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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2446**

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**State of Washington**

**62nd Legislature**

**2012 Regular Session**

**By** House Health & Human Services Appropriations & Oversight  
(originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Roberts, Ormsby, and Kenney)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/12.

1 AN ACT Relating to the working connections child care program;  
2 amending RCW 43.215.135; and providing an effective date.

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

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

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

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

18 (3) ~~((Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, an~~  
19 ~~applicant or recipient of a child care subsidy or a working connections~~

1 ~~child care subsidy is eligible to receive that subsidy for six months~~  
2 ~~before having to recertify his or her income eligibility. The six-~~  
3 ~~month certification provision applies only if enrollments in the child~~  
4 ~~care subsidy or working connections child care program are capped.~~

5 ~~(4)) Beginning in fiscal year ((2011, for families with children~~  
6 ~~enrolled in an early childhood education and assistance program, a head~~  
7 ~~start program, or an early head start program)) 2013, authorizations~~  
8 ~~for the working connections child care subsidy shall be effective for~~  
9 ~~twelve months unless a change in circumstances necessitates~~  
10 ~~reauthorization sooner than twelve months.~~

11 ~~((5) The department, in consultation with the department of social~~  
12 ~~and health services, shall report to the legislature by September 1,~~  
13 ~~2011, with:~~

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

17 ~~(b) Recommendations for expanding the application of the twelve-~~  
18 ~~month authorization period to additional populations of children in~~  
19 ~~care.))~~

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect July 1, 2012.

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