

**Department of Education
Report on Early Learning Hubs**

The Education Subcommittee recommends the Joint Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report on the efficiencies of Early Learning Hub demonstration projects.

HB 2013 established Early Learning Hub demonstration projects and capped the number of hubs to seven for 2013-14 and to 16 for 2014-15. These hubs are designed to be a critical part of the service delivery system for the various early learning programs. They are responsible at the local level for; coordinating and aligning services in the community; demonstrating the ability to improve results for children at risk; leveraging additional private and public funds; and including various local stakeholders in the governance of the hubs. Applicants for designation as demonstration hubs are to set improvement targets based on metrics based around three outcomes: kindergarten readiness, family stability, and system coordination.

The process for awarding contracts for the demonstration hubs will take place in two rounds. The first round is currently underway with one contract awarded to the hub representing Marion County. Five more applicants are currently being evaluated based on additional required information. The second round should result in the award of up to another ten contracts if all of the first round applicants are successful.

The Education Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.