

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1



Fiscal Year 2020-21 Agency Budget Plan

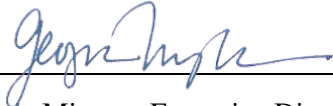
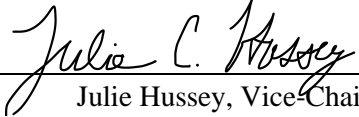
FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS (FORM B1)	For FY 2020-21, my agency is (mark "X"): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requesting General Fund Appropriations. <input type="checkbox"/> Requesting Federal/Other Authorization. <input type="checkbox"/> Not requesting any changes.
NON-RECURRING REQUESTS (FORM B2)	For FY 2020-21, my agency is (mark "X"): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations. <input type="checkbox"/> Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization. <input type="checkbox"/> Not requesting any changes.
CAPITAL REQUESTS (FORM C)	For FY 2020-21, my agency is (mark "X"): <input type="checkbox"/> Requesting funding for Capital Projects. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not requesting any changes.
PROVISOS (FORM D)	For FY 2020-21, my agency is (mark "X"): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos. <input type="checkbox"/> Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references). <input type="checkbox"/> Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Mark Barnes, COO/CFO	803-734-8079	MBarnes@scfirststeps.org
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Georgia Mjartan, Director	803-734-1020	gmjartan@scfirststeps.org

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2020-21 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	<u>Agency Director</u>	<u>Board or Commission Chair</u>
SIGN/DATE:		
TYPE/PRINT NAME:	Georgia Mjartan, Executive Director	Julie Hussey, Vice-Chair (Acting Board Chair)

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget Request Executive Summary

Agency Code: H630
 Agency Name: Department Of Education
 Section: 1

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Early Childhood Innovation Grants	5,000,000				5,000,000					0.00
2	B1 - Recurring	Full Day 4K	6,371,474				6,371,474					0.00
3	B1 - Recurring	Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)	267,384				267,384	2.00				2.00
4	B2 - Non-Recurring	Outcome and Accountability Data System	595,000				595,000					0.00
5	B1 - Recurring	Outcome and Accountability Data System	142,448				142,448	1.00				1.00
6							0					0.00
7							0					0.00
8							0					0.00
9							0					0.00
10							0					0.00
11							0					0.00
12							0					0.00
13							0					0.00
14							0					0.00
15							0					0.00
16							0					0.00
17							0					0.00
18							0					0.00
19							0					0.00
20							0					0.00
21							0					0.00
22							0					0.00
23							0					0.00
24							0					0.00
25							0					0.00
26							0					0.00
27							0					0.00
28							0					0.00
29							0					0.00
30							0					0.00
TOTAL BUDGET REQUESTS			12,376,306	0	0	0	12,376,306	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00

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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	1
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Early Childhood Innovation Grants
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$5,000,000 Federal: Other: Total: \$5,000,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2020-21? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/> IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/> Consulted DTO during development
<input type="checkbox"/> Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority # _____	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/> Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	All agency strategies.
	This request would help meet all of the objectives in our accountability report. Funds would be awarded to SC First Steps Local Partnerships based on the quality of their grant application, including the proposed impact, reach, and outcomes specified.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the FY 2019-20 Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	Each of the 46 local Partnerships would have the option to apply for grants for specific purposes, as outlined in the Grant Application Process.
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What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	<p>The local First Steps Partnerships are only able to provide services to a fraction of the children in need in their communities due to their limited funding. These funds are critically needed to increase the number of children who are ready for school across the state.</p> <p>This request for recurring funds would support the work of local First Steps partnerships through a competitive grant structure that would incentivize and support measurable outcomes, the leveraging of public and private resources, program expansion, and program enhancement across the state to help accomplish the mission of First Steps. Each local partnership could apply for competitive grants established through this appropriation.</p> <p>These grants would expand effective school readiness programming to children in local communities. Grants will be closely monitored and evaluated to ensure the accountable and optimal use of all funds. The process would create competition, reward demonstrated outcomes, strengthen accountability, and expand activities documented to improve school readiness in each community.</p>
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Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	2
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Full Day 4K
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$6,371,474 Federal: Other: Total: \$6,371,474
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2020-21? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority # _____	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens

