

Amendments from Early Education:101, 480, 649, 722, 735, 740, 741, 783, 888, 904, 950, 1025, 1223, 1280

Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop and others move to amend H.4000 in section 2, in item 1599-0042 by striking out the figures “\$5,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figures:— “\$7,000,000”

And move to further amend the bill by striking item 3000-4000, and inserting in place thereof the following item:—

3000-4000 For grants for pre-school programs and comprehensive services provided to children from the age of two years nine months until they are kindergarten eligible, through a mixed system of service delivery including cities, towns, regional school districts, educational collaboratives, head start programs, and licensed day care providers, pursuant to section 54 of chapter 15 of the General Laws; provided, that, notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, community partnership councils established pursuant to section 54 of chapter 15 of the General Laws shall be under the control and supervision of the department of early education and care established pursuant to chapter 15D of the General Laws; provided further, that the commissioner and board of early education and care, not later than June 30, 2005, and in collaboration with the department of education, shall review and approve consolidated grant applications based on the broad community partnership council program objectives utilized by the department of education in prior years; provided further, that, as part of said consolidated grant application process, the board and commissioner shall provide grants to each council sufficient to ensure that every child who received services through this item in fiscal year 2005 continues to receive services in fiscal year 2006 under the same terms and conditions as in fiscal year 2005, and shall use the same eligibility standards for said services as those used by the department of education in fiscal year 2005; provided further, that in any community partnership council in which there was only 1 lead agency in fiscal year 1995, such lead agency shall serve as lead agency to submit proposals in fiscal year 2006; provided further, that the amount by which the funds appropriated exceed the amount appropriated in item 7030-1000 of chapter 60 of the acts of 1994 shall be used to provide services to the children of working parents; provided further, that funds appropriated in said item prior to 1994 shall continue to be used for at risk children; provided further, that the consolidated grant application for continuation of existing services and expansion of services to additional children shall fund the community partnership council objectives utilized by the department of education, and include a detailed budget indicating the amount that the council proposes to spend in each of the following areas: continuation of services to those children already receiving services in fiscal year 2005, expansion of services to additional children in fiscal year 2006, comprehensive family support and education services, quality enhancement initiatives for existing programs and service providers, program

stabilization in existing programs, and needs assessments focused on determining the need for workforce development and pre-school service in the region served by the council; provided further, that any new expansion slots provided by the council to serve additional children who did not receive services in fiscal year 2005 shall be used to provide services to children of working parents older than two years and nine months and younger than five years old, according to rules and regulations promulgated by the department; provided further, that preference shall be given by said councils to children older than two years and nine months and younger than four years old; provided further, that where feasible, and subject to appropriation, the department and local council shall work with local providers to ensure that any child who receives new or additional services in fiscal year 2006 is guaranteed services by said council until entrance into kindergarten in order to maximize the developmental and educational benefits of pre-school for the child; provided further, that the eligibility standards for said services shall be the same as those used by the department of education prior to passage of this act; provided further, that councils shall give priority in awarding additional slots to children on the wait list formerly maintained by the office of child care services; provided further, that the department may waive this requirement for any council which can demonstrate that all eligible children who, as of July 1, 2005, were on said wait list in the region served by the council are receiving child care services; provided further, that said children shall retain priority status for future services available through the department upon attaining the age of 5, notwithstanding the receipt of services funded through this item; provided further, that where feasible and practicable, not less than one-third of the total new slots funded in this item by the amount by which the funds appropriated in this item exceed the amounts appropriated in said item 7030-1000 of chapter 60 of the acts of 1994 shall be for full-day, full-year care that meets the needs of working parents; provided further, that the council may recommend as part of its proposal quality enhancement initiatives for providers within its region; provided further, that eligible purposes for such initiatives shall include: professional development and workforce development efforts, assistance with the costs of meeting new and advanced licensure standards, accreditation costs, and such other costs as the commissioner shall approve; provided further, that, in order to preserve existing slots, classrooms, and programs to the extent possible, and ensure that the Commonwealth does not lose existing capacity in its early education and care infrastructure, a council may recommend stabilization grants be provided to any provider which would otherwise lose funds or close programs as a result of the transition to a unified system of early education and care and universal pre-school; provided further, that the department may provide funds to councils and local coordinators in order to conduct local needs assessments within the region served by the council in order to ascertain the workforce development needs of providers of early education and care in said region for the purpose of aiding the department with the workforce development plan required by section 5 of chapter 15D of the

