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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 3462

February 25, 2008

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on E-12 Education

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to early childhood education; modifying school readiness program
1.3 requirements; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section
1.4 124D.15, by adding a subdivision; Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section
1.5 124D.15, subdivision 3.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section 124D.15, subdivision 3,
1.8 is amended to read:

1.9 Subd. 3. **Program requirements.** A school readiness program provider must:

1.10 (1) assess each child's ~~cognitive~~ kindergarten readiness skills when the child enters
1.11 and again before the child leaves the program to inform program planning and promote
1.12 kindergarten readiness;

1.13 (2) ~~provide comprehensive program content based on early childhood research and~~
1.14 ~~professional practice that is focused on children's cognitive skills and development and~~
1.15 ~~prepares~~ align program curriculum and learning standards with kindergarten curriculum
1.16 and learning standards to prepare children for the transition to kindergarten, including
1.17 ~~early literacy skills;~~

1.18 (3) arrange for early childhood screening and appropriate referral;

1.19 (4) involve parents in program planning and decision making;

1.20 (5) ~~coordinate with relevant community-based~~ provide for comprehensive family
1.21 services; and

1.22 (6) have a total class size of no more than 18 students and a child-to-adult ratio
1.23 of nine to one;

1.24 (7) meet a minimum of 2.5 hours per day, four days per week;

1.25 (8) employ necessary qualified teachers;

2.1 (9) have a strong accountability system with documented learning standards and be
2.2 highly rated by the quality rating system;

2.3 (10) provide compensatory services in language, literacy, and mathematical thinking
2.4 in a developmentally appropriate manner;

2.5 ~~(6)~~ (11) cooperate with adult basic education programs and other adult literacy
2.6 programs; and

2.7 (12) provide children's mental health consultation as needed.

2.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2009.

2.9 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.15, is amended by adding a subdivision
2.10 to read:

2.11 Subd. 3b. **Program alignment.** Each school district operating a school readiness
2.12 program must ensure that the school readiness program curriculum and learning standards
2.13 are aligned with kindergarten curriculum and learning standards.

2.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2009.

2.15 Sec. 3. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.16 \$..... is appropriated in fiscal year 2010 from the general fund to the commissioner
2.17 of education for the school readiness program under Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.15
2.18 and 124D.16.