

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 357**HOUSE BILL NO. 1530****By Representatives Lois DeBerry, Maddox, Hardaway****Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1809****By Senators Tate, Marrero**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 1, relative to oversight of pre-kindergarten education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-109, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

§49-1-109. The office of education accountability shall coordinate a study of the effectiveness of pre-kindergarten programs authorized under §§ 49-6-103 — 49-6-110. Such study shall specifically assess the effectiveness of such pre-kindergarten programs on student achievement, both short term effects and long term effects. Effectiveness may be assessed by analyzing data, including test scores, readiness assessments, curriculum evaluations or other relevant data sources, gathered and maintained in a statistically valid manner. At a minimum student achievement shall be determined by analysis of:

(1) Data from norm-referenced test scores from standardized tests administered in grades kindergarten through two (K-2);

(2) Data from criterion-referenced test scores from standardized tests administered in grades three through five (3-5); and

(3) Variables related to student achievement, student demographic characteristics, pre-kindergarten program characteristics and elementary school characteristics.

The office is authorized to engage one (1) or more independent evaluators to assess the effectiveness of these programs.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 24, 2007



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 5th day of June 2007



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR