

State of South Dakota

EIGHTIETH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2005

839L0626

HOUSE BILL NO. 1112

Introduced by: Representatives Dennert, Elliott, Garnos, Gillespie, Haley, Hargens, Kroger, Miles, Roberts, and Thompson and Senators Bartling, Hanson (Gary), Moore, and Nesselhuf

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to create the pre-kindergarten initiative pilot program and
2 to provide for its funding.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. There is hereby created the pre-kindergarten initiative pilot program in the
5 Department of Education. The pilot program, effective for the 2005-2006 school term, will
6 provide up to five hundred eligible children with a half-day of preschool learning provided
7 through participating school districts.

8 Section 2. For purposes of this program, an eligible child is:

- 9 (1) A child who is four years of age;
- 10 (2) A child who qualifies for free or reduced-cost lunches under the National School
11 Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. §1751 et seq.) and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C.
12 §1771 et seq.); and
- 13 (3) A child who is not participating in the Head Start program.

14 Section 3. The secretary of the Department of Education shall select school districts to
15 participate in the program established by this Act from among the school districts that apply for



1 consideration. For each child who receives preschool learning within the district under the
2 provisions of this Act, a participating school district shall receive a per student allotment of two
3 thousand two hundred dollars.

4 Section 4. The Department of Education shall promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 1-26
5 establishing the school district application procedures and the criteria upon which the school
6 districts will be selected to participate.

7 Section 5. Prior to June 30, 2005, one million one hundred thousand dollars (\$1,100,000)
8 or so much thereof as may be available, shall be transferred from the appropriation for state aid
9 for general education that is not expended or legally obligated to the pre-kindergarten initiative
10 fund, which is hereby created as a separate fund in the state treasury. Any money in the pre-
11 kindergarten initiative fund is continuously appropriated to the Department of Education to pay
12 for the provisions of this Act.

13 Section 6. The secretary of the Department of Education shall approve vouchers and the
14 state auditor shall draw warrants to pay expenditures authorized by this Act.

15 Section 7. This Act is effective on June 20, 2005.