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ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>This funding supports the following strategies, 1.3, 1.4, 4.5, 5.4, 6.1. Funding would cover the cost of providing services to the number of students projected to be served in the 2020-21 fiscal year. These funds would cover tuition so that the number of children in 4K does not decrease. These services are evaluated annually by multiple assessments including pre and post services, as well as the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, annual Education Oversight Committee evaluations, and regular 3rd party independent program evaluations.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the FY 2019-20 Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	<p>Funds would be distributed based on current statutes and provisos as well as SC First Steps 4K operating policies. Rates are established in proviso and paid to contractors that meet the SC First Steps program operating policies and quality standards.</p>
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What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	<p>SC First Steps, through the CDEPP Program, provides eligible children with free quality full day 4-year old kindergarten in private, community and faith-based preschool centers. The number of children enrolled in the 4K Program has been steadily increasing over the last few years, with significant increases in the last two years. Projections for the 2020-21 year indicate that the annual operating cost of serving over 3,000 children annually will be \$22,661,215. Current funding includes \$6,522,877 in General Funds and \$9,767,864 in EIA Funds for a total of \$16,290,741, leaving a deficit of \$6,371,474. Without these funds services to children will have to be cut and the number of children in the CERDEP Program will have to be reduced. Any significant carryforward cash balance will be eliminated by the end of the 2019-20 fiscal year due to the increase in services to children.</p>
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Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	3
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Early Childhood Advisory Council
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$267,384 Federal: Other: Total: \$267,384
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2020-21? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	2.0
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
	<input type="checkbox"/> Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>All Strategies. Funds would be used to meet statutory requirements for the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) which has recently been reestablished. Prior to a temporary competitive federal grant currently available, no state funding was appropriated for this state statutory requirement. The federal funds end on December 31, 2019.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the FY 2019-20 Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	SC First Steps
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What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	<p>Funds would cover the cost of operating the Early Childhood Advisory Council and its initiatives. This includes the 10 specific functions spelled out in state statute 63-11-1725. They include early childhood needs assessments, opportunities for collaboration and coordination among early childhood agencies and programs, increasing participation of children in programs, unified data collection, statewide professional development of early education professionals, and many other responsibilities. This requirement has never been funded by the state. A competitive temporary federal grant was received through a collaborative effort through the ECAC, which expires on December 31, 2019. Without continuing funding, this critical work and the progress that has been made will be at risk.</p> <p>The funding requested includes two FTE’s with their associated funding. The ECAC Manager, and Communications Coordinator with their associated fringe. \$70,747, plus \$52,020 and fringe of \$46,651, for a total of \$169,418.</p> <p>Operating cost to include funding for Website maintenance, travel, phones, computer use, shared space, supplies, training and professional development, and contractual cost of \$97,966.</p> <p>Total Request \$267,384.</p>
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Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	5 <i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>
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TITLE	First Steps Outcomes and Accountability Data System <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
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AMOUNT	General: \$142,448 Federal: Other: Total: \$142,448 <i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2020-21? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>
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NEW POSITIONS	1.0 <i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>
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FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/> Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/> Consulted DTO during development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority # 4	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/> Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>All agency strategies. This request would help meet all of the objectives in our accountability report. First Steps currently makes use of multiple data collection platforms, the most prominent of which is badly outdated and not well-suited meet the agency’s own accountability goals. An updated accountability data system will allow us to comprehensively capture and report critical data including unduplicated clients served and outcomes and will create the capacity for SC Firsts Steps data to be integrated with other data sets for longitudinal tracking. It will also support First Steps in meeting significant new reporting requirements established by statute.</p> <p><i>What specific strategy, as outlined in the FY 2019-20 Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?</i></p>
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AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	<p>These recurring funds would be used to contract for the ongoing maintenance and license fees associated with such a data system (to be procured through a competitive process). They would also be used to fund 1 FTE charged with managing and monitoring the system and associated data needs.</p>
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What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	<p>This request is for the recurring cost of maintaining/licensing and utilizing a comprehensive accountability data system. First Steps’ current partnership data system was originally created 19 years ago and is in urgent need of updating. This is a longstanding request, unfunded in recent years.</p> <p>This request will support First Steps in meeting multiple statutory requirements, including Section 59-152-50, item 7, which requires us to provide for ongoing data collection and Section 59-125-160, which requires First Steps to provide evaluations of each prevalent program investment using valid and reliable measures.</p> <p>This data system will support First Steps in documenting, monitoring, and reporting across its broad spectrum of program investments. During the 2017 legislative session, the General Assembly passed H.3969 which would require a new longitudinal data system for children and education. This system is necessary to collect the data needed for the state system.</p> <p>The funds being requested would cover the cost of recurring maintenance, licensing fees, and 1 FTE – a Research and Planning Administrator for this joint system to be used by multiple SC First Steps programs. We are working with DTO and DIS with all of our data systems and they are currently under contract with SC First Steps. This was included in the request for our IT Plan for 2019-20. Currently, the organization has no IT staff.</p>
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Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

