

Agency Name:	Education Oversight Committee		
Agency Code:	A850	Section:	4



Fiscal Year FY 2024-2025

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B1)</i>	For FY 2024-2025, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

NON-RECURRING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B2)</i>	For FY 2024-2025, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.



CAPITAL REQUESTS <i>(FORM C)</i>	For FY 2024-2025, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

PROVISOS <i>(FORM D)</i>	For FY 2024-2025, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Dana Yow	(803) 734-6164	danay@eoc.sc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Thomas Kaminer	(803) 737-0526	thomas.kaminer@admin.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2024-2025 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	<u>Agency Director</u>	<u>Board or Commission Chair</u>
SIGN/DATE:	 09/19/2023	 09/19/2023
TYPE/PRINT NAME:	Dana Yow, Executive Director	April Allen, EOC Board Chair

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Agency Name:	Education Oversight Committee
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BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	EIA Funding - additional staffing costs for Education Data Dashboard and mandated pay increases	0	0	0	394,022	394,022	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			0	0	0	394,022	394,022	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Agency Name:	Education Oversight Committee		
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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	1
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	EIA Funding - additional staffing costs for Education Data Dashboard and mandated pay increases
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	<p>General: \$0</p> <p>Federal: \$0</p> <p>Other: \$394,022</p> <p>Total: \$394,022</p>
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2024-2025? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>The funding supports the agency goals of achieving continuous and dramatic improvement in public education as well as improving, engaging, and supporting the public in improving educational outcomes. As part of its core mission, the EOC tracks specific performance measures that impact SC students and schools.</p> <p>Currently, the only areas to fill necessary gaps is <i>Other Operating</i> funds; reducing that section will significantly reduce the EOC's ability to provide public needs and services, which is a concern.</p>
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	<p>The requested budget increase of \$394,022 is the amount necessary to offset the salary and fringe of staff who are managing the Education Data Dashboard. FY2024 salaries for 3.5 FTEs is \$284,328 and fringe is \$109,694 for a total of \$394,022.</p>
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What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

Request: An increase of \$394,022 to offset additional staffing costs resulting from the addition of the Education Data Dashboard project and historical absorption of State-mandated increases

The EOC has received the same amount for operations (which includes personnel) since Fiscal Year 2014. No increase in funding has been requested by agency leadership.

The agency does not have the authority to earn income or raise revenue to offset increased needs. EOC’s funding source is Education Improvement Act (EIA) funds, which does not benefit from state annual agency budget allocations to offset mandated salary and fringe increases, which are funded with general fund appropriations. EOC must absorb these mandated increases from existing funds. To be prudent and fiscally cautious, the agency strives to set aside 10-15% of its operating budget carry forward in the event of statewide annual budget reductions.

- Since FY 2015, the EOC has absorbed \$98,025.20 in salary and related fringe associated with mandated salary increases (\$78,420.16 salary and \$19,605.04 fringe)
- Since FY 2015, the salary and related fringe of the Executive Director has increased by \$62,500 (\$50,000 salary and \$12,500 fringe).
- The combined EOC EIA absorption of both the Executive Director increases and mandated salary increases is \$160,525.20. See chart below provided by SC Department of Administration:

	Salary	Fringe (25%)	Total
General Increases:			
Fiscal Year			
2015	8,132.16	2,033.04	10,165.20
2017	15,146.00	3,786.50	18,932.50
2020	8,647.00	2,161.75	10,808.75
2022	11,758.00	2,939.50	14,697.50
2023	13,859.00	3,464.75	17,323.75
2024	20,878.00	5,219.50	26,097.50
Agency Head	50,000.00	12,500.00	62,500.00
Grand Total	128,420.16	32,105.04	160,525.20

FY 2024 current *Unclassified Leg Misc.* salaries are \$438,450 with an additional need to fill 2 vacancies at a combined \$125,000. Total estimate of \$563,450 while the budget line is \$350,000 (difference of \$213,450). With the addition of the Education Data Dashboard and the necessity to hire staff with specialized expertise, salaries for staff have increased. The current budget of the EOC, with estimated FY 2024 expenditures, is provided here:

**JUSTIFICATION
OF REQUEST**

Budget Acct	Budget Acct Title	FY 2024 Appropriation	FY 2024 DOA Adjusted Budget		FY 2024 Estimated Expenditures
501050	Taxable Subsistence (EOC)	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00		\$2,700.00
501070	Other Personal Serv (EOC)	\$140,000.00	\$180,000	**	\$150,000.00
598001	Exec. Dir. (EOC)	\$135,000.00	\$150,000.00		\$140,000.00
598002	Unclass Leg Misc (EOC)	\$350,000.00	\$545,000.00	***	\$563,450.00
598002	Unclass Leg Misc (Ed. Data Dashboard)				
512001	Other Operating (EOC)	\$946,242.00	\$576,242.00	*	\$638,701.00
512001	Other Operating (Ed. Data Dashboard)				
513000	Employer Contributions (EOC)	\$220,000.00	\$340,000.00		\$298,391.00
513000	Employer Contributions (Ed. Data Dashboard)				
TOTAL		\$1,793,242.00	\$1,793,242.00		\$1,793,242.00

*Department of Administration adjusted the EOC FY 2024 budget accounts to align to FY 2023 actual expenditures.

**Pursuant to FY 2024 proviso the EOC must transfer \$500,000 in quarterly installments to the South Carolina Autism Society leaving only \$76,242 for operational needs. NOTE: \$500,000 is for SC Autism Society, leaving \$138,701 for operational expenses. FY 2023 non-Dashboard operating expenses were \$652,779.00. Therefore, there is no availability for a 10-12 percent carry forward into FY 2025.

***Annualized FY 2024 salaries which include 2 vacancies projected at \$125,000.

The requested budget increase of \$394,022 is the amount necessary to offset the salary and fringe for the salaries of staff who manage the Education Data Dashboard. FY2024 salaries for 3.5 FTEs is \$284,328 and fringe is \$109,694 for a total of **\$394,022**.

Currently, the only areas to fill necessary gaps is *Other Operating* funds; reducing that section will significantly reduce the EOC's ability to provide public needs and services.

The appropriated funds for the Education Data Dashboard, given its unique purpose, are maintained in a unique account within the EOC, which is separate and distinct. The funds are on a separate line item and have a unique functional area within the EOC.

When the creation of the Education Data Dashboard was being considered for funding by the General Assembly, the EOC initially considered procuring the services of a vendor. The EOC conducted a Request for Information (RFI) and did a proof of concept with an outside vendor. Through a partnership with the SC Dept. of Administration, the EOC instead opted to bring the data visualization work in-house, using the skills of existing and new employees to build out the dashboard.

In FY 2023 of the \$3.5 million appropriated the EOC spent \$118,251.85 on salary/fringe and \$390,822.38 leaving \$2,991,125.77 to be carried forward into FY 2024. The \$3.5 million line, along with its carry forward, are separate and distinct from the EOC's base allocation.

Increasing the EOC administrative base, protecting the Dashboard employees' salary and fringe, could be offset by reducing the Dashboard's line-item appropriation. The EOC does plan to expand the functions of the Education Data Dashboard, integrating a Tableau Enterprise solution. The enhanced data management structure will allow dashboard access to be utilized by varied users in SC school districts. Given current cost estimates and staff capabilities, the agency can produce high quality data visualizations with a recurring annual appropriation of \$2 million.

FY 2024 current *Unclassified Leg Misc.* salaries are \$438,450 with an additional need to fill 2 vacancies at a combined \$125,000. Total estimate of \$563,450 while the budget line is \$350,000 (difference of \$213,450). With the addition of the Education Data Dashboard and the necessity to hire staff with specialized expertise, salaries for staff have increased. The current budget of the EOC, with estimated FY 2024 expenditures, is provided here:

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Education Oversight Committee		
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FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	1.91
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	SDE: Career Readiness Assessments
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Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	EIA
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	No
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Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2024-2025? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Delete
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	Department of Education
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	<p>The legislative intent of this proviso was exclusive to the 2022-23 school year.</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

**PROPOSED
PROVISO TEXT**

~~1.91. — (SDE: Career Readiness Assessments) For the current fiscal year, the Education Oversight Committee and the State Board of Education are directed to create a waiver form by which school districts and high schools may request an exemption from reporting student performance on the career readiness assessment for the 2022-23 school year only for students who are taking the career readiness assessment for the second time and when the career readiness assessment is different from the career readiness assessment the student took in 11th grade. The exemption form must be available for schools no later than July 31, 2023.~~

