



General Assembly

Amendment

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Offered by:

SEN. BYE, 5th Dist.

REP. COOK, 65th Dist.

SEN. STILLMAN, 20th Dist.

REP. LYDDY, 106th Dist.

REP. FLEISCHMANN, 18th Dist.

REP. SANCHEZ, 25th Dist.

REP. ABERCROMBIE, 83rd Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1106

File No. 437

Cal. No. 256

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROCESS FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) (a) On and after July 1, 2013,
4 there shall be a coordinated system of early care and education and
5 child development. The coordinated system of early care and
6 education and child development shall consist of comprehensive and
7 aligned policies, responsibilities, practices and services for young
8 children and their families, including prenatal care and care for
9 children from birth to eight years of age, inclusive, to ensure optimal
10 health, safety and learning for each child, and that are in accordance
11 with the plan developed by the planning director pursuant to section 2
12 of this act.

13 (b) The coordinated system of early care and education and child

14 development shall (1) create a unified set of reporting requirements for
15 the programs described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 2
16 of this act, for the purpose of collecting the data elements necessary to
17 perform quality assessments and longitudinal analysis; (2) compare
18 and analyze the data collected pursuant to reporting requirements
19 created under subdivision (1) of this subsection with the data collected
20 in the state-wide public school information system, pursuant to section
21 10-10a of the general statutes, for population-level analysis of children
22 and families; (3) develop and update appropriate early learning
23 standards and assessment tools for children from birth to five years of
24 age, inclusive, that are age and developmentally appropriate and that
25 are aligned with existing learning standards as of July 1, 2013, and
26 assessment tools for students in grades kindergarten to twelve,
27 inclusive; (4) continually monitor and evaluate all early childhood
28 education and child care programs and services, focusing on program
29 outcomes in satisfying the health, safety, developmental and
30 educational needs of all children; (5) develop indicators that assess
31 strategies designed to strengthen the family through parental
32 involvement in a child's development and education, including
33 children with special needs; (6) increase the availability of early
34 childhood education and child care programs and services and
35 encourage the providers of such programs and services to work
36 together to create multiple options that allow families to participate in
37 programs that serve the particular needs of each family; (7) provide
38 information and technical assistance to persons seeking early
39 childhood education and child care programs and services; (8) assist
40 state agencies and municipalities in obtaining available federal
41 funding for early childhood education and child care programs and
42 services; (9) provide technical assistance and consultation to licensed
43 providers of early childhood education and child care programs and
44 services and assist any potential provider of such programs and
45 services in obtaining the necessary licensure and certification; (10)
46 create, implement and maintain a quality rating and improvement
47 system that covers home-based, center-based and school-based early
48 child care and learning; (11) maintain a system of accreditation

49 facilitation to assist early childhood education and child care programs
50 and services in achieving national standards and program
51 improvement; (12) create partnerships between state agencies and
52 philanthropic organizations to assist in the implementation of the
53 coordinated system of early care and education and child
54 development; (13) align the system's policy and program goals with
55 those of the Early Childhood Education Cabinet, pursuant to section
56 10-16z of the general statutes, and the Head Start advisory committee,
57 pursuant to section 10-16n of the general statutes; (14) ensure a
58 coordinated and comprehensive state-wide system of professional
59 development for providers of early childhood education and child care
60 programs and services; (15) develop family-centered services that
61 assist families in their communities; (16) provide families with
62 opportunities for choice in services including quality child care; (17)
63 integrate early childhood education and special education services;
64 (18) emphasize targeted research-based interventions; (19) organize
65 services into a coherent system; (20) coordinate a comprehensive and
66 accessible delivery system for early childhood education and child care
67 services; (21) focus on performance measures to ensure that services
68 are accountable, effective and accessible to the consumer; (22) promote
69 universal access to early childhood care and education; (23) ensure
70 nonduplication of monitoring and evaluation; (24) encourage, promote
71 and coordinate funding for the establishment and administration of
72 local and regional early childhood councils that implement local and
73 regional birth-to-eight systems; and (25) perform any other activities
74 that will assist in the provision of early childhood education and child
75 care programs and services.

76 (c) The coordinated system of early care and education and child
77 development shall collaborate with local and regional early childhood
78 councils to implement the coordinated system of early care and
79 education and child development at the local level. Such early
80 childhood councils shall: (1) Develop and implement a comprehensive
81 plan for an early childhood system for the community served by such
82 early childhood council, (2) develop policy and program planning, (3)

83 encourage community participation by emphasizing substantial
84 parental involvement, (4) collect, analyze and evaluate data with a
85 focus on program and service outcomes, (5) allocate resources, and (6)
86 perform any other functions that will assist in the provision of early
87 childhood programs and services. Such early childhood councils may
88 enter into memoranda of agreement with the local or regional school
89 readiness council, described in section 10-16r of the general statutes, of
90 the town or region served by such early childhood council to perform
91 the duties and functions of a school readiness council, in accordance
92 with the provisions of said section 10-16r, or if no such local or
93 regional school readiness council exists for the town or region of such
94 early childhood council, perform the duties and functions of a school
95 readiness council, in accordance with the provisions of said section 10-
96 16r.

97 (d) The coordinated system of early care and education and child
98 development may enter into memoranda of agreement with and accept
99 donations from nonprofit and philanthropic organizations to
100 accomplish the purposes of this section.

