

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 395

BY REPRESENTATIVE STEVE CARTER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

FUNDS/FUNDING: Provides relative to a special fund for the purpose of funding early childhood education

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:407.30(D) and (E), relative to funding for early childhood
3 education; to provide relative to the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund; to
4 provide relative to the use of money in the fund; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:407.30(D) and (E) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
7 follows:

8 §407.30. Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund

9 * * *

10 D.(1) The fund shall be administered by the State Board of Elementary and
11 Secondary Education. Monies in the fund shall be awarded annually to local entities
12 approved by the board for the purpose of funding projects that will expand the
13 number of early childhood care and education slots through the Child Care
14 Assistance Program in Type III early learning centers that have at least one
15 classroom with children age fifteen months or younger if a local entity provides
16 funds from nonstate and nonfederal sources. No such award shall be made unless
17 the local entity's financial commitment to the project proposed for funding provides
18 matching funds from nonstate and nonfederal sources at a rate of at least ~~two to one~~
19 one-to-one.

(2) If there is money in the fund after the board has funded every qualifying project pursuant to Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the board may award remaining unallocated monies in the fund for the exclusive use of Type III early learning centers to provide quality care for children who are eligible for the Child Care Assistance Program and who are ages birth through two. The board shall consider the following in selecting the recipients of such an award: the Child Care Assistance Program waitlist, child poverty rates, child care needs in terms of the economic development needs of the parish where the center is located, and increasing the availability of high quality early learning centers statewide.

~~E. If a local entity provides funding for the purpose of providing early childhood care and education, the board may award additional funding in accordance with the Child Care Assistance Program in the jurisdiction of the local entity. Any such award shall not exceed fifty percent of the nonstate funds. Monies from the fund shall not be used to displace, replace, or supplant the amount appropriated to the Child Care Assistance Program.~~

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 395 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Steve Carter

Abstract: Provides relative to the authorized use of money in the La. Early Childhood Education Fund.

Present law establishes the La. Early Childhood Education Fund as a special treasury fund administered by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to award funding to local entities for early childhood care and education through the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). Provides that the fund shall be credited with appropriations, public or private grants, or donations received by the state or the Dept. of Education for such purpose except federal funds for the Child Care and Development Fund Program.

Present law requires that monies in the fund be awarded to BESE-approved local entities to fund early childhood care and education projects through CCAP in Type III early learning centers that have at least one classroom with children age 15 months or younger. Present law requires that the local entity provide matching funds from nonstate sources at a rate of at least two to one. Proposed law provides that federal funds may not be used as matching funds and changes the minimum match rate to 1:1. Otherwise retains present law.

Proposed law authorizes BESE, if there is money in the fund after the board has funded every qualifying project pursuant to present law, to award remaining monies in the fund for the exclusive use of Type III early learning centers to provide quality care for children who are eligible for CCAP and who are ages birth through two. Requires BESE to consider the following in selecting recipients of such an award: the CCAP waitlist, child poverty rates, child care needs in terms of the economic development needs of the parish where the center is located, and increasing the availability of high quality early learning centers statewide.

Present law authorizes BESE to award additional funding in accordance with CCAP in a local entity's jurisdiction. Prohibits the award from exceeding 50% of the nonstate funds. Proposed law removes present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:407.30(D) and (E))