General Laws, and to determine the need for pre-school with in said region; provided further, that any council seeking funds shall include a detailed description of its proposed study methodology in its funding proposal to the department; provided further, that any needs assessment carried out for the purposes of determining the workforce development needs of a region shall include, where possible, an analysis of the number and type of providers in the region, the educational attainment of all early educators currently working in the region, the number of said educators who would require additional coursework to meet the standards of the department, the estimated cost of enabling all providers in the region to achieve the new quality standards promulgated by the department, the providers within the region who could most benefit from additional training or coursework, the number who have expressed interest in such workforce or professional development, and such other information as the commissioner may determine relevant; provided further, that any assessment of the need for pre-school services shall include, at minimum: the number and type of providers in the region, the number of available slots in the region, the estimated number of children of pre-school age in the region, the number of pre-school aged children receiving early education and care programs and services in the region without any public subsidy, the number of pre-school aged children receiving early education and care programs and services with public subsidy and the nature of the subsidy, the number of pre-school aged children not receiving any early education and care programs or services, and an estimate of the cost of providing such services using various eligibility standards and guidelines as determined by the department; provided further, that the department shall require, as a condition of receiving funds for needs assessment purposes, that the local council coordinate its evaluation and study with the regional offices established under item 3000-2000; provided further, that no funds may be expended from this item for administrative costs of the department of early education and care; provided further, that recipients of grants distributed from this item shall not expend more than 8 per cent of said grants for administrative costs, as defined by the department of education in fiscal year 2005; and provided further, that any payment made under any such grant with a school district shall be deposited with the treasurer of such city, town, or regional school district and held as a separate account and shall be expended by the school committee of such city, town, or regional school district without municipal appropriation, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary \$68,700,570

And move to further amend the bill in item 3000-7060 by striking out the figures “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figures:— “\$1,500,000”

And move to further amend the bill by inserting after item 3000-7060 the following new item:—

3000-7070 For matching grants to fund the Reach Out and Read program, to provide books to at-risk children in the commonwealth through book distribution programs established in community health centers, medical practices and hospitals for at-risk children; provided further, that the funds distributed through the Reach Out and Read program shall be contingent upon a match of not less than \$1 in private or corporate contributions for every dollar in state funding distributed through said grant program; and provided further, that the department shall, to the maximum extent feasible, collaborate with the Reach Out and Read program, so-called, in order to coordinate services provided through this item with services provided through items 3000-7000, 3000-7050, and 3000-7060 in order to ensure that parents receiving services through this item are aware of all opportunities available to them and their children through the department..... \$500,000

And move to further amend the bill, by striking item 7030-1003, and inserting in place thereof the following item:—

7030-1003 For the John Silber early literacy program to promote research based school-wide literacy education and to promote literacy among children in grades K through 3 in the commonwealth; provided, that the office of reading and language arts shall administer said early literacy grant programs to improve the quality and effectiveness of literacy education in the commonwealth to the greatest extent possible; provided further, that these early literacy education programs shall be based on a scientifically-based reading research program consistent with the federal Reading First Initiative; provided further, that \$385,000 shall be expended for JFY.net, a Jobs for Youth initiative for high technology, literacy and job skill instruction to youth and adults through advanced software and existing infrastructure capacity in schools and community agencies; provided further, that such program shall supplement currently funded local, state and federal programs at the school or district; and provided further, that any grant funds distributed from this item shall be deposited with the treasurer of such city, town or regional school district and held in a separate account and shall be expended by the school committee of such city, town or regional school district, without further appropriation, notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary \$3,462,989