

House Study Bill 71 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE
ON EDUCATION BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON FORRISTALL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act repealing the statewide voluntary preschool program
2 for four-year-old children and including effective date
3 provisions.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 237A.21, subsection 3, paragraph p, Code
2 2011, is amended by striking the paragraph.

3 Sec. 2. Section 237A.22, subsection 1, paragraphs f and g,
4 Code 2011, are amended to read as follows:

5 *f.* Make recommendations for improving collaborations between
6 the child care programs involving the department and programs
7 supporting the education and development of young children
8 including but not limited to the federal head start program,
9 ~~the statewide preschool program for four-year-old children~~
10 and the early childhood, at-risk, and other early education
11 programs administered by the department of education.

12 *g.* Make recommendations for eliminating duplication and
13 otherwise improving the eligibility determination processes
14 used for the state child care assistance program and other
15 programs supporting low-income families, including but not
16 limited to the federal head start, early head start, and even
17 start programs; the early childhood, at-risk, and ~~preschool~~
18 prekindergarten programs administered by the department of
19 education; the family and self-sufficiency grant program; and
20 the family investment program.

21 Sec. 3. Section 256.11, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code
22 2011, is amended by striking the paragraph.

23 Sec. 4. Section 257.16, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended
24 to read as follows:

25 1. There is appropriated each year from the general fund
26 of the state an amount necessary to pay the foundation aid
27 under this chapter, ~~the preschool foundation aid under chapter~~
28 ~~256C~~, supplementary aid under section 257.4, subsection 2, and
29 adjusted additional property tax levy aid under section 257.15,
30 subsection 4.

31 Sec. 5. Section 272.2, subsection 18, Code 2011, is amended
32 to read as follows:

33 18. May adopt rules for practitioners who are not eligible
34 for a statement of professional recognition under subsection
35 10, but have received a baccalaureate degree and provide a

1 service to students at any or all levels from prekindergarten
2 through grade twelve for a school district, accredited
3 nonpublic school, or area education agency, ~~or preschool~~
4 ~~program established pursuant to chapter 256C.~~

5 Sec. 6. Section 285.1, subsection 1, paragraph a,
6 subparagraph (3), Code 2011, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3) Children attending prekindergarten programs offered or
8 sponsored by the district or nonpublic school and approved by
9 the department of education or department of human services
10 ~~or children participating in preschool in an approved local~~
11 ~~program under chapter 256C~~ may be provided transportation
12 services. However, transportation services provided to
13 nonpublic school children are not eligible for reimbursement
14 under this chapter.

15 Sec. 7. REPEAL. Chapter 256C, Code 2011, is repealed.

16 Sec. 8. STATEWIDE VOLUNTARY PRESCHOOL. It is the intent
17 of the general assembly to fill the needs addressed by the
18 statewide preschool program for four-year-old children repealed
19 by this Act by expanding preschool tuition assistance for
20 low-income families.

21 Sec. 9. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. The section of this
22 Act stating legislative intent to fill the needs addressed by
23 the statewide preschool program for four-year-old children
24 by expanding preschool tuition assistance for low-income
25 families, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect
26 upon enactment.

27 EXPLANATION

28 This bill repeals the statewide voluntary preschool program
29 in Code chapter 256C effective July 1, 2011, along with the
30 associated school aid funding provisions. A legislative intent
31 provision calls for filling the needs addressed by the program
32 through expansion of the preschool tuition assistance program
33 provided to low-income families and this provision takes effect
34 upon enactment. The bill makes conforming amendments to
35 various Code sections to reflect the repeal.