SENATE AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE BILL 236
By COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
April 29

On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after the first semicolon insert “and” and delete the rest of the line.

Delete lines 5 through 28 and delete page 2 and insert:

"SECTION 1. (1) The Early Learning Division shall conduct a study on:

“(a) The use of suspension and expulsion in early childhood care and education programs; and

“(b) Efforts to reduce and prevent the use of suspension and expulsion in early childhood care and education programs.

“(2) The division shall report the results of the study required under this section to the appropriate interim committees of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2024.

"SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on December 31, 2024.

"SECTION 3. (1) An early childhood care or education program that receives state public funds from the Early Learning Division may not suspend or expel any child.

“(2) An early childhood care or education program that violates subsection (1) of this section shall cease to be eligible to receive state public funds from the Early Learning Division.

“(3) The Early Learning Council shall adopt rules necessary for the administration of this section, including providing for:

“(a) A waiver that the Early Learning System Director, or the director’s designee, may provide to an early childhood care or education program of the prohibition described in subsection (1) of this section; and

“(b) A method for resolving disputes between parents and providers related to suspensions and expulsions, while taking into consideration the best placement of the child.

"SECTION 4. (1) Section 3 of this 2021 Act becomes operative on July 1, 2026.

“(2) Notwithstanding the operative date set forth in subsection (1) of this section, the Early Learning Council and the Early Learning Division may take any action before the operative date set forth in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the council and division to exercise, on and after the operative date set forth in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the council and division by section 3 of this 2021 Act.

"SECTION 5. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect July 1, 2021."