

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2519**

Chapter 160, Laws of 2014

63rd Legislature  
2014 Regular Session

CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM--ASSESSMENT--EARLY LEARNING SERVICES

EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/12/14 - Except section 4, which becomes effective 06/30/18.

Passed by the House March 11, 2014  
Yeas 81 Nays 17

FRANK CHOPP

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2014  
Yeas 46 Nays 2

BRAD OWEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President of the Senate**

Approved March 31, 2014, 2:55 p.m.

JAY INSLEE

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2519** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Clerk**

FILED

March 31, 2014

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2519**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2014 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      63rd Legislature                      2014 Regular Session**

**By** House Early Learning & Human Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Senn, Walsh, Kagi, Hunter, Roberts, Tharinger, Haigh, Goodman, and Freeman)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/14.

1            AN ACT Relating to connecting children involved in the child  
2 welfare system to quality early care and education programming;  
3 amending RCW 43.215.405 and 43.215.405; adding a new section to chapter  
4 26.44 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an effective date.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 26.44 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8            (1) The family assessment response worker must assess for child  
9 safety and child well-being when collaborating with a family to  
10 determine the need for child care, preschool, or home visiting services  
11 and, as appropriate, the family assessment response worker must refer  
12 children to preschool programs that are enrolled in the early achievers  
13 program and rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 unless:

14            (a) The family lives in an area with no local preschool programs  
15 that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 in the early achievers program;

16            (b) The local preschool programs that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 in  
17 the early achievers program are not able to meet the needs of the  
18 child; or

1 (c) The child is attending a preschool program prior to  
2 participating in family assessment response and the parent or caregiver  
3 does not want the child to change preschool programs.

4 (2) The family assessment response worker may make child care  
5 referrals for nonschool-aged children to licensed child care programs  
6 that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5 in the early achievers program  
7 described in RCW 43.215.100 unless:

8 (a) The family lives in an area with no local programs that rate at  
9 level 3, 4, or 5 in the early achievers program;

10 (b) The local child care programs that rate at a level 3, 4, or 5  
11 in the early achievers program are not able to meet the needs of the  
12 child; or

13 (c) The child is attending a child care program prior to  
14 participating in family assessment response and the parent or caregiver  
15 does not want the child to change child care programs.

16 (3) The family assessment response worker shall, when appropriate,  
17 provide referrals to high quality child care and early learning  
18 programs.

19 (4) The family assessment response worker shall, when appropriate,  
20 provide referrals to state and federally subsidized programs such as,  
21 but not limited to, licensed child care programs that receive state  
22 subsidy pursuant to RCW 43.215.135; early childhood education and  
23 assistance programs; head start programs; and early head start  
24 programs.

25 (5) Prior to closing the family assessment response case, the  
26 family assessment response worker must, when appropriate, discuss child  
27 care and early learning services with the child's parent or caregiver.

28 If the family plans to use child care or early learning services,  
29 the family assessment response worker must work with the family to  
30 facilitate enrollment.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** No later than December 31, 2014, the  
32 department of social and health services and the department of early  
33 learning shall jointly develop recommendations on methods by which the  
34 department of social and health services and the department of early  
35 learning can better partner to ensure children involved in the child  
36 welfare system have access to early learning services and

1 developmentally appropriate child care services and report these  
2 recommendations to the governor and appropriate legislative committees.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.215.405 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 16 s 4 are each  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
6 this section apply throughout RCW 43.215.400 through (~~43.215.450,~~  
7 ~~43.215.455,~~ ~~43.215.456,~~) 43.215.457(~~(7)~~) and 43.215.900 through  
8 43.215.903.

9 (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW  
10 43.215.420.

11 (2) "Approved programs" means those state-supported education and  
12 special assistance programs which are recognized by the department as  
13 meeting the minimum program rules adopted by the department to qualify  
14 under RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.450 and 43.215.900 through  
15 43.215.903 and are designated as eligible for funding by the department  
16 under RCW 43.215.430 and 43.215.440.

