

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to early learning and early grade
3 success; amending s. 20.055, F.S.; conforming
4 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
5 20.15, F.S.; deleting the Office of Early Learning
6 from within the Office of Independent Education and
7 Parental Choice of the Department of Education;
8 establishing the Division of Early Learning within the
9 department; amending s. 39.202, F.S.; conforming
10 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
11 39.604, F.S.; revising approved child care or early
12 education settings for the placement of certain
13 children; conforming a cross-reference to changes made
14 by the act; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; providing that
15 certain curricula are exempt from specified taxes;
16 amending s. 216.136, F.S.; revising the duties of the
17 Early Learning Programs Estimating Conference;
18 requiring the department, rather than the Office of
19 Early Learning, to provide specified information to
20 the conference or its principals; amending ss. 383.14,
21 391.308, and 402.26, F.S.; conforming provisions and
22 cross-references to changes made by the act;
23 transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 402.281,
24 F.S.; revising the requirements of the Gold Seal
25 Quality Care program; requiring the State Board of

26 Education to adopt specified rules; revising
27 accrediting association requirements; providing
28 requirements for accrediting associations; requiring
29 the department to adopt a specified process; providing
30 requirements for such process; deleting a requirement
31 for the department to consult certain entities for
32 specified purposes; providing requirements for certain
33 providers to maintain Gold Seal Quality Care status;
34 providing exemptions to certain ad valorem taxes;
35 providing rate differentials to certain providers;
36 providing for a type two transfer of the Gold Seal
37 Quality Care program in the Department of Children and
38 Families to the Department of Education; providing for
39 the continuation of certain contracts and interagency
40 agreements; amending s. 402.305, F.S.; providing
41 requirements for minimum child care licensing
42 standards; requiring such standards adopted after a
43 specified date to be ratified by the Legislature;
44 revising requirements relating to staff trained in
45 cardiopulmonary resuscitation; amending s. 402.315,
46 F.S.; conforming a cross-reference to changes made by
47 the act; amending s. 402.56, F.S.; revising the
48 membership of the Children and Youth Cabinet; amending
49 ss. 411.226, 411.227, 414.295, 1000.01, 1000.02,
50 1000.03, 1000.04, 1000.21, 1001.02, 1001.03, 1001.10,

51 and 1001.11, F.S.; conforming provisions and cross-
52 references to changes made by the act; repealing s.
53 1001.213, F.S., relating to the Office of Early
54 Learning; amending ss. 1001.215, 1001.23, 1001.70,
55 1001.706, 1002.22, 1002.32, 1002.34, and 1002.36 F.S.;
56 conforming provisions and cross-references to changes
57 made by the act; amending s. 1002.53, F.S.; requiring
58 students enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten
59 Education Program to participate in a specified
60 screening and progress monitoring program; amending s.
61 1002.55, F.S.; authorizing certain child development
62 programs operating on a military installment to be
63 private prekindergarten providers within the Voluntary
64 Prekindergarten Education Program; providing that a
65 private prekindergarten provider is ineligible for
66 participation in the program under certain
67 circumstances; revising requirements a prekindergarten
68 instructor must meet; revising requirements for
69 specified courses for prekindergarten instructors;
70 providing liability insurance requirements for child
71 development programs operating on a military
72 installment participating in the program; requiring
73 early learning coalitions to verify private
74 prekindergarten provider compliance with specified
75 provisions; requiring such coalitions to remove a

76 providers eligibility under specified circumstances;
77 amending s. 1002.57, F.S.; revising the minimum
78 standards for a credential for certain prekindergarten
79 directors; amending s. 1002.59, F.S.; revising
80 requirements for emergent literacy and performance
81 standards training courses for prekindergarten
82 instructors; requiring the department to make certain
83 courses available; amending s. 1002.61, F.S.;
84 authorizing certain child development programs
85 operating on a military installment to be private
86 prekindergarten providers within the summer Voluntary
87 Prekindergarten Education Program; revising the
88 criteria for a teacher to receive priority for the
89 summer program in school district; requiring a child
90 development programs operating on a military
91 installment to comply with specified criteria;
92 requiring early learning coalitions to verify
93 specified information; providing for the removal of a
94 program provider from eligibility under certain
95 circumstances; amending s. 1002.63, F.S.; requiring
96 school districts to verify specified information;
97 providing for the removal of public school program
98 providers from the program under certain
99 circumstances; amending s. 1002.67, F.S.; revising the
100 performance standards for the Voluntary

101 Prekindergarten Education Program; requiring the
102 department to review and revise performance standards
103 on a specified schedule; revising curriculum
104 requirements for the program; requiring the department
105 to adopt procedures for the review and approval of
106 curricula for the program; deleting a required
107 preassessment and postassessment for the program;
108 creating s. 1002.68, F.S.; requiring providers of the
109 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program to
110 participate in a specified screening and progress
111 monitoring program; providing specified uses for the
112 results of such program; requiring certain portions of
113 the screening and progress monitoring program to be
114 administered by individuals who meet specified
115 criteria; requiring the results of specified
116 assessments to be reported to the parents of
117 participating students; providing requirements for
118 such assessments; providing department duties and
119 responsibilities relating to such assessments;
120 providing requirements for a specified methodology
121 used to calculate the results of such assessments;
122 requiring the department to establish a grading system
123 for program providers; providing for the adoption of a
124 minimum performance metric or grade for program
125 participation; providing procedures for a provider

126 | whose score or grade falls below the minimum
127 | requirement; providing for the revocation of program
128 | eligibility for a provider; authorizing the department
129 | to grant good cause exemptions to providers under
130 | certain circumstances; providing department and
131 | provider requirements for such exemptions; repealing
132 | s. 1002.69, F.S., relating to Statewide kindergarten
133 | screening and readiness rates; amending ss. 1002.71
134 | and 1002.72, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes
135 | made by the act; amending s. 1002.73, F.S.; requiring
136 | the department to adopt a statewide provider contract;
137 | requiring such contract to be published on the
138 | department's website; providing requirements for such
139 | contract; prohibiting providers from offering services
140 | during an appeal of termination from the program;
141 | providing applicability; requiring the department to
142 | adopt specified procedures relating to the Voluntary
143 | Prekindergarten Education Program; providing duties of
144 | the department relating to such program; repealing s.
145 | 1002.75, F.S., relating to the powers and duties of
146 | the Office of Early Learning; repealing s. 1002.77,
147 | F.S., relating to the Florida Early Learning Advisory
148 | Council; amending ss. 1002.79 and 1002.81, F.S.;
149 | conforming provisions and cross-references to changes
150 | made by the act; amending s. 1002.82, F.S.; providing

151 duties of the department relating to early learning;
152 exempting certain child development programs operating
153 on a military installment from specified inspection
154 requirements; requiring the department to monitor
155 specified standards and benchmarks for certain
156 purposes; requiring the department to provide
157 specified technical support; revising requirements for
158 a specified assessment program; requiring the
159 department to adopt requirements to make certain
160 contracted slots available to serve specified
161 populations; requiring the department to adopt
162 procedures for the merging of early learning
163 coalitions; amending s. 1002.83, F.S.; revising the
164 number of authorized early learning coalitions;
165 revising the number of and requirements for members of
166 an early learning coalition; revising requirements for
167 such coalitions; amending s. 1002.84, F.S.; revising
168 early learning coalition responsibilities and duties;
169 revising requirements for the waiver of specified
170 copayments; amending s. 1002.85, F.S.; conforming
171 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
172 1002.88, F.S.; authorizing certain child development
173 programs operating on military installations to
174 participate in the school readiness program; revising
175 requirements to deliver such program; providing that a

176 specified annual inspection for a child development
177 program participating in the school readiness program
178 meets certain provider requirements; providing
179 requirements for a child development program to meet
180 certain liability requirements; amending ss. 1002.89,
181 1002.895, 1002.91, 1002.92, 1002.93, and 1002.94,
182 F.S.; conforming provisions and cross-references to
183 changes made by the act; amending ss. 1002.95,
184 1002.96, 1002.97, 1002.995, 1003.575, and 1007.01,
185 F.S.; conforming provisions and cross-references to
186 changes made by the act; creating s. 1008.2125, F.S.;
187 creating the coordinated screening and progress
188 monitoring program within the department for specified
189 purposes; requiring the Commissioner of Education to
190 design such program; providing requirements for the
191 administration of such program and the use of results
192 from the program; providing requirements for the
193 commissioner; creating the Early Grade Success
194 Advisory Committee; providing duties of the committee;
195 providing membership of the committee; requiring the
196 committee to elect a chair and a vice chair; providing
197 requirements for such appointments; providing for per
198 diem for members of the committee; providing meeting
199 requirements for the committee; providing for a quorum
200 of the committee; amending s. 1008.25, F.S.;

201 authorizing certain students who enrolled in the
 202 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program to receive
 203 intensive reading interventions using specified funds;
 204 amending ss. 1008.31, 1008.32, and 1008.33, F.S.;
 205 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
 206 amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the research-based
 207 reading instruction allocation to authorize the use of
 208 such funds for certain intensive reading interventions
 209 for certain students; providing an effective date.

210

211 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

212

213 Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (1) of
 214 section 20.055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

215 20.055 Agency inspectors general.—

216 (1) As used in this section, the term:

217 (a) "Agency head" means the Governor, a Cabinet officer,
 218 or a secretary or executive director as those terms are defined
 219 in s. 20.03, the chair of the Public Service Commission, the
 220 Director of the Office of Insurance Regulation of the Financial
 221 Services Commission, the Director of the Office of Financial
 222 Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, the board of
 223 directors of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, ~~the~~
 224 ~~executive director of the Office of Early Learning,~~ and the
 225 Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court.

226 (d) "State agency" means each department created pursuant
 227 to this chapter and the Executive Office of the Governor, the
 228 Department of Military Affairs, the Fish and Wildlife
 229 Conservation Commission, the Office of Insurance Regulation of
 230 the Financial Services Commission, the Office of Financial
 231 Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, the Public
 232 Service Commission, the Board of Governors of the State
 233 University System, the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, ~~the~~
 234 ~~Office of Early Learning,~~ and the state courts system.

235 Section 2. Paragraphs (c) through (j) of subsection (3) of
 236 section 20.15, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs
 237 (d) through (k), respectively, present paragraph (i) of
 238 subsection (3) and subsection (5) are amended, and a new
 239 paragraph (c) is added to subsection (3) of that section, to
 240 read:

241 20.15 Department of Education.—There is created a
 242 Department of Education.

243 (3) DIVISIONS.—The following divisions of the Department
 244 of Education are established:

245 (c) Division of Early Learning.

246 (j)-(i) The Office of Independent Education and Parental
 247 Choice, which must include ~~the following offices:~~

248 ~~1. The Office of Early Learning, which shall be~~
 249 ~~administered by an executive director who is fully accountable~~
 250 ~~to the Commissioner of Education. The executive director shall,~~

251 ~~pursuant to s. 1001.213, administer the early learning programs,~~
252 ~~including the school readiness program and the Voluntary~~
253 ~~Prekindergarten Education Program at the state level.~~

254 ~~2.~~ the Office of K-12 School Choice, which shall be
255 administered by an executive director who is fully accountable
256 to the Commissioner of Education.

257 (5) POWERS AND DUTIES.—The State Board of Education and
258 the Commissioner of Education shall assign to the divisions such
259 powers, duties, responsibilities, and functions as are necessary
260 to ensure the greatest possible coordination, efficiency, and
261 effectiveness of education for students in Early Learning-20 K-
262 ~~20~~ education under the jurisdiction of the State Board of
263 Education.

