DIGEST

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Abstract: Provides relative to the implementation of the assessment and accountability system for publicly funded early childhood education programs.

<u>Present law</u> requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to create a network through which to manage and oversee all programs funded through state or federal resources that provide early childhood care or educational services. Also requires BESE to create a uniform assessment and accountability system for publicly funded early childhood education programs that includes a letter grade indicative of student performance.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and requires BESE to designate the 2015-16 school year as an academic learning year in which a three-level rating system, not to be based on letter grades nor used for consequences, shall be used to create practice performance profiles for publicly funded sites and the community networks in which they are included. Requires BESE and the state Dept. of Education to specify in public communications that any ratings assigned during the 2015-16 school year are practice ratings for the academic learning year. Requires BESE to submit a written report on the progress of the academic learning year to the House and Senate education committees not later than 45 days prior to the 2016 R.S.

(Amends R.S. 17:407.23(B)(3))