

House File 25 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 25

BY KOESTER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the statewide preschool program for
2 four-year-old children by modifying provisions for
3 calculating preschool budget enrollment, providing for
4 adjustments to preschool foundation aid amounts, and
5 including effective date and applicability provisions.
6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256C.4, subsection 1, paragraph e, Code
2 2017, is amended to read as follows:

3 e. Preschool foundation aid funding shall not be used for
4 the costs of constructing a facility in connection with an
5 approved local program. Preschool foundation aid funding may
6 be used by approved local programs and community providers
7 for professional development for preschool teachers, for
8 instructional equipment, for material and equipment designed
9 to develop pupils' large and small motor skills, and for other
10 direct costs. Preschool foundation aid funding may be used
11 by approved local programs for the costs of transportation
12 involving children participating in the preschool program.
13 The costs of transporting other children associated with the
14 preschool program or transported as provided in section 256C.3,
15 subsection 3, paragraph "h", may be prorated by the school
16 district. Preschool foundation aid funding received by an
17 approved local program that remain unexpended or unobligated at
18 the end of a fiscal year shall be accounted for in accordance
19 with section 256C.5, subsection 1, paragraph "d", and used to
20 ~~build the approved local program's preschool program capacity~~
21 in the next succeeding fiscal year.

22 Sec. 2. Section 256C.5, subsection 1, paragraphs c and d,
23 Code 2017, are amended to read as follows:

24 c. "Preschool budget enrollment" means the figure that is
25 equal to fifty the sum of the following:

26 (1) Fifty percent of the actual enrollment of eligible
27 students in the preschool programming provided by a school
28 district approved to participate in the preschool program on
29 October 1 of the base year, or the first Monday in October if
30 October 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

31 (2) Fifty percent of the actual enrollment of eligible
32 students in the preschool programming provided by a school
33 district approved to participate in the preschool program on
34 October 1 of the base year, or the first Monday in October if
35 October 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, whose family income is

1 at or below two hundred percent of the federal poverty level as
2 defined by the most recently revised poverty income guidelines
3 published by the United States department of health and human
4 services.

5 *d. "Preschool foundation aid"* means the product of the
6 regular program state cost per pupil for the budget year
7 multiplied by the school district's preschool budget enrollment
8 minus the amount of preschool foundation aid received
9 during all previous budget years that remains unexpended and
10 unobligated at the end of the base year.

11 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed of
12 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

13 Sec. 4. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school budget
14 years beginning on or after July 1, 2017.

15 EXPLANATION

16 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
17 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

18 Under current law, the preschool budget enrollment used
19 to calculate the amount of preschool foundation aid paid to
20 a school district participating in the statewide preschool
21 program for four-year-old children is equal to 50 percent of
22 the actual enrollment of eligible students in the preschool
23 programming provided by a school district approved to
24 participate in the preschool program on October 1 of the base
25 year.

26 This bill modifies the method of calculating the preschool
27 budget enrollment by adding to the current calculation an
28 amount equal to 50 percent of the actual enrollment of eligible
29 students in the preschool programming provided by a school
30 district approved to participate in the preschool program on
31 October 1 of the base year, whose family income is at or below
32 200 percent of the federal poverty level as defined by the most
33 recently revised poverty income guidelines published by the
34 United States department of health and human services.

35 Under current law, the preschool foundation aid is

1 calculated to mean the product of the regular program state
2 cost per pupil for the budget year multiplied by the school
3 district's preschool budget enrollment. The bill requires that
4 the preschool foundation aid amount payable to school districts
5 be reduced by an amount equal to the amount of preschool
6 foundation aid received during all previous budget years that
7 remains unexpended and unobligated at the end of the base
8 year. The bill also amends provisions relating to the use of
9 preschool foundation aid that remains unexpended or unobligated
10 at the end of a fiscal year.

11 The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies to school
12 budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2017.