



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5517

February Session, 2006

* HB05517ED 032106 *

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) The Early Childhood Education
2 Cabinet, established pursuant to section 10-16s of the 2006 supplement
3 to the general statutes, shall study the feasibility of expanding
4 preschool availability to all four-year olds in this state. The cabinet
5 shall study the provision of preschool to all four-year olds living (1) in
6 priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p of the 2006
7 supplement to the general statutes, (2) in school districts that have a
8 priority school, as defined in section 10-16p of the 2006 supplement to
9 the general statutes, and (3) in all remaining school districts. The
10 cabinet shall assess the feasibility of the provision of such preschool for
11 each of the categories of school districts in subdivisions (1) to (3),
12 inclusive, of this subsection, individually. In determining the feasibility
13 of providing preschool for all four-year olds living in the school
14 districts described in said subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, the cabinet
15 shall consider: (A) Costs of providing such preschool, including the
16 operating and capital costs, (B) additional space and facility
17 requirements, (C) number of eligible students, (D) number of
18 additional teachers required and training and qualifications, (E)
19 possible funding, including grants or bonding by the state and fees
20 paid by parents based on a sliding scale, and (F) program standards.
21 The cabinet shall also consider ways to maximize the use of private

22 providers of early childhood education that meet the standards
23 established by the Department of Education, in accordance with the
24 provisions of section 10-16p of the 2006 supplement to the general
25 statutes.

26 (b) Not later than January 1, 2007, the Early Childhood Education
27 Cabinet shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
28 general statutes, report its findings pursuant to subsection (a) of this
29 section to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
30 having cognizance of matters relating to education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2006	New section

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*