

Governor's Bill on the Shared Visions Model

Section 1: Requires the Director of the Department of Education to do an RFP process to implement the "Shared Visions Model". NOTE: The bill does not require rulemaking and does not involve the State Board of Education.

- Communities, empowerment boards and school districts are eligible to apply.
- **The Shared Visions Model requires:**
 1. **National accreditation** within three years of the preschool starting. National accreditation must be by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.
 2. All lead **teachers to be licensed** by the Board of Educational Examiners --- "hold endorsements in early childhood education". No mention of the number of lead teachers required or the adult to child ratio
 3. A **minimum preschool day** of 4 ½ hours per day.
 4. **Before and after school care**
 5. **Universal eligibility** for 3 and 4 year olds in the community. This includes special education students, low or high income students.
 6. Demonstration of **multicultural, gender fair preschool services**. Specifically the bill requires that preschool services are:
 - Culturally sensitive and inclusive regardless of:
 - Family structure
 - Socioeconomic
 - Racial
 - Religious
 - Cultural
 - Gender
 - Abilities OR
 - Preferred language
 7. Evidence of **community collaboration**
 8. Ongoing **staff development**
 9. Comprehensive **assessment of the program and the enrolled child**
- Requires the Director of the Department of Education to develop statewide, voluntary early learning standards. However, the standards would apply to children enrolled in state or federally funded preschool
- Requires the Director to provide professional development on the early learning standards to the staff members of these state and federal program

Section 2: Designates the current 3 and 4 year old programs under the Child Development Coordinating Council to be under the "Shared Visions Model" detailed above. Applying the information in their annual report, it appears that some current state-funded Shared Visions programs would not meet these Model standards.