

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Education.

HB22-1295 be amended as follows:

1 Amend printed bill, page 225, after line 13 insert:

2 "PART 3

3 KINDERGARTEN READINESS ONLINE PILOT PROGRAM

4 **26.5-4-301. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

6 (a) ALL CHILDREN IN THE YEAR BEFORE THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO
7 ENROLL IN KINDERGARTEN SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL
8 AND ACADEMIC SUPPORTS THAT ARE IMPORTANT FOR SCHOOL READINESS;

9 (b) THE STATE SHOULD PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE OF CHOICES FOR
10 FAMILIES TO ACCESS KINDERGARTEN READINESS SUPPORTS, INCLUDING
11 THE OPTION FOR ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PROGRAMS; AND

12 (c) TO RECEIVE STATE FUNDING, AN ONLINE KINDERGARTEN
13 READINESS PROGRAM SHOULD DEMONSTRATE STRONG EVIDENCE OF
14 EFFECTIVENESS IN TEACHING A DIVERSE ARRAY OF CHILDREN, PROVIDE
15 EVIDENCE-BASED ONLINE CURRICULUM, INCORPORATE FAMILY
16 ENGAGEMENT, AND UNDERGO PERIODIC EVALUATION TO MEASURE
17 EFFECTIVENESS IN PREPARING CHILDREN TO LEARN IN KINDERGARTEN.

18 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THEREFORE FINDS THAT, TO BEST
19 SERVE ALL FAMILIES, IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR THE STATE TO SUPPORT AN
20 ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PILOT PROGRAM AS A CHOICE FOR
21 PARENTS WHO SEEK TO ACCESS ACADEMIC AND READINESS SUPPORT
22 SERVICES FOR THEIR CHILDREN IN THE YEAR PRECEDING KINDERGARTEN
23 ELIGIBILITY.

24 **26.5-4-302. Online kindergarten readiness pilot program -**
25 **created- survey - provider selection - funding.** (1) THERE IS CREATED
26 IN THE DEPARTMENT THE ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PILOT
27 PROGRAM, REFERRED TO IN THIS PART 3 AS THE "PILOT PROGRAM", TO
28 PROVIDE FUNDING FOR A VOLUNTARY, ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS
29 PROGRAM THAT SERVES CHILDREN IN THE YEAR BEFORE ELIGIBILITY FOR
30 KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT. THE PURPOSES OF THE PILOT PROGRAM ARE
31 TO:

32 (a) HELP ENSURE THAT, IN THE YEAR BEFORE ELIGIBILITY FOR
33 KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT, CHILDREN RECEIVE PERSONALIZED, ONLINE
34 SUPPORT IN READING, MATHEMATICS, AND SCIENCE THAT IS
35 DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE;

36 (b) PROVIDE TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS
37 TO HELP THEM ASSIST THEIR CHILDREN IN LEARNING; AND

38 (c) RAISE THE LEVEL OF KINDERGARTEN READINESS FOR ALL
39 CHILDREN, INCLUDING CHILDREN WHO ARE IN LOW-INCOME FAMILIES.

1 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONDUCT A STATEWIDE SURVEY TO
2 DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF FAMILIES WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN
3 PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPILE
4 AND SUBMIT THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY BY DECEMBER 1, 2022, TO THE
5 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE OFFICE
6 OF STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING.

7 (3)(a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
8 FOR A PROVIDER TO MAKE AN ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS
9 PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES STATEWIDE. AT A MINIMUM, A
10 PROVIDER MUST DEMONSTRATE:

11 (I) THE ABILITY TO PROVIDE TECHNOLOGY TO FAMILIES THAT
12 CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ONLINE PROGRAM BUT DO NOT HAVE THE
13 APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY TO BE ABLE TO DO SO;

14 (II) THE USE OF A CURRICULUM THAT IS DEVELOPMENTALLY
15 APPROPRIATE AND EVIDENCE BASED AND HAS DEMONSTRATED
16 EFFECTIVENESS IN PREPARING CHILDREN TO LEARN IN KINDERGARTEN;

17 (III) STRONG EVIDENCE OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVIDER'S
18 ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PROGRAM OVERALL IN PREPARING
19 CHILDREN TO LEARN IN KINDERGARTEN AND IN DEVELOPING STRONG
20 SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS IN CHILDREN WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE
21 PROGRAM; AND

22 (IV) AN EFFECTIVE PLAN FOR RECRUITING FAMILIES FROM DIVERSE
23 BACKGROUNDS IN ALL GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE STATE TO
24 VOLUNTARILY ENROLL IN THE PROGRAM.

25 (b) BY MARCH 15, 2023, BASED ON THE PROPOSALS RECEIVED, THE
26 DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT AND CONTRACT WITH A SINGLE PROVIDER TO
27 PROVIDE AN ONLINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS PROGRAM. AT A
28 MINIMUM, THE CONTRACT MUST REQUIRE THE PROVIDER TO PROVIDE
29 STATEWIDE NOTICE OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE ONLINE KINDERGARTEN
30 READINESS PROGRAM AND BEGIN ENROLLING FAMILIES, FREE OF CHARGE,
31 FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR.

32 **26.5-4-303. Reporting.** (1) BEGINNING WITH THE HEARING HELD
33 IN JANUARY OF 2025, AS PART OF THE ANNUAL HEARING HELD PURSUANT
34 TO THE "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND
35 TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF
36 TITLE 2, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
37 THE PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

38 (a) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM
39 FOR THE PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR;

40 (b) THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE
41 PRESCHOOL PROGRAM WHO WERE IN LOW-INCOME FAMILIES AND WHO MET
42 ONE OR MORE OF THE QUALIFYING FACTORS ESTABLISHED IN DEPARTMENT
43 RULE PURSUANT TO SECTION 26.5-4-204 (4)(a)(II), INCLUDING

1 IDENTIFYING THE QUALIFYING FACTORS THAT WERE MET;
2 (c) THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE PILOT
3 PROGRAM, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, RACE, ETHNICITY,
4 DISABILITY, AND INCOME;
5 (d) QUANTITATIVE AND, TO THE EXTENT AVAILABLE, QUALITATIVE
6 DATA, INCLUDING STUDENT OUTCOMES TO THE EXTENT THEY ARE
7 AVAILABLE, DEMONSTRATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM
8 IN IMPROVING THE OVERALL LEARNING AND KINDERGARTEN READINESS OF
9 CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND
10 (e) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NECESSARY TO DETERMINE
11 THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IN PREPARING CHILDREN TO
12 LEARN IN KINDERGARTEN.
13 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY REQUEST AND THE PROVIDER SHALL
14 PROVIDE INFORMATION AS NECESSARY FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO PREPARE
15 THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.
16 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY PUBLISH ON THE
17 DEPARTMENT WEBSITE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE REPORT
18 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.
19 **26.5-4-304. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 3 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE
20 JULY 1, 2029."

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