
DIGEST

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HB 1162 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Gary Carter

Abstract: Provides for the establishment of a community-based pilot program for providing early childhood education to certain three-year-old children. Provides for program administration, monitoring, and evaluation by the state Dept. of Education.

Proposed law requires the state Dept. of Education, with the approval of the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), to establish and provide for the implementation of a community-based pilot program, the "LA 3 program", for providing early childhood education. Provides that program implementation is subject to the appropriation of funds.

Provides for student eligibility criteria as follows:

- (1) Is three years old or will be eligible to enroll in kindergarten in two school years pursuant to present law (relative to kindergarten entrance age requirements).
- (2) Is "at risk" as defined by BESE.

Provides that the pilot program shall be administered by the state Dept. of Education in accordance with rules adopted by BESE. Requires that an early childhood education provider choosing to participate in the pilot program shall be a Type III licensed early learning center as provided in present law.

Requires the state Dept. of Education to monitor and evaluate the program and to annually submit a written report of evaluation results including but not limited to the performance and progress of the program and all funding information for the program including any unexpended funds. Requires that the final report include recommendations by the department as to whether the program should continue as a pilot program or be implemented statewide.

Requires BESE to promulgate rules and regulations for implementation of proposed law. Requires BESE to submit the rules and regulations to the Advisory Council on Early Childhood Care and Education for review and comment.

(Adds R.S. 17:24.10)