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## DIGEST

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HB 251 Original

2020 Regular Session

Hilferty

**Abstract:** Re-creates the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission to establish a vision for accessible, quality early childhood care and education to be implemented through pilot programs established by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education at the community network level.

Present law provides for the Early Childhood Care and Education Network, a comprehensive and integrated network through which the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) manages and oversees all programs funded through state and federal resources that provide early childhood care or educational services. Also establishes the Advisory Council on Early Childhood Care and Education (advisory council), which provides input and guidance to BESE and the state Dept. of Education on the development of publicly funded early care and education programs.

Prior law, which terminated on March 31, 2020, created the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission. Proposed law re-creates the commission.

Proposed law re-creates the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission to study and create a vision for the future of early childhood care and education. Requires the commission to collect data, consider research and current practices, determine a sustainable infrastructure, identify opportunities for collaboration, and determine a time frame and necessary funding to achieve affordable access to quality care and education for all children from birth through age four. Requires the commission to meet and produce reports for submission to the governor, legislature, state superintendent of education, and BESE. Provides for 36 members.

Proposed law provides for termination of the commission on July 1, 2022, and requires, beginning April 1, 2023, the advisory council to regularly evaluate and provide recommendations to support the implementation of the commission's plan.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action, except repeal of proposed law is effective July 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 17:407.51(H)(2); Adds R.S. 17:407.23(D)(3) and 407.101 and R.S. 36:651(G)(8); Repeals R.S. 17:407.23(D)(3) and 407.101 and R.S. 36:651(G)(8))