily 4 in education, operate on a definite school year schedule, follow a 5 stated academic curriculum, accept only school-age children, and do not 6 accept custody of children;

7 (g) Seasonal camps of three months' or less duration engaged
8 primarily in recreational or educational activities;

9 (h) Facilities providing care to children for periods of less than 10 twenty-four hours whose parents remain on the premises to participate 11 in activities other than employment;

(i) Any agency having been in operation in this state ten years before June 8, 1967, and not seeking or accepting moneys or assistance from any state or federal agency, and is supported in part by an endowment or trust fund;

(j) An agency operated by any unit of local, state, or federal government or an agency, located within the boundaries of a federally recognized Indian reservation, licensed by the Indian tribe;

19 (k) An agency located on a federal military reservation, except 20 where the military authorities request that such agency be subject to 21 the licensing requirements of this chapter;

(1) An agency that offers early learning and support services, such
 as parent education, and does not provide child care services on a
 regular basis.

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(3) "Department" means the department of early learning.

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(4) "Director" means the director of the department.

(5) "Enforcement action" means denial, suspension, revocation, modification, or nonrenewal of a license pursuant to section 311(1) of this act or assessment of civil monetary penalties pursuant to section 311(3) of this act.

31 (6) "Probationary license" means a license issued as a disciplinary 32 measure to an agency that has previously been issued a full license but 33 is out of compliance with licensing standards.

34 (7) "Requirement" means any rule, regulation, or standard of care35 to be maintained by an agency.

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NEW SECTION. Sec. 103. (1) The department of early learning is

created as an executive branch agency. The department is vested with
 all powers and duties transferred to it under this chapter and such
 other powers and duties as may be authorized by law.

4 (2) The primary duties of the department are to implement state 5 early learning policy and to coordinate, consolidate, and integrate 6 child care and early learning programs in order to administer programs 7 and funding as efficiently as possible. The department's duties 8 include, but are not limited to, the following:

9 (a) To have lead responsibility for the state's early learning 10 policy;

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(b) To improve parent education and support;

12 (c) To carry out activities to improve the quality of early 13 learning opportunities for young children including activities in 14 cooperation with the public-private partnership;

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(d) To administer child care and early learning programs;

16 (e) To standardize internal financial audits, oversight visits, 17 performance benchmarks, and licensing criteria, so that programs can 18 function in an integrated fashion;

19 (f) To assist in the implementation of the public-private 20 partnership and cooperate with that partnership in pursuing its goals 21 including providing data and support necessary for the successful work 22 of the partnership;

23 (g) To work cooperatively and in coordination with the early 24 learning council; and

(h) To collaborate with the K-12 school system at the state and
local levels to ensure appropriate connections and smooth transitions
between early learning and K-12 programs.

(3) The department's programs shall be designed in a way that respects and preserves the ability of parents and legal guardians to direct the education, development, and upbringing of their children. The department shall include parents and legal guardians in the development of policies and program decisions affecting their children.

33 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 104. (1) The executive head and appointing 34 authority of the department is the director. The director shall be 35 appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate, and shall 36 serve at the pleasure of the governor. The director shall be paid a 37 salary to be fixed by the governor in accordance with RCW 43.03.040. 1 If a vacancy occurs in the position of director while the senate is not 2 in session, the governor shall make a temporary appointment until the 3 next meeting of the senate when the governor's nomination for the 4 office of director shall be presented.

5 (2) The director may employ staff members, who shall be exempt from 6 chapter 41.06 RCW, and any additional staff members as are necessary to 7 administer this chapter. The director may delegate any power or duty 8 vested in him or her by this chapter, including authority to make final 9 decisions and enter final orders in hearings conducted under chapter 10 34.05 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 105. It is the intent of the legislature 11 wherever possible to place the internal affairs of the department under 12 the control of the director in order that the director may institute 13 therein the flexible, alert, and intelligent management of its business 14 15 that changing contemporary circumstances require. Therefore, whenever 16 the director's authority is not specifically limited by law, the 17 director has complete charge and supervisory powers over the department. The director may create such administrative structures as 18 19 the director considers appropriate, except as otherwise specified by The director may employ such assistants and personnel as 20 law. 21 necessary for the general administration of the department. This 22 employment shall be in accordance with the state civil service law, 23 chapter 41.06 RCW, except as otherwise provided.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 106. The director may appoint such advisory 24 25 committees or councils as may be required by any federal legislation as a condition to the receipt of federal funds by the department. 26 The 27 director may also appoint statewide committees or councils on such 28 subject as come within the matters are or department's 29 responsibilities. The committees or councils shall be constituted as 30 required by federal law or as the director may determine.

Members of such state advisory committees or councils may be paid their travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

33 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 107.** In furtherance of the policy of the state 34 to cooperate with the federal government in all of the programs under 35 the jurisdiction of the department, such rules as may become necessary

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to entitle the state to participate in federal funds may be adopted, 1 2 unless expressly prohibited by law. Any internal reorganization carried out under the terms of this chapter shall meet federal 3 requirements that are a necessary condition to state receipt of federal 4 5 funds. Any section or provision of law dealing with the department that may be susceptible to more than one construction shall be 6 interpreted in favor of the construction most likely to comply with 7 federal laws entitling this state to receive federal funds for the 8 various programs of the department. 9

10 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 108. (1) In addition to other duties under this 11 chapter, the director shall provide leadership and active participation 12 in the creation and governance of a nongovernmental public-private 13 partnership focused on supporting government's investments in early 14 learning and ensuring that every child in the state is prepared to 15 succeed in school and in life.

16 (2) In addition to other powers granted to the director, the 17 director may:

18 (a) Enter into contracts on behalf of the department to carry out19 the purposes of this chapter;

20 (b) Accept gifts, grants, or other funds for the purposes of this 21 chapter; and

(c) Adopt, in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW, rules necessary to
 implement this chapter, including rules governing child day care and
 early learning programs under this chapter.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 109. Two years after the implementation of the department's early learning program, and every two years thereafter by 26 July 1st, the department shall submit to the governor and the 27 legislature a report measuring the effectiveness of its programs in 28 29 improving early childhood education. The first report shall include 30 program objectives and identified valid performance measures for evaluating progress toward achieving the objectives, as well as a plan 31 32 for commissioning a longitudinal study comparing the kindergarten readiness of children participating in the department's programs with 33 34 the readiness of other children, using nationally accepted testing and 35 assessment methods. Such comparison shall include, but not be limited

to, achievement as children of both groups progress through the K-12 system and identify year-to-year changes in achievement, if any, in later years of elementary, middle school, and high school education.

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 110. A new section is added to chapter 41.06 5 RCW to read as follows:

In addition to the exemptions under RCW 41.06.070, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply in the department of early learning to the director, the director's personal secretary, and any other exempt staff members provided for in section 104(2) of this act.

10 **Sec. 111.** RCW 43.17.010 and 2005 c 333 s 10 are each amended to 11 read as follows:

There shall be departments of the state government which shall be 12 known as (1) the department of social and health services, (2) the 13 14 department of ecology, (3) the department of labor and industries, (4) 15 the department of agriculture, (5) the department of fish and wildlife, (6) the department of transportation, (7) the department of licensing, 16 17 (8) the department of general administration, (9) the department of 18 community, trade, and economic development, (10) the department of veterans affairs, (11) the department of revenue, (12) the department 19 20 of retirement systems, (13) the department of corrections, (14) the department of health, (15) the department of financial institutions, 21 ((and)) (16) the department of archaeology and historic preservation, 22 and (17) the department of early learning, which shall be charged with 23 the execution, enforcement, and administration of such laws, and 24 25 invested with such powers and required to perform such duties, as the 26 legislature may provide.

27 **Sec. 112.** RCW 43.17.020 and 2005 c 333 s 11 and 2005 c 319 s 2 are 28 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

There shall be a chief executive officer of each department to be known as: (1) The secretary of social and health services, (2) the director of ecology, (3) the director of labor and industries, (4) the director of agriculture, (5) the director of fish and wildlife, (6) the secretary of transportation, (7) the director of licensing, (8) the director of general administration, (9) the director of community, trade, and economic development, (10) the director of veterans affairs, (11) the director of revenue, (12) the director of retirement systems, (13) the secretary of corrections, (14) the secretary of health, (15) the director of financial institutions, ((and)) (16) the director of the department of archaeology and historic preservation, and (17) the director of early learning.

6 Such officers, except the director of fish and wildlife, shall be 7 appointed by the governor, with the consent of the senate, and hold 8 office at the pleasure of the governor. The director of fish and 9 wildlife shall be appointed by the fish and wildlife commission as 10 prescribed by RCW 77.04.055.

11 **Sec. 113.** RCW 42.17.2401 and 2005 c 424 s 17 are each amended to 12 read as follows:

13 For the purposes of RCW 42.17.240, the term "executive state 14 officer" includes:

(1) 15 The chief administrative law judge, the director of 16 agriculture, the administrator of the Washington basic health plan, the 17 director of the department of services for the blind, the director of the state system of community and technical colleges, the director of 18 community, trade, and economic development, the secretary of 19 20 corrections, the director of early learning, the director of ecology, 21 the commissioner of employment security, the chair of the energy facility site evaluation council, the secretary of the state finance 22 23 committee, the director of financial management, the director of fish 24 and wildlife, the executive secretary of the forest practices appeals board, the director of the gambling commission, the director of general 25 26 administration, the secretary of health, the administrator of the Washington state health care authority, the executive secretary of the 27 health care facilities authority, the executive secretary of the higher 28 education facilities authority, the executive secretary of the horse 29 30 racing commission, the executive secretary of the human rights 31 commission, the executive secretary of the indeterminate sentence review board, the director of the department of information services, 32 the director of the interagency committee for outdoor recreation, the 33 executive director of the state investment board, the director of labor 34 and industries, the director of licensing, the director of the lottery 35 36 commission, the director of the office of minority and women's business 37 enterprises, the director of parks and recreation, the director of

personnel, the executive director of the public disclosure commission, 1 the director of retirement systems, the director of revenue, the 2 secretary of social and health services, the chief of the Washington 3 state patrol, the executive secretary of the board of tax appeals, the 4 secretary of transportation, the secretary of the utilities and 5 transportation commission, the director of veterans affairs, the 6 president of each of the regional and state universities and the 7 president of The Evergreen State College, each district and each campus 8 president of each state community college; 9

10 11 (2) Each professional staff member of the office of the governor;

(3) Each professional staff member of the legislature; and

12 (4) Central Washington University board of trustees, board of 13 trustees of each community college, each member of the state board for 14 community and technical colleges, state convention and trade center board of directors, committee for deferred compensation, Eastern 15 Washington University board of trustees, Washington economic 16 17 development finance authority, The Evergreen State College board of trustees, executive ethics board, forest practices appeals board, 18 forest practices board, gambling commission, life sciences discovery 19 fund authority board of trustees, Washington health care facilities 20 21 authority, each member of the Washington health services commission, 22 higher education coordinating board, higher education facilities authority, horse racing commission, state housing finance commission, 23 24 human rights commission, indeterminate sentence review board, board of 25 industrial insurance appeals, information services board, interagency committee for outdoor recreation, state investment board, commission on 26 judicial conduct, legislative ethics board, liquor control board, 27 lottery commission, marine oversight board, Pacific Northwest electric 28 power and conservation planning council, parks and recreation 29 commission, personnel appeals board, board of pilotage commissioners, 30 pollution control hearings board, public disclosure commission, public 31 32 pension commission, shorelines hearing board, public employees' benefits board, salmon recovery funding board, board of tax appeals, 33 transportation commission, University of Washington board of regents, 34 35 utilities and transportation commission, Washington state maritime 36 commission, Washington personnel resources board, Washington public 37 power supply system executive board, Washington State University board

1 of regents, Western Washington University board of trustees, and fish
2 and wildlife commission.

PART 2

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POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TRANSFERRED

5 **Sec. 201.** RCW 41.04.385 and 2005 c 490 s 9 are each amended to 6 read as follows:

The legislature finds that (1) demographic, economic, and social 7 trends underlie a critical and increasing demand for child care in the 8 state of Washington; (2) working parents and their children benefit 9 10 when the employees' child care needs have been resolved; (3) the state 11 of Washington should serve as a model employer by creating a supportive 12 atmosphere, to the extent feasible, in which its employees may meet their child care needs; and (4) the state of Washington should 13 encourage the development of partnerships between state agencies, state 14 15 employees, state employee labor organizations, and private employers to 16 expand the availability of affordable quality child care. The legislature finds further that resolving employee child care concerns 17 not only benefits the employees and their children, but may benefit the 18 employer by reducing absenteeism, increasing employee productivity, 19 20 improving morale, and enhancing the employer's position in recruiting and retaining employees. Therefore, the legislature declares that it 21 22 is the policy of the state of Washington to assist state employees by 23 creating a supportive atmosphere in which they may meet their child care needs. Policies and procedures for state agencies to address 24 25 employee child care needs will be the responsibility of the director of personnel in consultation with the director of the department of early 26 27 <u>learning and</u> state employee representatives.

28 Sec. 202. RCW 74.13.085 and 1989 c 381 s 2 are each amended to 29 read as follows:

30 It shall be the policy of the state of Washington to:

(1) Recognize the family as the most important social and economic unit of society and support the central role parents play in child rearing. All parents are encouraged to care for and nurture their children through the traditional methods of parental care at home. However, there has been a dramatic increase in participation of women

in the workforce which has made the availability of quality, affordable 1 2 child care a critical concern for the state and its citizens. There are not enough child care services and facilities to meet the needs of 3 working parents, the costs of care are often beyond the resources of 4 5 working parents, and child care facilities are not located conveniently to work places and neighborhoods. Parents are encouraged to 6 7 participate fully in the effort to improve the quality of child care 8 services.

9 (2) Promote a variety of culturally and developmentally appropriate 10 child care settings and services of the highest possible quality in 11 accordance with the basic principle of continuity of care. These 12 settings shall include, but not be limited to, family day care homes, 13 mini-centers, centers and schools.

14 (3) Promote the growth, development and safety of children by 15 working with community groups including providers and parents to 16 establish standards for quality service, training of child care 17 providers, fair and equitable monitoring, and salary levels 18 commensurate with provider responsibilities and support services.

(4) Promote equal access to quality, affordable, socio-economicallyintegrated child care for all children and families.

(5) Facilitate broad community and private sector involvement in the provision of quality child care services to foster economic development and assist industry <u>through the department of early</u> <u>learning</u>.

25 **Sec. 203.** RCW 74.13.0902 and 1989 c 381 s 6 are each amended to 26 read as follows:

An employer liaison position is established in the department of ((social and health services to be colocated at the business assistance center established under RCW 43.31.083)) early learning to be colocated with the department of community, trade, and economic development. The employer liaison shall, within appropriated funds:

32 (1) Staff and assist the child care partnership in the 33 implementation of its duties ((under RCW 74.13.0901));

(2) Provide technical assistance to employers regarding child care
 services, working with and through local resource and referral
 organizations whenever possible. Such technical assistance shall
 include at a minimum:

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

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

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

7 (d) Reviewing methods of evaluating the impact of child care8 activities on employers; and

9 (e) Preparing, collecting, and distributing current information for 10 employers on options for increasing involvement in child care; and

(3) Provide assistance to local child care resource and referral organizations to increase their capacity to provide quality technical assistance to employers in their community.