264 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
265 39.202, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

266 39.202 Confidentiality of reports and records in cases of
267 child abuse or neglect.—

268 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4), access to such
269 records, excluding the name of, or other identifying information
270 with respect to, the reporter which shall be released only as
271 provided in subsection (5), shall be granted only to the
272 following persons, officials, and agencies:

273 (a) Employees, authorized agents, or contract providers of
274 the department, the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons
275 with Disabilities, the Department of Education ~~Office of Early~~

276 ~~Learning,~~ or county agencies responsible for carrying out:
 277 1. Child or adult protective investigations;
 278 2. Ongoing child or adult protective services;
 279 3. Early intervention and prevention services;
 280 4. Healthy Start services;
 281 5. Licensure or approval of adoptive homes, foster homes,
 282 child care facilities, facilities licensed under chapter 393,
 283 family day care homes, providers who receive school readiness
 284 funding under part VI of chapter 1002, or other homes used to
 285 provide for the care and welfare of children;
 286 6. Employment screening for caregivers in residential
 287 group homes; or
 288 7. Services for victims of domestic violence when provided
 289 by certified domestic violence centers working at the
 290 department's request as case consultants or with shared clients.
 291
 292 Also, employees or agents of the Department of Juvenile Justice
 293 responsible for the provision of services to children, pursuant
 294 to chapters 984 and 985.
 295 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section
 296 39.604, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 297 39.604 Rilya Wilson Act; short title; legislative intent;
 298 child care; early education; preschool.—
 299 (5) EDUCATIONAL STABILITY.—Just as educational stability
 300 is important for school-age children, it is also important to

301 minimize disruptions to secure attachments and stable
 302 relationships with supportive caregivers of children from birth
 303 to school age and to ensure that these attachments are not
 304 disrupted due to placement in out-of-home care or subsequent
 305 changes in out-of-home placement.

306 (b) If it is not in the best interest of the child for him
 307 or her to remain in his or her child care or early education
 308 setting upon entry into out-of-home care, the caregiver must
 309 work with the case manager, guardian ad litem, child care and
 310 educational staff, and educational surrogate, if one has been
 311 appointed, to determine the best setting for the child. Such
 312 setting may be a child care provider that receives a Gold Seal
 313 Quality Care designation pursuant to s. 1002.945 ~~s. 402.281~~, a
 314 ~~provider participating in a quality rating system~~, a licensed
 315 child care provider, a public school provider, or a license-
 316 exempt child care provider, including religious-exempt and
 317 registered providers, and nonpublic schools.

318 Section 5. Paragraph (m) of subsection (5) of section
 319 212.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320 212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and
 321 storage tax; specified exemptions.—The sale at retail, the
 322 rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the
 323 storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following
 324 are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this
 325 chapter.

326 (5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE.—

327 (m) Educational materials purchased by certain child care
 328 facilities.—Educational materials, such as glue, paper, paints,
 329 crayons, unique craft items, scissors, books, ~~and~~ educational
 330 toys, and curricula, purchased by a child care facility that
 331 meets the standards delineated in s. 402.305, is licensed under
 332 s. 402.308, holds a current Gold Seal Quality Care designation
 333 pursuant to s. 1002.945 ~~s. 402.281~~, and provides basic health
 334 insurance to all employees are exempt from the taxes imposed by
 335 this chapter. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "basic
 336 health insurance" shall be defined and promulgated in rules
 337 developed jointly by the Department of Education ~~Children and~~
 338 ~~Families~~, the Agency for Health Care Administration, and the
 339 Financial Services Commission.

340 Section 6. Subsection (8) of section 216.136, Florida
 341 Statutes, is amended to read:

342 216.136 Consensus estimating conferences; duties and
 343 principals.—

344 (8) EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS ESTIMATING CONFERENCE.—

345 (a) The Early Learning Programs Estimating Conference
 346 shall develop estimates and forecasts by county of the
 347 unduplicated count of children eligible for the school readiness
 348 program in accordance with the standards of eligibility
 349 established in s. 1002.87 and of children eligible for the
 350 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program in accordance with

351 s. 1002.53(2); review and verify the procedures and data used by
352 the Department of Education for the adoption of the prevailing
353 market rate schedule under s. 1002.895; determine base payment
354 rates and the application of legislatively approved
355 differentials under part VI of chapter 1002 by county, care
356 level, and provider type that ensure reasonable access to
357 quality early learning settings in each county and that shall be
358 implemented by each early learning coalition and used in any
359 school readiness program funding formula; verify all data
360 sources and calculations used to determine funding
361 recommendations by county for the school readiness program and
362 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program before
363 submission of any legislative budget request; and meet at least
364 biennially, as the conference determines are needed to support
365 the state planning, budgeting, and appropriations processes.

366 (b) The department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ shall provide
367 any reasonably related information for the conference or its
368 principals to be able to complete the duties listed in paragraph
369 (a) ~~on needs and waiting lists~~ for school readiness programs,
370 and ~~information on the needs for~~ the Voluntary Prekindergarten
371 Education Program, as requested by the Early Learning Programs
372 Estimating Conference or individual conference principals in a
373 timely manner.

374 Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and paragraph
375 (b) of subsection (2) of section 383.14, Florida Statutes, are

376 amended to read:

377 383.14 Screening for metabolic disorders, other hereditary
378 and congenital disorders, and environmental risk factors.-

379 (1) SCREENING REQUIREMENTS.-To help ensure access to the
380 maternal and child health care system, the Department of Health
381 shall promote the screening of all newborns born in Florida for
382 metabolic, hereditary, and congenital disorders known to result
383 in significant impairment of health or intellect, as screening
384 programs accepted by current medical practice become available
385 and practical in the judgment of the department. The department
386 shall also promote the identification and screening of all
387 newborns in this state and their families for environmental risk
388 factors such as low income, poor education, maternal and family
389 stress, emotional instability, substance abuse, and other high-
390 risk conditions associated with increased risk of infant
391 mortality and morbidity to provide early intervention,
392 remediation, and prevention services, including, but not limited
393 to, parent support and training programs, home visitation, and
394 case management. Identification, perinatal screening, and
395 intervention efforts shall begin prior to and immediately
396 following the birth of the child by the attending health care
397 provider. Such efforts shall be conducted in hospitals,
398 perinatal centers, county health departments, school health
399 programs that provide prenatal care, and birthing centers, and
400 reported to the Office of Vital Statistics.

401 (b) Postnatal screening.—A risk factor analysis using the
402 department's designated risk assessment instrument shall also be
403 conducted as part of the medical screening process upon the
404 birth of a child and submitted to the department's Office of
405 Vital Statistics for recording and other purposes provided for
406 in this chapter. The department's screening process for risk
407 assessment shall include a scoring mechanism and procedures that
408 establish thresholds for notification, further assessment,
409 referral, and eligibility for services by professionals or
410 paraprofessionals consistent with the level of risk. Procedures
411 for developing and using the screening instrument, notification,
412 referral, and care coordination services, reporting
413 requirements, management information, and maintenance of a
414 computer-driven registry in the Office of Vital Statistics which
415 ensures privacy safeguards must be consistent with the
416 provisions and plans established under chapter 411, Pub. L. No.
417 99-457, and this chapter. Procedures established for reporting
418 information and maintaining a confidential registry must include
419 a mechanism for a centralized information depository at the
420 state and county levels. The department shall coordinate with
421 existing risk assessment systems and information registries. The
422 department must ensure, to the maximum extent possible, that the
423 screening information registry is integrated with the
424 department's automated data systems, including the Florida On-
425 line Recipient Integrated Data Access (FLORIDA) system. Tests

426 and screenings must be performed by the State Public Health
 427 Laboratory, in coordination with Children's Medical Services, at
 428 such times and in such manner as is prescribed by the department
 429 after consultation with the Genetics and Newborn Screening
 430 Advisory Council and the Department of Education ~~Office of Early~~
 431 ~~Learning~~.

432 (2) RULES.—

433 (b) After consultation with the Department of Education
 434 ~~Office of Early Learning~~, the department shall adopt and enforce
 435 rules requiring every newborn in this state to be screened for
 436 environmental risk factors that place children and their
 437 families at risk for increased morbidity, mortality, and other
 438 negative outcomes.

439 Section 8. Paragraph (h) of subsection (2) of section
 440 391.308, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

441 391.308 Early Steps Program.—The department shall
 442 implement and administer part C of the federal Individuals with
 443 Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which shall be known as the
 444 "Early Steps Program."

445 (2) DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT.—The department shall:

446 (h) Promote interagency cooperation and coordination, with
 447 the Medicaid program, the Department of Education program
 448 pursuant to part B of the federal Individuals with Disabilities
 449 Education Act, and programs providing child screening such as
 450 the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System, ~~the Office~~

451 ~~of Early Learning,~~ Healthy Start, and the Help Me Grow program.

452 1. Coordination with the Medicaid program shall be
453 developed and maintained through written agreements with the
454 Agency for Health Care Administration and Medicaid managed care
455 organizations as well as through active and ongoing
456 communication with these organizations. The department shall
457 assist local program offices to negotiate agreements with
458 Medicaid managed care organizations in the service areas of the
459 local program offices. Such agreements may be formal or
460 informal.

461 2. Coordination with education programs pursuant to part B
462 of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act shall
463 be developed and maintained through written agreements with the
464 Department of Education. The department shall assist local
465 program offices to negotiate agreements with school districts in
466 the service areas of the local program offices.

467 Section 9. Subsection (6) of section 402.26, Florida
468 Statutes, is amended to read:

469 402.26 Child care; legislative intent.—

470 ~~(6) It is the intent of the Legislature that a child care~~
471 ~~facility licensed pursuant to s. 402.305 or a child care~~
472 ~~facility exempt from licensing pursuant to s. 402.316, that~~
473 ~~achieves Gold Seal Quality status pursuant to s. 402.281, be~~
474 ~~considered an educational institution for the purpose of~~
475 ~~qualifying for exemption from ad valorem tax pursuant to s.~~

476 ~~196.198.~~

477 Section 10. Section 402.281, Florida Statutes, is
478 transferred, renumbered as section 1002.945, Florida Statutes,
479 and amended to read:

480 1002.945 ~~402.281~~ Gold Seal Quality Care program.—

481 (1) (a) There is established within the department the Gold
482 Seal Quality Care Program.

483 (b) A child care facility, large family child care home,
484 or family day care home that is accredited by an accrediting
485 association approved by the department under subsection (3) and
486 meets all other requirements shall, upon application to the
487 department, receive a separate "Gold Seal Quality Care"
488 designation.

489 (2) The State Board of Education ~~department~~ shall adopt
490 rules establishing Gold Seal Quality Care accreditation
491 standards using nationally recognized accrediting standards and
492 input from accrediting associations ~~based on the applicable~~
493 ~~accrediting standards of the National Association for the~~
494 ~~Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the National Association of~~
495 ~~Family Child Care, and the National Early Childhood Program~~
496 ~~Accreditation Commission.~~

497 (3) (a) In order to be approved by the department for
498 participation in the Gold Seal Quality Care program, an
499 accrediting association must apply to the department and
500 demonstrate that it:

- 501 1. Is a recognized accrediting association.
- 502 2. Has accrediting standards that substantially meet or
503 exceed the Gold Seal Quality Care standards adopted by the state
504 board ~~department~~ under subsection (2).
- 505 3. Is a registered corporation with the Department of
506 State.
- 507 4. Can provide evidence that the process for accreditation
508 has, at a minimum, all of the following components:
- 509 a. Clearly defined prerequisites that a child care
510 provider must meet before beginning the accreditation process.
511 However, an accreditation may not be granted to a child care
512 facility, large family child care home, or family day care home
513 before the site is operational and is attended by children.
- 514 b. Procedures for completion of a self-study and
515 comprehensive onsite verification process for each classroom
516 that documents compliance with accrediting standards.
- 517 c. A training process for accreditation verifiers to
518 ensure inter-rater reliability.
- 519 d. Ongoing compliance procedures that include completion
520 of an audit and filing of an annual report with the department.
- 521 e. Accreditation renewal procedures that include an onsite
522 verification and occur at least every 3 years.
- 523 f. A process for verifying continued accreditation
524 compliance in the event of a transfer of ownership of
525 facilities.

526 g. Procedures for the revocation of accreditation due to
527 failure to maintain accrediting standards.

528 h. A process to communicate issues that arise during the
529 accreditation period with governmental entities that have a
530 vested interest in the Gold Seal Quality Care Program, including
531 the department, the Department of Children and Families, the
532 Department of Health, local licensing entities if applicable,
533 and the early learning coalition.

534 (b) The department shall establish a process that verifies
535 that the accrediting association meets the provisions of
536 paragraph (a), which must include an auditing program and any
537 other procedures that may reasonably determine an accrediting
538 association's compliance with this section. If an accrediting
539 association is not in compliance and fails to cure its
540 deficiencies within 30 days, the department shall recommend to
541 the state board termination of the accrediting association's
542 participation as an accrediting association in the program for a
543 period of at least 2 year but no more than 5 years. If an
544 accrediting association is removed from being an approved
545 accrediting association, each child care provider accredited by
546 that association shall have up to 1 year to obtain a new
547 accreditation from a department approved accreditation
548 association.

