

# House Study Bill 513

## Bill Text

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 256D.1 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND  
1 2 INTENT.

1 3 The general assembly finds that early childhood education  
1 4 programs provide benefits in the areas of economic  
1 5 development, education, workforce preparation, health costs,  
1 6 welfare costs, and juvenile justice. The general assembly  
1 7 further finds that it is in the best interest of the state to  
1 8 encourage and equitably fund early childhood education  
1 9 programs in the public school districts. The goal of these  
1 10 programs shall be, at a minimum, to produce children who by  
1 11 the age of three and forever after are self-confident and  
1 12 trusting, intellectually inquisitive, able to use language to  
1 13 communicate, physically and mentally healthy, able to relate  
1 14 well to others, and empathetic to others. Toward that goal,  
1 15 it is the intent of this chapter to establish and fund an  
1 16 early childhood education imperatives program.

1 17 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 256D.2 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
1 18 IMPERATIVES PROGRAM APPROPRIATION.

1 19 1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the  
1 20 state to the department of education for the fiscal year  
1 21 beginning July 1, 1998, and for each succeeding fiscal year,  
1 22 the sum of fifteen million dollars for the early childhood  
1 23 education imperatives program.

1 24 2. For each fiscal year for which moneys are appropriated  
1 25 in subsection 1, the amount of moneys allocated to school  
1 26 districts shall be in the proportion that the basic enrollment  
1 27 of a district bears to the sum of the basic enrollments of all  
1 28 school districts in the state for the budget year. However,  
1 29 except as provided in subsection 7, a district shall not  
1 30 receive less than seven thousand five hundred dollars in a  
1 31 fiscal year. The Iowa braille and sight saving school, the  
1 32 state school for the deaf, and the Price laboratory school at  
1 33 the university of northern Iowa shall annually certify their  
1 34 basic enrollments to the department of education by October 1.  
1 35 The department of human services shall certify the average  
2 1 student yearly enrollments of the institutions under the  
2 2 control of the department of human services enumerated in  
2 3 section 218.1, subsections 1 through 3, 5, 7, and 8, to the  
2 4 department of education by October 1.

2 5 3. For each year for which an appropriation is made to the  
2 6 early childhood education imperatives program, the department  
2 7 of education shall notify the department of revenue and  
2 8 finance of the amount to be paid to each school district based  
2 9 upon the distribution plan set forth for the appropriation  
2 10 made pursuant to this section. The allocation to each school  
2 11 district under this section shall be made in one payment on or  
2 12 about October 15 of the fiscal year for which the  
2 13 appropriation is made, taking into consideration the relative  
2 14 budget and cash position of the state resources. Prior to the  
2 15 receipt of moneys, school districts shall provide to the  
2 16 department of education adequate assurance that they have  
2 17 developed or are developing an early childhood education plan  
2 18 as required by section 256D.3 and that moneys received under  
2 19 this section will be used in accordance with the required  
2 20 early childhood education plan.

2 21 4. Moneys received under this section shall not be

2 22 commingled with state aid payments made under sections 257.16  
2 23 to a school district and shall be accounted for by the school  
2 24 district separately from state aid payments.

2 25 5. Payments made to school districts under this section  
2 26 are miscellaneous income for purposes of chapter 257 or are  
2 27 considered encumbered. Each school district shall maintain a  
2 28 separate listing within their budgets for payments received  
2 29 and expenditures made pursuant to this section.

2 30 6. Moneys received under this section shall not be used  
2 31 for payment of any collective bargaining agreement or  
2 32 arbitrator's decision negotiated or awarded under chapter 20.

2 33 7. For purposes of this chapter, "school district" means a  
2 34 school district, the Iowa braille and sight saving school, the  
2 35 state school for the deaf, the Price laboratory school at the  
3 1 university of northern Iowa, and the institutions under the  
3 2 control of the department of human services enumerated in  
3 3 section 218.1, subsections 1 through 3, 5, 7, and 8. However,  
3 4 notwithstanding subsection 2, the amount of moneys allocated  
3 5 to the institutions under the control of the department of  
3 6 human services enumerated in section 218.1, subsections 1, 2,  
3 7 3, and 5, shall be a total of not more than twenty-two  
3 8 thousand five hundred dollars for each fiscal year, to be  
3 9 distributed proportionately among the four institutions by the  
3 10 department of education.

3 11 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 256D.3 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
3 12 IMPERATIVES PROGRAM PLANNING.

3 13 1. Prior to receiving moneys under this chapter, the board  
3 14 of directors of a school district shall adopt an initial early  
3 15 childhood education plan that supports early childhood  
3 16 education efforts and includes an evaluation component. The  
3 17 plan shall be developed by licensed professional staff of the  
3 18 district, including both teachers and administrators. The  
3 19 plan shall, at a minimum, focus on preparing children to  
3 20 attain or surpass student achievement goals identified  
3 21 pursuant to sections 280.12 and 280.18. The initial plan  
3 22 shall be amended or adopted anew at least once every five  
3 23 years. The early childhood education plan shall be kept on  
3 24 file in the district and a copy of the initial plan,  
3 25 subsequent amendments to the plan, and copies of subsequent  
3 26 plans adopted shall be sent to the appropriate area education  
3 27 agency and the department of education. Progress as  
3 28 determined by the school district, but including progress in  
3 29 preparing children to attain or surpass student achievement  
3 30 goals, shall be included as part of the annual report  
3 31 submitted to the department of education in compliance with  
3 32 sections 280.12 and 280.18.

