



Rep. William Davis

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10200HB1822ham002

LRB102 04053 CMG 25195 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 1822

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 1822, AS AMENDED,
3 by replacing everything after the enacting clause with the
4 following:

5 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Early
6 Childhood Program Recruitment and Eligibility Screening Act.

7 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

8 "Blended classroom" means a classroom that is operated
9 under a program that gives the provider the option to operate
10 classrooms that are shared by a Head Start program and an early
11 childhood program in which children enrolled in the program
12 are financially supported through several funding sources and
13 agencies. Classrooms may be partially blended in which one or
14 more classrooms are blended at one or more program locations
15 but not all classrooms are blended, or classrooms may be fully
16 blended in which every classroom is offered by a Head Start

1 program and receives 90% of its funding from State or federal
2 sources. However, other sources such as Title I and private
3 tuition may also be used to support the enrollment of
4 children.

5 "Classroom", with respect to a Head Start program, means a
6 group of children who are supervised and taught by 2 paid staff
7 members, both of whom are teachers or one of whom is a teacher
8 and one of whom is a teacher's aide, and, if possible, a
9 volunteer.

10 "Collaborative Program" means the program created under
11 this Act.

12 "Communication" means an information exchange between a
13 Preschool for All or Preschool for All Expansion program or
14 Prevention Initiative program provider and a Head Start or
15 Early Head Start provider that ensures that the parents or
16 guardians of all eligible participants in a program are made
17 aware of and are informed about the program options and their
18 right to participate in the program of their choice.

19 "Early childhood program universal application" or
20 "universal application" means an application form for services
21 that is required to be utilized by Preschool for All or
22 Preschool for All Expansion programs or Prevention Initiative
23 programs and Head Start or Early Head Start programs in this
24 State that provide services to children from birth to 5 years
25 of age.

26 "Head Start or Early Head Start program" means a program

1 that provides services to children and their families who live
2 in extreme poverty, as set by guidelines established by the
3 federal government that are tied to the poverty guidelines
4 updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S.
5 Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of
6 42 U.S.C. 9902(2), or to children who are homeless or in foster
7 care; provides the skills those children need to be successful
8 in school and life; promotes the school readiness of those
9 children by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional
10 development in a learning environment that supports children's
11 growth in language, literacy, mathematics, science, social and
12 emotional functioning, the creative arts, and physical skills;
13 provides approaches to learning to low-income children and
14 their families; and provides health, educational, nutritional,
15 social, and other services that are determined based on a
16 family needs assessment.

17 "Head Start or Early Head Start program eligibility" means
18 that families who live in extreme poverty, as determined by
19 the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the Federal
20 Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
21 under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2), families who are
22 homeless, children in foster care, and children from families
23 who receive public assistance from this State's Temporary
24 Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program or from
25 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) are eligible regardless of
26 income.

1 "Participating program" means a Head Start or Early Head
2 Start program, Preschool for All or Preschool for All
3 Expansion program, or Prevention Initiative program located
4 (i) in any of the following zip codes for Collaborative
5 Program One: 62001, 62002, 62010, 62232, 62018, 62021, 62024,
6 62025, 62034, 62040, 62046, 62048, 62249, 62058, 62060, 62061,
7 62062, 62067, 62074, 62084, 62281, 62087, 62294, 62090, 62095,
8 or 62097; or (ii) in any of the following zip codes for
9 Collaborative Program Two: 60406, 60419, 60422, 60426, 60428,
10 60429, 60430, 60445, 60452, 60469, 60477, or 60827.

11 "Scientifically valid research" includes applied research,
12 basic research, and field-initiated research in which the
13 rationale, design, and interpretation are soundly developed in
14 accordance with the principles of scientific research.

15 Section 10. Findings.

16 (a) Every young child and family has the right to
17 equitable learning opportunities that help them achieve their
18 full potential as engaged learners and valued members of
19 society regardless of race, ethnicity, and social
20 circumstances. Early childhood programs, including Head Start
21 and Early Head Start programs, provide essential support,
22 structure, and opportunities for young children and blended
23 classroom structures that provide support, encourage learning,
24 and promote a healthy child.

25 (b) Head Start and Early Head Start programs:

1 (1) provide support for the whole child by promoting
2 school readiness and actively ensuring each child is
3 healthy, including nutrition, oral health, and mental
4 health, and is ready to learn;

5 (2) provide comprehensive health, educational,
6 nutritional, social, and other services needed to aid
7 participating children in attaining their full potential
8 and to prepare children to succeed in school;

9 (3) attract and retain qualified staff who are capable
10 of delivering and implementing a high-quality and
11 comprehensive program, including the ability to carry out
12 a research-based curriculum aligned with State early
13 learning standards;

14 (4) have child-to-teacher ratios, group size, and
15 family service worker caseloads that reflect best
16 practices and are tied to high-quality service delivery;

17 (5) are based on scientifically valid research,
18 including:

19 (A) curricula that are based on scientifically
20 valid research, are developmentally appropriate, and
21 promote the school readiness of children participating
22 in the program involved; and

23 (B) teaching practices that are based, as
24 appropriate, on scientifically valid research, that
25 are developmentally appropriate, and that promote the
26 school readiness of children participating in the

1 programs.

