

**WORKING DRAFT**

SENATE FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Developmental preschool funding.

Sponsored by: Select Committee on Developmental Programs

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; providing for funding of  
 2 developmental preschool programs, as specified; providing  
 3 requirements for contracts with developmental preschools,  
 4 as specified; requiring reports; granting rulemaking  
 5 authority; providing an appropriation; and providing for an  
 6 effective date.

7

8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-2-706 is created to read:

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12 **21-2-706. Developmental preschool funding.**

13

14 (a) Expenditures by the division for developmental  
 15 preschool services shall be subject to the following:

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2 (i) Contractual payments to developmental  
3 preschool service providers shall be sufficient for the  
4 providers to provide adequate services for children age  
5 birth to five (5) with developmental disabilities and  
6 delays, including compensation levels for occupational  
7 therapists, physical therapists and speech-language  
8 therapists that are competitive with local school district  
9 compensation levels for those categories;

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11 (ii) Contractual payments to developmental  
12 preschool service providers shall be sufficient for the  
13 providers to pay for professional development activities of  
14 their professional employees and for a statewide program to  
15 identify children in need of developmental preschool  
16 services;

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18 (iii) Contracts with developmental preschool  
19 service providers shall require that the providers adopt  
20 evidence-based best practices, as defined by the division  
21 in its rules and regulations;

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23 (b) For purposes of calculating payments to service  
24 providers and preparing the division's standard budget,

1 children with developmental disabilities who are subject to  
2 an individualized education program or an individualized  
3 family service plan shall be counted as of December 1 of  
4 the previous year, at the amount of seven thousand two  
5 hundred six dollars (\$7,206.00) per child per year.

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7 (c) In preparing the standard budget amount following  
8 the 2007-2008 biennium and thereafter, the amount described  
9 in subsection (b) shall be increased by the most recent  
10 external cost adjustment as enacted by the legislature  
11 pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(o)(i) and (r).

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13 **Section 2.** The developmental disabilities division of  
14 the department of health shall report to the select  
15 committee on developmental programs or, if that committee  
16 no longer exists, to the joint labor, health and social  
17 services interim committee as follows:

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19 (a) By October 1, 2006, and every two years  
20 thereafter, regarding:

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22 (i) Whether compensation levels for occupational  
23 therapists, physical therapists and speech-language  
24 therapists are competitive with local school district

1 salaries, and the effect of school district recalibration  
2 on those salaries;

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4 (ii) Whether funding levels are sufficient to  
5 provide required services for all eligible children;

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7 (iii) Whether services for children with  
8 developmental disabilities are provided in an inclusive and  
9 least restrictive environment;

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11 (iv) Whether developmental preschools have  
12 adopted common standards and evidence-based best practices;

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14 (v) Measurable standards adopted by the division  
15 to ensure quality service delivery;

16

17 (b) By October 1, 2006, regarding:

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19 (i) The progress of a mental health pilot  
20 project and the cost of integrating mental health services  
21 in developmental preschools;

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23 (ii) The capital construction needs of  
24 developmental preschools in the state.

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2           **Section 3.** The department of education shall report  
3 to the select committee on developmental programs or, if  
4 that committee no longer exists, to the joint labor, health  
5 and social services interim committee by October 1, 2006 on  
6 the amount of funds each school district is providing to  
7 the developmental preschools to conduct developmental  
8 screenings of children from birth to five (5) years of age.

9

10           **Section 4.** In addition to any other funds  
11 appropriated for developmental preschool programs, twelve  
12 million dollars (\$12,000,000.00) is appropriated to the  
13 department of health from the general fund for the biennium  
14 commencing July 1, 2006 for the purposes of this act.

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16           **Section 5.** This act is effective July 1, 2006.

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(END)