549 (c) If an accrediting association has granted an
550 accreditation to a child care facility, large family child care

551 home, or family day care under fraudulent terms or failed to
552 conduct on-site verifications, the accrediting association shall
553 be liable for the repayment of any rate differentials paid under
554 subsection (6).

555 ~~(b) In approving accrediting associations, the department~~
556 ~~shall consult with the Department of Education, the Florida Head~~
557 ~~Start Directors Association, the Florida Association of Child~~
558 ~~Care Management, the Florida Family Child Care Home Association,~~
559 ~~the Florida Children's Forum, the Florida Association for the~~
560 ~~Education of the Young, the Child Development Education~~
561 ~~Alliance, the Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools,~~
562 ~~the Association of Early Learning Coalitions, providers~~
563 ~~receiving exemptions under s. 402.316, and parents.~~

564 (4) In order to obtain and maintain a designation as a
565 Gold Seal Quality Care provider, a child care facility, large
566 family child care home, or family day care home must meet the
567 following additional criteria:

568 (a) The child care provider must not have had any class I
569 violations, as defined by rule by the Department of Children and
570 Families, within the 2 years preceding its application for
571 designation as a Gold Seal Quality Care provider. Commission of
572 a class I violation shall be grounds for termination of the
573 designation as a Gold Seal Quality Care provider until the
574 provider has no class I violations for a period of 2 years.

575 (b) The child care provider must not have had three or

576 | more class II violations, as defined by rule by the Department
577 | of Children and Families, within the 2 years preceding its
578 | application for designation as a Gold Seal Quality Care
579 | provider. Commission of three or more class II violations within
580 | a 2-year period shall be grounds for termination of the
581 | designation as a Gold Seal Quality Care provider until the
582 | provider has no class II violations for a period of 1 year.

583 | (c) The child care provider must not have been cited for
584 | the same class III violation, as defined by rule by the
585 | Department of Children and Families, three or more times and
586 | failed to correct the violation within 1 year after the date of
587 | each citation, within the 2 years preceding its application for
588 | designation as a Gold Seal Quality Care provider. Commission of
589 | the same class III violation three or more times and failure to
590 | correct within the required time during a 2-year period may be
591 | grounds for termination of the designation as a Gold Seal
592 | Quality Care provider until the provider has no class III
593 | violations for a period of 1 year.

594 | (d) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if the department
595 | determines through a formal process that a provider has been in
596 | business for at least 5 years and has no other class I
597 | violations recorded, the department may recommend to the state
598 | board that the provider maintain its Gold Seal Quality Care
599 | status. The state board's determination regarding such
600 | provider's status is final.

601 (5) A child care facility licensed pursuant to s. 402.305
602 or a child care facility exempt from licensing pursuant to s.
603 402.316 which achieves Gold Seal Quality status under this
604 section shall be considered an educational institution for the
605 purpose of qualifying for exemption from ad valorem tax under s.
606 196.198.

607 (6) A child care facility licensed pursuant to s. 402.305
608 or a child care facility exempt from licensing pursuant to s.
609 402.316 which achieves Gold Seal Quality status under this
610 section and which participates in the school readiness program
611 shall receive a minimum of a 20 percent rate differential for
612 each enrolled school readiness child by care level and unit of
613 child care. The Early Learning Programs Estimating Conference
614 under s. 216.136(8) shall have the authority to determine a rate
615 differential above the 20 percent for a school readiness program
616 that maintains the group size and teacher-to-child ratios of its
617 accrediting body standards as a function of setting payment
618 rates, but may not exceed a 40 percent rate differential for
619 each enrolled school readiness child by care level and unit of
620 child care.

621 (7) ~~(5)~~ The state board ~~Department of Children and Families~~
622 shall adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 which provide
623 criteria and procedures for reviewing and approving accrediting
624 associations for participation in the Gold Seal Quality Care
625 program and ~~r~~ conferring and revoking designations of Gold Seal

626 Quality Care providers, ~~and classifying violations.~~

627 Section 11. Type two transfer from the Department of
628 Children and Families.—

629 (1) All powers, duties, functions, records, offices,
630 personnel, associated administrative support positions,
631 property, pending issues, existing contracts, administrative
632 authority, administrative rules, and unexpended balances of
633 appropriations, allocations, and other funds relating to the
634 Gold Seal Quality Care program within the Department of Children
635 and Families are transferred by a type two transfer, as defined
636 in s. 20.06(2), Florida Statutes, to the Department of
637 Education.

638 (2) Any binding contract or interagency agreement existing
639 before July 1, 2020, between the Department of Children and
640 Families, or an entity or agent of the department, and any other
641 agency, entity, or person relating to the Gold Seal Quality Care
642 program shall continue as a binding contract or agreement for
643 the remainder of the term of such contract or agreement on the
644 successor entity responsible for the program, activity, or
645 functions relative to the contract or agreement.

646 Section 12. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and paragraph
647 (a) of subsection (7) of section 402.305, Florida Statutes, are
648 amended to read:

649 402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

650 (1) LICENSING STANDARDS.—The department shall establish

651 licensing standards that each licensed child care facility must
652 meet regardless of the origin or source of the fees used to
653 operate the facility or the type of children served by the
654 facility.

655 (c) The minimum standards for child care facilities shall
656 be adopted in the rules of the department and shall address the
657 areas delineated in this section. The department, in adopting
658 rules to establish minimum standards for child care facilities,
659 shall recognize that different age groups of children may
660 require different standards. The department may adopt different
661 minimum standards for facilities that serve children in
662 different age groups, including school-age children. The
663 department shall also adopt by rule a definition for child care
664 which distinguishes between child care programs that require
665 child care licensure and after-school programs that do not
666 require licensure. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to
667 the contrary, minimum child care licensing standards shall be
668 developed to provide for reasonable, affordable, and safe
669 before-school and after-school care and may not exceed standards
670 expressly set forth in ss. 402.301-401.319. Licensing standards
671 adopted by the department on or after July 1, 2020, must be
672 ratified by the Legislature. After-school programs that
673 otherwise meet the criteria for exclusion from licensure may
674 provide snacks and meals through the federal Afterschool Meal
675 Program (AMP) administered by the Department of Health in

676 accordance with federal regulations and standards. The
 677 Department of Health shall consider meals to be provided through
 678 the AMP only if the program is actively participating in the
 679 AMP, is in good standing with the department, and the meals meet
 680 AMP requirements. Standards, at a minimum, shall allow for a
 681 credentialed director to supervise multiple before-school and
 682 after-school sites.

683 (7) SANITATION AND SAFETY.—

684 (a) Minimum standards shall include requirements for
 685 sanitary and safety conditions, first aid treatment, emergency
 686 procedures, and pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The
 687 minimum standards shall require that ~~at least~~ one staff person
 688 trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, as evidenced by
 689 current documentation of course completion, must be present at
 690 all times that children are present.

691 Section 13. Subsection (5) of section 402.315, Florida
 692 Statutes, is amended to read:

693 402.315 Funding; license fees.—

694 (5) All moneys collected by the department for child care
 695 licensing shall be held in a trust fund of the department to be
 696 reallocated to the department during the following fiscal year
 697 to fund child care licensing activities, including the Gold Seal
 698 Quality Care program created pursuant to s. 1002.945 ~~s. 402.281~~.

699 Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
 700 402.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

701 402.56 Children's cabinet; organization; responsibilities;
 702 annual report.—

703 (4) MEMBERS.—The cabinet shall consist of 16 members
 704 including the Governor and the following persons:

- 705 (a)1. The Secretary of Children and Families;
- 706 2. The Secretary of Juvenile Justice;
- 707 3. The director of the Agency for Persons with
- 708 Disabilities;
- 709 4. A representative from the Division ~~The director of the~~
 710 ~~Office~~ of Early Learning;
- 711 5. The State Surgeon General;
- 712 6. The Secretary of Health Care Administration;
- 713 7. The Commissioner of Education;
- 714 8. The director of the Statewide Guardian Ad Litem Office;
- 715 9. A representative of the Office of Adoption and Child
- 716 Protection;
- 717 10. A superintendent of schools, appointed by the
- 718 Governor; and
- 719 11. Five members who represent children and youth advocacy
- 720 organizations and who are not service providers, appointed by
- 721 the Governor.

722 Section 15. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section
 723 411.226, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

724 411.226 Learning Gateway.—

725 (2) LEARNING GATEWAY STEERING COMMITTEE.—

726 (e) To support and facilitate system improvements, the
727 steering committee must consult with representatives from the
728 Department of Education, the Department of Health, ~~the Office of~~
729 ~~Early Learning~~, the Department of Children and Families, the
730 Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of
731 Juvenile Justice, and the Department of Corrections and with the
732 director of the Learning Development and Evaluation Center of
733 Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

734 Section 16. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1), paragraph (a)
735 of subsection (2), and paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of
736 section 411.227, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

737 411.227 Components of the Learning Gateway.—The Learning
738 Gateway system consists of the following components:

739 (1) COMMUNITY EDUCATION STRATEGIES AND FAMILY-ORIENTED
740 ACCESS.—

741 (d) In collaboration with other local resources, the
742 demonstration projects shall develop public awareness strategies
743 to disseminate information about developmental milestones,
744 precursors of learning problems and other developmental delays,
745 and the service system that is available. The information should
746 target parents of children from birth through age 9 and should
747 be distributed to parents, health care providers, and caregivers
748 of children from birth through age 9. A variety of media should
749 be used as appropriate, such as print, television, radio, and a
750 community-based Internet website, as well as opportunities such

751 as those presented by parent visits to physicians for well-child
752 checkups. The Learning Gateway Steering Committee shall provide
753 technical assistance to the local demonstration projects in
754 developing and distributing educational materials and
755 information.

756 1. Public awareness strategies targeting parents of
757 children from birth through age 5 shall be designed to provide
758 information to public and private preschool programs, child care
759 providers, pediatricians, parents, and local businesses and
760 organizations. These strategies should include information on
761 the school readiness performance standards adopted by the
762 Department of Education ~~Office of Early Learning~~.

763 2. Public awareness strategies targeting parents of
764 children from ages 6 through 9 must be designed to disseminate
765 training materials and brochures to parents and public and
766 private school personnel, and must be coordinated with the local
767 school board and the appropriate school advisory committees in
768 the demonstration projects. The materials should contain
769 information on state and district proficiency levels for grades
770 K-3.

771 (2) SCREENING AND DEVELOPMENTAL MONITORING.—

772 (a) In coordination with ~~the Office of Early Learning,~~ the
773 Department of Education~~,~~ and the Florida Pediatric Society, and
774 using information learned from the local demonstration projects,
775 the Learning Gateway Steering Committee shall establish

776 guidelines for screening children from birth through age 9. The
 777 guidelines should incorporate recent research on the indicators
 778 most likely to predict early learning problems, mild
 779 developmental delays, child-specific precursors of school
 780 failure, and other related developmental indicators in the
 781 domains of cognition; communication; attention; perception;
 782 behavior; and social, emotional, sensory, and motor functioning.

783 (3) EARLY EDUCATION, SERVICES AND SUPPORTS.—

784 (c) The steering committee, in cooperation with the
 785 Department of Children and Families and, the Department of
 786 Education, ~~and the Office of Early Learning~~, shall identify the
 787 elements of an effective research-based curriculum for early
 788 care and education programs.

789 Section 17. Subsection (1) of section 414.295, Florida
 790 Statutes, is amended to read:

791 414.295 Temporary cash assistance programs; public records
 792 exemption.—

793 (1) Personal identifying information of a temporary cash
 794 assistance program participant, a participant's family, or a
 795 participant's family or household member, except for information
 796 identifying a parent who does not live in the same home as the
 797 child, which is held by the department, ~~the Office of Early~~
 798 ~~Learning~~, CareerSource Florida, Inc., the Department of Health,
 799 the Department of Revenue, the Department of Education, or a
 800 local workforce development board or local committee created

801 pursuant to s. 445.007 is confidential and exempt from s.
802 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Such
803 confidential and exempt information may be released for purposes
804 directly connected with:

805 (a) The administration of the temporary assistance for
806 needy families plan under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act,
807 as amended, by the department, ~~the Office of Early Learning,~~
808 CareerSource Florida, Inc., the Department of Military Affairs,
809 the Department of Health, the Department of Revenue, the
810 Department of Education, a local workforce development board or
811 local committee created pursuant to s. 445.007, or a school
812 district.

