
DIGEST

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HB 1061 Original

2016 Regular Session

Gary Carter

Abstract: Provides for the establishment of a two-year, community-based pilot program for providing early childhood education to certain three-year-old children in Orleans Parish. Provides for program administration by the Algiers Development Corp. in accordance with standards and criteria developed by the state Dept. of Education for early childhood education programs.

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 for providing early childhood education to certain children in Orleans Parish. Provides for program implementation in the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years 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) Resides in Orleans Parish.
- (3) Is a member of a family with a total income that does not exceed 250% of the current federal poverty guidelines.
- (4) Is not enrolled in a publicly funded early childhood program.

Provides that the pilot program shall be administered by the Algiers Development Corp. (the nonprofit corporation associated with the Algiers Development District) in accordance with the standards and criteria developed by the state Dept. of Education and rules adopted by BESE for early childhood education programs. Requires that early childhood education providers choosing to participate in the pilot program meet the criteria established by the department pursuant to present law.

Requires the state Dept. of Education to monitor and evaluate the program and submit a written report of evaluation results including but not limited to the performance and progress of each child participating in the program and all funding information for the program including any unexpended funds. Requires such report to be submitted to the House and Senate education committees by May 1, 2017, and May 1, 2018. Requires that the final report include recommendations by the department

as to whether the program should continue in the pilot program parish only or be implemented statewide.

(Adds R.S. 17:24.10)