House File 2357 - Introduced

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to statewide voluntary preschool program
2   required hours of instruction and funding calculations.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256C.3, subsection 3, paragraph f, Code
2 2024, is amended by striking the paragraph and inserting in
3 lieu thereof the following:
4 *f.* A minimum of one thousand eighty hours of instruction
5 during the calendar year.
6 Sec. 2. Section 256C.5, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code
7 2024, is amended by striking the paragraph and inserting in
8 lieu thereof the following:
9 *c. "Preschool budget enrollment"* means the actual enrollment
10 of eligible students in the preschool programming provided by
11 a school district approved to participate in the preschool
12 program on October 1 of the base year, or the first Monday in
13 October if October 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday.
14   EXPLANATION
15   The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
16   the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

17 This bill relates to statewide voluntary preschool program
18 required hours of instruction and funding calculations.
19 The bill requires that each statewide voluntary preschool
20 program (SVPP) offered by a school district to include a
21 minimum of 1,080 hours of instruction during a calendar year.
22 This is the current minimum hours of instruction required for
23 students attending kindergarten through grade 12 classes.
24 A school district with an approved SVPP is funded in part by
25 preschool foundation aid payments. The preschool foundation
26 aid is calculated by multiplying the regular program state cost
27 per pupil by the school district's preschool budget enrollment.
28 Currently, the preschool budget enrollment for a given year
29 is calculated by multiplying the number of eligible students
30 enrolled in the preschool program by 50 percent.
31 The bill changes the calculation for preschool budget
32 enrollment to 100 percent of eligible students enrolled in the
33 preschool program. This is the same as the current method for
34 calculating budget enrollment for a school district.