14 **Sec. 204.** RCW 74.13.0903 and 2005 c 490 s 10 are each amended to 15 read as follows:

16 The ((office of child care policy is established to operate under 17 the authority of the department of social and health services. The 18 duties and responsibilities of the office include, but are not limited 19 to, the following, within appropriated funds)) department of early 20 learning shall:

(1) Work in conjunction with the statewide child care resource and referral network as well as local governments, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and community child care advocates to create local child care resource and referral organizations. These organizations may carry out needs assessments, resource development, provider training, technical assistance, and parent information and training;

(2) Actively seek public and private money for distribution as grants to the statewide child care resource and referral network and to existing or potential local child care resource and referral organizations;

31 (3) Adopt rules regarding the application for and distribution of 32 grants to local child care resource and referral organizations. The 33 rules shall, at a minimum, require an applicant to submit a plan for 34 achieving the following objectives:

35 (a) Provide parents with information about child care resources,36 including location of services and subsidies;

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

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 supply6 and demand;

7 (e) Advocate for increased public and private sector resources8 devoted to child care;

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

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

14 (4) Provide staff support and technical assistance to the statewide 15 child care resource and referral network and local child care resource 16 and referral organizations;

17 (5) Maintain a statewide child care licensing data bank and work 18 with department ((of social and health services)) licensors to provide 19 information to local child care resource and referral organizations 20 about licensed child care providers in the state;

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

(7) Coordinate with the statewide child care resource and referral network and local child care resource and referral organizations for the provision of training and technical assistance to child care providers; and

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

32 **Sec. 205.** RCW 74.13.098 and 2005 c 507 s 2 are each amended to 33 read as follows:

(1) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this
 specific purpose, the ((division of child care and early learning in
 the)) department ((of social and health services)) shall establish a
 child care career and wage ladder in licensed child care centers that

meet the following criteria: (a) At least ten percent of child care 1 2 slots are dedicated to children whose care is subsidized by the state or any political subdivision thereof or any local government; (b) the 3 center agrees to adopt the child care career and wage ladder, which, at 4 5 a minimum, shall be at the same pay schedule as existed in the previous child care career and wage ladder pilot project; and (c) the center 6 7 meets further program standards as established by rule pursuant to section 4 ((of this act)), chapter 507, Laws of 2005. 8

9 The child care career and wage ladder shall include wage increments 10 for levels of education, years of relevant experience, levels of work 11 responsibility, relevant early childhood education credits, and 12 relevant requirements in the state training and registry system.

13 (2) The ((division)) department shall establish procedures for the 14 allocation of funds to implement the child care career and wage ladder 15 among child care centers meeting the criteria identified in subsection 16 (1) of this section. In developing these procedures, the ((division)) 17 department shall:

18 (a) Review past efforts or administration of the child care career 19 and wage ladder pilot project in order to take advantage of any 20 findings, recommendations, or administrative practices that contributed 21 to that pilot project's success;

(b) Consult with stakeholders, including organizations representing child care teachers and providers, in developing an allocation formula that incorporates consideration of geographic and demographic distribution of child care centers adopting the child care career and wage ladder; and

(c) Develop a system for prioritizing child care centers interested
 in adopting the child care career and wage ladder that is based on the
 criteria identified in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (2) of this 30 31 section, child care centers meeting the criteria in subsection (1) of 32 this section located in urban areas of the department of social and health services region one shall receive a minimum of fifteen percent 33 of the funds allocated through the child care career and wage ladder, 34 and of these centers, child care centers meeting the criteria in 35 subsection (1) of this section participating in the ((department of 36 37 social and health services)) Spokane tiered reimbursement pilot project

shall have first priority for child care career and wage ladder
 funding.

3 **Sec. 206.** RCW 74.13.099 and 2005 c 507 s 3 are each amended to 4 read as follows:

Child care centers adopting the child care career and wage ladder 5 6 established pursuant to RCW 74.13.098 (as recodified by this act) shall 7 increase wages for child care workers who have earned a high school 8 diploma or GED certificate, gain additional years of experience, or accept increasing levels of responsibility in providing child care, in 9 10 accordance with the child care career and wage ladder. The adoption of 11 a child care career and wage ladder shall not prohibit the provision of wage increases based upon merit. The department ((of social and health 12 services)) shall pay wage increments for child care workers employed by 13 child care centers adopting the child care career and wage ladder 14 15 established pursuant to RCW 74.13.098 (as recodified by this act) who 16 earn early childhood education credits or meet relevant requirements in 17 the state training and registry system, in accordance with the child 18 care career and wage ladder.

19 **Sec. 207.** RCW 74.15.350 and 2005 c 490 s 7 are each amended to 20 read as follows:

(1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the department ((of social and health services)) shall implement the tiered-reimbursement system developed pursuant to section 6, chapter 490, Laws of 2005. Implementation of the tieredreimbursement system shall initially consist of two pilot sites in different geographic regions of the state with demonstrated publicprivate partnerships, with statewide implementation to follow.

(2) In implementing the tiered-reimbursement system, consideration
 shall be given to child care providers who provide staff wage
 progression.

31 (3) The department shall begin implementation of the two pilot32 sites by March 30, 2006.

33 **Sec. 208.** RCW 74.12.340 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 154 s 111 are each 34 amended to read as follows:

35 (1) The department is authorized to ((promulgate)) adopt rules

((and regulations)) governing the provision of day care as a part of 1 2 child welfare services when the secretary determines that a need exists for such day care and that it is in the best interests of the child, 3 the parents, or the custodial parent and in determining the need for 4 such day care priority shall be given to geographical areas having the 5 greatest need for such care and to members of low income groups in the 6 7 population: PROVIDED, That where the family is financially able to pay part or all of the costs of such care, fees shall be imposed and paid 8 according to the financial ability of the family. 9

10 (2) This section does not affect the authority of the department of 11 early learning to adopt rules governing child day care and early 12 learning programs.

13 Sec. 209. RCW 74.08A.340 and 1997 c 58 s 321 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

The department of social and health services shall operate the Washington WorkFirst program authorized under RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330, 43.330.145, 74.13.0903 and 74.25.040, and chapter 74.12 RCW within the following constraints:

(1) The full amount of the temporary assistance for needy families block grant, plus qualifying state expenditures as appropriated in the biennial operating budget, shall be appropriated to the department each year in the biennial appropriations act to carry out the provisions of the program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330, 43.330.145, 74.13.0903 and 74.25.040, and chapter 74.12 RCW.

(2)(a) The department may expend funds defined in subsection (1) of this section in any manner that will effectively accomplish the outcome measures defined in RCW 74.08A.410 with the following exception: Beginning with the 2007-2009 biennium, funds that constitute the working connections child care program, child care quality programs, and child care licensing functions.

31 (b) Beginning in the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the legislature 32 shall appropriate and the department of early learning shall expend 33 funds defined in subsection (1) of this section that constitute the 34 working connections child care program, child care quality programs, 35 and child care licensing functions in a manner that is consistent with 36 the outcome measures defined in RCW 74.08A.410.

(c) No more than fifteen percent of the amount provided in 1 2 subsection (1) of this section may be spent for administrative For the purpose of this subsection, "administrative 3 purposes. purposes" does not include expenditures for information technology and 4 computerization needed for tracking and monitoring required by P.L. 5 104-193. The department shall not increase grant levels to recipients б 7 of the program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330 and 43.330.145 and chapter 74.12 RCW. 8

(3) The department shall implement strategies that accomplish the 9 10 outcome measures identified in RCW 74.08A.410 that are within the funding constraints in this section. Specifically, the department 11 12 shall implement strategies that will cause the number of cases in the 13 program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330 and 43.330.145 14 and chapter 74.12 RCW to decrease by at least fifteen percent during 15 the 1997-99 biennium and by at least five percent in the subsequent biennium. The department may transfer appropriation authority between 16 17 funding categories within the economic services program in order to 18 carry out the requirements of this subsection.

shall monitor expenditures against the 19 (4) The department appropriation levels provided for in subsection (1) of this section. 20 21 The department shall quarterly make a determination as to whether 22 expenditure levels will exceed available funding and communicate its If the determination indicates that 23 finding to the legislature. 24 expenditures will exceed funding at the end of the fiscal year, the 25 department shall take all necessary actions to ensure that all services 26 provided under this chapter shall be made available only to the extent 27 of the availability and level of appropriation made by the legislature.

28 **Sec. 210.** RCW 28A.215.110 and 1999 c 350 s 1 are each amended to 29 read as follows:

30 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in 31 this section apply throughout RCW 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.200 and 32 28A.215.900 through 28A.215.908 (as recodified by this act).

(1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW
28A.215.140 (as recodified by this act).

35 (2) "Department" means the department of ((community, trade, and
 36 economic development)) early learning.