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FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	4
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Outcomes and Accountability Data System
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	\$595,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2020-21? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority # 5	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	All agency strategies.
	This request would help meet all of the objectives in our accountability report. This data system would allow us to collect the data necessary to meet our mission and the objectives that have been outlined for the organization in state statute.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the FY 2019-20 Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

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RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	<p>A competitive procurement process will be conducted to award funding to an IT vendor qualified to create a comprehensive, integrated, web-based Outcomes and Accountability Data system for SC First Steps - replacing an outdated system insufficient to meet current accountability needs.</p>
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What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	<p>This request is for the non-recurring cost of developing a comprehensive, web-based Outcomes and Accountability Data System to replace (among other data collection tools) First Steps’ outdated local partnership data system. Created 19 years ago, and last meaningfully updated in 2007, the existing system is in critical need of replacement if First Steps is to successfully meet statutory accountability and reporting requirements. Additionally, First Steps hopes to unify its data collection processes (to include 4K data) now collected across multiple systems.</p> <p>This request will support First Steps in meeting multiple statutory requirements, including Section 59-152-50, item 7 (which requires us to provide for ongoing data collection) and Section 59-125-160 (which requires First Steps to provide evaluations of each prevalent program investment using valid and reliable measures) as well as a variety of new reporting requirements mandated by Act 152 of 2018.</p> <p>The enhanced data system will support First Steps in documenting, monitoring, and reporting across its broad spectrum of program investments. While we have not completed a Request for Proposals on the system to determine the actual cost, estimates indicate that \$595,000 would provide a good basis for covering the initial cost of developing and implementing either a purchased system or covering the annual costs of a system that would provide for our needs.</p>
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Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. Does this non-recurring appropriation request create an annualization or need for recurring funds?

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FORM D – PROVISIO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	1.56 & 1A.29
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2020-21 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	Full-Day 4K
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Provide the title from the FY 2019-20 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	Sec. 1, VIII. Education Improvement Act, I. First Steps to School Readiness, Sec. 1, XII First Steps to School Readiness, Sec. 1, XIII Employee Benefits
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	Yes, Priority 2
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Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2020-21? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	SC Department of Education, Education Oversight Committee
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	<p>The proviso provides annual funding levels and geography for the CDEPP program, the proviso is contained in both General Funds and Education Improvement Act Funding sections of the budget bill.</p> <p>The statutes require an annual increase in the tuition amount based on an inflation factor. This factor was provided by the State of SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office as a projection of 2.2% for SFY 2020-21. The amount adjusted reflects this increase. The amount paid to centers has been increased four times since the inception of the program in 2006, contrary to state statutes which call for an annual increase.</p> <p>In addition, the transportation amount per student has been increased only twice. We have adjusted the amount based on the 2.2% inflation factor.</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

