

Executive Order
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Governor's Office

Subject: Early Learning Investment Commission

Number: 2008-08



Date:

By Direction of: Edward G. Rendell, Governor

September 11, 2008

WHEREAS, the early learning, development, and education of young children is of critical importance to Pennsylvania's families, education system, and employers; and

WHEREAS, in the last six years, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has increased its investment in early learning, development, and education programs, and has made steady progress to assure that more children receive quality early learning and development services; and

WHEREAS, the development of an effective system of early care and education is critical to Pennsylvania's future economic and workforce development; and

WHEREAS, the input and perspective of business leaders is essential to the development of a successful early childhood system.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Edward G. Rendell, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws of the Commonwealth do hereby establish the **Pennsylvania Early Learning Investment Commission** (hereafter referred to as the "Commission") and order and direct as follows:

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of the Commission is to secure support for public investment in early learning by focusing on practices that are educationally, economically, and scientifically sound.
2. **Powers and Duties.** The Commission will meet at least twice a year and will have the following powers and duties:
 - a. Recommending strategies for the Commonwealth to engage business and civic leaders and organizations in early learning planning and advocacy at the state and local level.
 - b. Increasing business, civic, and public awareness of the importance of early childhood education.
 - c. Planning, implementing, and hosting an Annual Economic Summit on Early Childhood Investment. The Annual Economic Summit will include outreach to business, civic, educational, and governmental leaders.
 - d. Planning and implementing an annual meeting for legislators and legislative staff to understand the economic educational and social impact of investing in quality early childhood education.

- e. Developing and recommending updates to a multi-year plan for the expansion of effective early childhood services.
- 3. Composition.** The Commission will consist of the following members, who collectively will be diverse and representative of the Commonwealth's population:
- a. Secretary of the Budget;
 - b. Secretary of Planning and Policy;
 - c. Secretary of Community and Economic Development;
 - d. Secretary of Education;
 - e. Secretary of Public Welfare;
 - f. Deputy Secretary of the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (hereafter referred to as "OCDEL");
 - g. Business leaders and business executives from the Commonwealth appointed by the Governor;
 - h. The Chair and Co-Chair of the Early Learning Council; and
 - i. The Director of the Pennsylvania Key.

The Governor will designate a Chair and a Vice-Chair or may designate two persons as Co-Chairs from among the Council Members. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

- 4. Term.** Commission Members appointed by the Governor and not serving by virtue of their official position with the Commonwealth, will serve for a term of three years and continue to serve until their successor is appointed. Members will serve without compensation except for payment of necessary and actual expenses incurred in attending meetings and in performing their duties and responsibilities as Council Members.
- 5. Relationship with other agencies.** OCDEL will provide staff and/or data support to the Commission. All Commonwealth agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction will cooperate with, provide assistance to, and review the recommendations of the Commission with respect to its purpose, powers and duties, as set forth in this Executive Order.
- 6. Effective date.** This Executive Order will take effect immediately.
- 7. Termination Date.** This Executive Order will remain in effect unless revised or rescinded by the Governor.