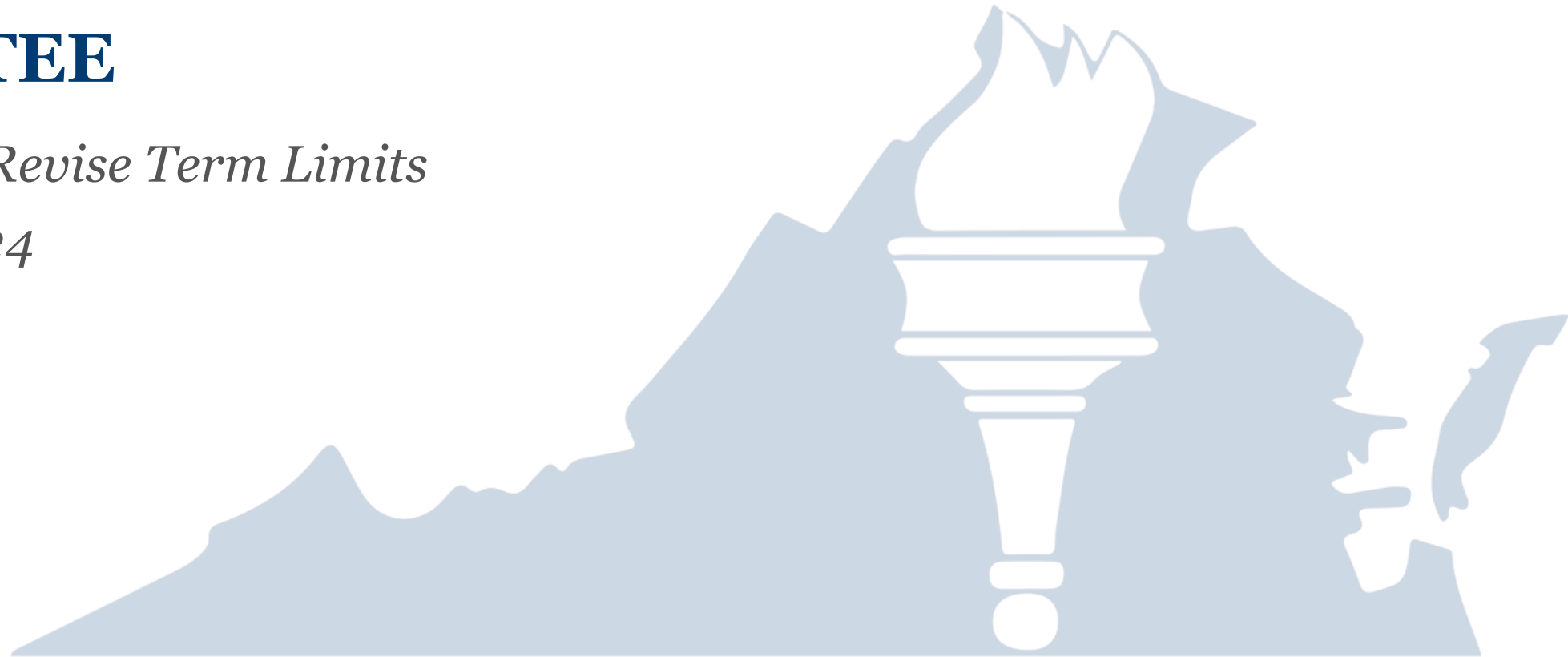


EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Proposal to Revise Term Limits

January 2024



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THE CHALLENGE: ALL TERMS ARE EXPIRING AT ONCE

All 22 members positions are set to expire at the same time. This presents three primary challenges:

1. The ECAC could simultaneously lose all institutional knowledge if all 22 members turn over.
2. The ECAC's ability to vote and conduct business could be compromised.
3. VDOE would be in the position of having to recruit for 22 positions simultaneously every 3 years.

ECAC TERM LIMITS

Here are the rules and requirements related to Committee membership, per the Board of Education bylaws and the *Code of Virginia*:

- Committee terms are set for 3 years.
- ECAC terms currently run from February 2021-June 2024 to coincide with other committee terms.
- Members can be re-appointed but cannot serve more than two consecutive terms.

SOLUTION: STAGGER TERM LIMITS

DECCE recommends staggering the advertisement of ECAC positions over the next three years. This would mean:

- 7-8 ECAC positions would be posted each year for the next three years:
 - Phase 1: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027
 - Phase 2: July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028
 - Phase 3: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029
- Members holding positions not advertised in a given year would remain in their position without re-applying until the position is posted again.
- Positions were randomly selected for each Phase while ensuring that categories with multiple representatives were never advertised at the same time.
- If a position becomes vacant prior to the proposed date of advertisement, the position will be advertised to correspond with the appropriate Phase.

RECOMMENDED STAGGERED TERMS

Phase 1: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027	Phase 2: July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028	Phase 3: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029
Publicly-funded, licensed ECCE providers (for profit)	Publicly-funded, licensed ECCE providers (non-profit)	License-exempt ECCE providers (religious-exempt) (2 of 2)
Publicly-funded FDH	ECCE providers that are not publicly funded**	Nonprofit ECCE advocacy organizations (2 of 2)
License-exempt ECCE providers (religious-exempt) (1 of 2)	Head Start (school-based)	Virginia Council for Private Education
Head Start (NOT school-based) (1 of 2)*	Local school divisions or school boards that operate early childhood programs (2 of 2)	Head Start (NOT school-based) (2 of 2)
Local school divisions or school boards that operate early childhood programs (1 of 2)	Nonprofit ECCE advocacy organizations (1 of 2)	Statewide nonprofit association representing before- and after-school nonprofit child care and preschool providers
Professional or faculty member with expertise in early childhood from a college or university in Virginia (1 of 2)	Professional or faculty member with expertise in early childhood from a college or university in Virginia (2 of 2)	Business owners, operators, and employees in Virginia
Nonprofit entity that provides child care resource and referral services	Advocacy or service organization for children with disabilities	Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Parents with children enrolled in publicly-funded ECCE programs		

Note: each cell represents one member.

**Denotes position is currently held by the ECAC chair.*

***Denotes position is currently held by the ECAC vice-chair.*

BENEFITS OF STAGGERED TERM LIMITS

Implementation of the staggered term limits will:

- Ensure membership represents geographically diverse areas across the Early Childhood Care and Education sector.
- Ensure the Committee is able to establish a quorum to conduct business using Robert's Rules of Order.
- Streamline ECAC vacancies announcements to increase outreach to the field and nominations submitted to the Board.
- Decrease the length of time a position is vacant.