

SENATE BILL No. 346

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 12-17.2-7.2.

Synopsis: Prekindergarten pilot program. Provides that, after June 30, 2019, in addition to the counties currently participating in the prekindergarten pilot program (program), the program includes eligible providers in any county in Indiana. Provides that the total amount of grants the office of the secretary of family and social services (office) awards to eligible children in certain participating counties during a state fiscal year may not be less than the total amount of grants the office awarded to eligible children in that county during the immediately preceding state fiscal year unless the office determines that there is an insufficient number of eligible children or eligible providers in the county to justify the total amount of grants for that county.

Effective: July 1, 2019.

Ford J.D.

January 8, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.



First Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2019)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2018 Regular and Special Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 346

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 12-17.2-7.2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.184-2017,
2 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "eligible provider"
4 refers to a provider that satisfies the following conditions:
5 (1) The provider is:
6 (A) a:
7 (i) public school, including a charter school;
8 (ii) child care center licensed under IC 12-17.2-4;
9 (iii) child care home licensed under IC 12-17.2-5; or
10 (iv) child care ministry registered under IC 12-17.2-6;
11 that meets the standards of quality recognized by a Level 3 or
12 Level 4 paths to QUALITY program rating;
13 (B) a school that is accredited by the state board of education
14 or a national or regional accreditation agency that is
15 recognized by the state board of education; or
16 (C) a school that is accredited to provide qualified early
17 education services by an accrediting agency approved by the



- 1 office of the secretary.
- 2 (2) The provider:
- 3 (A) provides qualified early education services to eligible
- 4 children; and
- 5 (B) complies with the agreement with the office concerning
- 6 the delivery of qualified education services and the use of a
- 7 grant provided under this chapter.
- 8 ~~(3) The provider:~~
- 9 ~~(A) is located in a county in which the prekindergarten pilot~~
- 10 ~~program is implemented; or~~
- 11 ~~(B) meets the requirements of section 7(h) of this chapter.~~
- 12 SECTION 2. IC 12-17.2-7.2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.184-2017,
- 13 SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 14 JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 7. (a) The office may establish a prekindergarten
- 15 pilot program to provide grants for:
- 16 (1) qualified early education services in a manner consistent with
- 17 how funds are distributed under the Child Care and Development
- 18 Fund (CCDF) grant program; and
- 19 (2) expansion plans as described in section 7.4(a)(2) of this
- 20 chapter.
- 21 (b) The office shall administer the prekindergarten pilot program.
- 22 The prekindergarten pilot program may include:
- 23 (1) eligible providers ~~in the counties described in subsections (c)~~
- 24 ~~and (d);~~ **Indiana**; and
- 25 (2) potential eligible providers or existing eligible providers as
- 26 described in section 7.4 of this chapter.
- 27 ~~The office shall ensure that the counties selected include a population~~
- 28 ~~of eligible children sufficient to conduct the longitudinal study under~~
- 29 ~~section 12 of this chapter.~~
- 30 (c) Before July 1, 2017, the prekindergarten pilot program includes
- 31 eligible providers in the following pilot counties:
- 32 (1) Allen.
- 33 (2) Jackson.
- 34 (3) Lake.
- 35 (4) Marion.
- 36 (5) Vanderburgh.
- 37 The total amount of grants the office awards to eligible children in a
- 38 county listed in this subsection during a state fiscal year may not be
- 39 less than the total amount of grants the office awarded to eligible
- 40 children in that county during the immediately preceding state fiscal
- 41 year unless the office determines that there is an insufficient number of
- 42 eligible children or eligible providers in the county to justify the total



1 amount of grants for that county.

2 (d) After June 30, 2017, **and before July 1, 2019**, in addition to the
3 counties listed under subsection (c), the prekindergarten pilot program
4 includes ~~the following~~:

5 ~~(1)~~ eligible providers in fifteen (15) additional counties.

6 ~~(2)~~ Eligible providers described in subsection ~~(h)~~ regardless of
7 whether the eligible providers are located in a county described
8 in subsection (c) or subdivision ~~(1)~~:

9 In determining which counties are designated as pilot counties under
10 subdivision ~~(1)~~; **this subsection**, the office shall give preference to
11 counties that are primarily rural. **The total amount of grants the**
12 **office awards to eligible children in a county designated under this**
13 **subsection during a state fiscal year may not be less than the total**
14 **amount of grants the office awarded to eligible children in that**
15 **county during the immediately preceding state fiscal year unless**
16 **the office determines that there is an insufficient number of eligible**
17 **children or eligible providers in the county to justify the total**
18 **amount of grants for that county.**

19 (e) After June 30, 2019, in addition to the counties listed in
20 subsection (c) and counties designated under subsection (d), the
21 prekindergarten program includes eligible providers in any county
22 in Indiana.

23 ~~(e)~~ (f) Subject to the requirements of this chapter, the office shall
24 determine:

25 (1) the eligibility requirements, application process, and selection
26 process for awarding grants under the prekindergarten pilot
27 program;

28 (2) the administration and reporting requirements for:

29 (A) eligible providers; and

30 (B) potential eligible providers or existing eligible providers;
31 participating in the prekindergarten pilot program; and

32 (3) with the assistance of the early learning advisory committee,
33 an appropriate outcomes based accountability system for:

34 (A) eligible providers; and

35 (B) potential eligible providers or existing eligible providers.

36 ~~(f)~~ (g) Before implementing the prekindergarten pilot program, the
37 office shall submit the provisions of the prekindergarten pilot program
38 to the state board of education for the state board of education's review
39 and comment.

40 ~~(g)~~ (h) The office shall, subject to the availability of funding,
41 determine the number of eligible children who will participate in the
42 prekindergarten pilot program.



1 (h) An eligible provider that:
2 (1) received a matching grant under IC 12-17.2-3.6 (before its
3 repeal) in the state fiscal year beginning after June 30, 2016, and
4 ending before July 1, 2017;
5 (2) meets the requirements as an eligible provider under this
6 chapter; and
7 (3) participates in the prekindergarten pilot program each year
8 continuously, beginning with the year the eligible provider is
9 eligible to participate in the prekindergarten pilot program under
10 this subsection;
11 is eligible to participate in the prekindergarten pilot program regardless
12 of whether the eligible provider is located in a county described in
13 subsection (c) or (d)(1). If an eligible provider does not participate in
14 the program each year continuously as described in subdivision (3), the
15 eligible provider is not eligible under this subsection to participate in
16 the prekindergarten pilot program. However, this subsection does not
17 affect the eligibility of an eligible provider that is located in a county
18 described in subsection (c) or (d)(1).