813 (b) The administration of the state's plan or program
814 approved under Title IV-B, Title IV-D, or Title IV-E of the
815 Social Security Act, as amended, or under Title I, Title X,
816 Title XIV, Title XVI, Title XIX, Title XX, or Title XXI of the
817 Social Security Act, as amended.

818 (c) An investigation, prosecution, or criminal, civil, or
819 administrative proceeding conducted in connection with the
820 administration of any of the plans or programs specified in
821 paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) by a federal, state, or local
822 governmental entity, upon request by that entity, if such
823 request is made pursuant to the proper exercise of that entity's
824 duties and responsibilities.

825 (d) The administration of any other state, federal, or

826 | federally assisted program that provides assistance or services
 827 | on the basis of need, in cash or in kind, directly to a
 828 | participant.

829 | (e) An audit or similar activity, such as a review of
 830 | expenditure reports or financial review, conducted in connection
 831 | with the administration of plans or programs specified in
 832 | paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) by a governmental entity
 833 | authorized by law to conduct such audit or activity.

834 | (f) The administration of the reemployment assistance
 835 | program.

836 | (g) The reporting to the appropriate agency or official of
 837 | information about known or suspected instances of physical or
 838 | mental injury, sexual abuse or exploitation, or negligent
 839 | treatment or maltreatment of a child or elderly person receiving
 840 | assistance, if circumstances indicate that the health or welfare
 841 | of the child or elderly person is threatened.

842 | (h) The administration of services to elderly persons
 843 | under ss. 430.601-430.606.

844 | Section 18. Section 1000.01, Florida Statutes, is amended
 845 | to read:

846 | 1000.01 The Florida Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education
 847 | system; technical provisions.—

848 | (1) NAME.—Chapters 1000 through 1013 shall be known and
 849 | cited as the "Florida Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ Education Code."

850 | (2) LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION.—The provisions of the Florida

851 Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ Education Code shall be liberally
852 construed to the end that its objectives may be effected. It is
853 the legislative intent that if any section, subsection,
854 sentence, clause, or provision of the Florida Early Learning-20
855 ~~K-20~~ Education Code is held invalid, the remainder of the code
856 shall not be affected.

857 (3) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Florida Early Learning-20
858 ~~K-20~~ Education Code is to provide by law for a state system of
859 schools, courses, classes, and educational institutions and
860 services adequate to allow, for all Florida's students, the
861 opportunity to obtain a high quality education. The Florida
862 Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system is established to
863 accomplish this purpose; however, nothing in this code shall be
864 construed to require the provision of free public education
865 beyond grade 12.

866 (4) UNIFORM SYSTEM OF PUBLIC K-12 SCHOOLS INCLUDED.—As
867 required by s. 1, Art. IX of the State Constitution, the Florida
868 Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system shall include the
869 uniform system of free public K-12 schools. These public K-12
870 schools shall provide 13 consecutive years of instruction,
871 beginning with kindergarten, and shall also provide such
872 instruction for students with disabilities, gifted students,
873 limited English proficient students, and students in Department
874 of Juvenile Justice programs as may be required by law. The
875 funds for support and maintenance of the uniform system of free

876 public K-12 schools shall be derived from state, district,
 877 federal, and other lawful sources or combinations of sources,
 878 including any fees charged nonresidents as provided by law.

879 Section 19. Subsection (2) of section 1000.02, Florida
 880 Statutes, is amended to read:

881 1000.02 Policy and guiding principles for the Florida
 882 Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system.—

883 (2) The guiding principles for Florida's Early Learning-20
 884 ~~K-20~~ education system are:

885 (a) A coordinated, seamless system for kindergarten
 886 through graduate school education.

887 (b) A system that is student-centered in every facet.

888 (c) A system that maximizes education access and allows
 889 the opportunity for a high quality education for all Floridians.

890 (d) A system that safeguards equity and supports academic
 891 excellence.

892 (e) A system that provides for local operational
 893 flexibility while promoting accountability for student
 894 achievement and improvement.

895 Section 20. Section 1000.03, Florida Statutes, is amended
 896 to read:

897 1000.03 Function, mission, and goals of the Florida Early
 898 Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system.—

899 (1) Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system
 900 shall be a decentralized system without excess layers of

901 bureaucracy. Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system
902 shall maintain a systemwide technology plan based on a common
903 set of data definitions.

904 (2) (a) The Legislature shall establish education policy,
905 enact education laws, and appropriate and allocate education
906 resources.

907 (b) With the exception of matters relating to the State
908 University System, the State Board of Education shall oversee
909 the enforcement of all laws and rules, and the timely provision
910 of direction, resources, assistance, intervention when needed,
911 and strong incentives and disincentives to force accountability
912 for results.

913 (c) The Board of Governors shall oversee the enforcement
914 of all state university laws and rules and regulations and the
915 timely provision of direction, resources, assistance,
916 intervention when needed, and strong incentives and
917 disincentives to force accountability for results.

918 (3) Public education is a cooperative function of the
919 state and local educational authorities. The state retains
920 responsibility for establishing a system of public education
921 through laws, standards, and rules to assure efficient operation
922 of an Early Learning-20 ~~a K-20~~ system of public education and
923 adequate educational opportunities for all individuals. Local
924 educational authorities have a duty to fully and faithfully
925 comply with state laws, standards, and rules and to efficiently

926 use the resources available to them to assist the state in
927 allowing adequate educational opportunities.

928 (4) The mission of Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~
929 education system is to allow its students to increase their
930 proficiency by allowing them the opportunity to expand their
931 knowledge and skills through rigorous and relevant learning
932 opportunities, in accordance with the mission statement and
933 accountability requirements of s. 1008.31.

934 (5) The priorities of Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~
935 education system include:

936 (a) Learning and completion at all levels, including
937 increased high school graduation rate and readiness for
938 postsecondary education without remediation.—All students
939 demonstrate increased learning and completion at all levels,
940 graduate from high school, and are prepared to enter
941 postsecondary education without remediation.

942 (b) Student performance.—Students demonstrate that they
943 meet the expected academic standards consistently at all levels
944 of their education.

945 (c) Civic literacy.—Students are prepared to become
946 civically engaged and knowledgeable adults who make positive
947 contributions to their communities.

948 (d) Alignment of standards and resources.—Academic
949 standards for every level of the Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~
950 education system are aligned, and education financial resources

951 are aligned with student performance expectations at each level
952 of the Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system.

953 (e) Educational leadership.—The quality of educational
954 leadership at all levels of Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education is
955 improved.

956 (f) Workforce education.—Workforce education is
957 appropriately aligned with the skills required by the new global
958 economy.

959 (g) Parental, student, family, educational institution,
960 and community involvement.—Parents, students, families,
961 educational institutions, and communities are collaborative
962 partners in education, and each plays an important role in the
963 success of individual students. Therefore, the State of Florida
964 cannot be the guarantor of each individual student's success.
965 The goals of Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system
966 are not guarantees that each individual student will succeed or
967 that each individual school will perform at the level indicated
968 in the goals.

969 (h) Comprehensive Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ career and
970 education planning.—It is essential that Florida's Early
971 Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system better prepare all students at
972 every level for the transition from school to postsecondary
973 education or work by providing information regarding:

974 1. Career opportunities, educational requirements
975 associated with each career, educational institutions that

976 | prepare students to enter each career, and student financial aid
 977 | available to pursue postsecondary instruction required to enter
 978 | each career.

979 | 2. How to make informed decisions about the program of
 980 | study that best addresses the students' interests and abilities
 981 | while preparing them to enter postsecondary education or the
 982 | workforce.

983 | 3. Recommended coursework and programs that prepare
 984 | students for success in their areas of interest and ability.

985 |
 986 | This information shall be provided to students and parents
 987 | through websites, handbooks, manuals, or other regularly
 988 | provided communications.

989 | Section 21. Section 1000.04, Florida Statutes, is amended
 990 | to read:

991 | 1000.04 Components for the delivery of public education
 992 | within the Florida Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system.—
 993 | Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system provides for
 994 | the delivery of early learning and public education through
 995 | publicly supported and controlled K-12 schools, Florida College
 996 | System institutions, state universities and other postsecondary
 997 | educational institutions, other educational institutions, and
 998 | other educational services as provided or authorized by the
 999 | Constitution and laws of the state.

1000 | (1) EARLY LEARNING.—Early learning includes the Voluntary

1001 Prekindergarten Education Program and the school readiness
 1002 program.

1003 (2)~~(1)~~ PUBLIC K-12 SCHOOLS.—The public K-12 schools
 1004 include charter schools and consist of kindergarten classes;
 1005 elementary, middle, and high school grades and special classes;
 1006 virtual instruction programs; workforce education; career
 1007 centers; adult, part-time, and evening schools, courses, or
 1008 classes, as authorized by law to be operated under the control
 1009 of district school boards; and lab schools operated under the
 1010 control of state universities.

1011 (3)~~(2)~~ PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.—
 1012 Public postsecondary educational institutions include workforce
 1013 education; Florida College System institutions; state
 1014 universities; and all other state-supported postsecondary
 1015 educational institutions that are authorized and established by
 1016 law.

1017 (4)~~(3)~~ FLORIDA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND.—The
 1018 Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind is a component of the
 1019 delivery of public education within Florida's Early Learning-20
 1020 ~~K-20~~ education system.

1021 (5)~~(4)~~ THE FLORIDA VIRTUAL SCHOOL.—The Florida Virtual
 1022 School is a component of the delivery of public education within
 1023 Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system.

1024 Section 22. Section 1000.21, Florida Statutes, is amended
 1025 to read:

1026 1000.21 Systemwide definitions.—As used in the Florida
 1027 Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ Education Code:

1028 (1) "Articulation" is the systematic coordination that
 1029 provides the means by which students proceed toward their
 1030 educational objectives in as rapid and student-friendly manner
 1031 as their circumstances permit, from grade level to grade level,
 1032 from elementary to middle to high school, to and through
 1033 postsecondary education, and when transferring from one
 1034 educational institution or program to another.

1035 (2) "Commissioner" is the Commissioner of Education.

1036 (3) "Florida College System institution" except as
 1037 otherwise specifically provided, includes all of the following
 1038 public postsecondary educational institutions in the Florida
 1039 College System and any branch campuses, centers, or other
 1040 affiliates of the institution:

1041 (a) Eastern Florida State College, which serves Brevard
 1042 County.

1043 (b) Broward College, which serves Broward County.

1044 (c) College of Central Florida, which serves Citrus, Levy,
 1045 and Marion Counties.

1046 (d) Chipola College, which serves Calhoun, Holmes,
 1047 Jackson, Liberty, and Washington Counties.

1048 (e) Daytona State College, which serves Flagler and
 1049 Volusia Counties.

1050 (f) Florida SouthWestern State College, which serves

- 1051 Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties.
- 1052 (g) Florida State College at Jacksonville, which serves
- 1053 Duval and Nassau Counties.
- 1054 (h) The College of the Florida Keys, which serves Monroe
- 1055 County.
- 1056 (i) Gulf Coast State College, which serves Bay, Franklin,
- 1057 and Gulf Counties.
- 1058 (j) Hillsborough Community College, which serves
- 1059 Hillsborough County.
- 1060 (k) Indian River State College, which serves Indian River,
- 1061 Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie Counties.
- 1062 (l) Florida Gateway College, which serves Baker, Columbia,
- 1063 Dixie, Gilchrist, and Union Counties.
- 1064 (m) Lake-Sumter State College, which serves Lake and
- 1065 Sumter Counties.
- 1066 (n) State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota, which
- 1067 serves Manatee and Sarasota Counties.
- 1068 (o) Miami Dade College, which serves Miami-Dade County.
- 1069 (p) North Florida College, which serves Hamilton,
- 1070 Jefferson, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, and Taylor Counties.
- 1071 (q) Northwest Florida State College, which serves Okaloosa
- 1072 and Walton Counties.
- 1073 (r) Palm Beach State College, which serves Palm Beach
- 1074 County.
- 1075 (s) Pasco-Hernando State College, which serves Hernando

1076 and Pasco Counties.

1077 (t) Pensacola State College, which serves Escambia and
 1078 Santa Rosa Counties.

1079 (u) Polk State College, which serves Polk County.

1080 (v) St. Johns River State College, which serves Clay,
 1081 Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

1082 (w) St. Petersburg College, which serves Pinellas County.