(3) "Eligible child" means a child not eligible for kindergarten 1 2 whose family income is at or below one hundred ten percent of the federal poverty level, as published annually by the federal department 3 of health and human services, and includes a child whose family is 4 eligible for public assistance, and who is not a participant in a 5 federal or state program providing comprehensive services and may 6 7 include children who are eligible under rules adopted by the department if the number of such children equals not more than ten percent of the 8 total enrollment in the early childhood program. 9 Priority for enrollment shall be given to children from families with the lowest 10 11 income or to eligible children from families with multiple needs.

(4) "Approved programs" means those state-supported education and 12 special assistance programs which are recognized by the department ((of 13 14 community, trade, and economic development)) as meeting the minimum 15 program rules adopted by the department to qualify under RCW 16 28A.215.100 through 28A.215.200 and 28A.215.900 through 28A.215.908 (as 17 <u>recodified by this act</u>) and are designated as eligible for funding by the department under RCW 28A.215.160 and 28A.215.180 (as recodified by 18 this act). 19

20 (5) "Comprehensive" means an assistance program that focuses on the 21 needs of the child and includes education, health, and family support 22 services.

23 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for 24 parents to:

(a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;
(b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting
skills;

28 (c) Further their education and training;

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

30 (e) Increase their self-reliance.

31 **Sec. 211.** RCW 28A.215.120 and 1994 c 166 s 4 are each amended to 32 read as follows:

The department ((of community, trade, and economic development)) shall administer a state-supported early childhood education and assistance program to assist eligible children with educational, social, health, nutritional, and cultural development to enhance their opportunity for success in the common school system. Eligible children 1 shall be admitted to approved early childhood programs to the extent 2 that the legislature provides funds, and additional eligible children 3 may be admitted to the extent that grants and contributions from 4 community sources provide sufficient funds for a program equivalent to 5 that supported by state funds.

6 **Sec. 212.** RCW 43.63A.066 and 1993 c 280 s 58 are each amended to 7 read as follows:

8 The department of ((community, trade, and economic development)) 9 <u>early learning</u> shall have primary responsibility for providing child 10 abuse and neglect prevention training to preschool age children 11 participating in the federal head start program or the early childhood 12 education and assistance program established under RCW 28A.215.010 13 <u>through 28A.215.050, 28A.215.100</u> through 28A.215.200, and 28A.215.900 14 through 28A.215.908 (as recodified by this act).

15

16

PART 3 DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING LICENSING

17 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **sec. 301.** The director shall have the power and it 18 shall be the director's duty with regard to licensing:

19 (1) In consultation and with the advice and assistance of persons representative of the various type agencies to be licensed, to 20 21 designate categories of child care facilities for which separate or 22 different requirements shall be developed as may be appropriate whether because of variations in the ages and other characteristics of the 23 24 children served, variations in the purposes and services offered or size or structure of the agencies to be licensed, or because of any 25 other factor relevant thereto; 26

(2) In consultation and with the advice and assistance of persons
representative of the various type agencies to be licensed, to adopt
and publish minimum requirements for licensing applicable to each of
the various categories of agencies to be licensed under this chapter.
The minimum requirements shall be limited to:

32 (a) The size and suitability of a facility and the plan of
 33 operation for carrying out the purpose for which an applicant seeks a
 34 license;

(b) The character, suitability, and competence of an agency and 1 2 other persons associated with an agency directly responsible for the care of children. In consultation with law enforcement personnel, the 3 director shall investigate the conviction record or pending charges and 4 dependency record information under chapter 43.43 RCW of each agency 5 and its staff seeking licensure or relicensure. б No unfounded allegation of child abuse or neglect as defined in RCW 26.44.020 may be 7 disclosed to a provider licensed under this chapter. 8 In order to determine the suitability of applicants for an agency license, 9 licensees, their employees, and other persons who have unsupervised 10 access to children in care, and who have not resided in the state of 11 Washington during the three-year period before being authorized to care 12 13 for children shall be fingerprinted. The fingerprints shall be 14 forwarded to the Washington state patrol and federal bureau of investigation for a criminal history records check. The fingerprint 15 criminal history records checks will be at the expense of the licensee. 16 17 The licensee may not pass this cost on to the employee or prospective employee, unless the employee is determined to be unsuitable due to his 18 or her criminal history record. The director shall use the information 19 solely for the purpose of determining eligibility for a license and for 20 21 determining the character, suitability, and competence of those persons 22 or agencies, excluding parents, not required to be licensed who are authorized to care for children. Criminal justice agencies shall 23 24 provide the director such information as they may have and that the 25 director may require for such purpose;

26 (c) The number of qualified persons required to render the type of 27 care for which an agency seeks a license;

(d) The health, safety, cleanliness, and general adequacy of the
 premises to provide for the comfort, care, and well-being of children;

(e) The provision of necessary care and early learning, including
 food, supervision, and discipline; physical, mental, and social well being; and educational and recreational opportunities for those served;

33 (f) The financial ability of an agency to comply with minimum 34 requirements established under this chapter; and

35 (g) The maintenance of records pertaining to the care of children; 36 (3) To issue, revoke, or deny licenses to agencies pursuant to this 37 chapter. Licenses shall specify the category of care that an agency is 38 authorized to render and the ages and number of children to be served; 1 (4) To prescribe the procedures and the form and contents of 2 reports necessary for the administration of this chapter and to require 3 regular reports from each licensee;

4 (5) To inspect agencies periodically to determine whether or not
5 there is compliance with this chapter and the requirements adopted
6 under this chapter;

7 (6) To review requirements adopted under this chapter at least
8 every two years and to adopt appropriate changes after consultation
9 with affected groups for child day care requirements; and

10 (7) To consult with public and private agencies in order to help 11 them improve their methods and facilities for the care and early 12 learning of children.

13 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 302. The chief of the Washington state patrol, 14 through the director of fire protection, shall have the power and it 15 shall be his or her duty:

16 (1) In consultation with the director and with the advice and 17 assistance of persons representative of the various type agencies to be 18 licensed, to adopt recognized minimum standard requirements pertaining 19 to each category of agency established pursuant to this chapter 20 necessary to protect all persons residing therein from fire hazards;

(2) To make or cause to be made such inspections and investigations
 of agencies as he or she deems necessary;

(3) To make a periodic review of requirements under section 301(5)
of this act and to adopt necessary changes after consultation as
required in subsection (1) of this section;

(4) To issue to applicants for licenses under this chapter who comply with the requirements, a certificate of compliance, a copy of which shall be presented to the department before a license shall be issued, except that an initial license may be issued as provided in section 309 of this act.

31 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 303. Licensed child day care centers shall 32 provide notice of pesticide use to parents or guardians of students and 33 employees pursuant to chapter 17.21 RCW.

34 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 304. A copy of the articles of incorporation of

1 any agency or amendments to the articles of existing corporation 2 agencies shall be sent by the secretary of state to the department at 3 the time such articles or amendments are filed.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 305. All agencies subject to this chapter shall accord the department, the chief of the Washington state patrol, and the director of fire protection, or their designees, the right of entrance and the privilege of access to and inspection of records for the purpose of determining whether or not there is compliance with the provisions of this chapter and the requirements adopted under it.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 306. (1) It is unlawful for any agency to care for children unless the agency is licensed as provided in this chapter. (2) A license issued under chapter 74.15 RCW before July 1, 2006, for an agency subject to this chapter after July 1, 2006, is valid until its next renewal, unless otherwise suspended or revoked by the department.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 307. Each agency shall make application for a 16 17 license or renewal of license to the department on forms prescribed by the department. Upon receipt of such application, the department shall 18 19 either grant or deny a license within ninety days. A license shall be 20 granted if the agency meets the minimum requirements set forth in this 21 chapter and the departmental requirements consistent with the chapter, 22 except that an initial license may be issued as provided in section 309 of this act. Licenses provided for in this chapter shall be issued for 23 24 a period of three years. The licensee, however, shall advise the director of any material change in circumstances which might constitute 25 grounds for reclassification of license as to category. The license 26 27 issued under this chapter is not transferable and applies only to the 28 licensee and the location stated in the application. For licensed 29 family day care homes having an acceptable history of child care, the license may remain in effect for two weeks after a move. 30

31 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 308. If a licensee desires to apply for a 32 renewal of its license, a request for a renewal shall be filed ninety 33 days before the expiration date of the license. If the department has

1 failed to act at the time of the expiration date of the license, the 2 license shall continue in effect until such time as the department 3 acts.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 309. The director may, at his or her discretion, issue an initial license instead of a full license, to an agency or facility for a period not to exceed six months, renewable for a period not to exceed two years, to allow such agency or facility reasonable time to become eligible for full license.