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FISCAL IMPACT	<p>2.2% additional cost for the tuition reimbursements for SC First Steps would be \$304,700 based on the total cost of tuition for 2018-19. The cost of the transportation would increase by \$4,215. The total for both costs would be \$308,915.</p> <p>Total fiscal impact would be \$308,915.</p>
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Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT	<p>(SDE: Full-Day 4K) Eligible students residing in a school district that met the poverty level for participation in the prior school year are eligible to participate in the South Carolina Early Reading Development and Education Program in the current school year. Public and private providers shall be funded for instructional costs at a rate of \$4,600 \$4,701 per student enrolled. Eligible students enrolling during the school year or withdrawing during the school year shall be funded on a pro rata basis determined by the length of their enrollment. Private providers transporting eligible children to and from school shall also be eligible for a reimbursement of \$574 \$587 per eligible child transported. All providers who are reimbursed are required to retain records as required by their fiscal agent. New providers participating for the first time in the current fiscal year and enrolling between one and six eligible children shall be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 per child in materials and equipment funding, with providers enrolling seven or more such children eligible for funding not to exceed \$10,000. Providers receiving equipment funding are expected to participate in the program and provide high-quality, center-based programs as defined herein for a minimum of three years. Failure to participate for three years will require the provider to return a portion of the equipment allocation at a level determined by the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps to School Readiness. Funding to providers is contingent upon receipt of data as requested by the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps. The Department of Education shall only provide funding for public school students whose complete records have been entered into PowerSchool based on the one hundred and thirty-five day student average daily membership. For the current fiscal year, providers may enroll pay-lunch children who score at or below the twenty-fifth national percentile on two of the three DIAL-3 subscales by July 1 if at least seventy-five percent of the total number of children eligible or the Child Early Reading Development and Education Program in a district or county are projected to be enrolled in that program, Head Start, or ABC Child Care Program as determined by the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps, Child Early Reading Development and Education Program. Providers may receive reimbursement for these children if funds are available.</p> <p>Annually, the Department of Education is directed to audit the annual allocations to public providers to ensure that allocations are accurate and aligned to the appropriate pro rata per student allocation, materials, and equipment funding. In the event the department, during the audit process determines that the annual allocations of the prior fiscal year are not accurate, the department must adjust the allocations for the current fiscal year to account for the audit findings. The department must provide the results of the annual audit findings to the General Assembly no later than December first. Likewise, in the event the Office of First Steps determines that the annual allocations of the prior fiscal year to private providers are not accurate, the Office of First Steps must adjust the allocations for the current fiscal year to account for the findings.</p> <p>Of the funds appropriated, \$300,000 shall be allocated to the Education Oversight Committee to conduct an annual evaluation of the South Carolina Child Development</p>
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AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

Education Pilot Program and to issue findings in a report to the General Assembly by January fifteenth of each year. To aid in this evaluation, the Education Oversight Committee shall determine the data necessary and both public and private providers are required to submit the necessary data as a condition of continued participation in and funding of the program. This data shall include developmentally appropriate measures of student progress. Additionally, the Department of Education shall issue a unique student identifier for each child receiving services from a private provider. The Department of Education shall be responsible for the collection and maintenance of data on the public state funded full day and half-day four-year-old kindergarten programs. The Office of First Steps to School Readiness shall be responsible for the collection and maintenance of data on the state funded programs provided through private providers. The Education Oversight Committee shall use this data and all other collected and maintained data necessary to conduct a research based review of the program's implementation and assessment of student success in the early elementary grades along with information, recommendations, and a timeline for how the state can increase the number of students served in high-quality programs.