1083 (x) Santa Fe College, which serves Alachua and Bradford
 1084 Counties.

1085 (y) Seminole State College of Florida, which serves
 1086 Seminole County.

1087 (z) South Florida State College, which serves DeSoto,
 1088 Hardee, and Highlands Counties.

1089 (aa) Tallahassee Community College, which serves Gadsden,
 1090 Leon, and Wakulla Counties.

1091 (bb) Valencia College, which serves Orange and Osceola
 1092 Counties.

1093 (4) "Department" is the Department of Education.

1094 (5) "Parent" is either or both parents of a student, any
 1095 guardian of a student, any person in a parental relationship to
 1096 a student, or any person exercising supervisory authority over a
 1097 student in place of the parent.

1098 (6) "State university," except as otherwise specifically
 1099 provided, includes the following institutions and any branch
 1100 campuses, centers, or other affiliates of the institution:

- 1101 (a) The University of Florida.
- 1102 (b) The Florida State University.
- 1103 (c) The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.
- 1104 (d) The University of South Florida.
- 1105 (e) The Florida Atlantic University.
- 1106 (f) The University of West Florida.
- 1107 (g) The University of Central Florida.
- 1108 (h) The University of North Florida.
- 1109 (i) The Florida International University.
- 1110 (j) The Florida Gulf Coast University.
- 1111 (k) New College of Florida.
- 1112 (l) The Florida Polytechnic University.
- 1113 (7) "Next Generation Sunshine State Standards" means the
 1114 state's public K-12 curricular standards adopted under s.
 1115 1003.41.
- 1116 (8) "Board of Governors" is the Board of Governors of the
 1117 State University System.
- 1118 Section 23. Subsection (1) and paragraphs (e) and (s) of
 1119 subsection (2) of section 1001.02, Florida Statutes, are amended
 1120 to read:
- 1121 1001.02 General powers of State Board of Education.—
- 1122 (1) The State Board of Education is the chief implementing
 1123 and coordinating body of public education in Florida except for
 1124 the State University System, and it shall focus on high-level
 1125 policy decisions. It has authority to adopt rules pursuant to

1126 ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of law
 1127 conferring duties upon it for the improvement of the state
 1128 system of Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ public education except for the
 1129 State University System. Except as otherwise provided herein, it
 1130 may, as it finds appropriate, delegate its general powers to the
 1131 Commissioner of Education or the directors of the divisions of
 1132 the department.

1133 (2) The State Board of Education has the following duties:

1134 (e) To adopt and submit to the Governor and Legislature,
 1135 as provided in s. 216.023, a coordinated Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~
 1136 education budget that estimates the expenditure requirements for
 1137 the Board of Governors, as provided in s. 1001.706, the State
 1138 Board of Education, including the Department of Education and
 1139 the Commissioner of Education, and all of the boards,
 1140 institutions, agencies, and services under the general
 1141 supervision of the Board of Governors, as provided in s.
 1142 1001.706, or the State Board of Education for the ensuing fiscal
 1143 year. The State Board of Education may not amend the budget
 1144 request submitted by the Board of Governors. Any program
 1145 recommended by the Board of Governors or the State Board of
 1146 Education which will require increases in state funding for more
 1147 than 1 year must be presented in a multiyear budget plan.

1148 (s) To establish a detailed procedure for the
 1149 implementation and operation of a systemwide ~~K-20~~ technology
 1150 plan that is based on a common set of data definitions.

1151 Section 24. Subsections (8) and (9) of section 1001.03,
 1152 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1153 1001.03 Specific powers of State Board of Education.—

1154 (8) SYSTEMWIDE ENFORCEMENT.—The State Board of Education
 1155 shall enforce compliance with law and state board rule by all
 1156 school districts, early learning coalitions, and public
 1157 postsecondary educational institutions, except for the State
 1158 University System, in accordance with the provisions of s.
 1159 1008.32.

1160 (9) MANAGEMENT INFORMATION DATABASES.—The State Board of
 1161 Education, in conjunction with the Board of Governors regarding
 1162 the State University System, shall continue to collect and
 1163 maintain, at a minimum, the management information databases for
 1164 state universities, and all other components of the public Early
 1165 Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system as such databases existed on
 1166 June 30, 2002.

1167 Section 25. Subsection (1), paragraphs (g), (k), and (l)
 1168 of subsection (6), and subsection (8) of section 1001.10,
 1169 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1170 1001.10 Commissioner of Education; general powers and
 1171 duties.—

1172 (1) The Commissioner of Education is the chief educational
 1173 officer of the state and the sole custodian of the educational
 1174 ~~K-20~~ data warehouse, and is responsible for giving full
 1175 assistance to the State Board of Education in enforcing

1176 | compliance with the mission and goals of the Early Learning ~~K-20~~
 1177 | education system, except for the State University System.

1178 | (6) Additionally, the commissioner has the following
 1179 | general powers and duties:

1180 | (g) To submit to the State Board of Education, on or
 1181 | before October 1 of each year, recommendations for a coordinated
 1182 | Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education budget that estimates the
 1183 | expenditures for the Board of Governors, the State Board of
 1184 | Education, including the Department of Education and the
 1185 | Commissioner of Education, and all of the boards, institutions,
 1186 | agencies, and services under the general supervision of the
 1187 | Board of Governors or the State Board of Education for the
 1188 | ensuing fiscal year. Any program recommended to the State Board
 1189 | of Education that will require increases in state funding for
 1190 | more than 1 year must be presented in a multiyear budget plan.

1191 | (k) To prepare, publish, and disseminate user-friendly
 1192 | materials relating to the state's education system, including
 1193 | the state's K-12 scholarship programs, the school readiness
 1194 | program, and the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

1195 | (l) To prepare and publish annually reports giving
 1196 | statistics and other useful information pertaining to the
 1197 | state's K-12 scholarship programs, the school readiness program,
 1198 | and the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

1199 | (8) In the event of an emergency situation, the
 1200 | commissioner may coordinate through the most appropriate means

1201 of communication with early learning coalitions, local school
 1202 districts, Florida College System institutions, and satellite
 1203 offices of the Division of Blind Services and the Division of
 1204 Vocational Rehabilitation to assess the need for resources and
 1205 assistance to enable each school, institution, or satellite
 1206 office the ability to reopen as soon as possible after
 1207 considering the health, safety, and welfare of students and
 1208 clients.

1209 Section 26. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection
 1210 (4) of section 1001.11, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1211 1001.11 Commissioner of Education; other duties.—

1212 (1) The Commissioner of Education must independently
 1213 perform the following duties:

1214 (b) Serve as the primary source of information to the
 1215 Legislature, including the President of the Senate and the
 1216 Speaker of the House of Representatives, concerning the State
 1217 Board of Education, the Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system,
 1218 and early learning programs.

1219 (4) The commissioner shall develop and implement an
 1220 integrated Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ information system for
 1221 educational management in accordance with the requirements of
 1222 chapter 1008.

1223 Section 27. Section 1001.213, Florida Statutes, is
 1224 repealed.

1225 Section 28. Subsection (7) of section 1001.215, Florida

1226 Statutes, is amended to read:

1227 1001.215 Just Read, Florida! Office.—There is created in
 1228 the Department of Education the Just Read, Florida! Office. The
 1229 office is fully accountable to the Commissioner of Education and
 1230 shall:

1231 (7) Review, evaluate, and provide technical assistance to
 1232 school districts' implementation of the ~~K-12~~ comprehensive
 1233 reading plan required in s. 1011.62(9).

1234 Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 1001.23, Florida
 1235 Statutes, is amended to read:

1236 1001.23 Specific powers and duties of the Department of
 1237 Education.—In addition to all other duties assigned to it by law
 1238 or by rule of the State Board of Education, the department
 1239 shall:

1240 ~~(1) Adopt the statewide kindergarten screening in~~
 1241 ~~accordance with s. 1002.69.~~

1242 Section 30. Subsection (3) of section 1001.70, Florida
 1243 Statutes, is amended to read:

1244 1001.70 Board of Governors of the State University
 1245 System.—

1246 (3) The Board of Governors, in exercising its authority
 1247 under the State Constitution and statutes, shall exercise its
 1248 authority in a manner that supports, promotes, and enhances an
 1249 Early Learning-20 ~~a K-20~~ education system that provides
 1250 affordable access to postsecondary educational opportunities for

1251 residents of the state to the extent authorized by the State
 1252 Constitution and state law.

1253 Section 31. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section
 1254 1001.706, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1255 1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

1256 (4) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO FINANCE.—

1257 (b) The Board of Governors shall prepare the legislative
 1258 budget requests for the State University System, including a
 1259 request for fixed capital outlay, and submit them to the State
 1260 Board of Education for inclusion in the Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~
 1261 legislative budget request. The Board of Governors shall provide
 1262 the state universities with fiscal policy guidelines, formats,
 1263 and instruction for the development of individual university
 1264 budget requests.

1265 Section 32. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
 1266 1002.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1267 1002.22 Education records and reports of K-12 students;
 1268 rights of parents and students; notification; penalty.—

1269 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

1270 (b) "Institution" means any public school, center,
 1271 institution, or other entity that is part of Florida's education
 1272 system under s. 1000.04(2), (4), and (5) ~~s. 1000.04(1), (3), and~~
 1273 ~~(4)~~.

1274 Section 33. Subsection (3) of section 1002.32, Florida
 1275 Statutes, is amended to read:

1276 1002.32 Developmental research (laboratory) schools.—
 1277 (3) MISSION.—The mission of a lab school shall be the
 1278 provision of a vehicle for the conduct of research,
 1279 demonstration, and evaluation regarding management, teaching,
 1280 and learning. Programs to achieve the mission of a lab school
 1281 shall embody the goals and standards established pursuant to ss.
 1282 1000.03(5) and 1001.23(1) ~~1001.23(2)~~ and shall ensure an
 1283 appropriate education for its students.

1284 (a) Each lab school shall emphasize mathematics, science,
 1285 computer science, and foreign languages. The primary goal of a
 1286 lab school is to enhance instruction and research in such
 1287 specialized subjects by using the resources available on a state
 1288 university campus, while also providing an education in
 1289 nonspecialized subjects. Each lab school shall provide
 1290 sequential elementary and secondary instruction where
 1291 appropriate. A lab school may not provide instruction at grade
 1292 levels higher than grade 12 without authorization from the State
 1293 Board of Education. Each lab school shall develop and implement
 1294 a school improvement plan pursuant to s. 1003.02(3).

1295 (b) Research, demonstration, and evaluation conducted at a
 1296 lab school may be generated by the college of education and
 1297 other colleges within the university with which the school is
 1298 affiliated.

1299 (c) Research, demonstration, and evaluation conducted at a
 1300 lab school may be generated by the State Board of Education.

1301 Such research shall respond to the needs of the education
 1302 community at large, rather than the specific needs of the
 1303 affiliated college.

1304 (d) Research, demonstration, and evaluation conducted at a
 1305 lab school may consist of pilot projects to be generated by the
 1306 affiliated college, the State Board of Education, or the
 1307 Legislature.

1308 (e) The exceptional education programs offered at a lab
 1309 school shall be determined by the research and evaluation goals
 1310 and the availability of students for efficiently sized programs.
 1311 The fact that a lab school offers an exceptional education
 1312 program in no way lessens the general responsibility of the
 1313 local school district to provide exceptional education programs.

1314 Section 34. Paragraph (b) of subsection (10) of section
 1315 1002.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1316 1002.34 Charter technical career centers.—

1317 (10) EXEMPTION FROM STATUTES.—

1318 (b) A center must comply with the Florida Early Learning-
 1319 20 ~~K-20~~ Education Code with respect to providing services to
 1320 students with disabilities.

1321 Section 35. Subsection (1) of section 1002.36, Florida
 1322 Statutes, is amended to read:

1323 1002.36 Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind.—

1324 (1) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Florida School for the Deaf and
 1325 the Blind, located in St. Johns County, is a state-supported

1326 residential public school for hearing-impaired and visually
1327 impaired students in preschool through 12th grade. The school is
1328 a component of the delivery of public education within Florida's
1329 Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system and shall be funded
1330 through the Department of Education. The school shall provide
1331 educational programs and support services appropriate to meet
1332 the education and related evaluation and counseling needs of
1333 hearing-impaired and visually impaired students in the state who
1334 meet enrollment criteria. Unless otherwise provided by law, the
1335 school shall comply with all laws and rules applicable to state
1336 agencies. Education services may be provided on an outreach
1337 basis for sensory-impaired children ages 0 through 5 years and
1338 to district school boards upon request. Graduates of the Florida
1339 School for the Deaf and the Blind shall be eligible for the
1340 William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education Grant
1341 Program as provided in s. 1009.89.