9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 310. (1) The department may issue a 10 probationary license to a licensee who has had a license but is 11 temporarily unable to comply with a rule or has been the subject of 12 multiple complaints or concerns about noncompliance if:

13 (a) The noncompliance does not present an immediate threat to the 14 health and well-being of the children but would be likely to do so if 15 allowed to continue; and

16 (b) The licensee has a plan approved by the department to correct 17 the area of noncompliance within the probationary period.

18 (2) A probationary license may be issued for up to six months, and 19 at the discretion of the department it may be extended for an 20 additional six months. The department shall immediately terminate the 21 probationary license, if at any time the noncompliance for which the 22 probationary license was issued presents an immediate threat to the 23 health or well-being of the children.

(3) The department may, at any time, issue a probationary licensefor due cause that states the conditions of probation.

26 (4) An existing license is invalidated when a probationary license
27 is issued.

(5) At the expiration of the probationary license, the department
shall reinstate the original license for the remainder of its term,
issue a new license, or revoke the original license.

31 (6) A right to an adjudicative proceeding shall not accrue to the 32 licensee whose license has been placed on probationary status unless 33 the licensee does not agree with the placement on probationary status 34 and the department then suspends, revokes, or modifies the license.

1 NEW SECTION. Sec. 311. (1) An agency may be denied a license, or 2 any license issued pursuant to this chapter may be suspended, revoked, modified, or not renewed by the director upon proof (a) that the agency 3 has failed or refused to comply with the provisions of this chapter or 4 5 the requirements adopted pursuant to this chapter; or (b) that the conditions required for the issuance of a license under this chapter б 7 have ceased to exist with respect to such licenses. RCW 43.20A.205 governs notice of a license denial, revocation, suspension, 8 or modification and provides the right to an adjudicative proceeding. 9

10 (2) In any adjudicative proceeding regarding the denial, 11 modification, suspension, or revocation of any license under this 12 chapter, the department's decision shall be upheld if it is supported 13 by a preponderance of the evidence.

14 (3) The department may assess civil monetary penalties upon proof that an agency has failed or refused to comply with the rules adopted 15 under this chapter or that an agency subject to licensing under this 16 17 chapter is operating without a license except that civil monetary penalties shall not be levied against a licensed foster home. Monetary 18 penalties levied against unlicensed agencies that submit an application 19 for licensure within thirty days of notification and subsequently 20 21 become licensed will be forgiven. These penalties may be assessed in 22 addition to or in lieu of other disciplinary actions. Civil monetary penalties, if imposed, may be assessed and collected, with interest, 23 24 for each day an agency is or was out of compliance. Civil monetary 25 penalties shall not exceed seventy-five dollars per violation for a 26 family day care home and two hundred fifty dollars per violation for 27 child day care centers. Each day upon which the same or substantially similar action occurs is a separate violation subject to the assessment 28 of a separate penalty. The department shall provide a notification 29 period before a monetary penalty is effective and may forgive the 30 penalty levied if the agency comes into compliance during this period. 31 32 The department may suspend, revoke, or not renew a license for failure to pay a civil monetary penalty it has assessed pursuant to this 33 chapter within ten days after such assessment becomes final. Chapter 34 35 43.20A RCW governs notice of a civil monetary penalty and provides the right of an adjudicative proceeding. The preponderance of evidence 36 37 standard shall apply in adjudicative proceedings related to assessment 38 of civil monetary penalties.

(4)(a) In addition to or in lieu of an enforcement action being 1 2 taken, the department may place a child day care center or family day care provider on nonreferral status if the center or provider has 3 failed or refused to comply with this chapter or rules adopted under 4 5 this chapter or an enforcement action has been taken. The nonreferral status may continue until the department determines that: 6 (i) No 7 enforcement action is appropriate; or (ii) a corrective action plan has 8 been successfully concluded.

9 (b) Whenever a child day care center or family day care provider is 10 placed on nonreferral status, the department shall provide written 11 notification to the child day care center or family day care provider. 12 (5) The department shall notify appropriate public and private 13 child care resource and referral agencies of the department's decision 14 to: (a) Take an enforcement action against a child day care center or

15 family day care provider; or (b) place or remove a child day care 16 center or family day care provider on nonreferral status.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 312. (1) The office of administrative hearings shall not assign nor allow an administrative law judge to preside over an adjudicative hearing regarding denial, modification, suspension, or revocation of any license to provide child care under this chapter, unless such judge has received training related to state and federal laws and department policies and procedures regarding:

23

(a) Child abuse, neglect, and maltreatment;

24 (b) Child protective services investigations and standards;

25 (c) Licensing activities and standards;

- 26 (d) Child development; and
- 27 (e) Parenting skills.

(2) The office of administrative hearings shall develop and implement a training program that carries out the requirements of this section. The office of administrative hearings shall consult and coordinate with the department in developing the training program. The department may assist the office of administrative hearings in developing and providing training to administrative law judges.

34 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 313. The director shall immediately suspend the 35 license or certificate of a person who has been certified pursuant to 36 RCW 74.20A.320 by the department of social and health services as a person who is not in compliance with a support order or a residential or visitation order. If the person has continued to meet all other requirements for reinstatement during the suspension, reissuance of the license or certificate shall be automatic upon the director's receipt of a release issued by the department of social and health services stating that the licensee is in compliance with the order.

7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 314. Notwithstanding the existence or pursuit 8 of any other remedy, the director may, in the manner provided by law, upon the advice of the attorney general, who shall represent the 9 department in the proceeding, maintain an action in the name of the 10 11 state for injunction or such other relief as he or she may deem advisable against any agency subject to licensing under the provisions 12 of this chapter or against any such agency not having a license as 13 heretofore provided in this chapter. 14

NEW SECTION. Sec. 315. Any agency operating without a license shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. This section shall not be enforceable against an agency until sixty days after the effective date of new rules, applicable to such agency, have been adopted under this chapter.

20 21

PART 4

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES LICENSING REVISIONS

22 **Sec. 401.** RCW 74.15.020 and 2001 c 230 s 1, 2001 c 144 s 1, and 23 2001 c 137 s 3 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

For the purpose of chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031, and unless otherwise clearly indicated by the context thereof, the following terms shall mean:

27 (1) "Agency" means any person, firm, partnership, association, 28 corporation, or facility which receives children, expectant mothers, or 29 persons with developmental disabilities for control, care, or 30 maintenance outside their own homes, or which places, arranges the placement of, or assists in the placement of children, expectant 31 32 mothers, or persons with developmental disabilities for foster care or 33 placement of children for adoption, and shall include the following

1 irrespective of whether there is compensation to the agency or to the 2 children, expectant mothers or persons with developmental disabilities 3 for services rendered:

4 (a) (("Child day-care center" means an agency which regularly 5 provides care for a group of children for periods of less than twenty-6 four hours;

7 (b)) "Child-placing agency" means an agency which places a child
 8 or children for temporary care, continued care, or for adoption;

9 (((c))) <u>(b)</u> "Community facility" means a group care facility 10 operated for the care of juveniles committed to the department under 11 RCW 13.40.185. A county detention facility that houses juveniles 12 committed to the department under RCW 13.40.185 pursuant to a contract 13 with the department is not a community facility;

14 (((d))) <u>(c)</u> "Crisis residential center" means an agency which is a 15 temporary protective residential facility operated to perform the 16 duties specified in chapter 13.32A RCW, in the manner provided in RCW 17 74.13.032 through 74.13.036;

