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By Jimmy DeButts Staff

## **Alabama gets thumbs up for pre-K funding**

A national pre-kindergarten advocacy group has recognized Alabama's increase in pre-K funding.

Pre-K Now, based in Washington, D.C., applauds Alabama's 68 percent boost in pre-k funding for 2009 in its report, VOTES Count: Legislative Action on Pre-K Fiscal Year 2009. Alabama has one of 23 pre-k programs in the United States that will receive pre-K funding boosts in 2009. The state led the nation in funding percentage increase.

"Despite these difficult economic times, we applaud our state lawmakers and Gov. (Bob) Riley for acting wisely to increase the investments in high-quality, voluntary pre-kindergarten programs in the face of declining revenues and rising deficits," said Linda Tilly, executive director of VOICES for Alabama's Children.

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