1342 Section 36. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) and subsection
1343 (5) of section 1002.53, Florida Statutes, are amended, and
1344 paragraph (d) is added to subsection (6), to read:

1345 1002.53 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program;
1346 eligibility and enrollment.-

1347 (4)

1348 (b) The application must be submitted on forms prescribed
1349 by the department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ and must be
1350 accompanied by a certified copy of the child's birth

1351 certificate. The forms must include a certification, in
 1352 substantially the form provided in s. 1002.71(6)(b)2., that the
 1353 parent chooses the private prekindergarten provider or public
 1354 school in accordance with this section and directs that payments
 1355 for the program be made to the provider or school. The
 1356 department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ may authorize alternative
 1357 methods for submitting proof of the child's age in lieu of a
 1358 certified copy of the child's birth certificate.

1359 (5) The early learning coalition shall provide each parent
 1360 enrolling a child in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
 1361 Program with a profile of every private prekindergarten provider
 1362 and public school delivering the program within the county where
 1363 the child is being enrolled. The profiles shall be provided to
 1364 parents in a format prescribed by the department ~~Office of Early~~
 1365 ~~Learning~~. The profiles must include, at a minimum, the following
 1366 information about each provider and school:

1367 (a) The provider's or school's services, curriculum,
 1368 instructor credentials, and instructor-to-student ratio; and

1369 (b) The provider's or school's kindergarten readiness rate
 1370 ~~calculated in accordance with s. 1002.69~~, based upon the most
 1371 recent available results of the statewide kindergarten screening
 1372 until the provider's or school's performance metric and grade
 1373 are available pursuant to s. 1002.68.

1374 (6)

1375 (d) Each parent who enrolls his or her child in the

1376 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program must allow his or
 1377 her child to participate in the coordinated screening and
 1378 progress monitoring program under s. 1008.2125.

1379 Section 37. Paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (e), (g), (h), (i),
 1380 (j), and (l) of subsection (3), subsection (4), and paragraph
 1381 (b) of subsection (5) of section 1002.55, Florida Statutes, are
 1382 amended, and subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

1383 1002.55 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by
 1384 private prekindergarten providers.—

1385 (3) To be eligible to deliver the prekindergarten program,
 1386 a private prekindergarten provider must meet each of the
 1387 following requirements:

1388 (a) The private prekindergarten provider must be a child
 1389 care facility licensed under s. 402.305, family day care home
 1390 licensed under s. 402.313, large family child care home licensed
 1391 under s. 402.3131, nonpublic school exempt from licensure under
 1392 s. 402.3025(2), ~~or~~ faith-based child care provider exempt from
 1393 licensure under s. 402.316, child development program that is
 1394 accredited by a national accrediting body and operates on a
 1395 military installation that is certified by the United States
 1396 Department of Defense, or private prekindergarten provider that
 1397 has been issued a provisional license under s. 402.309. A
 1398 private prekindergarten provider may not deliver the program
 1399 while holding a probation-status license under s. 402.310.

1400 (b) The private prekindergarten provider must:

1401 1. Be accredited by an accrediting association that is a
1402 member of the National Council for Private School Accreditation,
1403 or the Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools, or be
1404 accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools,
1405 or Western Association of Colleges and Schools, or North Central
1406 Association of Colleges and Schools, or Middle States
1407 Association of Colleges and Schools, or New England Association
1408 of Colleges and Schools; and have written accreditation
1409 standards that meet or exceed the state's licensing requirements
1410 under s. 402.305, s. 402.313, or s. 402.3131 and require at
1411 least one onsite visit to the provider or school before
1412 accreditation is granted;

1413 2. Hold a current Gold Seal Quality Care designation under
1414 s. 1002.945 ~~s. 402.281~~; or

1415 3. Be licensed under s. 402.305, s. 402.313, or s.
1416 402.3131 and demonstrate, before delivering the Voluntary
1417 Prekindergarten Education Program, as verified by the early
1418 learning coalition, that the provider meets each of the
1419 requirements of the program under this part, including, but not
1420 limited to, the requirements for credentials and background
1421 screenings of prekindergarten instructors under paragraphs (c)
1422 and (d), minimum and maximum class sizes under paragraph (f),
1423 prekindergarten director credentials under paragraph (g), and a
1424 developmentally appropriate curriculum under s. 1002.67(2)(b).

1425 (c) The private prekindergarten provider must have, for

1426 each prekindergarten class of 11 children or fewer, at least one
 1427 prekindergarten instructor who meets each of the following
 1428 requirements:

1429 1. The prekindergarten instructor must hold, at a minimum,
 1430 one of the following credentials:

1431 a. A child development associate credential issued by the
 1432 National Credentialing Program of the Council for Professional
 1433 Recognition; or

1434 b. A credential approved by the Department of Children and
 1435 Families as being equivalent to or greater than the credential
 1436 described in sub-subparagraph a.

1437
 1438 The Department of Children and Families may adopt rules under
 1439 ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 which provide criteria and procedures
 1440 for approving equivalent credentials under sub-subparagraph b.

1441 2. The prekindergarten instructor must successfully
 1442 complete at least three ~~an~~ emergent literacy training courses
 1443 that include developmentally appropriate and experiential
 1444 learning practices for children ~~course~~ and a student performance
 1445 standards training course approved by the department ~~office~~ as
 1446 meeting or exceeding the minimum standards adopted under s.
 1447 1002.59. The requirement for completion of the standards
 1448 training course shall take effect July 1, 2021 ~~2014~~, and be
 1449 recognized as part of the informal early learning career pathway
 1450 identified by the department under s. 1002.995(1)(b). ~~Such and~~

1451 ~~the~~ course shall be available online or in person.

1452 (e) A private prekindergarten provider may assign a
1453 substitute instructor to temporarily replace a credentialed
1454 instructor if the credentialed instructor assigned to a
1455 prekindergarten class is absent, as long as the substitute
1456 instructor is of good moral character and has been screened
1457 before employment in accordance with level 2 background
1458 screening requirements in chapter 435. The department ~~Office of~~
1459 ~~Early Learning~~ shall adopt rules to implement this paragraph
1460 which shall include required qualifications of substitute
1461 instructors and the circumstances and time limits for which a
1462 private prekindergarten provider may assign a substitute
1463 instructor.

1464 (g) The private prekindergarten provider must have a
1465 prekindergarten director who has a prekindergarten director
1466 credential that is approved by the department ~~office~~ as meeting
1467 or exceeding the minimum standards adopted under s. 1002.57.
1468 ~~Successful completion of a child care facility director~~
1469 ~~credential under s. 402.305(2)(g) before the establishment of~~
1470 ~~the prekindergarten director credential under s. 1002.57 or July~~
1471 ~~1, 2006, whichever occurs later, satisfies the requirement for a~~
1472 ~~prekindergarten director credential under this paragraph.~~

1473 (h) The private prekindergarten provider must register
1474 with the early learning coalition on forms prescribed by the
1475 department ~~Office of Early Learning~~.

1476 (i) The private prekindergarten provider must execute the
1477 statewide provider contract prescribed under s. 1002.73 ~~s.~~
1478 ~~1002.75~~, except that an individual who owns or operates multiple
1479 private prekindergarten sites ~~providers~~ within a coalition's
1480 service area may execute a single agreement with the coalition
1481 on behalf of each site ~~provider~~.

1482 (j) The private prekindergarten provider must maintain
1483 general liability insurance and provide the coalition with
1484 written evidence of general liability insurance coverage,
1485 including coverage for transportation of children if
1486 prekindergarten students are transported by the provider. A
1487 provider must obtain and retain an insurance policy that
1488 provides a minimum of \$100,000 of coverage per occurrence and a
1489 minimum of \$300,000 general aggregate coverage. The department
1490 ~~office~~ may authorize lower limits upon request, as appropriate.
1491 A provider must add the coalition as a named certificateholder
1492 and as an additional insured. A provider must provide the
1493 coalition with a minimum of 10 calendar days' advance written
1494 notice of cancellation of or changes to coverage. The general
1495 liability insurance required by this paragraph must remain in
1496 full force and effect for the entire period of the provider
1497 contract with the coalition.

1498 (l) Notwithstanding paragraph (j), for a private
1499 prekindergarten provider that is a state agency or a subdivision
1500 thereof, as defined in s. 768.28(2), the provider must agree to

1501 notify the coalition of any additional liability coverage
1502 maintained by the provider in addition to that otherwise
1503 established under s. 768.28. The provider shall indemnify the
1504 coalition to the extent permitted by s. 768.28. Notwithstanding
1505 paragraph (j), for a child development program that is
1506 accredited by a national accrediting body and operates on a
1507 military installation that is certified by the United States
1508 Department of Defense, the provider may demonstrate liability
1509 coverage by affirming that it is subject to the Federal Tort
1510 Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. s. 2671 et seq.

1511 (4) A prekindergarten instructor, in lieu of the minimum
1512 credentials ~~and courses~~ required under paragraph (3)(c), may
1513 hold one of the following educational credentials:

1514 (a) A bachelor's or higher degree in early childhood
1515 education, prekindergarten or primary education, preschool
1516 education, or family and consumer science;

1517 (b) A bachelor's or higher degree in elementary education,
1518 if the prekindergarten instructor has been certified to teach
1519 children any age from birth through 6th grade, regardless of
1520 whether the instructor's educator certificate is current, and if
1521 the instructor is not ineligible to teach in a public school
1522 because his or her educator certificate is suspended or revoked;

1523 (c) An associate's or higher degree in child development;

1524 (d) An associate's or higher degree in an unrelated field,
1525 at least 6 credit hours in early childhood education or child

1526 development, and at least 480 hours of experience in teaching or
 1527 providing child care services for children any age from birth
 1528 through 8 years of age; or

1529 (e) An educational credential approved by the department
 1530 as being equivalent to or greater than an educational credential
 1531 described in this subsection. The department may adopt criteria
 1532 and procedures for approving equivalent educational credentials
 1533 under this paragraph.

1534 (5)

1535 (b) Notwithstanding any other ~~provision of~~ law, if a
 1536 private prekindergarten provider has been cited for a class I
 1537 violation, as defined by rule by the Child Care Services Program
 1538 Office of the Department of Children and Families, the coalition
 1539 may refuse to contract with the provider.

1540 (6) Each early learning coalition must verify that each
 1541 private prekindergarten provider delivering the Voluntary
 1542 Prekindergarten Education Program within the coalition's county
 1543 or multicounty region complies with this part. If a private
 1544 prekindergarten provider fails or refuses to comply with this
 1545 part or engages in misconduct, the department shall require the
 1546 early learning coalition to remove the provider from eligibility
 1547 to deliver the program and receive state funds under this part
 1548 for a period of at least 2 years but no more than 5 years.

1549 Section 38. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2) of
 1550 section 1002.57, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as

1551 paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, subsection (1) is amended,
1552 and a new paragraph (b) is added to subsection (2) of that
1553 section, to read:

1554 1002.57 Prekindergarten director credential.—

1555 (1) The department ~~office~~, in consultation with the
1556 Department of Children and Families, shall adopt minimum
1557 standards for a credential for prekindergarten directors of
1558 private prekindergarten providers delivering the Voluntary
1559 Prekindergarten Education Program. The credential must encompass
1560 requirements for education and onsite experience.

1561 (2) The educational requirements must include training in
1562 the following:

1563 (b) Implementation of curriculum and usage of student-
1564 level data to inform the delivery of instruction;

1565 Section 39. Section 1002.59, Florida Statutes, is amended
1566 to read:

1567 1002.59 Emergent literacy and performance standards
1568 training courses.—

1569 (1) The department ~~office~~ shall adopt minimum standards
1570 for ~~one or more training~~ courses in emergent literacy for
1571 prekindergarten instructors. Each course must comprise 5 clock
1572 hours and provide instruction in strategies and techniques to
1573 address the age-appropriate progress of prekindergarten students
1574 in developing emergent literacy skills, including oral
1575 communication, knowledge of print and letters, phonemic and

1576 phonological awareness, and vocabulary and comprehension
1577 development. Each course must also provide resources containing
1578 strategies that allow students with disabilities and other
1579 special needs to derive maximum benefit from the Voluntary
1580 Prekindergarten Education Program. Successful completion of an
1581 emergent literacy training course approved under this section
1582 satisfies requirements for approved training in early literacy
1583 and language development under ss. 402.305(2)(e)5., 402.313(6),
1584 and 402.3131(5).

