

From: Koh, Joyce <jkoh@wltx.com>
To: Adams, ChaneyChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov
Date: 5/11/2016 5:22:42 PM
Subject: RE: First steps

Thanks, Chaney.

From: Adams, Chaney [mailto:ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 4:52 PM
To: Koh, Joyce <jkoh@wltx.com>
Cc: Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>
Subject: Re: First steps

Quote from Haley press secretary Chaney Adams, "First Steps should be reformed so that it better serves the needs of South Carolina's youngest children. As a former legislator, the governor knows what's in a bill today may change during the legislative process - so the governor will review this when it arrives on her desk."

On Background:

Governor Haley's 2016 17 education agenda includes charting a new path for First Steps. This approach would preserve all programs currently in existence, but restructure overall governance to ensure adequate resources are available to provide fiscal and programmatic oversight. This path also uses the strengths of existing state programs to make early childhood education in South Carolina successful. The plan consists of three components:

- Restructuring county partnerships under the Children's Trust Fund of South Carolina, a quasi governmental non profit with a proven record as both a fiscal agent and proponent of children's issues.
- Consolidating 4 year old kindergarten under an early childhood division within the Department of Education, acting as both as a grantor and technical supporter of public and private 4L providers.
- Finally, Governor Haley would designate the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SC DHHS) as the lead agency for Babynet, but require a formal partnership to divide fiscal and programmatic responsibilities with the Department of Education

On May 11, 2016, at 2:52 PM, Koh, Joyce <jkoh@wltx.com> wrote:

Hey Chaney,

I never got a response from you on this.
That first steps bill passed out of Senate Education committee today.
There were debates on whether to reauthorize for 1 or 2 years.

Does the Governor support the program as it is currently structured?
Does she have any plans to veto the bill if it were to come to her desk as reauthorization for 1 year rather than 2?

Thank you,

Joyce

From: Koh, Joyce
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2016 4:03 PM
To: 'Adams, Chaney' <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>
Subject: First steps

Hey Chaney,

I'm doing a story on the first steps program bill (H.4774), which would implement the program for another two years.

I wanted to get a statement from the Governor on whether or not she plans on signing the bill into law if it passes the General Assembly.

Thanks,
Joyce