

# Senate File 2159 - Introduced

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3068)

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the statewide preschool program for  
2 four-year-old children and funding associated with the program  
3 and providing an effective date.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:  
5 TLSB 5315SV 82  
6 jp/nh/8

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1 1 Section 1. Section 256C.3, subsection 1, Code Supplement  
1 2 2007, is amended to read as follows:  
1 3 1. ELIGIBLE CHILDREN. A child who is a resident of Iowa  
1 4 and is four years of age ~~by~~ on or before September 15 of a  
1 5 school year shall be eligible to enroll in the preschool  
1 6 program under this chapter. If space and funding are  
1 7 available, a school district approved to participate in the  
1 8 preschool program may enroll a younger or older child in the  
1 9 preschool program; however, the child shall not be counted for  
1 10 state funding purposes.

1 11 Sec. 2. Section 256C.4, subsection 1, Code Supplement  
1 12 2007, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:  
1 13 NEW PARAGRAPH. f. The receipt of funding by a school  
1 14 district for the purposes of this chapter, the need for  
1 15 additional funding for the purposes of this chapter, or the  
1 16 enrollment count of eligible students under this chapter,  
1 17 shall not be considered to be unusual circumstances, create an  
1 18 unusual need for additional funds, or qualify under any other  
1 19 circumstances that may be used by the school budget review  
1 20 committee to grant supplemental aid to or establish modified  
1 21 allowable growth for a school district under section 257.31.

1 22 Sec. 3. Section 256C.5, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code  
1 23 Supplement 2007, is amended to read as follows:

1 24 b. For budget years subsequent to the initial school year  
1 25 for which a school district approved to participate in the  
1 26 preschool program receives that initial approval and  
1 27 implements the preschool program, the funding for the  
1 28 preschool foundation aid payable to that school district shall  
1 29 be paid from the appropriation made in section 257.16.

1 30 Continuation of a school district's participation in the  
1 31 preschool program for a second or subsequent budget year is  
1 32 subject to the approval of the department based upon the  
1 33 school district's compliance with accountability provisions  
1 34 and the department's on-site review of the school district's  
1 35 implementation of the preschool program.

2 1 Sec. 4. Section 256C.6, subsection 1, Code Supplement  
2 2 2007, is amended to read as follows:

2 3 1. PHASE-IN. For the initial fiscal year in which a  
2 4 school district participates in the preschool program pursuant  
2 5 to an appropriation provided in subsection 2, the department  
2 6 shall apply a modified set of the requirements of the  
2 7 provisions of this chapter relating to preschool program  
2 8 implementation, preschool enrollment reporting, and  
2 9 distribution of funding as necessary to begin the distribution  
2 10 in that fiscal year and additional program implementation in  
2 11 the next fiscal year. ~~For each month after September 1, in~~  
~~2 12 the initial fiscal year that a school district approved to~~  
~~2 13 participate in the preschool program begins programming, the~~  
~~2 14 department shall reduce the preschool foundation aid payable~~  
~~2 15 to the school district by one-tenth of the amount that would~~  
~~2 16 otherwise have been payable to the school district for the~~  
~~2 17 full school year.~~

2 18 Sec. 5. Section 256C.6, subsection 2, Code Supplement

2 19 2007, is amended by adding the following new unnumbered  
2 20 paragraph:

2 21 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. Notwithstanding section 8.33,  
2 22 moneys appropriated in this subsection that remain  
2 23 unencumbered or unobligated at the close of the fiscal year  
2 24 shall not revert but shall remain available for expenditure  
2 25 for the purposes designated until the close of the succeeding  
2 26 fiscal year.

2 27 Sec. 6. 2007 Iowa Acts, chapter 214, section 6, subsection  
2 28 13, is amended by adding the following new unnumbered  
2 29 paragraph:

2 30 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. Notwithstanding section 8.33,  
2 31 moneys appropriated in this subsection that remain  
2 32 unencumbered or unobligated at the close of the fiscal year  
2 33 shall not revert but shall remain available for expenditure  
2 34 for the purposes designated until the close of the succeeding  
2 35 fiscal year.

3 1 Sec. 7. STATEWIDE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
3 2 SYSTEM. It is the intent of the general assembly that if  
3 3 funding is designated or is otherwise made available for  
3 4 purposes of implementing a statewide early childhood  
3 5 professional development system during the fiscal year  
3 6 beginning July 1, 2007, or the succeeding fiscal year, that  
3 7 the system shall be implemented by the department of education  
3 8 through the area education agencies and shall be designed to  
3 9 support the statewide preschool program for four-year-old  
3 10 children offered in accordance with chapter 256C. The  
3 11 department of education shall collaborate with early childhood  
3 12 Iowa and its public and private member agencies to ensure that  
3 13 the system complements existing programs and resources  
3 14 committed by the agencies to professional development. To the  
3 15 extent possible, the system shall support professionals  
3 16 engaged in other early childhood programs.

3 17 Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of  
3 18 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

3 19 EXPLANATION

3 20 This bill relates to the statewide preschool program for  
3 21 four-year-old children and funding associated with the  
3 22 program.

3 23 Code section 256C.3, relating to the program requirements,  
3 24 is amended to specify that a child must be age four on or  
3 25 before September 15 of a school year to enroll in the program.

3 26 Code section 256C.4, relating to the general funding  
3 27 provisions for the program, is amended to provide that the  
3 28 receipt of funding for purposes of the program, the need for  
3 29 funding for the program, or the enrollment count of eligible  
3 30 students cannot be used to grant supplemental aid to or  
3 31 establish modified allowable growth for a school district.

3 32 Code section 256C.5, relating to the funding formula for  
3 33 the preschool program, is amended. Current law provides that  
3 34 the funding for the initial year of participation is paid from  
3 35 a standing limited appropriation and in subsequent years the  
4 1 funding is paid from the standing appropriation for state aid  
4 2 to schools. The bill provides that continuation of a school  
4 3 district's participation for a second or subsequent year is  
4 4 subject to the approval of the department of education.

4 5 Code section 256C.6, relating to phase-in of the program,  
4 6 is amended to strike authority for monthly proration of  
4 7 preschool foundation aid for school districts that are  
4 8 approved to participate in the program, for each month after  
4 9 September 1 that the programming begins. The bill includes  
4 10 nonreversion provisions to allow carry forward of unexpended  
4 11 amounts from the appropriations made for initial year  
4 12 participation in the program by school districts for fiscal  
4 13 year 2007=2008 in 2007 Iowa Acts, ch. 214, and for fiscal  
4 14 years 2008=2009, 2009=2010, and 2010=2011 in Code section  
4 15 256C.6.

4 16 The bill provides legislative intent stating that if  
4 17 funding is made available for implementing a statewide early  
4 18 childhood professional development system beginning in fiscal  
4 19 year 2007=2008 or the succeeding fiscal year, the system will  
4 20 be implemented by the department of education through area  
4 21 education agencies and will support the preschool program.

4 22 The bill takes effect upon enactment.

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