



Elementary Secondary Education Committee

Filed: 5/21/2008

09500HB4707ham001

LRB095 15944 RAS 51138 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 4707

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 4707 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 2-3.71 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.71) (from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.71)
7 Sec. 2-3.71. Grants for preschool educational programs.
8 (a) Preschool program.

9 (1) The State Board of Education shall implement and
10 administer a grant program under the provisions of this
11 subsection which shall consist of grants to public school
12 districts and other eligible entities, as defined by the
13 State Board of Education, to conduct voluntary preschool
14 educational programs for children ages 3 to 5 which include
15 a parent education component. A public school district
16 which receives grants under this subsection may

1 subcontract with other entities that are eligible to
2 conduct a preschool educational program. These grants must
3 be used to supplement, not supplant, funds received from
4 any other source.

5 (2) (Blank).

6 (3) Any teacher of preschool children in the program
7 authorized by this subsection shall hold an early childhood
8 teaching certificate.

9 (4) This paragraph (4) applies before July 1, 2006 and
10 after June 30, 2008. The State Board of Education shall
11 provide the primary source of funding through
12 appropriations for the program. Such funds shall be
13 distributed for the benefit of children who because of
14 their home and community environment are subject to such
15 language, cultural, economic and like disadvantages that
16 they have been determined as a result of screening
17 procedures to be at risk of academic failure. Such
18 screening procedures shall be based on criteria
19 established by the State Board of Education.

20 (4.5) This paragraph (4.5) applies from July 1, 2006
21 through June 30, 2008. The State Board of Education shall
22 provide the primary source of funding through
23 appropriations for the program. Such funds shall be
24 distributed to achieve a goal of "Preschool for All
25 Children" for the benefit of all children whose families
26 choose to participate in the program. Based on available

1 appropriations, newly funded programs shall be selected
2 through a process giving first priority to qualified
3 programs serving primarily at-risk children and second
4 priority to qualified programs serving primarily children
5 with a family income of less than 4 times the poverty
6 guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by
7 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the
8 authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2). For purposes of this
9 paragraph (4.5), at-risk children are those who because of
10 their home and community environment are subject to such
11 language, cultural, economic and like disadvantages to
12 cause them to have been determined as a result of screening
13 procedures to be at risk of academic failure. Such
14 screening procedures shall be based on criteria
15 established by the State Board of Education.

16 On or before November 1 of each fiscal year in which
17 the General Assembly provides funding for new programs
18 under this paragraph (4.5), the State Board of Education
19 shall report to the General Assembly on what percentage of
20 new funding was provided to programs serving primarily
21 at-risk children, what percentage of new funding was
22 provided to programs serving primarily children with a
23 family income of less than 4 times the federal poverty
24 level, and what percentage of new funding was provided to
25 other programs.

26 Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph (4.5),

1 grantees under the program must enter into a memorandum of
2 understanding with the appropriate local Head Start
3 agency. This memorandum must be entered into no later than
4 3 months after the award of a grantee's grant under the
5 program, except that, in the case of the 2008-2009 program
6 year, the memorandum must be entered into no later than the
7 deadline set by the State Board of Education for
8 applications to participate in the program in fiscal year
9 2010, and must address collaboration between the grantee's
10 program and the local Head Start agency on certain issues,
11 which shall include without limitation the following:

12 (A) educational activities, curricular objectives,
13 and instruction;

14 (B) public information dissemination and access to
15 programs for families contacting programs;

16 (C) service areas;

17 (D) selection priorities for eligible children to
18 be served by programs;

19 (E) maximizing the impact of federal and State
20 funding to benefit young children;

21 (F) staff training, including opportunities for
22 joint staff training;

23 (G) technical assistance;

24 (H) communication and parent outreach for smooth
25 transitions to kindergarten;

26 (I) provision and use of facilities,

1 transportation, and other program elements;

2 (J) facilitating each program's fulfillment of its
3 statutory and regulatory requirements;

4 (K) improving local planning and collaboration;

5 and

6 (L) providing comprehensive services for the
7 neediest Illinois children and families.

8 If the appropriate local Head Start agency is unable or
9 unwilling to enter into a memorandum of understanding as
10 required under this paragraph (4.5), the memorandum of
11 understanding requirement shall not apply and the grantee
12 under the program must notify the State Board of Education
13 in writing of the Head Start agency's inability or
14 unwillingness. The State Board of Education shall compile
15 all such written notices and make them available to the
16 public.

17 (5) The State Board of Education shall develop and
18 provide evaluation tools, including tests, that school
19 districts and other eligible entities may use to evaluate
20 children for school readiness prior to age 5. The State
21 Board of Education shall require school districts and other
22 eligible entities to obtain consent from the parents or
23 guardians of children before any evaluations are
24 conducted. The State Board of Education shall encourage
25 local school districts and other eligible entities to
26 evaluate the population of preschool children in their

1 communities and provide preschool programs, pursuant to
2 this subsection, where appropriate.

3 (6) The State Board of Education shall report to the
4 General Assembly by July 1, 2007 and every 3 years
5 thereafter on the results and progress of students who were
6 enrolled in preschool educational programs, including an
7 assessment of which programs have been most successful in
8 promoting academic excellence and alleviating academic
9 failure. The State Board of Education shall assess the
10 academic progress of all students who have been enrolled in
11 preschool educational programs.

12 (b) (Blank).

13 (Source: P.A. 94-506, eff. 8-8-05; 94-1054, eff. 7-25-06.)

14 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
15 becoming law."