

~~Strikethrough print~~ represents text which has been deleted.

***Bold and italicized print*** represents text which has been added or modified.

## **Resolution**

### Early Learning

Delta Council is encouraged by the emphasis placed on early childhood learning in the State and specifically the Mississippi Delta. The brain gains more than 75% of its emotional and intellectual development before the First Grade, and studies confirm that students who begin their formal education without adequate early childhood education rarely catch up with their peers.

Delta Council applauds the early efforts of business leaders who joined together 15 years ago to work through the Delta Early Learning Leadership Initiative (DELLI). This collaboration between Delta Council leaders, Delta Health Alliance, Children's Defense Fund, Mississippi State University Institute for Early Childhood Development, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation provided focus and policy goals for achieving a better delivery system for early childhood efforts in the Delta.

Delta Council is encouraged by steps taken by State officials to establish early childhood programs, and we encourage State policymakers, the Mississippi Department of Education, and others to consider the successful early childhood models of in the Delta that have been used by Delta Health Alliance as they continue efforts in our region with particular emphasis on their work in the Indianola Promise Community and Deer Creek Promise Community, modeled after the groundbreaking work of the Harlem Children's Zone.

Adopted by: Delta Council Board of Directors  
June 1, 2018

