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House Amendment 8552
            Amend House File 2769 as follows:
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             Page 5, by inserting after line 3 the
        3 following:
                         NEW SECTION. 28.11 PUBLIC=PRIVATE
           <Sec.
       5 PARTNERSHIPS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY
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        6 CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.
             1. FINDINGS. The general assembly finds all of
        8 the following in regard to the relationship between
        9 economic development efforts and early childhood
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       10 education:
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           a. That economic development and education are
       12 intrinsically linked; one is not successful without
       13 the other.
            b. That strong economic growth cannot occur or be
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       15 maintained without a strong early childhood education
       16 system that begins at birth and continues into older
       17 ages.
       18
            c.
                 That investments in high=quality early
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       19 childhood education will save significant costs by
       20 avoiding the future need for extensive special
       21 education, criminal justice, public assistance, and
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       22 child welfare services.
       23
           d. That Iowa has a wide variety of investors in
       24 early childhood education, ranging from parents to
       25 federal and state governments and the private sector
             e. That the state's economic development and early
       26
       27 childhood education efforts can be greatly improved by
       28 supporting public and private partnerships dedicated
       29 to enhancing early childhood education.
             2. PUBLIC POLICY. The Iowa empowerment board, the
       31 community empowerment office, and the community
       32 empowerment assistance team shall give priority to
       33 supporting efforts at the state and community
       34 empowerment area levels to build public=private
       35 partnerships for economic development through
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       36 enhancing early childhood education.
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             3. BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE.
       38
             a.
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       39 blue ribbon public=private partnership committee to
       40 develop a framework for building integrated, high= 41 quality early childhood education programs in all
       42 areas of the state. The blue ribbon committee shall
       43 be directed to report to the board, the governor, and
       44 the general assembly regarding the framework and other
       45 findings and recommendations on or before December 15,
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- The Iowa empowerment board shall establish a 46 2006, so that the recommendations can be incorporated 47 into the governor's budget proposal and the general 48 assembly's budget deliberations for the 2007 49 legislative session.
 - b. The membership of the blue ribbon committee 1 shall include but is not limited to all of the 2 following:
 - (1) The directors of the departments of economic 4 development, education, human rights, human services, 5 and public health, or their designees.
 - (2) Two representatives of private sector 7 employers from nominations provided by the Iowa 8 business council.
- (3) One representative of for=profit organizations 10 providing services to young children or early 11 childhood education.
- (4) One representative of nonprofit organizations 13 providing services to young children or early 14 childhood education.
- 15 (5) One representative of home=based providers of 16 services to young children or early childhood 17 education.
- (6) One representative of religious organizations 19 providing services to young children.
- 2.0 (7) One representative of organizations providing 21 funding for services to young children or early 22 childhood education.
 - (8) One school superintendent from a rural area.(9) One school superintendent from an urban area.

(10)One public school educator who works with 2 26 kindergarten=age and younger children.

(11) One parent who is involved with school

28 organizations such as the parent=teacher association.
29 c. The committee's deliberations and 30 recommendations shall include but are not limited to 31 all of the following:

- (1) Identifying the types of programs that are 33 best for improving the quality of early childhood 34 education.
- (2) A strategy for blending child care and 36 preschool into a seamless system.

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- (3) A best approach for identifying standards and 38 quality in early childhood education.
 39 (4) A strategy for blending funding for early
- 40 childhood education services from the public sector 41 and the private sector, including but not limited to 42 the funding provided by businesses and individual 43 families.
- (5) An approach for committing funding designated 45 for economic development to early childhood education, 46 including but not limited to funding from the vision 47 Iowa program, the grow Iowa values fund, and similar 48 sources.
- 49 (6) A strategy for community empowerment area 50 boards to develop and implement local public=private 1 partnership networks and apply for state and private 2 funding to implement innovative childhood education 3 programming, or to be able to apply for competitive 4 grants to enhance the partnership networks. 5 committee shall give consideration to adapting the 6 smart start approach utilized in North Carolina.
- (7) A best process for evaluating early childhood 8 education services on an annual or other periodic 9 basis.
- d. Staff and administrative support for the blue 11 ribbon committee shall be provided by the community 12 empowerment office and the community empowerment 13 assistance team.
- e. This subsection is repealed July 1, 2008.> 15 ± 2 . By renumbering as necessary.

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