



To: The Honorable Hugh K. Leatherman, Sr., Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable G. Murrell Smith, Jr., Chairman of the House Ways and Means
Committee
From: Georgia Mjartan, Director, SC First Steps
Date: January 14, 2020

RE: Technology Purchase Report Pursuant to Proviso 1.66

Proviso 1.66 of the General Appropriations Act for FY20 specifies that:

1.66. *(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 of the current fiscal year.*

First Steps is currently contracted to provide 4K services in 217 private, community- and faith- based settings. Pursuant to Proviso 1.66 we have purchased 21 desktop computer workstations at a cost of \$31,888. We have contracted with Dell for the installation of these computers during January 2020. Our 4K Coaches 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: David Morley, Chair, SC First Steps Board of Trustees
Mark Barnes, Director of Administration, SC First Steps
Martha Strickland, 4K State Director, SC First Steps
Kenzie Riddle, House Ways and Means
Grant Gibson, Senate Education