3 33 2. Prior to receiving moneys under this chapter, the Iowa  
3 34 braille and sight saving school, the state school for the  
3 35 deaf, and the Price laboratory school at the university of  
4 1 northern Iowa shall each develop an initial early childhood  
4 2 education plan that prepares, or supports and improves,  
4 3 student achievement and includes an evaluation component. The  
4 4 initial plan shall be amended or adopted anew at least once  
4 5 every five years, and a copy of the initial plan, subsequent  
4 6 amendments to the plan, and copies of subsequent plans adopted  
4 7 shall be sent to the state board of regents and the department  
4 8 of education. An annual progress report, describing progress  
4 9 in attaining student achievement goals, shall be submitted to  
4 10 the state board of regents and the department of education.

4 11 3. The institutions under the control of the department of  
4 12 human services enumerated in section 218.1, subsections 1  
4 13 through 3, 5, 7, and 8, shall each develop an initial early  
4 14 childhood education plan that prepares a child for, or  
4 15 supports and improves, student achievement and includes an  
4 16 evaluation component. Each institution shall send a copy of  
4 17 the initial plan, subsequent amendments to the plan, and  
4 18 copies of subsequent plans adopted to the departments of human

4 19 services and education. Each institution shall submit an  
4 20 annual progress report, describing progress in attaining  
4 21 student achievement goals, to the departments of human  
4 22 services and education.

4 23 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 256D.4 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
4 24 IMPERATIVES PROGRAM EXPENDITURES.

4 25 School districts, as defined in section 256D.2, subsection  
4 26 7, shall expend funds received pursuant to section 256D.2 to  
4 27 support developmentally appropriate early childhood practices  
4 28 and programs that do all of the following: encourage children  
4 29 to actively construct their own knowledge; engage children  
4 30 with varied play and work activities and materials of interest  
4 31 to the children; utilize a physical and interpersonal  
4 32 environment supportive of learning goals; foster language  
4 33 development, rudimentary learning, and problem-solving in a  
4 34 social context with peers and adults; are inclusive of all  
4 35 children within an age group that may range from age zero to  
5 1 eight; involve interaction between teachers and individual  
5 2 children, small and large teams, and groups of children; honor  
5 3 the cultural diversity and backgrounds of the children;  
5 4 include appropriate assessment; involve parents and others  
5 5 from the community; collaborate with other agencies focused on  
5 6 the health and well-being of children; highlight the  
5 7 children's work; offer at least a daily opportunity for  
5 8 outdoor play; extend individual and small group reading  
5 9 opportunities throughout the day; include curriculum developed  
5 10 to be adaptive to the many possible ways and paces with which  
5 11 children learn; and cause children and parents to look forward  
5 12 to participating in early childhood activities and programs.

5 13 EXPLANATION

5 14 This bill establishes an early childhood education  
5 15 imperatives program and funds the program with an annual  
5 16 appropriation of \$15 million from the state general fund to  
5 17 the department of education.

5 18 The general assembly finds, according to the bill, that  
5 19 early childhood education programs benefit society and that it  
5 20 is in the best interest of the state to encourage and  
5 21 equitably fund early childhood education programs in public  
5 22 school districts. The bill defines the goals of an eligible  
5 23 early childhood education program and lists the components of  
5 24 developmentally appropriate early childhood education  
5 25 practices and programs that qualify for state funding.

5 26 The bill provides for a per pupil annual distribution of  
5 27 the funds appropriated, but stipulates that a school district  
5 28 shall receive no less than \$7,500. The bill defines the term  
5 29 "school district" to include the Iowa braille and sight saving  
5 30 school, the state school for the deaf, the Price laboratory  
5 31 school at the university of northern Iowa, Glenwood state  
5 32 hospital-school, Woodward state hospital-school, the mental  
5 33 health institutes located at Cherokee and Independence, the  
5 34 state training school, and the Iowa juvenile home. However,  
5 35 under the bill, the department of education is directed to  
6 1 distribute a total of \$22,500 among four of the institutions  
6 2 under the control of the department of human services: the  
6 3 Glenwood state hospital-school, Woodward state hospital-  
6 4 school, and the mental health institutes located at Cherokee  
6 5 and Independence.

6 6 The bill also requires school districts to develop and  
6 7 adopt an initial early childhood education plan that prepares  
6 8 a child for, or supports and improves, student achievement and  
6 9 includes an evaluation component. The initial plan shall be  
6 10 amended or replaced at least once every five years and a copy  
6 11 of the initial plan, subsequent amendments to the plan, and  
6 12 replacements of the initial plan shall be sent to the  
6 13 appropriate state agencies. Progress made under the plan  
6 14 toward preparing students to attain student achievement goals  
6 15 shall be reported annually to the appropriate state agencies.

6 16 LSB 3245YC 77  
6 17 kh/cf/24