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

Agency Name:	Education Oversight Committee		
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FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	1A.26/1.47
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	SCDE-EIA: Full-Day 4K
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Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	EIA
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	No
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Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2024-2025? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	SC Department of Education, SC First Steps
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	<p>The current proviso language outlines the allocated monies and directive for the EOC to conduct an annual evaluation of full-day, State-funded 4K programs, also known as the South Carolina Early Reading Development and Education Program (CERDEP). Through the Education Data Dashboard, the EOC now visualizes potential gaps in service by county for four-year-olds, and the agency is only able to surface the data we have, which his related to CERDEP-funded programs. The landscape is larger, and students are served in half-day, EIA-funded programs, using federal funds, district funds, or in other capacities. Expanding the data collection in this proviso would allow for a more accurate reporting of four-year-olds in poverty served in formal education programs in SC public schools. Furthermore, attendance data from both First Steps and public school CERDEP programs would help the EOC determine which students received 4K with fidelity when evaluating later performance on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA).</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

Eligible students residing in any school district or attending any charter school authorized by the South Carolina Public Charter School District or an approved institution of higher education may participate in the South Carolina Early Reading Development and Education program (CERDEP) pending the availability of space and funding. Student eligibility as defined by Section 59-156-130 of the 1976 Code is an annual family income of one hundred eighty-five percent or less of the federal poverty guidelines as promulgated annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services or a statement of Medicaid eligibility.

A parent or guardian may choose to enroll their child in a public school participating in the program and approved by the Department of Education pursuant to Section 59-156-210 or in a private provider participating in the program and approved by the Office of First Steps pursuant to Section 59-156-200. A private provider includes, but is not limited to, a child care center, a military child care facility regulated by the United States Department of Defense, or a non-profit independent school. State funds appropriated for the provision of CERDEP services in military child care facilities may not be used to supplant existing federal child care funds. No school district can be denied participation in CERDEP or be denied CERDEP funding pursuant to the terms of this provision.

4K programs in public schools and non-profit independent schools participating in CERDEP are not required to be approved, registered, or licensed by the Department of Social Services in order to participate in CERDEP. Instead, the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps are responsible for ensuring that providers deliver high-quality educational programs pursuant to Section 59-156-160.

Public and private providers shall be funded for instructional costs at a minimum rate of \$5,100 per student enrolled. Eligible students enrolling during the school year or withdrawing during the school year shall be funded on a pro rata basis determined by the length of their enrollment. Private providers transporting eligible children to and from school shall also be eligible for reimbursement at a minimum of \$620 per eligible child transported. First Steps and the Department of Education must provide an equitable distribution above the minimum between public and private providers. First Steps and the Department of Education must provide a quarterly report beginning October 1 detailing funding above the minimum made to any provider to the Governor, the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. All providers who are reimbursed are required to retain records as required by their fiscal agent. New providers participating for the first time in the current fiscal year and enrolling between one and six eligible children shall be eligible to receive at a minimum of \$1,000 per child in materials and equipment funding, with providers enrolling seven or more such children eligible for funding at a minimum of \$10,000. The Department of Education and the Office of First Steps Readiness are authorized to utilize carry forward funds and federal funds to supplement the amount expended for materials and equipment. Providers receiving equipment funding are expected to participate in the program and provide high-quality, center-based programs as defined herein for a minimum of three years. Failure to participate for three years will require the provider to return a portion of the equipment allocation at a level determined by the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps to School Readiness. Funding to providers is contingent upon receipt of data as requested by the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps. The Department of Education shall only provide funding for public school students whose complete records have been entered into PowerSchool based on

**PROPOSED
PROVISO TEXT**

the one hundred and thirty-five day student average daily membership. For the current fiscal year, providers may enroll pay-lunch children who score at or below the twenty-fifth national percentile on two of the three DIAL-3 subscales by July 1 if at least seventy-five percent of the total number of children eligible or the Child Early Reading Development and Education Program in a district or county are projected to be enrolled in that program, Head Start, or ABC Child Care Program as determined by the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps, Child Early Reading Development and Education Program. Providers may receive reimbursement for these children if funds are available. The Department of Education is required to offer waivers allowing students with disabilities to be served in multi-categorical classroom settings based on similar cognition and abilities. Funding appropriated for CERDEP may be carried forward and expended for the same purpose.

