**Preschool Promise: Waiver Condition Discussion**

Background: HB 3380 allows for Preschool Promise providers to receive a waiver(s) for some of the requirements outlined in the bill. The bill states that a waiver may be granted if a program is *“maintaining progress toward quality; is anticipated for the first years of the preschool program only; and is granted for only one year at a time.”*

The Preschool Promise program was established on the principles that high-quality learning experiences can take place in a wide variety of settings and families should be able to choose the setting that works best for them and their child.

Because many of the conditions in HB 3380 are also standards within QRIS domains, we anticipate a number of waiver requests from providers who have not yet achieved a 4 – or 5-star rating. It is also likely that waiver requests will come from providers who have achieved a 4-or 5-star rating, but do not meet one of the Preschool Promise program standards.

A common theme in the feedback the Division received from the Ad Hoc Preschool Promise Advisory Committee and community engagement sessions was the need for *pathways* for providers to meet quality standards of the QRIS and the Preschool Promise program.

Supporting quality improvement, waivers serve as such a pathway for the mix of providers who are at varying stages in their quality improvement activities and will have varying need for waivers as they build capacity.

To establish a foundation for what conditions or expectations should be in place for each of the standards, the Committee may consider the following policy questions:

* What must a provider demonstrate ‘upfront’ to qualify for a waiver?

Asked differently,

* What is the “threshold” for a provider to be granted a waiver?
* Under what circumstances would a waiver be provided?

These, and similar policy questions are provided for the Committee’s discussion in the attached table.