
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6500

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senate Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation (originally sponsored by Senators Padden, Darneille, Nguyen, and Wilson, C.)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to foster care licensing following a foster-
2 family home licensee's move to a new location; amending RCW
3 74.15.100; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that at least forty-
6 six foster home licenses were closed between 2017 and 2019 due to
7 failure to notify the department of children, youth, and families of
8 a change of residence within thirty days of relocation. In
9 recognition of the importance of maintaining foster placements in
10 Washington, the legislature intends to provide licensing continuation
11 for foster families without a foster child in their care at the time
12 of relocation if the licensee meets minimum licensing standards and
13 completes a home inspection within thirty days of providing notice of
14 relocation.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.15.100 and 2018 c 284 s 68 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 Each agency shall make application for a license or renewal of
18 license to the department on forms prescribed by the department. A
19 licensed agency having foster-family homes under its supervision may
20 make application for a license on behalf of any such foster-family

1 home. Such a foster home license shall cease to be valid when the
2 home is no longer under the supervision of that agency. Upon receipt
3 of such application, the department shall either grant or deny a
4 license within ninety days unless the application is for licensure as
5 a foster-family home, in which case RCW 74.15.040 shall govern. A
6 license shall be granted if the agency meets the minimum requirements
7 set forth in this chapter (~~(74.15-RCW)~~) and RCW 74.13.031 and the
8 departmental requirements consistent herewith, except that an initial
9 license may be issued as provided in RCW 74.15.120. Licenses provided
10 for in this chapter (~~(74.15-RCW)~~) and RCW 74.13.031 shall be issued
11 for a period of three years. The licensee, however, shall advise the
12 secretary of any material change in circumstances which might
13 constitute grounds for reclassification of license as to category.
14 The license issued under this chapter is not transferable and applies
15 only to the licensee. The license shall be limited to a particular
16 location which shall be stated on the license. For licensed foster-
17 family homes having an acceptable history of child care, the license
18 may remain in effect for thirty days after a move, except that this
19 will apply only if the family remains intact and children are placed
20 in their care. Licensees must notify their licensor before moving to
21 a new location and may request a continuation of the license at the
22 new location. (~~(At the request of the licensee, the department shall,~~
23 ~~within thirty days following a foster-family home licensee's move to~~
24 ~~a new location, amend the license to reflect the new location,~~
25 ~~provided the new location and the licensee meet)) The department
26 shall conduct a home inspection following notification that a foster-
27 family home has moved to a new location. Provided the new location
28 and licensees meet minimum licensing standards, the licensor shall
29 amend the license to reflect the new location. Licensees whose family
30 remains intact and have no children placed in their care at the time
31 of a move to a new location shall notify their licensor within ninety
32 days of moving. If the licensee is in good standing at the time of
33 the move, the licensor shall place the home on no-referral status and
34 complete a home inspection within thirty days of notification. Such
35 licensees shall remain on no-referral status and no new placements
36 may be made in their home until the inspection is complete and the
37 licensor determines that the new location meets minimum licensing
38 standards.~~

--- END ---