Annually, the Department of Education is directed to audit the annual allocations to public providers to ensure that allocations are accurate and aligned to the appropriate pro rata per student allocation, materials, and equipment funding. In the event the department, during the audit process determines that the annual allocations of the prior fiscal year are not accurate, the department must adjust the allocations for the current fiscal year to account for the audit findings. The department must provide the results of the annual audit findings to the General Assembly no later than December first. Likewise, in the event the Office of First Steps determines that the annual allocations of the prior fiscal year to private providers are not accurate, the Office of First Steps must adjust the allocations for the current fiscal year to account for the findings.

Of the funds appropriated, \$300,000 shall be allocated to the Education Oversight Committee to conduct an annual evaluation of the South Carolina ~~Child Development Education Pilot Program~~ **Early Reading Development and Education Program (CERDEP)** and to issue findings in a report to the General Assembly by March first of each year. To aid in this evaluation, the Education Oversight Committee shall determine **and obtain** the data necessary and both public and private providers are required to submit the necessary data as a condition of continued participation in and funding of the program, **including average daily attendance data, so that consistent enrollment may be determined.** This data shall include developmentally appropriate measures of student progress. Additionally, the Department of Education shall issue a unique student identifier for each child receiving services from a **public or private provider including those funded by CERDEP, Head Start, SC Child Care Scholarships, EIA, Title I, district-funded, and all other federal, state or local public sources.** The Department of Education shall be responsible for the collection and maintenance of data on the public state funded full day and half-day four-year-old kindergarten programs. The Office of First Steps to School Readiness shall be responsible for the collection and maintenance of data on the state funded programs provided through private providers. The Education Oversight Committee shall use this data and all other collected and maintained data necessary to conduct a research-based review of the programs implementation and assessment of student success in the early elementary grades along with information, recommendations, and a timeline for how the state can increase the number of students served in high-quality programs. **To aid in the accurate reporting of four-year-olds in poverty served in formal education programs in public schools in SC, the Department of Education must provide to the EOC data related to four-year-olds served in formal education programs funded with other state, local, or federal funds including Title 1, and EIA-, District-funded programs, denoting full- or partial-day status.**

For eligible children residing in school districts that do not participate in CERDEP, the Department of Education is required to develop and implement inter-district transfer policies that give parents or guardians the option of their eligible child attending an out-of-district school that participates in CERDEP.

For the current fiscal year, the Office of First Steps may expend: (1) up to \$2,000,000 to pilot a program to provide higher reimbursement rates to high-quality providers. The reimbursement rate for students enrolled by child care providers rated B or higher in the ABC Quality System operated by the Department of Social Services may be increased by up to 10% of the per-student base following guidelines developed by the Office of First Steps; and (2) up to \$250,000 to provide one-time supplemental, needs-based incentive grants in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for newly created and/or newly approved private providers proposing to expand service to ten or more CERDEP eligible children in communities unable to enroll all eligible students in a public, private, or Head Start setting during the prior fiscal year. These grants are designed to address building renovations, documented as necessary to bring proposed classrooms into compliance with licensing regulations, materials and staffing costs, and/or other obstacles currently preventing their participation in the program. The First Steps Board of Trustees shall develop and approve an application process that incorporates formal review and fiscal safeguards designed to ensure grant funds are used solely to address documented barriers to program participation. Providers receiving this one-time supplement shall be expected to participate in the program and provide high-quality, center-based programs as defined herein for a minimum of three years. Failure to participate for three years shall require the provider to return a portion of the supplemental allocation at a level determined by the Office of First Steps to School Readiness. First Steps shall submit a report detailing its process, expenditures and expanded enrollment to the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee by March 15.

If by August first, the Department of Education or the Office of First Steps determines that appropriations will exceed expenditures, available funds may be used to fund an extended program and to increase the length of the program to a maximum of eight and a half hours per day or two hundred and twenty days per year or to fund summer programs. If a district chooses to fund summer enrollment, the program funding shall conform to the funding in this act for full year programs; however, it shall be reduced on a pro rata basis to conform with the length of the program. A summer program shall be no more than eight and a half hours per day and shall be not more than ten weeks in length. The per pupil allocation and classroom grant must conform with the appropriated amount contained in this act and end of year adjustments shall be based on the one hundred and thirty-five-day student average daily membership or later student average daily membership for districts choosing to extend the program past one hundred and eighty days. Funds may also be used to provide parent engagement, professional development, and quality evaluations of programs. No later than April first, the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps shall report to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee on the expenditure of these funds to include the following information: the amount of money used and specific steps and measures taken to enhance the quality of the 4K program and the amount of money used for professional development as well as the types of professional development offered and the number of participants. The Office of First Steps is directed to determine if the provision of extended programs in private centers improves the ability of parents to enter the workforce or to pursue postsecondary training or industry credentials.