101 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2011*) (a) On or before July 15, 2011,
102 the Governor shall appoint, in consultation with the Early Childhood
103 Education Cabinet, established under section 10-16z of the general
104 statutes, a planning director for the planning and development of the
105 coordinated system of early care and education and child development
106 described in section 1 of this act, provided such appointment is made
107 within available appropriations or funded by donations from private
108 sources or federal funds to cover the costs of carrying out the
109 provisions of this section. The planning director shall be within the
110 Office of Policy and Management.

111 (b) (1) The planning director shall develop a plan for the
112 coordinated system of early care and education and child
113 development. Such plan shall consolidate existing early childhood
114 education and child care programs and services serving children from
115 birth to eight years of age, inclusive, into a coordinated system that

116 attempts to (A) reduce the academic achievement gap, (B) increase
117 participation in early childhood education programs, (C) increase
118 parent engagement, family literacy and parenting skills, (D) increase
119 oral language development, (E) increase social competence, (F)
120 decrease special education placements, and (G) support parents and
121 guardians of young children to find employment and to remain
122 employed and encourage such parents and guardians to attend work
123 training programs. Consolidation may include, but not be limited to,
124 school readiness programs, Head Start programs, the family resource
125 center program, established pursuant to section 10-4o of the general
126 statutes, child care facilities, licensing and services described in section
127 8-210 of the general statutes, the birth-to-three program, established
128 pursuant to section 17a-248 of the general statutes, professional
129 development activities relating to early childhood education and any
130 other relevant early childhood programs and services.

131 (2) In developing such plan, the planning director shall (A) consider
132 opportunities for consolidation between and within agencies to reduce
133 redundancy and to improve the focus on positive outcomes for
134 children and families; (B) seek areas of consolidation between and
135 within agencies; (C) provide for the creation of memoranda of
136 agreement between the coordinated system of early care and education
137 and child development and nonprofit and philanthropic organizations;
138 (D) identify opportunities to align services and meet the holistic needs
139 of children and families; (E) implement an accountability framework to
140 measure program and services outcomes; (F) identify common
141 requirements for funding from various sources and identify waiver
142 provisions related to such requirements that can be used to improve
143 service delivery in the state; (G) identify barriers under state or federal
144 law that inhibit effective consolidation of functions or utilization of
145 interagency agreements; (H) consult with qualified local and regional
146 planning groups; and (I) focus the memoranda of agreement to
147 relevant program areas, such as, maternal and child health, literacy,
148 family support, financial planning and early care and education.

149 (c) For purposes of the development of the plan for the coordinated

150 system of early care and education and child development, the
151 planning director may enter into memoranda of agreement with and
152 accept donations from nonprofit and philanthropic organizations.

153 (d) The Departments of Education, Social Services, Public Health,
154 Children and Families, Developmental Disabilities and Higher
155 Education shall assist the planning director in the planning and
156 development of the plan for the coordinated system of early care and
157 education and child development.

158 (e) (1) On and after October 1, 2011, until July 1, 2013, the planning
159 director shall report quarterly to the Early Childhood Education
160 Cabinet. Such report may include, but not be limited to, (A)
161 recommendations regarding the consolidation of agencies to improve
162 coordination within the coordinated system of early care and
163 education and child development, (B) suggestions regarding how
164 federal, state and local resources can be combined to maximize
165 efficiencies in the system and outcomes for children and families, (C)
166 suggestions to improve the manner in which state and local early
167 childhood education initiatives are coordinated so as to provide
168 holistic, affordable, high quality early education for young children,
169 (D) recommendations for improvements to the coordinated system of
170 early care and education and child development, and (E) assurances
171 that the provisions of section 8-210 of the general statutes are being
172 preserved in the planning and development of the coordinated system
173 of early care and education and child development.

174 (2) On and after January 1, 2012, until July 1, 2013, the planning
175 director shall semiannually report to the joint standing committees of
176 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
177 appropriations, human services and education, in accordance with the
178 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. Such report may
179 include, but not be limited to, (A) recommendations regarding the
180 consolidation of agencies to improve coordination within the
181 coordinated system of early care and education and child
182 development, (B) suggestions regarding how federal, state and local

183 resources can be combined to maximize efficiencies in the system and
 184 outcomes for children and families, (C) suggestions to improve the
 185 manner in which state and local early childhood education initiatives
 186 are coordinated so as to provide holistic, high quality early education
 187 for young children, (D) recommendations for improvements to the
 188 coordinated system of early care and education and child
 189 development, and (E) assurances that the provisions of section 8-210 of
 190 the general statutes are being preserved in the planning and
 191 development of the coordinated system of early care and education
 192 and child development.

193 (3) On or before January 30, 2013, the planning director shall report
 194 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
 195 cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, human services and
 196 education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
 197 general statutes. Such report shall include recommendations as to
 198 which department shall be the lead agency and where the staff of the
 199 coordinated system of early care and education and child development
 200 will be located.

201 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2011*) For purposes of the planning and
 202 development of the coordinated system of early care and education
 203 and child development, the Early Childhood Education Cabinet,
 204 pursuant to section 10-16z of the general statutes, the director of the
 205 Connecticut Head Start Collaboration Office and the Head Start
 206 advisory committee, pursuant to section 10-16n of the general statutes,
 207 and the Accreditation Facilitation Project of Connecticut Charts-A-
 208 Course shall be based in the Department of Education, and may work
 209 with nonprofit and philanthropic organizations."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	New section