17 (3) "Comprehensive" means an assistance program that focuses on the  
18 needs of the child and includes education, health, and family support  
19 services.

20 (4) "Department" means the department of early learning.

21 (5)(a) "Eligible child" means a child not eligible for kindergarten  
22 whose family income is at or below one hundred ten percent of the  
23 federal poverty level, as published annually by the federal department  
24 of health and human services, and includes a child whose family is  
25 eligible for public assistance, and who is not a participant in a  
26 federal or state program providing comprehensive services; a child  
27 eligible for special education due to disability under RCW 28A.155.020;  
28 and may include children who are eligible under rules adopted by the  
29 department if the number of such children equals not more than ten  
30 percent of the total enrollment in the early childhood program.  
31 Priority for enrollment shall be given to children from families with  
32 the lowest income, children in foster care, or to eligible children  
33 from families with multiple needs.

34 (b) Subject to the availability of appropriations specifically for  
35 this purpose, the department may include as an eligible child, a child  
36 who is not otherwise receiving services under (a) of this subsection,  
37 but is receiving child protective services under RCW 26.44.020(3), or

1 family assessment response services under RCW 26.44.260. If included  
2 as an eligible child, these children shall receive priority services  
3 under (a) of this subsection.

4 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for  
5 parents to:

- 6 (a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;
- 7 (b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting  
8 skills;
- 9 (c) Further their education and training;
- 10 (d) Increase their ability to use needed services in the community;
- 11 (e) Increase their self-reliance.

12 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.215.405 and 2014 c . . . s 3 (section 3 of this  
13 act) are each amended to read as follows:

14 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
15 this section apply throughout RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.457 and  
16 43.215.900 through 43.215.903.

17 (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee under RCW  
18 43.215.420.

19 (2) "Approved programs" means those state-supported education and  
20 special assistance programs which are recognized by the department as  
21 meeting the minimum program rules adopted by the department to qualify  
22 under RCW 43.215.400 through 43.215.450 and 43.215.900 through  
23 43.215.903 and are designated as eligible for funding by the department  
24 under RCW 43.215.430 and 43.215.440.

25 (3) "Comprehensive" means an assistance program that focuses on the  
26 needs of the child and includes education, health, and family support  
27 services.

28 (4) "Department" means the department of early learning.

29 (5)((+a)) "Eligible child" means a child not eligible for  
30 kindergarten whose family income is at or below one hundred ten percent  
31 of the federal poverty level, as published annually by the federal  
32 department of health and human services, and includes a child whose  
33 family is eligible for public assistance, and who is not a participant  
34 in a federal or state program providing comprehensive services; a child  
35 eligible for special education due to disability under RCW 28A.155.020;  
36 and may include children who are eligible under rules adopted by the  
37 department if the number of such children equals not more than ten

1 percent of the total enrollment in the early childhood program.  
2 Priority for enrollment shall be given to children from families with  
3 the lowest income, children in foster care, or to eligible children  
4 from families with multiple needs.

5 ~~((b) Subject to the availability of appropriations specifically  
6 for this purpose, the department may include as an eligible child, a  
7 child who is not otherwise receiving services under (a) of this  
8 subsection, but is receiving child protective services under RCW  
9 26.44.020(3), or family assessment response services under RCW  
10 26.44.260. If included as an eligible child, these children shall  
11 receive priority services under (a) of this subsection.))~~

12 (6) "Family support services" means providing opportunities for  
13 parents to:

- 14 (a) Actively participate in their child's early childhood program;
- 15 (b) Increase their knowledge of child development and parenting  
16 skills;
- 17 (c) Further their education and training;
- 18 (d) Increase their ability to use needed services in the community;
- 19 (e) Increase their self-reliance.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 4 of this act takes effect June 30,  
21 2018.

Passed by the House March 11, 2014.  
Passed by the Senate March 7, 2014.  
Approved by the Governor March 31, 2014.  
Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 31, 2014.