

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of subsection 20 (page 1, lines 3 to 14 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

‘20. Statewide voluntary early childhood consultation program. Beginning September 1, 2020, the commissioner shall implement a statewide voluntary early childhood consultation program to provide support, guidance and training to improve the abilities and skills of early care and education teachers and providers working in public elementary schools, child care facilities as defined in Title 22, section 8301-A, subsection 1-A, paragraph B, family child care settings and Head Start programs serving infants and children who are 8 years of age or younger who are experiencing challenging behaviors that put the infants or children at risk of learning difficulties and removal from early learning and education settings, and to improve the abilities and skills of families and foster parents with infants or children who are 8 years of age or younger in the home who are experiencing challenging behaviors that put the infants or children at risk of learning difficulties and removal from early learning and education settings. Any record about a child created as a result of a consultation under this subsection must be made available to the parents or guardians of that child and may not become part of that child's education record.

A. Fifty percent of the costs related to the program implemented under this subsection must be paid from funds provided to the Department of Health and Human Services under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant available under Title IV-A of the United States Social Security Act or transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services from that block grant authorized under Title XX of the United States Social Security Act.

B. The funds under paragraph A must be transferred to the department by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to a schedule agreed upon by the department and the Department of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the State Controller, and based on documentation of costs incurred by the department in implementing the program under this subsection.’

Amend the bill by adding after section 4 the following:

‘Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Early Childhood Consultation Program N323

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for one Regional Education Representative position and one Office Associate II position and related All Other funding necessary to design and implement a statewide voluntary early childhood consultation program beginning September 1, 2020.

GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	2.000	2.000
Personal Services	\$109,446	\$182,876

All Other	\$314,594	\$257,465
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$424,040	\$440,341

Early Childhood Consultation Program N323

Initiative: Allocates funds necessary to design and implement a statewide voluntary early childhood consultation program beginning September 1, 2020.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2019-20	2020-21
All Other	\$424,040	\$440,341
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$424,040	\$440,341

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2019-20	2020-21
GENERAL FUND	\$424,040	\$440,341
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$424,040	\$440,341
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$848,080	\$880,682

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report, provides that any record about a child created as a result of an early childhood consultation program must be made available to the parents or guardians of that child and may not become part of the child's education record.

The amendment also stipulates that 50% of the costs of the early childhood consultation program established under the bill is to be funded using funds transferred to the Department of Education by the Department of Health and Human Services that are provided to the Department of Health and Human Services under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant that are available under Title IV-A of the United States Social Security Act or that are transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services from that block grant authorized under Title XX of the United States Social Security Act.

The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)