1585 (2) The department ~~office~~ shall adopt minimum standards
1586 for ~~one or more training~~ courses on the performance standards
1587 adopted under s. 1002.67(1). Each course must be comprised of
1588 ~~comprise~~ at least 3 clock hours, provide instruction in
1589 strategies and techniques to address age-appropriate progress of
1590 each child in attaining the standards, and be available online.

1591 (3) The department shall make available online
1592 professional development and training courses comprised of at
1593 least 8 clock hours that support prekindergarten instructors in
1594 increasing the competency of teacher-child interactions.

1595 Section 40. Subsections (6) through (8) of section
1596 1002.61, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (7)
1597 through (9), respectively, paragraph (b) of subsection (1),
1598 paragraph (b) of subsection (3), subsection (4), and present
1599 subsections (6) and (8) are amended, and new subsections (6) and
1600 (10) are added to that section, to read:

1601 1002.61 Summer prekindergarten program delivered by public
 1602 schools and private prekindergarten providers.—

1603 (1)

1604 (b) Each early learning coalition shall administer the
 1605 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program at the county or
 1606 regional level for students enrolled under s. 1002.53(3)(b) in a
 1607 summer prekindergarten program delivered by a private
 1608 prekindergarten provider. A child development program that is
 1609 accredited by a national accrediting body and operates on a
 1610 military installation that is certified by the United States
 1611 Department of Defense may administer the summer prekindergarten
 1612 program as a private prekindergarten provider.

1613 (3)

1614 (b) Each public school delivering the summer
 1615 prekindergarten program must execute the statewide provider
 1616 contract prescribed under s. 1002.73 ~~s. 1002.75~~, except that the
 1617 school district may execute a single agreement with the early
 1618 learning coalition on behalf of all district schools.

1619 (4) Notwithstanding ss. 1002.55(3)(c)1. and 1002.63(4),
 1620 each public school and private prekindergarten provider must
 1621 have, for each prekindergarten class, at least one
 1622 prekindergarten instructor who is a certified teacher or holds
 1623 one of the educational credentials specified in s. 1002.55(4)(a)
 1624 or (b). As used in this subsection, the term "certified teacher"
 1625 means a teacher holding a valid Florida educator certificate

1626 | under s. 1012.56 who has the qualifications required by the
1627 | district school board to instruct students in the summer
1628 | prekindergarten program. In selecting instructional staff for
1629 | the summer prekindergarten program, each school district shall
1630 | give priority to teachers who have experience or coursework in
1631 | early childhood education and have completed emergent literacy
1632 | and performance standards courses, as defined in s.
1633 | 1002.55(3)(c)2.

1634 | (6) A child development program that is accredited by a
1635 | national accrediting body and operates on a military
1636 | installation that is certified by the United States Department
1637 | of Defense shall comply with the requirements of a private
1638 | prekindergarten provider in this section.

1639 | (7)~~(6)~~ A public school or private prekindergarten provider
1640 | may assign a substitute instructor to temporarily replace a
1641 | credentialed instructor if the credentialed instructor assigned
1642 | to a prekindergarten class is absent, as long as the substitute
1643 | instructor is of good moral character and has been screened
1644 | before employment in accordance with level 2 background
1645 | screening requirements in chapter 435. This subsection does not
1646 | supersede employment requirements for instructional personnel in
1647 | public schools which are more stringent than the requirements of
1648 | this subsection. The department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ shall
1649 | adopt rules to implement this subsection which shall include
1650 | required qualifications of substitute instructors and the

1651 | circumstances and time limits for which a public school or
1652 | private prekindergarten provider may assign a substitute
1653 | instructor.

1654 | (9)~~(8)~~ Each public school delivering the summer
1655 | prekindergarten program must also register with the early
1656 | learning coalition on forms prescribed by the department ~~Office~~
1657 | ~~of Early Learning~~ and deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten
1658 | Education Program in accordance with this part.

1659 | (10) (a) Each early learning coalition shall verify that
1660 | each private prekindergarten provider delivering the Voluntary
1661 | Prekindergarten Education Program within the coalition's county
1662 | or multicounty region complies with this part. Each district
1663 | school board shall verify that each public school delivering the
1664 | Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program within the school
1665 | district complies with this part.

1666 | (b) If a private prekindergarten provider or public school
1667 | fails or refuses to comply with this part or engages in
1668 | misconduct, the department shall require the early learning
1669 | coalition to remove the provider or require the school district
1670 | to remove the school from eligibility to deliver the Voluntary
1671 | Prekindergarten Education Program and receive state funds under
1672 | this part for a period of at least 2 years but no more than 5
1673 | years.

1674 | Section 41. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and
1675 | subsections (6) and (8) of section 1002.63, Florida Statutes,

1676 are amended, and subsection (9) is added to that section, to
 1677 read:

1678 1002.63 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by
 1679 public schools.—

1680 (3)

1681 (b) Each public school delivering the school-year
 1682 prekindergarten program must execute the statewide provider
 1683 contract prescribed under s. 1002.73 ~~s. 1002.75~~, except that the
 1684 school district may execute a single agreement with the early
 1685 learning coalition on behalf of all district schools.

1686 (6) A public school prekindergarten provider may assign a
 1687 substitute instructor to temporarily replace a credentialed
 1688 instructor if the credentialed instructor assigned to a
 1689 prekindergarten class is absent, as long as the substitute
 1690 instructor is of good moral character and has been screened
 1691 before employment in accordance with level 2 background
 1692 screening requirements in chapter 435. This subsection does not
 1693 supersede employment requirements for instructional personnel in
 1694 public schools which are more stringent than the requirements of
 1695 this subsection. The department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ shall
 1696 adopt rules to implement this subsection which shall include
 1697 required qualifications of substitute instructors and the
 1698 circumstances and time limits for which a public school
 1699 prekindergarten provider may assign a substitute instructor.

1700 (8) Each public school delivering the school-year

1701 prekindergarten program must register with the early learning
 1702 coalition on forms prescribed by the department ~~Office of Early~~
 1703 ~~Learning~~ and deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
 1704 Program in accordance with this part.

1705 (9) (a) Each district school board shall verify that each
 1706 public school delivering the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
 1707 Program within the school district complies with this part.

1708 (b) If a public school fails or refuses to comply with
 1709 this part or engages in misconduct, the department shall require
 1710 the school district to remove the school from eligibility to
 1711 deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and
 1712 receive state funds under this part for a period of at least 2
 1713 years but no more than 5 years.

1714 Section 42. Section 1002.67, Florida Statutes, is amended
 1715 to read:

1716 1002.67 Performance standards and ~~curricula and~~
 1717 ~~accountability.~~—

1718 (1) (a) The department ~~office~~ shall develop and adopt
 1719 performance standards for students in the Voluntary
 1720 Prekindergarten Education Program. The performance standards
 1721 must address the age-appropriate progress of students in the
 1722 development of:

- 1723 1. The capabilities, capacities, and skills required under
- 1724 s. 1(b), Art. IX of the State Constitution; ~~and~~
- 1725 2. Emergent literacy skills, including oral communication,

1726 knowledge of print and letters, phonemic and phonological
 1727 awareness, and vocabulary and comprehension development; and

1728 3. Mathematical thinking and early math skills.

1729
 1730 ~~By October 1, 2013, the office shall examine the existing~~
 1731 ~~performance standards in the area of mathematical thinking and~~
 1732 ~~develop a plan to make appropriate professional development and~~
 1733 ~~training courses available to prekindergarten instructors.~~

1734 (b) At least every 3 years, the department ~~office~~ shall
 1735 ~~periodically~~ review and, if necessary, revise the performance
 1736 standards established under s. 1002.67 ~~for the statewide~~
 1737 ~~kindergarten screening administered under s. 1002.69~~ and align
 1738 the standards to the standards established by the state board
 1739 for student performance on the statewide assessments
 1740 administered pursuant to s. 1008.22.

1741 (2) (a) Each private prekindergarten provider and public
 1742 school may select or design the curriculum that the provider or
 1743 school uses to implement the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
 1744 Program, except as otherwise required for a provider or school
 1745 that is placed on probation under s. 1002.68 ~~paragraph (4) (e).~~

1746 (b) Each private prekindergarten provider's and public
 1747 school's curriculum must be developmentally appropriate and
 1748 must:

1749 1. Be designed to prepare a student for early literacy and
 1750 provide for instruction in early math skills;

1751 2. Enhance the age-appropriate progress of students in
 1752 attaining the performance standards adopted by the department
 1753 under subsection (1); and

1754 3. Support student learning gains through differentiated
 1755 instruction that shall be measured by the coordinated screening
 1756 and progress monitoring program under s. 1008.2125 ~~Prepare~~
 1757 ~~students to be ready for kindergarten based upon the statewide~~
 1758 ~~kindergarten screening administered under s. 1002.69.~~

1759 (c) The department ~~office~~ shall adopt procedures for the
 1760 review and approval of ~~approve~~ curricula for use by private
 1761 prekindergarten providers and public schools that are placed on
 1762 probation under s. 1002.68 ~~paragraph (4)(c)~~. The department
 1763 ~~office~~ shall administer the review and approval process and
 1764 maintain a list of the curricula approved under this paragraph.
 1765 Each approved curriculum must meet the requirements of paragraph
 1766 (b).

1767 ~~(3)(a) Contingent upon legislative appropriation, each~~
 1768 ~~private prekindergarten provider and public school in the~~
 1769 ~~Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program must implement an~~
 1770 ~~evidence-based pre- and post-assessment that has been approved~~
 1771 ~~by rule of the State Board of Education.~~

1772 ~~(b) In order to be approved, the assessment must be valid,~~
 1773 ~~reliable, developmentally appropriate, and designed to measure~~
 1774 ~~student progress on domains which must include, but are not~~
 1775 ~~limited to, early literacy, numeracy, and language.~~

1776 ~~(c) The pre- and post-assessment must be administered by~~
1777 ~~individuals meeting requirements established by rule of the~~
1778 ~~State Board of Education.~~

1779 ~~(4)(a) Each early learning coalition shall verify that~~
1780 ~~each private prekindergarten provider delivering the Voluntary~~
1781 ~~Prekindergarten Education Program within the coalition's county~~
1782 ~~or multicounty region complies with this part. Each district~~
1783 ~~school board shall verify that each public school delivering the~~
1784 ~~program within the school district complies with this part.~~

1785 ~~(b) If a private prekindergarten provider or public school~~
1786 ~~fails or refuses to comply with this part, or if a provider or~~
1787 ~~school engages in misconduct, the office shall require the early~~
1788 ~~learning coalition to remove the provider and require the school~~
1789 ~~district to remove the school from eligibility to deliver the~~
1790 ~~Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and receive state~~
1791 ~~funds under this part for a period of 5 years.~~

1792 ~~(c)1. If the kindergarten readiness rate of a private~~
1793 ~~prekindergarten provider or public school falls below the~~
1794 ~~minimum rate adopted by the office as satisfactory under s.~~
1795 ~~1002.69(6), the early learning coalition or school district, as~~
1796 ~~applicable, shall require the provider or school to submit an~~
1797 ~~improvement plan for approval by the coalition or school~~
1798 ~~district, as applicable, and to implement the plan; shall place~~
1799 ~~the provider or school on probation; and shall require the~~
1800 ~~provider or school to take certain corrective actions, including~~

1801 ~~the use of a curriculum approved by the office under paragraph~~
1802 ~~(2)(c) or a staff development plan to strengthen instruction in~~
1803 ~~language development and phonological awareness approved by the~~
1804 ~~office.~~

1805 ~~2. A private prekindergarten provider or public school~~
1806 ~~that is placed on probation must continue the corrective actions~~
1807 ~~required under subparagraph 1., including the use of a~~
1808 ~~curriculum or a staff development plan to strengthen instruction~~
1809 ~~in language development and phonological awareness approved by~~
1810 ~~the office, until the provider or school meets the minimum rate~~
1811 ~~adopted by the office as satisfactory under s. 1002.69(6).~~
1812 ~~Failure to implement an approved improvement plan or staff~~
1813 ~~development plan shall result in the termination of the~~
1814 ~~provider's contract to deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten~~
1815 ~~Education Program for a period of 5 years.~~

1816 ~~3. If a private prekindergarten provider or public school~~
1817 ~~remains on probation for 2 consecutive years and fails to meet~~
1818 ~~the minimum rate adopted by the office as satisfactory under s.~~
1819 ~~1002.69(6) and is not granted a good cause exemption by the~~
1820 ~~office pursuant to s. 1002.69(7), the office shall require the~~
1821 ~~early learning coalition or the school district to remove, as~~
1822 ~~applicable, the provider or school from eligibility to deliver~~
1823 ~~the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and receive~~
1824 ~~state funds for the program for a period of 5 years.~~

1825 ~~(d) Each early learning coalition and the office shall~~

1826 ~~coordinate with the Child Care Services Program Office of the~~
1827 ~~Department of Children and Families to minimize interagency~~
1828 ~~duplication of activities for monitoring private prekindergarten~~
1829 ~~providers for compliance with requirements of the Voluntary~~
1830 ~~Prekindergarten Education Program under this part, the school~~
1831 ~~readiness program under part VI of this chapter, and the~~
1832 ~~licensing of providers under ss. 402.301-402.319.~~

1833 Section 43. Section 1002.68, Florida Statutes, is created
1834 to read:

1835 1002.68 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
1836 accountability.-

1837 (1) (a) Beginning with the 2021-2022 program year, each
1838 private prekindergarten provider and public school participating
1839 in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program must
1840 participate in the coordinated screening and progress monitoring
1841 program in accordance with s. 1008.2125. The coordinated
1842 screening and progress monitoring program results shall be used
1843 by the department to identify student learning gains, index
1844 development learning outcomes upon program completion relative
1845 to the performance standards established under s. 1002.67 and
1846 representative norms, and inform a private prekindergarten
1847 provider's and public school's performance metric.