Paste FY 2019-20 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	1.68 & 1A.56
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2020-21 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	CDEPP Unexpended Funds
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Provide the title from the FY 2019-20 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	Sec. 1, VIII. Education Improvement Act, I. First Steps to School Readiness, Sec. 1, XII First Steps to School Readiness, Sec. 1, XIII Employee Benefits
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	No
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Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2020-21? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	None
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	<p>Proviso directs the use of 4K unexpended funds at SC First Steps. Requested changes include an elimination of \$1 million to be transferred to the Education Oversight Committee. We estimate that there will no longer be a significant cash carry forward at the end of the current fiscal year due to additional services to children and their related expenditures, and these funds will be needed for tuition payments for children.</p> <p>Requested change replaces a fiscal year reference with “the current fiscal year” to prevent the need to amend this proviso annually.</p> <p>In addition, SC First Steps will be allowed to continue to improve the quality of services to eligible children, based on its level of funding, by increasing the payment to high quality centers. In addition to centers rated high quality by the ABC Quality System, national accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children will also be used as an indicator for high quality.</p> <p>The limitation of \$1 million for high quality centers from Carry Forward funding has also been removed. This will be important as SC First Steps increases the number of children served in these centers.</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

FISCAL IMPACT	<p>The proviso would allow for expenditures to up to \$1,000,000 for SC First Steps to enhance quality of the services to children and for professional development, but it would not have a fiscal impact as it would only include carry forward amounts.</p> <p>The reduction in unexpended funds would eliminate the \$1 million in funding to be transferred to the EOC for the South Carolina Community Block Grants for Education Pilot Program.</p> <p>The change related to high quality centers is estimated to be \$850,000 for the current level of children for the 2020-21 fiscal year.</p>
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Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT	<p>1.68. (SDE: CDEPP Unexpended Funds) For the current Fiscal Year 2019-20, the Office of First Steps to School Readiness is permitted to retain the first \$1,000,000 of any unexpended CDEPP funds of the prior fiscal year and expend these funds to enhance the quality of the full-day 4K program in private centers and provide professional development opportunities. By August first, the Office of First Steps is directed to allocate any additional unexpended CDEPP funds from the prior fiscal year and any CDEPP funds carried forward from prior fiscal years that were transferred to the restricted account for the following purpose: Education Oversight Committee — \$1,000,000 for the South Carolina Community Block Grants for Education Pilot Program.</p> <p>—If carry forward funds are less than the amounts appropriated, funding for the items listed herein shall be reduced on a pro rata basis.</p> <p>If by August first, the Department of Education or the Office of First Steps determines there will be funds available, funds shall be allocated on a per pupil basis for districts eligible for participation first, who have a documented waiting list, and funded an extended program per this proviso in the prior school year, then to districts to increase the length of the program to a maximum of eight and a half hours per day or two hundred and twenty days per year or to fund summer programs. The department and the Office of First Steps are authorized to target funds to ensure that the schools in which more than one third of third graders scored “Does Not Meet Expectations” on the state English/language arts assessment are serving all eligible four year olds. By August 1, the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps must collect the documented waiting lists and determine a process to notify parents of eligible students of available slots in all approved providers. If a district chooses to fund summer enrollment the program funding shall conform to the funding in this act for full year programs, however shall be reduced on a pro rata basis to conform with the length of the program. A summer program shall be no more than eight and a half hours per day and shall be not more than ten weeks in length. The per pupil allocation and classroom grant must conform with the appropriated amount contained in this Act and end of year adjustments shall be based on the one hundred and thirty five day student average daily membership or later student average daily membership for districts choosing to extend the program past one hundred and eighty days. Funds may also be used to provide parent engagement, professional development and quality evaluations of programs.</p> <p>For the current Fiscal Year 2019-20, the Office of First Steps may pilot a program to provide higher reimbursement rates to high quality centers in order to increase the numbers of First Steps participants. Utilizing up to \$1,000,000 of carry forward funding, †The reimbursement rate for students enrolled by private providers rated B or higher in</p>
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AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

the ABC Quality System operated by the Department of Social Services **or has National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Accreditation** may be increased by up to 10% of the per-student base following guidelines developed by the Office of First Steps.

