



To: The Honorable Hugh K. Leatherman, Sr., Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable W. Brian White, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee
From: Georgia Mjartan, Director, SC First Steps to School Readiness
Date: January 11, 2018

RE: Technology Purchase Report Pursuant to Proviso 1.68

Proviso 1.68 of the General Appropriations Act for FY18 specifies that:

1.68. (SDE: First Steps 4K Technology) During the current fiscal year, South Carolina Office of First Steps to School Readiness is authorized to expend up to \$75,000 from the four-year-old kindergarten carry forward funds to purchase electronic devices for the administration of required school readiness assessments to children enrolled in the full-day 4K program in private centers in the current fiscal year. The State Office of First Steps may purchase one device, which would be the property of the Office of First Steps, for every ten centers serving children in the program. The regional coordinators who provide support to the centers shall coordinate the usage of the devices among the centers. First Steps shall provide a report documenting its technology and materials expenditures to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee no later than January 15, 2018.

First Steps is currently contracted to provide 4K services in 204 private, community- and faith-based settings. Pursuant to Proviso 1.68 it is our intent to purchase 20 laptop computer workstations at a projected cost of \$42,283. Our Regional 4K Coordinators will oversee the use of these devices, which will remain the property of SC First Steps.

We appreciate the General Assembly's support of this important classroom need. I invite you to contact me, as always, if you have any questions or concerns.

cc: Ken Wingate, Chair, SC First Steps to School Readiness Board of Trustees
Dr. Dan Wuori, Deputy Director, SC First Steps School to Readiness
Mark Barnes, Chief Financial/Operating Officer, SC First Steps to School Readiness
Martha Strickland, 4K Director, SC First Steps to School Readiness
Kenzie Riddle, House Ways and Means
Grant Gibson, Senate Education