On or before November 15, the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps shall share data that identifies the total number of children enrolled in CERDEP in both public and private providers. If available appropriations exceed the instructional costs of serving children enrolled in the program and if a waiting list of eligible children can be documented by the Department of Education and by the Office of First Steps, then the Executive Budget Office may authorize the transfer of funds between the Department of Education and the Office of First Steps.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

Agency Name:	Education Oversight Committee		
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FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	1A.45
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Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	SDE-EIA: Rural Teacher Recruiting Incentive
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Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	EIA
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Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.

RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	No
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Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2024-2025? If so, cite it here.

REQUESTED ACTION	Amend
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Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	SC Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement (CERRA), recipient of State funds within this proviso
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Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?

SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	<p>It has been recommended by multiple entities, including CERRA, that a third party conduct an evaluation of funds allocated per this proviso, determining the effectiveness of the monies in recruiting and retaining classroom educators in rural, underserved districts. Agency staff at the EOC agrees that the need is great, considering the State investment and the teacher vacancies.</p>
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Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

FISCAL IMPACT

Agency staff believes this evaluation can be conducted using agency resources.

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT

1A.45. (SDE-EIA: Rural Teacher Recruiting Incentive) (A) There is created a program within the South Carolina Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA) to recruit and retain classroom educators in rural and underserved districts experiencing excessive turnover of classroom teachers on an annual basis.

(B) During the current fiscal year CERRA shall publish eligibility requirements and applications for individual educators, school districts, and institutions of higher education not inconsistent with existing licensure requirements for each, but also including:

(1) Eligible districts identified by CERRA as experiencing greater than eleven percent average annual teacher turnover, as reported on the districts five most recent district report cards issued by the South Carolina Department of Education and are not one of the fifteen wealthiest districts based on the index of taxpaying ability, may make application to participate in the program.

(2) Individuals eligible for incentives shall be willing to provide instructional services in an eligible district in exchange for participation in an incentive detailed in item (C) of this section, pursuant to the obligations and restrictions stated for each.

(3) Institutions of higher education eligible to receive education funding as a component of recruiting incentives created pursuant to item (C) of this section shall not be excluded from participation in Teaching Fellows Program.

(4) Any incentives requiring individuals to relocate into an eligible district to provide instructional services shall not be made available to individuals providing instructional services in other eligible districts.

(C) Pursuant to item (A), CERRA shall develop a set of incentives including, but not limited to, salary supplements, education subsidies, loan forgiveness, professional development, and mentorship to be provided to classroom educators that offer instructional services in eligible districts and shall provide incentive options for eligible individuals at all stages of their careers, including high-school and college or university students interested in entering the teaching profession and including individuals entering the field through an alternative certification pathway to include, but not limited to, PACE, ABCTE, Teach for American, and CATE Work-Based Certification.

At a minimum, the incentives shall include:

(1) Development of a program for forgiveness of undergraduate student loans, not to exceed \$5,000 per year, for up to 7 years, for teachers participating in this incentive that achieve certification through an alternative pathway or who have a loan from an institution other than the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation or program other than the South Carolina Teachers Loan Program.

(2) Development of a forgivable loan program for individuals pursuing graduate coursework in furtherance of a teaching career, including enrollment in graduate-level coursework necessary to seek additional credentialing or certification relevant to the participants teaching practice, or individuals seeking an alternative pathway to certification as a teacher.

(3) Support for the establishment and maintenance of a teaching mentorship program,

including salary supplements for teaching mentors not to exceed \$2,500 per year.

(4) Other technical support and recruiting incentives as developed by CERRA in conjunction with the Department of Education and the Education Oversight Committee consistent with the objectives of this section.

(D) In addition to eligibility and application requirements, CERRA shall develop a process for recovering an amount equal to the incentives given to individual participants who fail to comply with the obligations associated with a relevant incentive in which they participate including, but not limited to, failure to complete a prescribed course of study, failure to obtain a relevant certification or licensure upon completion of a course of study, or failure to provide instructional services in an eligible district for a prescribed period of time.

