

Amendment to HB 620-FN

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2
3 AN ACT establishing a division of early learning in the department of education and relative
4 to a pre-kindergarten pilot program.
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6 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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8 1 New Section; Department of Education; Division of Early Learning; Pre-K Pilot Program.
9 Amend RSA 21-N by inserting after section 12 the following new section:

10 21-N:13 Division of Early Learning; Pre-K Pilot Program. There is hereby established within the
11 department the division of early learning, under the supervision of an unclassified director of early
12 learning, whose responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, the following functions, in
13 accordance with applicable laws:

14 I. Effectively and efficiently coordinate efforts and programs to serve pre-kindergarten
15 children throughout the state, including establishing and delineating any working relationships with
16 the department of health and human services under RSA 170-E related to early care and education
17 personnel.

18 II. Development of a cohesive and comprehensive system of high quality early learning and
19 care which shall be in addition to any duty of the department to provide education to children in
20 kindergarten and later grades.

21 III. Design, create, and administer a 3-year high quality, community-based, mixed delivery
22 public pre-kindergarten pilot program.

23 (a) For the purposes of this pilot program, a mixed delivery model means that many
24 different types of high quality early education providers may participate in the pilot program,
25 including public and non-public schools, and community based programs such as Head Start, faith
26 based programs, licensed child care providers, including home and center-based providers.

27 (b) The pilot program should meet the 10 baseline "Recommendations for High-Quality
28 Pre-Kindergarten" (NIEER, 2019) and either hold a minimum quality designation of step 3 in the
29 department of health and human services Granite Steps for Quality, Quality Recognition and
30 Improvement System (QRIS); or be a department of education approved preschool program.

31 (c) The director shall submit a report annually on January 1 to the governor and general
32 court that reports on progress made in the pre-kindergarten pilot program.

Amendment to HB 620-FN

- Page 2 -

1 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Amendment to HB 620-FN
- Page 3 -

2023-0376h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a division of early learning in the department of education. The bill requires the director of early learning to design, create, and administer a 3-year high quality, community-based, mixed delivery public pre-kindergarten pilot program.