

## **Raised Bill 927**

The following are questions raised and suggestions for LCO 2980 – An Act Concerning Requirements for Early Childhood Educators:

In Subsections (B) and (C) of Section 1 - Head Start should also be mentioned.

In Subsections (B) and (C) of Section 1 - Not childhood development but child development

In Subsections (B) and (C) of Section 1 - The programs mentioned only need to be offered in institutions accredited by the Department of Higher Education. There should be a requirement that the programs be approved by the State Department of Higher Education and the Department of Education. This will allow for specific requirements that assure quality in coursework and field experiences. Language such as "with program approval by the State Department of Higher Education and the State Department of Education" could be inserted following regional accredited for both associate and bachelor's degrees.

Section (2)(B) The funds need to not be expended in the previous year and carried over for the purpose of this section in the beginning of the fiscal year, starting with FY 2012.

The section limits the money to attendance at a public institution. Hopefully, we will have additional programs by then. If we do not, there will be just a few places to use the grant funds. Also, students should be required to apply for federal Pell Grant Funds to assure those funds are used first.

There are questions of how funds get distributed. The Departments of Higher Education and Education should develop a system for distributing and/or awarding funds.