

Date: 3/9/25

To: Senate Education

From: Agency of Education and Department for Children and Families' Child Development Division

Re: Update to alternate approach to S. 214

The Agency of Education and Department for Children and Families share the goal of ensuring PreK access for children in the NEK Choice School District. We have met with representatives of the NEK Choice School District and believe the amendment to Vermont's Universal Prekindergarten Law below is the most efficient way to achieve that goal.

16 V.S.A. § 829. is amended to add:

(i) The NEK Choice School District may provide prekindergarten to eligible prekindergarten students by paying tuition to one or more prekindergarten program operated by a public school in New Hampshire that is located in a school district within 25 miles of the border with Vermont. The Essex North Supervisory Union shall be responsible for administering enrollment procedures and managing prekindergarten tuition payments as outlined in applicable law [this section] and State Board of Education rules. The superintendent may apply for and receive a waiver from the Agency of Education and Agency of Human Services of any rule provision that is impractical for the NEK Choice SD or the New Hampshire program by demonstrating that a substantially equivalent provision is offered.