((((e))) <u>(d)</u> "Emergency respite center" is an agency that may be 18 commonly known as a crisis nursery, that provides emergency and crisis 19 care for up to seventy-two hours to children who have been admitted by 20 21 their parents or guardians to prevent abuse or neglect. Emergency 22 respite centers may operate for up to twenty-four hours a day, and for up to seven days a week. Emergency respite centers may provide care 23 24 for children ages birth through seventeen, and for persons eighteen 25 through twenty with developmental disabilities who are admitted with a sibling or siblings through age seventeen. Emergency respite centers 26 27 may not substitute for crisis residential centers or HOPE centers, or any other services defined under this section, and may not substitute 28 for services which are required under chapter 13.32A or 13.34 RCW; 29

30 (((f) "Family day care provider" means a child day care provider 31 who regularly provides child day care for not more than twelve children 32 in the provider's home in the family living quarters;

33 (g)) (e) "Foster-family home" means an agency which regularly 34 provides care on a twenty-four hour basis to one or more children, 35 expectant mothers, or persons with developmental disabilities in the 36 family abode of the person or persons under whose direct care and 37 supervision the child, expectant mother, or person with a developmental 38 disability is placed;

1 (((h))) (<u>f</u>) "Group-care facility" means an agency, other than a 2 foster-family home, which is maintained and operated for the care of a 3 group of children on a twenty-four hour basis;

(((i))) (g) "HOPE center" means an agency licensed by the secretary 4 to provide temporary residential placement and other services to street 5 A street youth may remain in a HOPE center for thirty days 6 youth. 7 while services are arranged and permanent placement is coordinated. No street youth may stay longer than thirty days unless approved by the 8 9 department and any additional days approved by the department must be 10 based on the unavailability of a long-term placement option. A street youth whose parent wants him or her returned to home may remain in a 11 12 HOPE center until his or her parent arranges return of the youth, not 13 longer. All other street youth must have court approval under chapter 14 13.34 or 13.32A RCW to remain in a HOPE center up to thirty days;

15 (((j))) <u>(h)</u> "Maternity service" means an agency which provides or 16 arranges for care or services to expectant mothers, before or during 17 confinement, or which provides care as needed to mothers and their 18 infants after confinement;

((((k))) <u>(i)</u> "Responsible living skills program" means an agency 19 licensed by the secretary that provides residential and transitional 20 21 living services to persons ages sixteen to eighteen who are dependent 22 under chapter 13.34 RCW and who have been unable to live in his or her legally authorized residence and, as a result, the minor lived outdoors 23 24 or in another unsafe location not intended for occupancy by the minor. 25 Dependent minors ages fourteen and fifteen may be eligible if no other placement alternative is available and the department approves the 26 27 placement;

28 (((1))) <u>(j)</u> "Service provider" means the entity that operates a 29 community facility.

30

(2) "Agency" shall not include the following:

31 (a) Persons related to the child, expectant mother, or person with32 developmental disability in the following ways:

33 (i) Any blood relative, including those of half-blood, and 34 including first cousins, nephews or nieces, and persons of preceding 35 generations as denoted by prefixes of grand, great, or great-great;

36 (ii) Stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, and stepsister;

37 (iii) A person who legally adopts a child or the child's parent as

well as the natural and other legally adopted children of such persons,
 and other relatives of the adoptive parents in accordance with state
 law;

4 (iv) Spouses of any persons named in (i), (ii), or (iii) of this 5 subsection (2)(a), even after the marriage is terminated; or

6 (v) Extended family members, as defined by the law or custom of the 7 Indian child's tribe or, in the absence of such law or custom, a person 8 who has reached the age of eighteen and who is the Indian child's 9 grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law or 10 sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or stepparent 11 who provides care in the family abode on a twenty-four-hour basis to an 12 Indian child as defined in 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1903(4);

(b) Persons who are legal guardians of the child, expectant mother,or persons with developmental disabilities;

(c) Persons who care for a neighbor's or friend's child or 15 children, with or without compensation, where((: (i) The person 16 17 providing care for periods of less than twenty-four hours does not conduct such activity on an ongoing, regularly scheduled basis for the 18 purpose of engaging in business, which includes, but is not limited to, 19 20 advertising such care; or (ii))) the parent and person providing care 21 on a twenty-four-hour basis have agreed to the placement in writing and 22 the state is not providing any payment for the care;

23 (d) ((Parents on a mutually cooperative basis exchange care of one 24 another's children;

25 (e)) A person, partnership, corporation, or other entity that 26 provides placement or similar services to exchange students or 27 international student exchange visitors or persons who have the care of 28 an exchange student in their home;

(((f))) (e) A person, partnership, corporation, or other entity that provides placement or similar services to international children who have entered the country by obtaining visas that meet the criteria for medical care as established by the United States immigration and naturalization service, or persons who have the care of such an international child in their home;

35 (((g) Nursery schools or kindergartens which are engaged primarily 36 in educational work with preschool children and in which no child is 37 enrolled on a regular basis for more than four hours per day; (h)) (f) Schools, including boarding schools, which are engaged primarily in education, operate on a definite school year schedule, follow a stated academic curriculum, accept only school-age children and do not accept custody of children;

5 (((i) Seasonal camps of three months' or less duration engaged 6 primarily in recreational or educational activities;

7 (j)) (g) Hospitals licensed pursuant to chapter 70.41 RCW when 8 performing functions defined in chapter 70.41 RCW, nursing homes 9 licensed under chapter 18.51 RCW and boarding homes licensed under 10 chapter 18.20 RCW;

11

(((k))) <u>(h)</u> Licensed physicians or lawyers;

12 (((1) Facilities providing care to children for periods of less 13 than twenty-four hours whose parents remain on the premises to 14 participate in activities other than employment;

15 (m))) (i) Facilities approved and certified under chapter 71A.22
16 RCW;

17 (((n))) (j) Any agency having been in operation in this state ten 18 years prior to June 8, 1967, and not seeking or accepting moneys or 19 assistance from any state or federal agency, and is supported in part 20 by an endowment or trust fund;

21 $((\langle \bullet \rangle))$ (k) Persons who have a child in their home for purposes of 22 adoption, if the child was placed in such home by a licensed child-23 placing agency, an authorized public or tribal agency or court or if a 24 replacement report has been filed under chapter 26.33 RCW and the 25 placement has been approved by the court;

26 (((p))) <u>(1)</u> An agency operated by any unit of local, state, or 27 federal government or an agency, located within the boundaries of a 28 federally recognized Indian reservation, licensed by the Indian tribe;

29 (((q))) <u>(m)</u> A maximum or medium security program for juvenile 30 offenders operated by or under contract with the department;

31 (((r))) (n) An agency located on a federal military reservation, 32 except where the military authorities request that such agency be 33 subject to the licensing requirements of this chapter.

34 (3) "Department" means the state department of social and health 35 services.

36 (4) "Juvenile" means a person under the age of twenty-one who has
 37 been sentenced to a term of confinement under the supervision of the
 38 department under RCW 13.40.185.

(5) "Probationary license" means a license issued as a disciplinary
 measure to an agency that has previously been issued a full license but
 is out of compliance with licensing standards.

4 (6) "Requirement" means any rule, regulation, or standard of care5 to be maintained by an agency.

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(7) "Secretary" means the secretary of social and health services.

7 (8) "Street youth" means a person under the age of eighteen who
8 lives outdoors or in another unsafe location not intended for occupancy
9 by the minor and who is not residing with his or her parent or at his
10 or her legally authorized residence.

11 (9) "Transitional living services" means at a minimum, to the 12 extent funds are available, the following:

13 (a) Educational services, including basic literacy and 14 computational skills training, either in local alternative or public 15 high schools or in a high school equivalency program that leads to 16 obtaining a high school equivalency degree;

(b) Assistance and counseling related to obtaining vocational training or higher education, job readiness, job search assistance, and placement programs;

(c) Counseling and instruction in life skills such as money
 management, home management, consumer skills, parenting, health care,
 access to community resources, and transportation and housing options;

23

(d) Individual and group counseling; and

(e) Establishing networks with federal agencies and state and local
organizations such as the United States department of labor, employment
and training administration programs including the job training
partnership act which administers private industry councils and the job
corps; vocational rehabilitation; and volunteer programs.

