Pre-K Proposal

2008-2010

Secretary Thomas R. Morris
Presentation to
House Appropriations Committee

January 16, 2008
Goal

ensure that more at-risk 4-year-olds have access to voluntary high quality preschool services.
Information utilized in planning proposal

- Start Strong Council
- JLARC Report
  - Pre-K works and VPI is effective
  - Barriers are cost and space
- Initial Evaluation of Pre-K Pilots
  - Mixed delivery system is working
Address issues of:

○ **Access** – policies addressing cost and space

○ **Quality with Accountability** – QRIS, scholarships, community grants
To address the challenge of cost for localities...

- Localities may choose a per pupil rate from $5,700 to $6,790
- A cap on the local match, based on the composite index, so that the state will pay at least half of the cost
Every locality...

- is ensured funding for a minimum of one preschool classroom
  - Base of 9 slots
Raise state allocation formula...

- from eligibility for free lunch to free \textit{and} reduced-price lunch
To address the challenge of space for localities...

- Partnership with private partners for at least 10% of any new slots
To address the need for stronger program administration...

- Adds funds and staff at DOE for program administration, technical assistance, and evaluation
QRIS

- Will measure and assign a quality rating to public and private programs
  - Assessments conducted by trained, independent raters using validated instruments
  - Mentors assist with improving quality of classroom settings
  - QRIS = continuous quality improvement system for providers and consumer education tool for parents
Early Childhood Workforce Development

- To support enhancement of skills and expansion of workforce
- Degree attainment at community colleges and 4-year colleges
- Specialized Early Childhood training
To facilitate local councils

- Funds to the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation for grants to local communities
- Support 14 new communities; sustain 15 existing communities
- Will match public funds 2-1 with local and private funds
Current VECF Grant Communities
Expand voluntary high quality preschool...

- to serve nearly 20,000 4-year-olds by the end of the biennium

- Current enrollment 13,125
- FY10 19,261
## Total Cost of Pre-K Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>FY09</th>
<th>FY10</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pupil Cost</td>
<td>$15.0</td>
<td>$15.0</td>
<td>$29.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPI Administration</td>
<td>$0.34</td>
<td>$0.34</td>
<td>$0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QRIS</td>
<td>$1.3</td>
<td>$3.3</td>
<td>$4.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workforce Dev.</td>
<td>$1.0</td>
<td>$3.0</td>
<td>$4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>VECF</td>
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<td>$1.5</td>
<td>$2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Additional</strong></td>
<td><strong>$18.04</strong></td>
<td><strong>$38.04</strong></td>
<td><strong>$56.08</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$ in millions