

2SHB 1213 - H AMD 430

By Representative Dent

NOT ADOPTED 03/09/2021

1 On page 26, after line 14, insert the following:

2 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 313. (1) The department of children, youth,
3 and families shall convene a task force with child care providers
4 and their representatives, facilitated by a neutral third party, to
5 develop recommendations for providing regulatory relief and making
6 the licensing process more affordable for child care providers. At a
7 minimum, the task force must evaluate:

8 (a) Reviewing the child care licensing fee structure;

9 (b) Suspending, delaying, or waiving certain licensing
10 requirements for at least one year;

11 (c) Reevaluating staff-to-child required ratios and the minimum
12 indoor space requirements for licensing; and

13 (d) Removing, revising, or waiving licensing requirements
14 related to the early achievers program.

15 (2) The task force must report recommendations agreed upon by
16 the majority of task force members to the governor and the
17 appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the legislature by
18 December 1, 2021 and in accordance with RCW 43.01.036. The report
19 must include the policy rationale, implementation plan, timeline,
20 and recommended statutory changes required to implement the
21 recommendations. The report must also include a minority report for
22 recommendations provided by members that were not agreed upon.

23 (3) Task force participants must represent geographically
24 diverse areas of the state and there must be a process to allow
25 providers not able to participate to send feedback to the
26 facilitator for consideration. Task force membership must include at
27 least one representative from each of the following:

- 1 (a) The department of children, youth, and families;
2 (b) Licensed family home providers;
3 (c) Family, friend, and neighbor caregivers;
4 (d) Child care centers;
5 (e) The statewide child care resource and referral network; and
6 (e) A statewide association for representing the interests of
7 child care centers.

8 (4) Members of the task force shall be reimbursed for travel
9 expenses in accordance with chapter 43.03 RCW. Child care providers
10 serving as members of the task force must be reimbursed for the cost
11 of hiring a substitute for times the provider is away from the child
12 care business for official task for travel and meetings.

13 (5) Staff support for the task force must be provided by the
14 department of children, youth, and families.

15 (6) This section expires January 1, 2022."

EFFECT: Requires the department of children, youth, and families to convene a task force with child care providers and certain representatives, facilitated by a neutral third party, to develop recommendations for providing regulatory relief and making the licensing process more affordable for child care providers. Requires the task force to report recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature by December 1, 2021.

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