
DIGEST

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HB 251 Engrossed

2020 Regular Session

Hilferty

Abstract: Re-creates the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission.

Present law provides for the Early Childhood Care and Education Network, a comprehensive and integrated network through which the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) manages and oversees all programs funded through state and federal resources that provide early childhood care or education services.

Prior law, which terminated on March 31, 2020, created the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission to study and make recommendations relative to early childhood care and education issues. Proposed law re-creates the commission and requires it to collect data, consider research and current practices, determine a sustainable infrastructure, identify opportunities for collaboration, determine a time frame and necessary funding to achieve affordable access to quality care and education for all children from birth through age four, and make recommendations relative to the incorporation of family child care providers into the early childhood care and education network. Also requires the commission to produce reports for submission to the governor, legislature, state superintendent of education, and BESE and to establish a task force to identify and recommend alternative state and local funding strategies.

Proposed law provides for termination of the commission on July 1, 2022.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action, except repeal of proposed law is effective July 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 17:407.51(H)(2); Adds R.S. 17:407.23(D)(3) and 407.101 and R.S. 36:651(G)(8); Repeals R.S. 17:407.23(D)(3) and 407.101 and R.S. 36:651(G)(8))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Increase commission membership by adding two members.
2. Additionally require the commission to:
 - (a) Establish a task force to identify and recommend alternative state and local

funding strategies.

- (b) Make recommendations relative to the incorporation of family child care providers into the early childhood care and education network.