Performance Note Report

Author: Dan Schuring
Agency: Department of Workforce Services

Funding For:

New Services or Benefit

Public Benefit:

Purpose: Move the provisions of the High Quality School Readiness program from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget to the Department of Workforce Services. This includes staffing the School Readiness Board, overseeing contracts for multiple entities for multiple purposes, monitoring results-based contracts, evaluator contracts and contracts to improve the quality of preschool programs. The bill also expands the definition of a results-based contract beyond those contracts entered into with a private investor. In addition to those pay for success contracts, results-based contracts will exist directly between the state and preschool programs to serve eligible children. The definition of "eligible child," expands beyond those children who are economically disadvantaged. Under the legislation, an eligible child must be economically disadvantaged and possess at least one risk factor, as defined in the legislation. The proposal also includes the establishment of a preschool assessment to effectively evaluate the growth a child has made in a high-quality preschool program. USBE is responsible for developing that tool.

Services: The services provided by the funding increase include the following: (1) Staff the School Readiness Board; (2) Release an RFP for eligible preschool programs and enter into agreements with those programs to provide funding to serve eligible children; (3) Release an RFP for preschool programs to provide grants to preschool programs to increase the quality of programs with the goal of meeting the statutorily required elements of a high-quality preschool program; (4) Release an RFP and enter into an agreement for a Program Intermediary; (5) Release an RFP and enter into three agreements for Program Evaluators responsible for determining performance outcomes; (5) Conduct all program monitoring required for all agreements; (6) Provide coaching and technical assistance to programs receiving grants to improve quality; (7) Ensure payment to private investors remaining in agreement with the state under previous pay for success agreements; (8) Negotiate the provisions of new pay for success agreement that may be needed if the program intermediary successfully obtains private investments; (9) Manage the funds in the restricted account; and (10) Hire and supervise the staff administering the program.

Expected Outcome: The expected outcome of the new program is as follows: (1) Number of programs receiving results-based contracts; (2) Number of eligible children served in results-based contracts; (3) Percent of eligible children meeting performance outcomes; (4) Number of programs receiving grants; (5) Number of programs receiving grants that improved quality.

Implementations and Resources: The bill will be implemented by hiring staff to oversee the programs and entering into the requirement contracts to successfully implement both results-based contracts and high-quality grants. The Department will issues rules related to the implementation of the legislation.

How: The proposed activities will result in the state providing high-quality preschool to eligible children and increase the capacity of high-quality preschool throughout the state.

Performance Measures

Goal

Title: Eligible Children Served.

Description: The total number of children who received high quality school readiness program during the year.

Collection Method: Eligible providers are required to submit this information to the board. DWS would collect the information and tabulate the number served.

	2018	2019	2020
Target	0.00	900.00	900.00
Baseline	0.00	0.00	0.00