No later than April first, the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps must report to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee on the expenditure of these funds to include the following information: the amount of money used and specific steps and measures taken to enhance the quality of the 4K program and the amount of money used for professional development as well as the types of professional development offered and the number of participants.

Paste FY 2019-20 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

FORM D – PROVISIO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	1.73 <i>Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2020-21 (or mark "NEW").</i>
TITLE	Military Child Care Centers <i>Provide the title from the FY 2019-20 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.</i>
BUDGET PROGRAM	Sec. 1, VIII. Education Improvement Act, I. First Steps to School Readiness, Sec. 1, XII First Steps to School Readiness <i>Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.</i>
RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	No <i>Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2020-21? If so, cite it here.</i>
REQUESTED ACTION	Amend <i>Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.</i>
OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	None <i>Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?</i>
SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	Proviso allows SC First Steps to reimburse child care centers in military child care settings for CERDEP eligible children. Funds do not supplant federal funds. The requested change would allow facilities in school districts that are approved for the current year, not the previous year. <i>Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.</i>
FISCAL IMPACT	Proviso allows for current CERDEP eligible children to receive instruction at Military Child Care Centers. There would be no increase in cost. <i>Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.</i>

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT	<p>(SDE: Military Child Care Centers) During the current fiscal year, South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness may extend four-year-old kindergarten provider eligibility to military child care settings regulated by the United States Department of Defense. State funds appropriated for use in military child care facilities must be used to expand service to CERDEP eligible children residing in school districts approved for participation the prior fiscal year during and may not be used to supplant any existing federal child care investment.</p>
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Paste FY 2019-20 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	1.74
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2020-21 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	First Steps 4K Underserved Communities
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Provide the title from the FY 2019-20 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	Sec. 1, VIII. Education Improvement Act, I. First Steps to School Readiness, Sec. 1, XII First Steps to School Readiness
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	Yes, Priority 2
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Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2020-21? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	None
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	<p>Proviso allows private providers to apply for up to \$30,000 in one-time supplemental funds to increase the number of children served by bringing themselves into compliance with licensing regulations, materials and staffing so they can provide 4K for children in underserved areas. In addition, the proviso allows services to be offered if providers provide services to multi-districts, and multi counties.</p> <p>Date of reporting needs to be changed to reflect the new budget year.</p> <p>One change is being requested to eliminate the words "Newly created or newly approved". This change would allow any Child Care Center, whether currently a provider or not, to add additional classrooms, which in turn will increase the number of children served. This creates a fair opportunity for any provider to increase children served.</p> <p>In addition, we are requesting to delete the words "during the most recent fiscal year." This will ensure that any currently eligible community or center can participate.</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT	There is no fiscal impact with the change to this proviso.
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Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

**PROPOSED
PROVISO TEXT**

(SDE: First Steps 4K Underserved Communities) Using funds appropriated for the Child Early Reading and Development Education Program, South Carolina First Steps shall develop a pilot program to expand four-year-old kindergarten enrollment within underserved communities eligible for participation, ~~during the most recent fiscal year.~~ ~~Newly created and/or newly approved p~~Private providers proposing to expand service to ten or more CERDEP eligible children in communities unable to enroll all of eligible students in a public, private, or Head Start setting during the prior fiscal year, may apply for up to \$30,000 in one-time supplemental, needs-based incentives designed to address building renovations, documented as necessary to bring proposed classrooms into compliance with licensing regulations, materials and staffing costs, and/or other obstacles currently preventing their participation in the First Steps 4K program. The First Steps Board of Trustees shall develop and approve an application process that incorporates formal review and fiscal safeguards designed to ensure grant funds are used solely to address documented barriers to program participation. Providers receiving this one-time supplement are expected to participate in the program and provide high-quality, center-based programs as defined herein for a minimum of three years. Failure to participate for three years will require the provider to return a portion of the supplemental allocation at a level determined by the Office of First Steps to School Readiness. First Steps shall submit a report detailing its process, expenditures and expanded enrollment to the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee by March 15, 2020~~1~~.

