

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 291—ASSEMBLYMEN DIAZ, KIRKPATRICK, CARLTON, BUSTAMANTE ADAMS; ELLIOT ANDERSON, PAUL ANDERSON, ARAUJO, BENITEZ-THOMPSON, CARRILLO, HAMBRICK, JOINER, NEAL, OHRENSCHALL, SPIEGEL, SPRINKLE, STEWART, SWANK, THOMPSON AND WOODBURY

MARCH 13, 2015

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS DENIS, FORD, SPEARMAN, WOODHOUSE, KIHUEN; AND SEGERBLOM

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Makes an appropriation for school districts to provide early childhood education programs. (BDR S-273)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; authorizing school districts to apply to the Department of Education for an allocation of money to provide early childhood education programs; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

- 1 This bill makes an appropriation to the Department of Education for an
 - 2 allocation of money to school districts to provide early childhood education
 - 3 programs to children in the school districts pursuant to plans approved by the
 - 4 Department.
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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** 1. The Department of Education shall allocate the
2 appropriation made by section 2 of this act to school districts to
3 provide early childhood education programs.

4 2. To receive an allocation from the appropriation made by
5 section 2 of this act, a school district must submit a comprehensive
6 plan for the provision of early childhood education programs to the
7 Department of Education for its approval, on a form prescribed by
8 the Department. The plan must include, without limitation:

9 (a) Based upon data on the readiness of children in the school
10 district for kindergarten, an identification of the needs of the school
11 district for early childhood education programs, including, without
12 limitation, the priorities of the school district for the establishment
13 or expansion of early childhood education programs;

14 (b) A detailed description of the early childhood education
15 programs proposed for establishment or expansion, including,
16 without limitation, the number of children projected to participate in
17 the programs;

18 (c) A description of the manner in which the allocation will be
19 used to supplement and not replace the money that would otherwise
20 be expended by the school district for early childhood education
21 programs;

22 (d) A plan for the longitudinal evaluation of the early childhood
23 education programs to determine the effectiveness of the programs
24 on the readiness of the participants in the programs for kindergarten
25 and on the academic achievement of those participants; and

26 (e) If applicable, a description of how the school district will
27 collaborate with a community-based organization to operate an early
28 childhood education program.

29 3. The Department of Education shall determine the amount of
30 the allocations based upon the needs of children who reside within
31 the school district, as identified by the school district, for early
32 childhood education programs to ensure the readiness of the
33 children for kindergarten. The school district shall give priority for
34 the establishment or expansion of early childhood education
35 programs in those areas of the school district where the children are
36 most in need of such a program to ensure the readiness of the
37 children for kindergarten. Within the limits of the appropriation, the
38 Department shall make allocations to school districts with approved
39 plans in an amount of \$3,200 per child, based upon the number of
40 children projected to participate in the program or, in lieu of a per
41 child amount, an amount not to exceed \$120,000 for the approved
42 program if the plan submitted by the school district to the



1 Department includes a detailed budget demonstrating the need for
2 money in excess of \$3,200 per child to operate the approved
3 program.

4 4. A school district that receives an allocation pursuant to this
5 section shall:

6 (a) Provide notice of the early childhood education programs to
7 residents of the school district and encourage parents and legal
8 guardians of children who are eligible to participate in such a
9 program to enroll in the program;

10 (b) Submit a report to the Department of Education regarding
11 the efforts undertaken by the school district to inform the residents
12 of the school district about the early childhood education programs
13 and to encourage the enrollment of children who are eligible for
14 enrollment in the program;

15 (c) Use the money to establish or expand early childhood
16 education programs and offer the programs free of charge to
17 children who are eligible for enrollment in the program;

18 (d) Use the money to supplement and not replace the money that
19 the school district would otherwise expend for early childhood
20 education programs; and

21 (e) Submit a longitudinal evaluation of the early childhood
22 education programs in accordance with the plan submitted pursuant
23 to paragraph (d) of subsection 2.

24 5. The Department of Education shall develop statewide
25 performance and outcome indicators to measure the effectiveness of
26 the early childhood education programs for which allocations are
27 made pursuant to this section. In developing the indicators, the
28 Department shall establish minimum performance levels and
29 increase the expected performance rates on a yearly basis, based
30 upon the performance results of the participants in the programs.
31 The indicators must include, without limitation:

32 (a) Longitudinal measures of the developmental progress of the
33 participants before and after their completion of the early childhood
34 education program;

35 (b) Longitudinal measures of parental involvement in the early
36 childhood education program before and after the participants'
37 completion of the program; and

38 (c) The percentage of participants who drop out of the early
39 childhood education program before completion of the program.

40 6. The Department of Education shall prepare a written report
41 which includes, without limitation:

42 (a) The number of allocations made and an identification of
43 which school districts received an allocation pursuant to this section;

44 (b) A compilation and analysis of the longitudinal evaluations
45 submitted to the Department pursuant to subsection 4 by each



1 school district that received an allocation pursuant to this section
2 that includes, without limitation:

3 (1) A longitudinal comparison of the data showing the
4 effectiveness of the different early childhood education programs;

5 (2) A description of the early childhood education programs
6 in this State that are the most effective; and

7 (3) Based upon the performance of participants in the early
8 childhood education programs as measured by the performance and
9 outcome indicators developed pursuant to subsection 5, a
10 description of the revised performance and outcome indicators,
11 including any revised minimum performance levels and
12 performance rates;

13 (c) The number of schools in each school district that offered
14 early childhood education programs funded by the allocation to that
15 school district;

16 (d) The number of children who received services through early
17 childhood education programs funded by the allocations made
18 pursuant to this section and the average expenditure per child for the
19 programs;

20 (e) The involvement of parents and families whose children
21 participated in early childhood education programs funded by
22 allocations made pursuant to this section; and

23 (f) Any recommendations for legislation related to early
24 childhood education programs.

25 7. The Department of Education shall submit the report
26 prepared pursuant to subsection 6 to the Governor and to the
27 Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the
28 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

29 **Sec. 2.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
30 General Fund to the Department of Education for allocation to
31 school districts to provide early childhood education programs
32 pursuant to section 1 of this act the following sums:

33 For the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 \$10,000,000
34 For the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 \$10,000,000

35 2. The sums appropriated by subsection 1 are available for
36 either fiscal year. Any remaining balance of those sums must not be
37 committed for expenditure after June 30, 2017, by the entity to
38 which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from
39 the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner,
40 and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be
41 spent for any purpose after September 15, 2017, by either the entity
42 to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the
43 money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be
44 reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 15, 2017.

45 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015.

