

**Amendment to LD 1715 Updated language on the Implementation Phase In**

Replace §7211 (1) with the following:

**1. Phase in Fiscal years 2020-21 to 2024-25** A school administrative unit shall apply to the department to begin providing early childhood special education and related services under this section beginning in fiscal year 2020-21 to 2024-2025. During the implementation phases, SAUs shall be expected to serve an increasing number of students with disabilities, reaching the target percentage of 15% of 3 to school-age 5 year olds within the SAU's catchment area . *Year 1: by 2020-2021 the SAU will serve at least 50% of the targeted percentage of the 4 year old children with disabilities ; Year 2 by 2021-2022the SAU will serve at least 75% of the targeted percentage of 4 year old children with disabilities. Year 3: by 2022-2023 the SAUs will serve 100% of the 4 year old children with disabilities in the catchment area; Year 4: by 2023-2024 the SAUs shall serve at least 50% of the 3 year old children with disabilities; Year 5: by 2024-2025 the SAUs shall serve all 3 year old children with disabilities in the catchment area. SAUs who operate 4 year old public preschool programs shall ensure that students with disabilities are able to access public preschool programs. Each SAU who operates a less- than- universal preschool program shall ensure that their procedures for selecting students provide for equitable access for students with disabilities.*

**Add to LD 1715 3. E. after** The commissioner shall provide reimbursement for the costs of early childhood special education services for eligible children provided by school administrative units during the implementation phase-in under subsection 1 and ongoing. <sup>100% of</sup> The intent is to keep CDS funding separate from EPS. The SAUs could become the providers in this system for Part B, Section 619 services on a regional basis, if appropriate.

**Amend Sec. A-3 Item #4 and #6 as follows:**

**4. Child Development Services System.** The Department of Education shall ensure that any transition issues relating to the elimination of the Child Development Services System during the \$ 6-year implementation phase-in period in Title 20-A, section 7211 and full elimination by July 1, 2025 are addressed.

**6. Certificates.** During the ~~first 3 years of the~~ implementation phase-in period under Title 20-A, section 7211, subsection 1, the Department of Education shall consider certificates for the provision of special education for birth to 5 years of age and 5 years of age to 20 years of age to be birth to 20 years of age certificates. The department shall provide support to school personnel to become certified.

**Amend Sec. B-14 1.A. as follows:**

A. The commissioner is responsible for developing and adopting rules necessary to carry out the provisions of ~~Part C~~ of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B, Section 619 and Part C, 20 United States Code, Section 1400 1431 et seq.