29 **Sec. 402.** RCW 74.15.030 and 2005 c 490 s 11 are each amended to 30 read as follows:

The secretary shall have the power and it shall be the secretary's duty:

(1) In consultation with the children's services advisory committee, and with the advice and assistance of persons representative of the various type agencies to be licensed, to designate categories of facilities for which separate or different requirements shall be developed as may be appropriate whether because of variations in the 1 ages, sex and other characteristics of persons served, variations in 2 the purposes and services offered or size or structure of the agencies 3 to be licensed hereunder, or because of any other factor relevant 4 thereto;

5 (2) In consultation with the children's services advisory 6 committee, and with the advice and assistance of persons representative 7 of the various type agencies to be licensed, to adopt and publish 8 minimum requirements for licensing applicable to each of the various 9 categories of agencies to be licensed.

10

The minimum requirements shall be limited to:

(a) The size and suitability of a facility and the plan of operation for carrying out the purpose for which an applicant seeks a license;

14 (b) The character, suitability and competence of an agency and other persons associated with an agency directly responsible for the 15 care and treatment of children, expectant mothers or developmentally 16 17 disabled persons. In consultation with law enforcement personnel, the secretary shall investigate the conviction record or pending charges 18 and dependency record information under chapter 43.43 RCW of each 19 agency and its staff seeking licensure or relicensure. No unfounded 20 21 allegation of child abuse or neglect as defined in RCW 26.44.020 may be 22 disclosed to a child-placing agency, private adoption agency, or any other provider licensed under this chapter. In order to determine the 23 24 suitability of applicants for an agency license, licensees, their 25 employees, and other persons who have unsupervised access to children in care, and who have not resided in the state of Washington during the 26 27 three-year period before being authorized to care for children shall be fingerprinted. The fingerprints shall be forwarded to the Washington 28 state patrol and federal bureau of investigation for a criminal history 29 records check. The fingerprint criminal history records checks will be 30 31 at the expense of the licensee except that in the case of a foster 32 family home, if this expense would work a hardship on the licensee, the department shall pay the expense. The licensee may not pass this cost 33 on to the employee or prospective employee, unless the employee is 34 determined to be unsuitable due to his or her criminal history record. 35 The secretary shall use the information solely for the purpose of 36 37 determining eligibility for a license and for determining the 38 character, suitability, and competence of those persons or agencies,

excluding parents, not required to be licensed who are authorized to care for children, expectant mothers, and developmentally disabled persons. Criminal justice agencies shall provide the secretary such information as they may have and that the secretary may require for such purpose;

6 (c) The number of qualified persons required to render the type of 7 care and treatment for which an agency seeks a license;

8 (d) The safety, cleanliness, and general adequacy of the premises 9 to provide for the comfort, care and well-being of children, expectant 10 mothers or developmentally disabled persons;

(e) The provision of necessary care, including food, clothing, supervision and discipline; physical, mental and social well-being; and educational, recreational and spiritual opportunities for those served;

(f) The financial ability of an agency to comply with minimum requirements established pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031; and

(g) The maintenance of records pertaining to the admission,progress, health and discharge of persons served;

(3) To investigate any person, including relatives by blood or 19 marriage except for parents, for character, suitability, and competence 20 21 in the care and treatment of children, expectant mothers, and 22 developmentally disabled persons prior to authorizing that person to care for children, expectant mothers, and developmentally disabled 23 24 However, if a child is placed with a relative under RCW persons. 25 13.34.065 or 13.34.130, and if such relative appears otherwise suitable and competent to provide care and treatment the criminal history 26 27 background check required by this section need not be completed before placement, but shall be completed as soon as possible after placement; 28

(4) On reports of alleged child abuse and neglect, to investigate agencies in accordance with chapter 26.44 RCW, including child day-care centers and family day-care homes, to determine whether the alleged abuse or neglect has occurred, and whether child protective services or referral to a law enforcement agency is appropriate;

34 (5) To issue, revoke, or deny licenses to agencies pursuant to 35 chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031. Licenses shall specify the 36 category of care which an agency is authorized to render and the ages, 37 sex and number of persons to be served;

1 (6) To prescribe the procedures and the form and contents of 2 reports necessary for the administration of chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 3 74.13.031 and to require regular reports from each licensee;

4 (7) To inspect agencies periodically to determine whether or not 5 there is compliance with chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 and the 6 requirements adopted hereunder;

7 (8) To review requirements adopted hereunder at least every two 8 years and to adopt appropriate changes after consultation ((with 9 affected groups for child day care requirements and)) with the 10 children's services advisory committee for requirements for other 11 agencies; and

12 (9) To consult with public and private agencies in order to help 13 them improve their methods and facilities for the care of children, 14 expectant mothers and developmentally disabled persons.

15 **Sec. 403.** RCW 74.15.100 and 1995 c 302 s 8 are each amended to 16 read as follows:

17 Each agency shall make application for a license or renewal of license to the department of social and health services on forms 18 prescribed by the department. A licensed agency having foster-family 19 20 homes under its supervision may make application for a license on 21 behalf of any such foster-family home. Such a foster home license shall cease to be valid when the home is no longer under the 22 23 supervision of that agency. Upon receipt of such application, the 24 department shall either grant or deny a license within ninety days unless the application is for licensure as a foster-family home, in 25 26 which case RCW 74.15.040 shall govern. A license shall be granted if 27 the agency meets the minimum requirements set forth in chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 and the departmental requirements consistent 28 herewith, except that an initial license may be issued as provided in 29 Licenses provided for in chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 30 RCW 74.15.120. 31 74.13.031 shall be issued for a period of three years. The licensee, however, shall advise the secretary of any material change in 32 circumstances which might constitute grounds for reclassification of 33 34 license as to category. The license issued under this chapter is not 35 transferable and applies only to the licensee and the location stated 36 in the application. For licensed foster-family ((and family day-care))

homes having an acceptable history of child care, the license may remain in effect for two weeks after a move, except that ((for the foster-family home)) this will apply only if the family remains intact.

4 **Sec. 404.** RCW 74.15.130 and 2005 c 473 s 6 are each amended to 5 read as follows:

6 (1) An agency may be denied a license, or any license issued 7 pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 may be suspended, 8 revoked, modified, or not renewed by the secretary upon proof (a) that the agency has failed or refused to comply with the provisions of 9 chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 or the requirements promulgated 10 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031; or 11 (b) that the conditions required for the issuance of a license under 12 chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 have ceased to exist with respect 13 to such licenses. RCW 43.20A.205 governs notice of a license denial, 14 15 revocation, suspension, or modification and provides the right to an 16 adjudicative proceeding.

17 (2) In any adjudicative proceeding regarding the denial, 18 modification, suspension, or revocation of a foster family home 19 license, the department's decision shall be upheld if there is 20 reasonable cause to believe that:

(a) The applicant or licensee lacks the character, suitability, or competence to care for children placed in out-of-home care, however, no unfounded report of child abuse or neglect may be used to deny employment or a license;

(b) The applicant or licensee has failed or refused to comply with
any provision of chapter 74.15 RCW, RCW 74.13.031, or the requirements
adopted pursuant to such provisions; or

(c) The conditions required for issuance of a license under chapter 74.15 RCW and RCW 74.13.031 have ceased to exist with respect to such licenses.

31 (3) In any adjudicative proceeding regarding the denial, 32 modification, suspension, or revocation of any license under this 33 chapter, other than a foster family home license, the department's 34 decision shall be upheld if it is supported by a preponderance of the 35 evidence.

