



Sen. Kimberly A. Lightford

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09400HB4974sam002

LRB094 19087 NHT 58701 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 4974

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 4974, AS AMENDED, by  
3 replacing everything after the enacting clause with the  
4 following:

5 "Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
6 2-3.71 as follows:

7 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.71) (from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.71)  
8 Sec. 2-3.71. Grants for preschool educational programs.

9 (a) Preschool program.

10 (1) The State Board of Education shall implement and  
11 administer a grant program under the provisions of this  
12 subsection which shall consist of grants to public school  
13 districts and other eligible entities, as defined by the  
14 State Board of Education, to conduct voluntary preschool  
15 educational programs for children ages 3 to 5 which include  
16 a parent education component. A public school district  
17 which receives grants under this subsection may  
18 subcontract with other entities that are eligible to  
19 conduct a preschool educational program. These grants must  
20 be used to supplement, not supplant, funds received from  
21 any other source.

22 (2) (Blank).

23 (3) Any teacher of preschool children in the program  
24 authorized by this subsection shall hold an early childhood

1 teaching certificate.

2 (4) This paragraph (4) applies before July 1, 2006 and  
3 after June 30, 2008. The State Board of Education shall  
4 provide the primary source of funding through  
5 appropriations for the ~~this~~ program. Such funds shall be  
6 distributed for the benefit of children who because of  
7 their home and community environment are subject to such  
8 language, cultural, economic and like disadvantages that  
9 they have been determined as a result of screening  
10 procedures to be at risk of academic failure. Such  
11 screening procedures shall be based on criteria  
12 established by the State Board of Education.

13 (4.5) This paragraph (4.5) applies from July 1, 2006  
14 through June 30, 2008. The State Board of Education shall  
15 provide the primary source of funding through  
16 appropriations for the program. Such funds shall be  
17 distributed to achieve a goal of "Preschool for All  
18 Children" for the benefit of all children whose families  
19 choose to participate in the program. Based on available  
20 appropriations, newly funded programs shall be selected  
21 through a process giving first priority to qualified  
22 programs serving primarily at-risk children and second  
23 priority to qualified programs serving primarily children  
24 with a family income of less than 4 times the poverty  
25 guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by  
26 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the  
27 authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2). For purposes of this  
28 paragraph (4.5), at-risk children are those who because of  
29 their home and community environment are subject to such  
30 language, cultural, economic and like disadvantages to  
31 cause them to have been determined as a result of screening  
32 procedures to be at risk of academic failure. Such  
33 screening procedures shall be based on criteria  
34 established by the State Board of Education.

1           On or before November 1 of each fiscal year in which  
2           the General Assembly provides funding for new programs  
3           under this paragraph (4.5), the State Board of Education  
4           shall report to the General Assembly on what percentage of  
5           new funding was provided to programs serving primarily  
6           at-risk children, what percentage of new funding was  
7           provided to programs serving primarily children with a  
8           family income of less than 4 times the federal poverty  
9           level, and what percentage of new funding was provided to  
10           other programs.

11           (5) The State Board of Education shall develop and  
12           provide evaluation tools, including tests, that school  
13           districts and other eligible entities may use to evaluate  
14           children for school readiness prior to age 5. The State  
15           Board of Education shall require school districts and other  
16           eligible entities to obtain consent from the parents or  
17           guardians of children before any evaluations are  
18           conducted. The State Board of Education shall encourage  
19           local school districts and other eligible entities to  
20           evaluate the population of preschool children in their  
21           communities and provide preschool programs, pursuant to  
22           this subsection, where appropriate.

23           (6) The State Board of Education shall report to the  
24           General Assembly by July 1, 2007 ~~1989~~ and every 3 years  
25           thereafter, on the results and progress of students who  
26           were enrolled in preschool educational programs, including  
27           an assessment of which programs have been most successful  
28           in promoting academic excellence and alleviating academic  
29           failure. The State Board of Education shall assess the  
30           academic progress of all students who have been enrolled in  
31           preschool educational programs.

32           (b) (Blank).

33           (Source: P.A. 94-506, eff. 8-8-05.)

1           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,  
2   2006.".