For Fiscal Year 2019-20-21, the Office of First Steps may pilot a program to provide CERDEP services in underserved communities serving multi counties and multi-districts. 4K centers served by this pilot may provide CERDEP-funded services to eligible children from non-CERDEP districts but must also offer services to students from at least one school district eligible to participate in the CERDEP program. Utilizing up to \$1,000,000 of carry-forward funding, First Steps may provide grants to participants in this pilot if they are public-private partnerships to address building renovations and designs necessary to get the building and classrooms into compliance with licensing regulations and other obstacles that prevent participation in the CERDEP program following guidelines developed by SC First Steps. Providers participating in this pilot are expected to participate in the program and provide high-quality, center-based programs as defined herein for a minimum of three years. Failure to participate for three years will require the provider to return a portion of the supplemental allocation at a level determined by the Office of First Steps to School Readiness.

Paste FY 2019-20 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

FORM D – PROVISIO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	NEW
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2020-21 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	(SC First Steps) Publicly Funded Child Care Centers
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Provide the title from the FY 2019-20 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	Sec. 1, VIII. Education Improvement Act, I. First Steps to School Readiness, Sec. 1, XII First Steps to School Readiness
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	No
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Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2020-21? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Add
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	None
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	<p>Proviso would allow DSS regulated child care centers, that receive funding for Child Care Services from federal or state funds, to participate in the SC State Employee Health Insurance Program, if they cover the entire cost of participation for their staff. In addition, it would allow those same centers to purchase vehicles to be used to transport children for child care services, through the State of SC procurement contracts, if they cover the entire cost of those procurements.</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT	There would be no fiscal impact as the child care centers would cover the entire cost of their participation.
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Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

**PROPOSED
PROVISO TEXT**

During the current fiscal year, DSS regulated Child Care Centers in South Carolina that receive public funding from either federal or state funding for the provision of child care, can participate in the state employee health insurance program. The Child Care Centers will be responsible for all costs associated with the enrollment of their employees. The publicly funded Child Care Centers can also participate in State Procurement contracts for vehicles used to transport children to the Child Care Center. The Child Care Centers will be responsible for all costs associated with the purchase of any vehicles through this process. Child Care Centers that choose to participate in these two programs will have to provide evidence of their participation in their public funding source. SC First Steps will be responsible for providing information to the centers that are eligible and facilitate process development with appropriate state agencies which will include the Department of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, PEBA, and State Fleet operations.

Paste FY 2019-20 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
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AMOUNT	\$195,686
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What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount (minimum based on the FY 2019-20 recurring appropriations)? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.

ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS	No FTE's would be reduced. Any general fund reductions for staffing would be covered by other sources of funds.
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How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?

PROGRAM/ACTIVITY IMPACT	The CDEPP (4K) Program would be the only program impacted by a potential 3% general fund reduction. The total amount would be \$195,646. This program provides full day funding for 4-year-old kindergarten at private providers for children in low income families.
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What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY	<p>3% of the total amount of General Funds received by the organization in SFY 2019-20 would be \$6,522,877 X .03 = \$195,686. This consists of the following:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Classified Positions</td> <td>\$ 2,029</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Employer Contrib.</td> <td>\$ 891</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CDEPP</td> <td>\$192,766</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>\$195,686</td> </tr> </table> <p>These funds are allocated for the CDEPP Program for children. This could reduce the number of children that are served in the program and could affect up to 42 children.</p>	Classified Positions	\$ 2,029	Employer Contrib.	\$ 891	CDEPP	\$192,766	Total	\$195,686
Classified Positions	\$ 2,029								
Employer Contrib.	\$ 891								
CDEPP	\$192,766								
Total	\$195,686								

Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness		
AGENCY CODE:	H620	SECTION:	1

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS	<p>The agency is constantly evaluating ways to be more efficient and provide greater benefit to the people we serve. This includes working on quality of services, and working to keep costs as low as possible, while accomplishing our mission.</p>
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What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than \$50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?