2 (6) maintain strong fiscal controls and cost-effective
3 fiscal management;

4 (7) coordinate and collaborate with other public or
5 private entities providing early childhood education and
6 developmental programs and services for young children in
7 the community;

8 (8) coordinate with public and private entities that
9 are willing to commit resources to assist the programs in
10 meeting their program needs;

11 (9) facilitate the involvement of parents,
12 grandparents, and kinship caregivers, as appropriate, of
13 children participating in the programs and in activities
14 at home and, if practicable, at the location of the
15 programs, which is designed to help such persons become
16 full partners in the education of their children;

17 (10) provide an opportunity for parents to participate
18 in the development and overall conduct of the programs at
19 the local level;

20 (11) provide parenting-skills training;

21 (12) perform a family needs assessment with respect to
22 each participating family that includes consultation with
23 parents, foster parents, grandparents, and kinship
24 caregivers, as applicable, in a manner and language that
25 such persons can understand, to the extent practicable,
26 about the benefits of parental involvement;

1 (13) meet the diverse needs of the population served,
2 including, but not limited to:

3 (A) meeting the needs of limited
4 English-proficient children and their families by
5 implementing procedures to identify such children,
6 implementing plans to provide trained personnel, and
7 implementing plans to provide services to assist these
8 children in making progress toward the acquisition of
9 the English language, while making meaningful progress
10 in attaining knowledge, skills, abilities, and
11 development; and

12 (B) meeting the needs of children with
13 disabilities by implementing procedures to identify
14 such children and implementing procedures for referral
15 of these children for evaluation to State or local
16 agencies providing services and plans for
17 collaboration with those State or local agencies;

18 (14) reserve a percentage of their funding, as
19 required and set by federal guidelines, for the enrollment
20 of children with disabilities; and

21 (15) meet the needs of homeless children, including
22 their transportation needs, and the needs of children in
23 foster care.

24 (c) Blended classrooms in early childhood programs share
25 all of the following characteristics:

26 (1) Costs are shared in that costs are prorated from

1 each funding source.

2 (2) Separate audit trails are maintained for each
3 funding source.

4 (3) A classroom must meet the operating requirements
5 of all funding sources. If classroom standards are not
6 comparable or the same between 2 or more classrooms, the
7 most stringent standard applies.

8 (4) Children receive all services for which they are
9 eligible.

10 (5) Wrap-around services provide before-school and
11 after-school child care that is coordinated with child
12 care providers and family resource centers.

13 (6) Head Start and Early Head Start programs
14 coordinate with medical, health, mental health, and social
15 service agencies to meet the comprehensive needs of
16 children and families.

17 Section 15. Collaborative Program.

18 (a) The Collaborative Program is created to coordinate the
19 enrollment of children into Preschool for All or Preschool for
20 All Expansion programs or Prevention Initiative programs and
21 Head Start or Early Head Start programs that provide services
22 to children from birth to 5 years of age. The Collaborative
23 Program shall provide improved program coordination to
24 identify and serve children furthest from opportunity in this
25 State by avoiding the duplication of services and the

1 supplanting of federal funds and, instead, leveraging federal
2 resources by maximizing the use of Head Start and Early Head
3 Start federal program funds. The Collaborative Program shall
4 coordinate with and further inform a regional-based community
5 coordinating council.

6 (b) The Collaborative Program shall be implemented and
7 administered jointly by the State Board of Education and the
8 Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, which shall
9 act in cooperation with participating programs.

10 (c) The Collaborative Program shall begin with the
11 2021-2022 school year and shall operate for a period of 2
12 school years.

13 Section 20. Early childhood program universal application;
14 enrollment.

15 (a) The State Board of Education shall develop an early
16 childhood program universal application. Participating
17 programs shall use the universal application to determine a
18 family's eligibility for any and all of the community's early
19 childhood programs. One of the eligibility criteria included
20 on the universal application must be based on the family's
21 household income level, as determined by the poverty
22 guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the
23 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the
24 authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2).

25 (b) Parents and guardians shall be directed to the early

1 childhood program universal application on the websites of the
2 participating programs or the universal application shall be
3 made available as a physical document available at the
4 locations of the participating programs. The universal
5 application may also be made available to parents or guardians
6 through door-to-door recruitment efforts. The universal
7 application may be completed by parents or guardians at their
8 home or at the location of the participating program.

9 (c) If an applicant family meets the income eligibility
10 guidelines established by a Head Start or Early Head Start
11 program, the applicant family must be offered the opportunity
12 for communication about enrollment into the Head Start or
13 Early Head Start program and to enroll in the Head Start or
14 Early Head Start program prior to enrolling in any other
15 community program. If the applicant family does not meet the
16 income eligibility guidelines set forth by the Head Start or
17 Early Head Start program, the applicant family must be offered
18 the opportunity for communication with other Preschool for All
19 or Preschool for All Expansion programs or Prevention
20 Initiative programs selected by the applicant family in which
21 the child is eligible for enrollment.

22 (d) Within 48 hours after receiving a universal
23 application, an intake staff member of a participating program
24 shall store the application either electronically or in a
25 physical location at a common access point that is readily
26 accessible to other enrollment or intake staff members of the

1 participating program.

2 (e) Participating programs shall communicate weekly during
3 the primary enrollment period agreed to by the participating
4 programs. After the primary enrollment period, the
5 participating programs shall communicate as necessary.

6 Section 25. Waiting list. Head Start and Early Head Start
7 programs, Preschool for All and Preschool for All Expansion
8 programs, and Prevention Initiative programs shall coordinate
9 with each other to ensure that a child whose household income
10 meets the Head Start or Early Head Start program eligibility
11 requirements or the eligibility requirements for other early
12 childhood programs or for local, State, or federal early
13 childhood programs remains on a waiting list for an eligible
14 provider for no longer than 45 days. The programs
15 participating in the Collaborative Program may develop a
16 shared waiting list.

17 Section 90. Rules. The State Board of Education, in
18 cooperation with the Governor's Office of Early Childhood
19 Development, may adopt any rules necessary to implement this
20 Act.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
22 2021."