

2017 SESSION LANGUAGE PROPOSAL

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Subcommittee for Department of Education and Early Development

TO: Representative Ortiz

OFFERED BY: Representative Zach Fansler

RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE:

It is the intent of the legislature that the State Board of Education evaluate and make recommendations on strategies to secure access to quality early educational opportunities for all Alaskan children. Further, it is the intent of the Legislature that early learning be prioritized by the Department and State Board of Education as they set long term strategies to address Alaska's educational challenges.

EXPLANATION:

Studies consistently show the benefits of early childhood education programs for children birth through 5 years. We believe that all Alaskan children should have access to these benefits regardless of family income or location of residence. Equitable access to early childhood education opportunities for all Alaskan children will benefit the state as a whole.