(E) CERRA shall report by July thirty-first of the current fiscal year to the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House on the incentives developed pursuant to item (C) of this section and make recommendations for attracting and retaining high quality teachers in rural and underserved districts. The report shall contain at a minimum eligibility requirements and application processes for districts and individuals, descriptions of and proposed budgets for each incentive program and an analysis of the number and demographics of individuals potentially eligible for each.

(F) Funds appropriated or transferred for use in the Rural Teacher Recruiting Incentive may be carried forward from prior fiscal years and used for the same purpose.

The Education Oversight Committee is required to complete an evaluation of the impact of the funds and incentives related to the Rural Teacher Recruiting Incentive. A completed evaluation is due to the House Ways and Means Committee, the House Education Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Education Committee and the Governor's Office no later than December 15 of the current fiscal year.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

Agency Name:	Education Oversight Committee		
Agency Code:	A850	Section:	4

FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
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AMOUNT	\$0
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What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.

ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS	0
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How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?

PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT	<p>The agency receives no General Funds, so there would be no impact. Any reduction would occur in the agency's administrative budget.</p>
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What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY	<p>The EOC receives a base appropriation amount of \$1,293,242 of EIA revenues.</p> <p>Of this amount, Proviso 1.89 in the 2023-24 Appropriations Act directs the EOC to pilot an Education Dashboard; the agency received \$3,500,000 in EIA funds for that purpose.</p> <p>Pursuant to proviso 1A.41, \$500,000 is allocated to the SC Autism Society.</p> <p>Historically, the EOC annually sets aside 10 percent of the funds appropriated in a contingency fund to absorb any mid-year reduction in EIA revenues or to offset unexpected expenses. The EOC would use its contingency fund, provided these funds exist, to offset any shortfall in EIA revenues. The agency has asked for an increase of \$394,022 to offset the salary and fringe of staff who are managing the Education Data Dashboard, a project the EOC is managing inside the agency utilizing a partnership with the SC Department of Administration.</p> <p>The EOC does plan to expand the functions of the Education Data Dashboard, integrating a Tableau Enterprise solution. The enhanced data management structure will allow dashboard access to be utilized by varied users in SC school districts. Given current cost estimates and staff capabilities, the agency can produce high quality data visualizations with a recurring annual appropriation of \$2 million.</p>
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Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS

The agency already operates very efficiently and plans to continue this practice as the duties of the agency expand. Through a shared service arrangement with SC Department of Administration, the EOC has utilized existing state resources as well as current staff capacity.

The EOC does plan to bring on two FTEs to the agency – an additional Data Engineer will work exclusively with the Education Data Dashboard. A Communications Manager will work with the entire agency staff. Other cost savings measures include:

- All available space in our central office is now utilized as office space; we rent an empty office in the Brown Building for storage.
- Currently, the agency is reducing costs by procuring several evaluations using other state entities (IHEs) or utilizing the services of retired district superintendents.
- To further reduce costs, the agency contracted with the Department of Admin. to perform financial and reporting functions in Fiscal Year 2020-21. In early 2021, the EOC added Human Resources and Benefits services to its shared service agreement with Department of Administration. This shared service arrangement continues to reduce expenses by allowing staff to dedicate resources elsewhere.

What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than \$50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?

Agency Name:	Education Oversight Committee		
Agency Code:	A850	Section:	4

FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Shared Services: Finance, Accounting, Procurement, Human Resources, and Benefits Services
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	\$31,100
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What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:
	<input type="checkbox"/> Repeal or revision of regulations.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

METHOD OF CALCULATION	<p>The Department of Administration began providing finance and accounting services, procurement services, budgetary services to the EOC at an annual cost of \$30,600 in FY 2019-20. When the agency's parttime business manager resigned, the EOC did not believe that it could hire another parttime employee to perform these functions, and instead would have had to hire a fulltime employee, an Accountant/Fiscal Analyst I, at an estimated annual cost of \$61,700, which includes salary, fringe benefits and operating expenses. Therefore, the savings to the state are estimated at \$31,100.</p> <p>In October 2020, DOA agreed to add Human Resources and Benefits services to the EOC's shared service agreement at no additional cost to the agency. This Shared Service arrangement has been beneficial to the agency, allowing staff time to be devoted to other agency activities.</p>
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Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.

REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	The agency does not impose any fees or collect any revenues.
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Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?

REDUCTION OF REGULATION	The agency has never promulgated regulations.
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Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

	The projected savings and efficiencies are redirected by the EOC to fulfill its statutory mission
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SUMMARY

Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?