THE GOVERNOR

Title 4—ADMINISTRATION

PART I. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE [4 PA. CODE CH. 6]

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-22]

Pennsylvania Early Learning Investment Commission

December 13, 2023

Whereas, the early learning, development, and education of young children is of critical importance to Pennsylvania's families, education system, workers, and employers; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania continues to increase its investment in early learning, development, and education programs, and has made steady progress to assure that more children receive quality early learning and development services; and

Whereas, the continued development of an effective sustainable system of early care and education is critical to Pennsylvania's future economic and workforce development; and

Whereas, the input, perspective, and support of business leaders is essential to the development of a successful early childhood system; and

Whereas, fostering public and private sector investment in continued economic growth by addressing the needs of and challenges faced by all families with children, especially the Commonwealth's low-income families with children, is essential to assure Pennsylvania's edge in the national and global marketplace; and

Whereas, connecting existing workforce development initiatives with early learning practices is educationally and economically beneficial for all people within Pennsylvania.

Now, Therefore, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws, do hereby reestablish the Pennsylvania Early Learning Investment Commission (hereafter referred to as the "Commission") and, further, order and direct as follows:



Fiscal Note: GOV-2023-22. No fiscal impact; recommends adoption.

Annex A

TITLE 4. ADMINISTRATION PART I. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

CHAPTER 6. ADDITIONAL COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Subchapter CCC. [Reserved]

§§ 6.651—6.659. [Reserved].

Subchapter YYY. PENNSYLVANIA EARLY LEARNING INVESTMENT COMMISSION

Sec.
6.961. Definitions.
6.962. Purpose.
6.963. Responsibilities.
6.964. Composition.
6.965. Term.
6.966. Compensation.

6.967. Relationship with other agencies.

6.968. Relationship with the Team Pennsylvania Foundation.

6.969. Implementation. 6.970. Effective date. 6.971. Termination date. 6.972. Rescission.

§ 6.961. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Commission—Pennsylvania Early Learning Investment Commission.

OCDEL—Office of Child Development and Early Learning.

§ 6.962. Purpose.

The purpose of the commission is to secure support for public and private-sector investment in early learning by focusing on practices that are educationally, economically and scientifically sound.

§ 6.963. Responsibilities.

The commission shall have all of the following responsibilities:

- (1) Make strategic recommendations for the Commonwealth to coordinate with business and civic leaders and organizations in early learning to plan and advocate for investment at the State and local level.
 - (2) Develop and recommend a plan and implementation strategy to:
- (i) Stabilize the early childcare workforce and increase access to affordable, available and accessible childcare for all families in this Commonwealth, regardless of income.
- (ii) Ensure the availability of universal pre-K for children in this Commonwealth.
- (iii) Expand the availability of all-day kindergarten in the public school districts and charter schools in this Commonwealth.
- (3) Develop and recommend strategies to increase business, civic and public awareness of the importance of early childhood education.
- (4) Make recommendations as to the planning, implementing and hosting of an annual economic summit on early childhood investment. The annual economic summit on early childhood investment shall include outreach to business, civic, educational and governmental leaders.
- (5) Make recommendations as to the planning and implementation of an annual meeting for legislators and legislative staff to assist them with understanding the economic, educational and social impact of investing in quality early childhood education.
- (6) Develop and recommend updates to a multi-year plan for the expansion of effective early childhood services.
- (7) Identify private sector financial support for early learning projects throughout this Commonwealth and match those funding sources with needs identified within the local community.
- (8) Identify and advocate for sustainable funding sources and early learning projects within a permanent sustainable network of private-sector and public-sector funding streams.
- (9) Consult or engage experts, economists, consultants, advisors or other personnel to assist with the commission's purpose and responsibilities.
- (10) Meet at least twice a year and at the call of the chairperson of the commission. Commission members may attend meetings in-person or virtually, or through a combination thereof, at the discretion of the chairperson. In-person or virtual participation shall be considered attendance for purposes of constituting a quorum.

§ 6.964. Composition.

- (a) *Members*. The commission shall consist of the following members:
- (1) The Secretary of the Budget or designee;

- (2) The Secretary of Policy and Planning or designee;
- (3) The Secretary of Community and Economic Development or designee;
- (4) The Secretary of Corrections or designee;
- (5) The Secretary of Education or designee;
- (6) The Secretary of Labor and Industry or designee;
- (7) The Secretary of Human Services or designee;
- (8) The Secretary of Health or designee;
- (9) The Deputy Secretary of the OCDEL or designee; and
- (10) High-level business executives, who collectively are diverse and represent the Commonwealth's population and the diversity of economic sectors and regions in this Commonwealth. These members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- (b) Chairperson of the commission. The Governor shall designate a chairperson and a vice-chairperson of the commission, or may designate two persons as co-chairpersons, from among the commission members. The chairperson and vice-chairperson, or co-chairpersons, shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and shall appoint members from the commission to a nominating committee, which nominating committee shall make recommendations to the Governor of the business executives for commission membership.

§ 6.965. Term.

Commission members appointed by the Governor, and not serving by virtue of their official position with the Commonwealth, shall serve for a term of 3 years and may continue to serve until their successor is appointed.

§ 6.966. Compensation.

Members of the commission shall not receive compensation for their service on the commission. Members may receive reimbursement for reasonable travel costs and related expenses incurred while performing commission business in accordance with Commonwealth policy.

§ 6.967. Relationship with other agencies.

Agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction shall cooperate with and provide assistance to the commission, as requested, to carry out the purpose and responsibilities as set forth in this subchapter.

§ 6.968. Relationship with the Team Pennsylvania Foundation.

The commission shall work jointly with the Team Pennsylvania Foundation in furtherance of their common mission, duties and responsibilities to develop and sustain educational opportunities in the Commonwealth, particularly early learning, development and education of young children.

§ 6.969. Implementation.

This subchapter shall be implemented consistent with applicable law. This subchapter is not intended to, and does not create, any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the Commonwealth, its departments, agencies or entities, its officers, employees or agents, or any other persons.

§ 6.970. Effective date.

This subchapter shall take effect immediately.

§ 6.971. Termination date.

This subchapter shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded by the Governor.

§ 6.972. Rescission.

Effective immediately, Executive Order 2017-05, dated December 20, 2017, is hereby rescinded.

(*Editor's Note*: 4 Pa. Code Chapter 6, Subchapter CCC, §§ 6.651—6.659, which is the codification of Executive Order 2017-05, is reserved as a result of the rescission of Executive Order 2017-05 under § 6.972.)

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