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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6226**

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**State of Washington**

**62nd Legislature**

**2012 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Frockt, Harper, Regala, Zarelli, Fain, Hargrove, Kohl-Welles, and Keiser)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/12.

1           AN ACT Relating to authorization periods for subsidized child care;  
2 amending RCW 43.215.135; adding a new section to chapter 43.215 RCW;  
3 and providing an effective date.

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

5           **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.215.135 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 42 s 11 are each  
6 amended to read as follows:

7           (1) The department shall establish and implement policies in the  
8 working connections child care program to promote stability and quality  
9 of care for children from low-income households. Policies for the  
10 expenditure of funds constituting the working connections child care  
11 program must be consistent with the outcome measures defined in RCW  
12 74.08A.410 and the standards established in this section intended to  
13 promote continuity of care for children.

14           (2) As a condition of receiving a child care subsidy or a working  
15 connections child care subsidy, the applicant or recipient must seek  
16 child support enforcement services from the department of social and  
17 health services, division of child support, unless the department finds  
18 that the applicant or recipient has good cause not to cooperate.

1           ~~(3) ((Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, an~~  
2 ~~applicant or recipient of a child care subsidy or a working connections~~  
3 ~~child care subsidy is eligible to receive that subsidy for six months~~  
4 ~~before having to recertify his or her income eligibility. The six-~~  
5 ~~month certification provision applies only if enrollments in the child~~  
6 ~~care subsidy or working connections child care program are capped.~~

7           ~~(4)) Beginning in fiscal year ((2011, for families with children~~  
8 ~~enrolled in an early childhood education and assistance program, a head~~  
9 ~~start program, or an early head start program)) 2013, authorizations~~  
10 ~~for the working connections child care subsidy shall be effective for~~  
11 ~~twelve months unless a change in circumstances necessitates~~  
12 ~~reauthorization sooner than twelve months. The twelve-month~~  
13 ~~certification applies only if the enrollments in the child care subsidy~~  
14 ~~or working connections child care program are capped.~~

15           ~~((5) The department, in consultation with the department of social~~  
16 ~~and health services, shall report to the legislature by September 1,~~  
17 ~~2011, with:~~

18           ~~(a) An analysis of the impact of the twelve-month authorization~~  
19 ~~period on the stability of child care, program costs, and~~  
20 ~~administrative savings; and~~

21           ~~(b) Recommendations for expanding the application of the twelve-~~  
22 ~~month authorization period to additional populations of children in~~  
23 ~~care.))~~

24           NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 43.215 RCW  
25 to read as follows:

26           When an applicant or recipient applies for or receives working  
27 connections child care benefits, he or she is required to:

28           (1) Notify the department within five days, of any change in  
29 providers;

30           (2) Notify the applicant or recipient's provider within ten days of  
31 any change in the following:

32           (a) The number of child care hours the applicant or recipient  
33 needs;

34           (b) The applicant or recipient's countable income, including any  
35 temporary assistance for needy families or child support grant  
36 increases or decreases;

37           (c) The applicant or recipient's household size;

1 (d) Starting, stopping, or changing any employment, school  
2 activity, or approved temporary assistance for needy families activity;

3 (e) The address and telephone number of the applicant or  
4 recipient's in-home or relative provider; and

5 (f) The applicant or recipient's legal obligation to pay child  
6 support;

7 (3) Report to the department of social and health services, within  
8 twenty-four hours, any pending charges or conviction information the  
9 applicant or recipient learns about his or her in-home or relative  
10 provider; and

11 (4) Report to the department of social and health services, within  
12 twenty-four hours, any pending charges or conviction information the  
13 applicant or recipient learns about anyone sixteen years of age or  
14 older who lives with the provider when the provider is providing care  
15 outside the child's home.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect July 1, 2012.

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