
SENATE BILL 6501

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl, Hargrove, Long, Thibaudeau and McAuliffe

Read first time 01/16/96. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to the child care coordinating committee; amending
2 RCW 74.13.090; creating new sections; and making an appropriation.

3 E IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that promoting quality
5 child care and early childhood education services is a fundamental
6 state policy. The legislature also finds that the quality of child
7 care and early childhood education services is directly linked to the
8 quality of education and training of persons providing early child care
9 and education and school-age care. It is the intent of the legislature
10 that the child care coordinating committee begin formulating a
11 comprehensive career development plan for early child care and
12 education and school-age care to promote equal access to education and
13 training, uniform educational and training programs, and recognition of
14 early child care and education and school-age care as a profession.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The child care coordinating committee shall
16 research and submit proposals for a comprehensive career development
17 plan for education and training in early child care and education and
18 school-age care. In researching a plan, the committee shall:

1 (1) Review other state models and educational or institutional
2 programs;

3 (2) Seek technical assistance or professional review as needed;

4 (3) Coordinate and facilitate seminars, hearings, conferences, or
5 other state or local forums; and

6 (4) Address issues of credit equivalencies and articulation
7 agreements between state educational institutions and programs,
8 including four-year universities, community colleges, technical
9 schools, and community-based programs.

10 The committee shall report to the legislature by July 1, 1997, its
11 research on a comprehensive career development plan, proposals for
12 creating a plan, including time and funding needs, and recommendations
13 for implementation of a plan.

14 **Sec. 3.** RCW 74.13.090 and 1995 c 399 s 204 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (1) There is established a child care coordinating committee to
17 provide coordination and communication between state agencies
18 responsible for child care and early childhood education services. The
19 child care coordinating committee shall be composed of not less than
20 seventeen nor more than thirty-three members who shall include:

21 (a) One representative each from the department of social and
22 health services, the department of community, trade, and economic
23 development, the office of the superintendent of public instruction,
24 and any other agency having responsibility for regulation, provision,
25 or funding of child care services in the state;

26 (b) One representative from the department of labor and industries;

27 (c) One representative from the department of revenue;

28 (d) One representative from the employment security department;

29 (e) One representative from the department of personnel;

30 (f) One representative from the department of health;

31 (g) One representative from the higher education coordinating
32 board;

33 (h) One representative from the state board of education;

34 (i) At least one representative of family home child care providers
35 and one representative of center care providers;

36 ~~((h))~~ (j) At least one representative of early childhood
37 development experts;

1 (~~(i)~~) (k) At least one representative of school districts and
2 teachers involved in the provision of child care and preschool
3 programs;

4 (~~(j)~~) (l) At least one parent education specialist;

5 (~~(k)~~) (m) At least one representative of resource and referral
6 programs;

7 (~~(l)~~) (n) One pediatric or other health professional;

8 (~~(m)~~) (o) At least one representative of college or university
9 child care providers;

10 (~~(n)~~) (p) At least one representative of a citizen group
11 concerned with child care;

12 (~~(o)~~) (q) At least one representative of a labor organization;

13 (~~(p)~~) (r) At least one representative of a head start - early
14 childhood education assistance program agency;

15 (~~(q)~~) (s) At least one employer who provides child care
16 assistance to employees;

17 (~~(r)~~) (t) Parents of children receiving, or in need of, child
18 care, half of whom shall be parents needing or receiving subsidized
19 child care and half of whom shall be parents who are able to pay for
20 child care.

21 The named state agencies shall select their representative to the
22 child care coordinating committee. The department of social and health
23 services shall select the remaining members, considering
24 recommendations from lists submitted by professional associations and
25 other interest groups until such time as the committee adopts a member
26 selection process. The department shall use any federal funds which
27 may become available to accomplish the purposes of RCW 74.13.085
28 through 74.13.095.

29 The committee shall elect officers from among its membership and
30 shall adopt policies and procedures specifying the lengths of terms,
31 methods for filling vacancies, and other matters necessary to the
32 ongoing functioning of the committee. The secretary of social and
33 health services shall appoint a temporary chair until the committee has
34 adopted policies and elected a chair accordingly. Child care
35 coordinating committee members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses
36 as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

37 (2) To the extent possible within available funds, the child care
38 coordinating committee shall:

1 (a) Serve as an advisory coordinator for all state agencies
2 responsible for early childhood or child care programs for the purpose
3 of improving communication and interagency coordination;

4 (b) Annually review state programs and make recommendations to the
5 agencies and the legislature which will maximize funding and promote
6 furtherance of the policies set forth in RCW 74.13.085. Reports shall
7 be provided to all appropriate committees of the legislature by
8 December 1 of each year. At a minimum the committee shall:

9 (i) Review and propose changes to the child care subsidy system in
10 its December 1989 report;

11 (ii) Review alternative models for child care service systems, in
12 the context of the policies set forth in RCW 74.13.085, and recommend
13 to the legislature a new child care service structure; and

14 (iii) Review options and make recommendations on the feasibility of
15 establishing an allocation for day care facilities when constructing
16 state buildings;

17 (c) Review department of social and health services administration
18 of the child care expansion grant program described in RCW 74.13.095;

19 (d) Review rules regarding child care facilities and services for
20 the purpose of identifying those which unnecessarily obstruct the
21 availability and

22 affordability of child care in the state;

23 (e) Advise and assist the office of child care policy in
24 implementing his or her duties under RCW 74.13.0903;

25 (f) Perform other functions to improve the quantity and quality of
26 child care in the state, including compliance with existing and future
27 prerequisites for federal funding; and

28 (g) Advise and assist the department of personnel in its
29 responsibility for establishing policies and procedures that provide
30 for the development of quality child care programs for state employees.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, or
32 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium
33 ending June 30, 1997, from the general fund to the department of social
34 and health services for the purposes of section 2 of this act.

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