



93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

Introduced 02/05/04, by Kevin A. McCarthy, Susana Mendoza,
William B. Black, William Davis, Eileen Lyons

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Post-Secondary Early Childhood Education Articulation Act. Establishes the Higher Education Early Childhood Commission to develop a plan to ensure that early childhood courses offered at two-year colleges can be integrated into all early childhood degree programs at public four-year colleges in Illinois consistent with State and national accreditation standards. Requires adoption of the plan by public four-year colleges by December 31, 2006. Dissolves the Commission on December 31, 2010.

LRB093 18640 NHT 47011 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Post-Secondary Early Childhood Education Articulation Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions.

7 "Early childhood degree" means a degree in early childhood,
8 including early childhood education leading to a teaching
9 certificate, child development, or child and family studies.

10 "Four-year college" means a post-secondary educational
11 institution operating in this State granting baccalaureate
12 degrees.

13 "Originally enrolled students" means students who began
14 their post-secondary studies at the college they are currently
15 attending.

16 "Transfer students" means students who began their
17 post-secondary studies elsewhere and transferred into the
18 college.

19 "Two-year college" means a post-secondary educational
20 institution operating in this State granting associate
21 degrees.

22 Section 10. Higher Education Early Childhood Commission;
23 plan.

24 (a) The Higher Education Early Childhood Commission is
25 established to develop, by no later than December 31, 2005, a
26 plan to ensure that early childhood courses offered at two-year
27 colleges can be integrated into all early childhood degree
28 programs at public four-year colleges in Illinois consistent
29 with State and national accreditation standards. The
30 Commission shall consist of the following members:

31 (1) Two members appointed by the administrative head of

1 the Illinois Community College Board, one of whom shall be
2 from an early childhood department at a community college.

3 (2) Two members appointed by the administrative head of
4 the Illinois Board of Higher Education, one of whom shall
5 be from an early childhood department at a public four-year
6 college;

7 (3) Four members appointed by the Illinois Early
8 Learning Council.

9 (4) One member appointed by the Governor.

10 (b) The Commission shall annually report on its progress to
11 the Governor, the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and the
12 General Assembly. The Commission is dissolved on December 31,
13 2010.

14 (c) The plan shall include a recommendation of curriculum
15 changes needed to accomplish the mandate, recommended
16 incentives for schools to articulate coursework, recommended
17 penalties for schools that do not comply with the mandate, and
18 recommended grievance procedures for students who take courses
19 that are erroneously denied transfer credit at four-year
20 colleges.

21 (d) The plan shall be adopted by all public four-year
22 colleges that offer early childhood degree programs by December
23 31, 2006. The plan shall include guidelines for ensuring that
24 four-year colleges integrate early childhood courses
25 transferred from two-year colleges into degree requirements so
26 that transfer students are able to matriculate after
27 transferring to a four-year college similar to comparably
28 situated originally enrolled students.

29 (e) The plan shall take into consideration current efforts
30 in addressing articulation and early childhood curriculum,
31 including the Illinois Articulation Initiative, the Associate
32 of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree, and the Early Childhood
33 Career Lattice.