

S 317

PRE-K Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Jan 29, 2015

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jan 29, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/317>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** HI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Jan 29, 2015
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jan 29, 2015
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 29, 2015
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 29, 2015
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 29, 2015
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 29, 2015
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 29, 2015
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 29, 2015
Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN]	D · IN		Feb 10, 2015
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 27, 2015
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Mar 3, 2015
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 1, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 29, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 587	Related bill	Apr 29, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.

Providing Resources Early for Kids Act of 2015 or the PRE-K Act

Amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary of Education to award matching grants to enhance or improve state-funded preschool programs to states that: (1) have curricula aligned with state early learning standards; (2) use nationally-established, or better, best practices for class size and teacher-to-student ratios; (3) require each teacher to have at least an associate degree in early childhood education or a related field; (4) require such programs to operate for at least a full academic year; and (5) have a plan for meeting the requirement, within five years of receiving such grant, that teachers have at least a baccalaureate degree in early childhood education or have such degree in a related field, but have also completed specialized training in early childhood education.

Directs the Secretary to establish a competitive process for awarding grants to other states that demonstrate that they will meet such requirements within two fiscal years.

Prohibits state grantees from reducing their preschool or child care expenditures.

Requires states to give priority, in using grant funds, to preschool programs in communities with high concentrations of impoverished children.

Includes among grant uses: (1) increasing the qualifications of, and benefits provided to, teachers, teacher aides, and program directors; (2) decreasing class size and improving teacher-to-student ratios; (3) providing certain comprehensive services that support healthy child development; (4) extending program duration; (5) improving program monitoring and learning environments; and (6) providing classroom supplies or equipment.

Reserves funds for competitive grants to Indians for their preschool programs.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 29, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 29, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.