



Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 30, 2023

TO: The Honorable Members of the Delaware General Assembly

FROM: Ann C. Fisher, Chairperson
GACEC

RE: **House Substitute 1 for House Bill No. 33 Funding for Pre-Kindergarten Special Education**

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed House Substitute (HS) 1 for House Bill (HB) No.33, which will increase funding for preschool children with disabilities who are not counted in "intensive" or "complex" by revising student ratios. The Act also consolidates the K-3 Basic Special Education Unit with the 4-12 Basic Special Education Unit, as the ratio is the same for each group. The bill differs from the original House Bill No. 33 in that it omits the Preschool 2 Basic Special Education Unit.

Council **continues to support** the proposed legislation as it provides additional funding for early intervention services. Early intervention has proven to be critical in improving outcomes for children with disabilities. It is our hope that this legislation will pass and be fully funded in order to improve services and supports for young children with special education needs.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our support. Please feel free to contact me or Pam Weir at the GACEC office should you have any questions.