

**House File 297 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 297

BY INGELS

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the statewide preschool program by modifying  
2 certain funding provisions and including applicability  
3 provisions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256C.5, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code  
2 2023, is amended to read as follows:

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

5 (1) Fifty percent of the actual enrollment of eligible  
6 students in the preschool programming provided by a school  
7 district approved to participate in the preschool program on  
8 October 1 of the base year, or the first Monday in October if  
9 October 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, but excluding students  
10 under subparagraph (2).

11 (2) The actual enrollment of eligible students in the  
12 preschool programming provided by a school district approved  
13 to participate in the preschool program on October 1 of the  
14 base year, or the first Monday in October if October 1 falls on  
15 a Saturday or Sunday, whose household income is less than two  
16 hundred percent of the federal poverty level according to the  
17 most recently revised poverty income guidelines published by  
18 the United States department of health and human services.

19 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies July 1, 2024, for  
20 school budget years beginning on or after that date.

21 EXPLANATION

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

24 This bill relates to the statewide preschool program under  
25 Code chapter 256C.

26 Under Code chapter 256C, preschool foundation aid is  
27 calculated by multiplying the school district's preschool  
28 budget enrollment by the regular program state cost per  
29 pupil for the budget year. "Preschool budget enrollment" is  
30 defined as the figure that is equal to 50 percent of the actual  
31 enrollment of eligible students in the preschool programming  
32 provided by a school district approved to participate in the  
33 preschool program on October 1 of the base year. The bill  
34 modifies the calculation of "preschool budget enrollment" to  
35 be the sum of 50 percent of the actual enrollment of eligible

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1 students in the preschool programming provided by a school  
2 district whose household income is 200 percent or greater  
3 of the federal poverty level plus the actual enrollment of  
4 eligible students in the preschool programming provided by a  
5 school district whose household income is less than 200 percent  
6 of the federal poverty level.

7 The bill applies July 1, 2024, for school budget years  
8 beginning on or after that date.