36 (4) The department may assess civil monetary penalties upon proof 37 that an agency has failed or refused to comply with the rules adopted

under the provisions of this chapter and RCW 74.13.031 or that an 1 2 agency subject to licensing under this chapter and RCW 74.13.031 is 3 operating without a license except that civil monetary penalties shall not be levied against a licensed foster home. Monetary penalties 4 levied against unlicensed agencies that submit an application for 5 licensure within thirty days of notification and subsequently become 6 7 licensed will be forgiven. These penalties may be assessed in addition to or in lieu of other disciplinary actions. Civil monetary penalties, 8 if imposed, may be assessed and collected, with interest, for each day 9 10 an agency is or was out of compliance. Civil monetary penalties shall not exceed ((seventy-five dollars per violation for a family day-care 11 12 home and)) two hundred fifty dollars per violation for group homes((7 13 child day-care centers,)) and child-placing agencies. Each day upon 14 which the same or substantially similar action occurs is a separate 15 violation subject to the assessment of a separate penalty. The department shall provide a notification period before a monetary 16 17 penalty is effective and may forgive the penalty levied if the agency 18 comes into compliance during this period. The department may suspend, revoke, or not renew a license for failure to pay a civil monetary 19 penalty it has assessed pursuant to this chapter within ten days after 20 21 such assessment becomes final. Chapter 43.20A RCW governs notice of a 22 civil monetary penalty and provides the right of an adjudicative The preponderance of evidence standard shall apply in 23 proceeding. 24 adjudicative proceedings related to assessment of civil monetary 25 penalties.

26 (((5)(a) In addition to or in lieu of an enforcement action being 27 taken, the department may place a child day care center or family daycare provider on nonreferral status if the center or provider has 28 failed or refused to comply with this chapter or rules adopted under 29 this chapter or an enforcement action has been taken. The nonreferral 30 status may continue until the department determines that: (i) No 31 32 enforcement action is appropriate; or (ii) a corrective action plan has been successfully concluded. 33

(b) Whenever a child day care center or family day care provider is
 placed on nonreferral status, the department shall provide written
 notification to the child day care center or family day care provider.
 (6) The department shall notify appropriate public and private
 child care resource and referral agencies of the department's decision

1 to: (a) Take an enforcement action against a child day-care center or

2 family day-care provider; or (b) place or remove a child day-care

3 center or family day care provider on nonreferral status.))

PART 5

4 5

TRANSFER OF POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 501. (1) All powers, duties, and functions of 6 the office of the superintendent of public instruction and the 7 department of community, trade, and economic development pertaining to 8 the early childhood education and assistance (ECEAP) program and the 9 early reading initiative are transferred to the department of early 10 11 All references to the director or the department of learning. community, trade, and economic development in the Revised Code of 12 13 Washington shall be construed to mean the director or the department of 14 early learning when referring to the functions transferred in this 15 section.

(2) All powers, duties, and functions of the division of child care 16 and early learning in the department of social and health services 17 18 pertaining to the working connections child care program, child care licensing, child care quality activities, and the head start 19 collaboration office are transferred to the department of early 20 However, eligibility staffing and eligibility payment 21 learning. functions for the working connections child care program shall not be 22 transferred to the department of early learning. All references to the 23 secretary or the department of social and health services in the 24 25 Revised Code of Washington shall be construed to mean the director or the department of early learning when referring to the functions 26 27 transferred in this section.

(3) Child day care services provided through the children's
 administration within the department of social and health services are
 not transferred to the department of early learning.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 502. All reports, documents, surveys, books, records, files, papers, or written material in the possession of the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the department of social and health services, and the department of community, trade, and economic development pertaining to the powers, functions, and duties

transferred in section 501 of this act shall be delivered to the 1 2 custody of the department of early learning. All cabinets, furniture, office equipment, motor vehicles, and other tangible property employed 3 by the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the 4 department of social and health services, and the department of 5 community, trade, and economic development in carrying out the powers, 6 7 functions, and duties transferred shall be made available to the department of early learning. All funds, credits, or other assets held 8 in connection with the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall 9 10 be assigned to the department of early learning.

11 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 503. (1) Any appropriations made to the office 12 of the superintendent of public instruction or the department of 13 community, trade, and economic development for carrying out the powers, 14 functions, and duties transferred in section 501 of this act shall, on 15 the effective date of this section, be transferred and credited to the 16 department of early learning;

17 (2) Any appropriations made to the department of social and health 18 services for carrying out the powers, functions, and duties transferred 19 shall, on the effective date of this section, be transferred to the 20 department of early learning through an interagency agreement.

21 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 504. (1) All employees of the office of the 22 superintendent of public instruction, the department of social and 23 health services, and the department of community, trade, and economic 24 development engaged in performing the powers, functions, and duties 25 transferred in section 501 of this act are transferred to the jurisdiction of the department of early learning. All employees 26 classified under chapter 41.06 RCW, the state civil service law, are 27 assigned to the department of early learning to perform their usual 28 29 duties upon the same terms as formerly, without any loss of rights, 30 subject to any action that may be appropriate thereafter in accordance with the laws and rules governing state civil service. 31

32 (2) Nothing contained in this section may be construed to alter any 33 existing collective bargaining unit or the provisions of any existing 34 collective bargaining agreement until the agreement has expired or 35 until the bargaining unit has been modified by action of the public 36 employment relations commission as provided by law.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 505. (1) All rules and all pending business 1 2 before the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the department of social and health services, and the department of 3 community, trade, and economic development pertaining to the powers, 4 functions, and duties transferred in section 501 of this act shall be 5 continued and acted upon by the department of early learning. 6 All 7 existing contracts and obligations shall remain in full force and shall be performed by the department of early learning. 8

9 (2) The transfer of the powers, duties, functions, and personnel of 10 the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the department 11 of social and health services, and the department of community, trade, 12 and economic development shall not affect the validity of any act 13 performed before the effective date of this section.

14 (3) Whenever any question arises as to the transfer of any 15 personnel, funds, books, documents, records, papers, files, equipment, 16 or other tangible property used or held in the exercise of the powers 17 and the performance of the duties and functions transferred, the 18 director of financial management shall make a determination as to the 19 proper allocation and certify the same to the state agencies concerned.

(4) If apportionments of budgeted funds are required because of the transfers directed by this section and sections 501 through 504 of this act, the director of financial management shall certify the apportionments to the agencies affected, the state auditor, and the state treasurer. Each of these shall make the appropriate transfer and adjustments in funds and appropriation accounts and equipment records in accordance with the certification.

27 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 506. By November 15, 2006, the department of 28 early learning, in collaboration with the early learning council, shall 29 prepare a report and make recommendations to the governor and 30 appropriate committees of the legislature detailing:

(1) Coordination and collaboration between the department and the
 K-12 system at the state and local levels to ensure appropriate
 connections and smooth transitions between early learning and K-12;

34 (2) Ongoing coordination and collaboration between the department35 and other programs not included in the department;

36 (3) Ways the department will support local communities in

encouraging public-private partnerships, innovative solutions to local issues, coordination of early learning services, and improved transitions from early learning to kindergarten;

4 (4) The relationship between the department and the public-private5 partnership;

6 (5) Internal governance of the department, to be implemented July 7 1, 2007, upon termination of the early learning council; and

8 (6) Transition of any additional early learning programs and 9 responsibilities, including administration of federal child care funds 10 and subsidy eligibility and payment functions.

PART 6 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

13 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 601. The following sections are each recodified 14 as new sections in the new chapter created in section 603 of this act:

15 RCW 74.13.097 16 RCW 74.13.098

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- 17 RCW 74.13.099
- 18 RCW 74.15.063
- 19 RCW 74.15.310
- 20 RCW 74.15.320
- 21 RCW 74.15.330
- 22 RCW 74.15.340
- 23 RCW 74.15.350
 24 RCW 28A.215.100
- 25 RCW 28A.215.110
- 26 RCW 28A.215.120
- 27 RCW 28A.215.130
- 28 RCW 28A.215.140
- 29 RCW 28A.215.150
 30 RCW 28A.215.160
- 31
 RCW 28A.215.170

 32
 RCW 28A.215.180
- 33 RCW 28A.215.190
 34 RCW 28A.215.200
- 35 RCW 28A.215.200
- 36 RCW 28A.215.904

- 1 RCW 28A.215.906
- 2 RCW 28A.215.908

3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 602.** PART HEADINGS NOT LAW. Part headings used 4 in this act are not any part of the law.

5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 603.** Sections 101 through 109, 301 through 315, 6 and 501 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

7 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 604. This act takes effect July 1, 2006.

8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 605. If any provision of this act or its 9 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the 10 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other 11 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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