

HB 620-FN - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

14Feb2023... 0376h

2023 SESSION

23-0802

10/04

HOUSE BILL

***620-FN***

AN ACT                    establishing a division of early learning in the department of education and relative to a pre-kindergarten pilot program.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Heath, Hills. 41; Rep. Wallner, Merr. 19; Rep. Hamer, Hills. 19; Rep. Vail, Hills. 6; Rep. Myler, Merr. 9; Rep. Tanner, Sull. 5; Rep. Ebel, Merr. 7; Rep. Simpson, Rock. 33; Rep. Chretien, Hills. 41

COMMITTEE:          Executive Departments and Administration

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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.

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Explanation:          Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three*

AN ACT                    establishing a division of early learning in the department of education and relative to a pre-kindergarten pilot program.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

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

3            21-N:13 Division of Early Learning; Pre-K Pilot Program. There is hereby established within the  
4 department the division of early learning, under the supervision of an unclassified director of early  
5 learning, whose responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, the following functions, in  
6 accordance with applicable laws:

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

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

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

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

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

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

26            2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

LBA  
23-0802  
Amended 4/19/23

**HB 620-FN- FISCAL NOTE**

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENT #2023-0376h)

AN ACT                    establishing a division of early learning in the department of education and relative to a pre-kindergarten pilot program.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Office of Legislative Budget Assistant is unable to complete a fiscal note for this bill, **as amended by the House**, as it is awaiting information from the Department of Education.

The Department was initially contacted on 02/23/23 for a fiscal note worksheet. When completed, the fiscal note will be forwarded to the Clerk's Office.

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

Department of Education