

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 5683**

Chapter 127, Laws of 2023

68th Legislature  
2023 Regular Session

INDIAN CHILDREN—CHILD-SPECIFIC FOSTER CARE LICENSES

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 23, 2023

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2023  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

DENNY HECK

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 7, 2023  
Yeas 97 Nays 0

Laurie Jinkins

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Approved April 20, 2023 10:36 AM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5683** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

SARAH BANNISTER

**Secretary**

FILED

April 21, 2023

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 5683**

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Passed Legislature - 2023 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2023 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Kauffman, Hasegawa, Kuderer, Lias, Lovelett, Lovick, Nguyen, Nobles, Pedersen, Saldaña, Schoesler, Stanford, Valdez, and C. Wilson

Read first time 02/02/23. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1       AN ACT Relating to child-specific foster care licenses for  
2 placement of an Indian child in the custody of a federally recognized  
3 tribe or the tribe's child placing agency; and amending RCW  
4 74.15.125.

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

6       **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.15.125 and 2021 c 304 s 30 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8       (1) The department may issue a probationary license to a licensee  
9 who has had a license but is temporarily unable to comply with a rule  
10 or has been the subject of multiple complaints or concerns about  
11 noncompliance if:

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

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

17       (2) A probationary license may be issued for up to six months,  
18 and at the discretion of the department it may be extended for an  
19 additional six months. The department shall immediately terminate the  
20 probationary license, if at any time the noncompliance for which the

1 probationary license was issued presents an immediate threat to the  
2 health or well-being of the children.

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

5 (4) An existing license is invalidated when a probationary  
6 license is issued.

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

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

14 (7)(a) The department may issue a child-specific license to  
15 ((a)):

16 (i) A relative, as defined in RCW 13.36.020, or a suitable  
17 person, as defined in RCW 13.36.020, who opts to become licensed for  
18 placement of a specific child and that child's siblings or relatives  
19 in the department's care, custody, and control; or

20 (ii) An Indian child's family or extended family member as  
21 defined in RCW 13.38.040 who opts to become licensed for placement of  
22 a specific Indian child and that child's siblings or relatives in the  
23 custody of an Indian tribe as defined in RCW 43.376.010 or the  
24 tribe's child placing agency.

25 (b) Such individuals must meet all minimum licensing requirements  
26 for foster family homes established pursuant to RCW 74.15.030 and are  
27 subject to child-specific license criteria, which the department is  
28 authorized to establish by rule.

29 (c) For purposes of federal funding, a child-specific license is  
30 considered a full license with all of the rights and responsibilities  
31 of a foster family home license, except that at the discretion of the  
32 department the licensee may only receive placement of specific  
33 children pursuant to (a) of this subsection.

34 (d) A child-specific license does not confer upon the licensee a  
35 right to placement of a particular child, nor does it confer party  
36 status in any proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW.

37 (e) The department shall seek input from the following  
38 stakeholders during the development and adoption of rules necessary  
39 to implement this section: Representatives from the kinship care  
40 oversight committee, an organization that represents current and

1 former foster youth, an organization that represents child placing  
2 agencies, and a statewide advisory group of foster youth and alumni  
3 of foster care. The department shall seek tribal input as outlined in  
4 the department's government-to-government policy, per RCW 43.376.020.

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2023.

Passed by the House April 7, 2023.

Approved by the Governor April 20, 2023.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 21, 2023.

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