1848 (b) At a minimum, the initial and final progress
1849 monitoring or screening must be administered by individuals
1850 meeting requirements adopted by the department pursuant to s.

1851 1008.2125.

1852 (c) Each private prekindergarten provider and public
1853 school must provide a student's performance results from the
1854 coordinated screening and progress monitoring to the student's
1855 parents within 7 days after the administration of such
1856 coordinated screening and progress monitoring.

1857 (2) Beginning with the 2020-2021 program year, each
1858 private prekindergarten provider and public school in the
1859 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program must participate in
1860 a program assessment of each voluntary prekindergarten education
1861 classroom. The program assessment shall measure the quality of
1862 teacher-child interactions, including emotional support,
1863 classroom organization, and instructional support for children
1864 ages 3 to 5 years. Each private prekindergarten provider and
1865 public school in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
1866 shall receive from the department the results of the program
1867 assessment for each classroom within 14 days after the
1868 observation. The program assessment must be administered by
1869 individuals who meet requirements established by rule of the
1870 State Board of Education.

1871 (3) (a) For the 2019-2020 program year, the department
1872 shall calculate a kindergarten readiness rate for each private
1873 prekindergarten provider and public school in the Voluntary
1874 Prekindergarten Education Program based upon learning gains and
1875 the percentage of students who are assessed as ready for

1876 kindergarten. The department shall require that each school
 1877 district administer the statewide kindergarten screening in use
 1878 before the 2020-2021 school year to each kindergarten student in
 1879 the school district within the first 30 school days of the 2020-
 1880 2021 school year. Private schools may administer the statewide
 1881 kindergarten screening to each kindergarten student in a private
 1882 school who was enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten
 1883 Education Program. Learning gains shall be determined using a
 1884 value-added measure based on growth demonstrated by the results
 1885 of the preassessment and postassessment in use before the 2020-
 1886 2021 program year. Any private prekindergarten provider or
 1887 public school in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
 1888 which fails to meet the minimum kindergarten readiness rate for
 1889 the 2019-2020 program year is subject to the probation
 1890 requirements of subsection (5).

1891 (b) For the 2020-2021 program year, the department shall
 1892 calculate a program assessment composite score for each provider
 1893 based on the program assessment under subsection (2). Any
 1894 private prekindergarten provider or public school in the
 1895 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program which fails to meet
 1896 the minimum program assessment composite score for the 2020-2021
 1897 program year is subject to the probation requirements of
 1898 subsection (5).

1899 (4) (a) Beginning with the 2021-2022 program year, the
 1900 department shall adopt a methodology for calculating each

1901 private prekindergarten provider's and public school provider's
1902 performance metric, which must be based on a combination of the
1903 following:

1904 1. Program assessment composite scores under subsection
1905 (2), which must be weighted at no less than 50 percent.

1906 2. Learning gains operationalized as change in ability
1907 scores from the initial and final progress monitoring results
1908 described in subsection (1).

1909 3. Norm-referenced developmental learning outcomes
1910 described in subsection (1).

1911 (b) The methodology for calculating a provider's
1912 performance metric may only include prekindergarten students who
1913 have attended at least 85 percent of a private prekindergarten
1914 provider's or public school's program.

1915 (c) The program assessment composite score, performance
1916 metric, and grade must be calculated by private prekindergarten
1917 or public school site.

1918 (d) The methodology must include a statistical latent
1919 profile analysis that is conducted by a contracted independent
1920 expert with experience in relevant quantitative analysis, early
1921 childhood assessment, and designing state-level accountability
1922 systems. Such expert must be able to produce a limited number of
1923 performance metric profiles that summarize the profiles of all
1924 sites that must be used to inform the assignment of a letter
1925 grading system to include grades "A" through "F". The contracted

1926 independent expert may not be a direct stakeholder or have had a
1927 financial interest in the design or delivery of the Voluntary
1928 Prekindergarten Education Program or public school system within
1929 the last 5 years.

1930 (e) The department must provide for a differential payment
1931 to a private prekindergarten provider and public school based on
1932 the provider's grade. The maximum differential payment may not
1933 exceed a total of 15 percent of the base student allocation per
1934 full-time equivalent student under s. 1002.71 attending in the
1935 consecutive program year for that program. A private
1936 prekindergarten provider or public school may not receive a
1937 differential payment if it is assigned a grade of "C" or below.
1938 Before the adoption of the methodology, the department and the
1939 contracted expert shall confer with the Early Grade Success
1940 Advisory Committee under s. 1008.2125 before receiving approval
1941 from the State Board of Education for the final recommendations
1942 on the grading system and differential payments.

1943 (f) The department shall adopt procedures to annually
1944 calculate each private prekindergarten provider's and public
1945 school's performance metric and grade based on the methodology
1946 adopted in paragraphs (a) and (b). Beginning with the 2022-2023
1947 program year, each private prekindergarten provider or public
1948 school shall be assigned a grade within 45 days after the
1949 conclusion of the school-year Voluntary Prekindergarten
1950 Education Program delivered by all participating private

1951 prekindergarten providers or public schools and within 45 days
1952 after the conclusion of the summer Voluntary Prekindergarten
1953 Education Program delivered by all participating private
1954 prekindergarten providers or public schools.

1955 (g) The department shall adopt a minimum performance
1956 metric or grade that, if achieved by a private prekindergarten
1957 provider or public school, would demonstrate the provider's or
1958 school's satisfactory delivery of the Voluntary Prekindergarten
1959 Education Program.

1960 (5) (a) If a public school's or private prekindergarten
1961 provider's program assessment composite score for its
1962 prekindergarten classrooms fails to meet the minimum threshold
1963 for contracting established by the department pursuant to s.
1964 1002.82 (2) (n), the private prekindergarten provider or public
1965 school may not participate in the Voluntary Prekindergarten
1966 Education Program beginning in the consecutive program year and
1967 thereafter until the public school or private prekindergarten
1968 provider meets the minimum threshold for contracting.

1969 (b) If a private prekindergarten provider's or public
1970 school's performance metric or grade falls below the minimum
1971 performance metric or grade, the early learning coalition or
1972 school district shall:

1973 1. Require the provider or school to submit for approval
1974 to the coalition or school district an improvement plan and to
1975 implement the plan.

1976 2. Place the provider or school on probation.

1977 3. Require the provider or school to take certain
 1978 corrective actions, including the use of a curriculum approved
 1979 by the department under s. 1002.67(2)(c) and a staff development
 1980 plan approved by the department to strengthen instructional
 1981 practices in emotional and behavioral support, engaged support
 1982 for learning, classroom organization, language development,
 1983 phonological awareness, alphabet knowledge, and mathematical
 1984 thinking.

1985 (c) A private prekindergarten provider or public school
 1986 that is placed on probation must continue the corrective actions
 1987 required under paragraph (b) until the provider or school meets
 1988 the minimum performance metric or grade adopted by the
 1989 department. Failure to meet the requirements of subparagraphs
 1990 (b)1. and 3. shall result in the termination of the provider's
 1991 or school's contract to deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten
 1992 Education Program for a period of at least 2 years but no more
 1993 than 5 years.

1994 (d) If a private prekindergarten provider or public school
 1995 remains on probation for 2 consecutive years and fails to meet
 1996 the minimum performance metric or grade, or is not granted a
 1997 good cause exemption by the department, the department shall
 1998 require the early learning coalition or the school district to
 1999 revoke the provider's or school's eligibility to deliver the
 2000 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and receive state

2001 funds for the program for a period of at least 2 years but no
2002 more than 5 years.

2003 (6) (a) The department, upon the request of a private
2004 prekindergarten provider or public school that remains on
2005 probation for at least 2 consecutive years and subsequently
2006 fails to meet the minimum performance metric or grade, and for
2007 good cause shown, may grant to the provider or school an
2008 exemption from being determined ineligible to deliver the
2009 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and receive state
2010 funds for the program. Such exemption is valid for 1 year and,
2011 upon the request of the private prekindergarten provider or
2012 public school and for good cause shown, may be renewed.

2013 (b) A private prekindergarten provider's or public
2014 school's request for a good cause exemption, or renewal of such
2015 an exemption, must be submitted to the department in the manner
2016 and within the timeframes prescribed by the department and must
2017 include the following:

2018 1. Data from the private prekindergarten provider or
2019 public school which documents the achievement and progress of
2020 the children served, as measured by any required screenings or
2021 assessments.

2022 2. Data from the program assessment required under s.
2023 1002.55 which demonstrates effective teaching practices as
2024 recognized by the tool developer.

2025 3. Data from the early learning coalition or district

2026 school board, as applicable, the Department of Children and
2027 Families, the local licensing authority, or an accrediting
2028 association, as applicable, relating to the private
2029 prekindergarten provider's or public school's compliance with
2030 state and local health and safety standards.

2031 (c) The department shall adopt criteria for granting good
2032 cause exemptions. Such criteria must include, but are not
2033 limited to, all of the following:

2034 1. Child demographic data that evidences a private
2035 prekindergarten provider or public school serves a statistically
2036 significant population of children with special needs who have
2037 individual education plans and can demonstrate progress toward
2038 meeting the goals outlined in the students' individual education
2039 plans.

2040 2. Learning gains of children served in the Voluntary
2041 Prekindergarten Education Program by the private prekindergarten
2042 provider or public school on an alternative measure that has
2043 comparable validity and reliability of the coordinated screening
2044 and progress monitoring program in accordance with s. 1008.2125.

2045 3. Program assessment data under subsection (2) which
2046 demonstrates effective teaching practices as recognized by the
2047 tool developer.

2048 4. Verification that local and state health and safety
2049 requirements are met.

2050 (d) A good cause exemption may not be granted to any

2051 private prekindergarten provider or public school that has any
2052 class I violations or two or more class II violations, as
2053 defined by rule by the Department of Children and Families,
2054 within the 2 years preceding the provider's or school's request
2055 for the exemption.

2056 (e) A private prekindergarten provider or public school
2057 granted a good cause exemption shall continue to implement its
2058 improvement plan and continue the corrective actions required
2059 under subsection (5) (b) until the provider or school meets the
2060 minimum performance metric.

2061 (f) If a good cause exemption is granted to a private
2062 prekindergarten provider or public school that remains on
2063 probation for 2 consecutive years and if the provider meets all
2064 other applicable requirements of this part, the department shall
2065 notify the early learning coalition or school district of the
2066 good cause exemption and direct that the coalition or school
2067 district not remove the provider from eligibility to deliver the
2068 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program or to receive state
2069 funds for the program.

2070 (g) The department shall report the number of private
2071 prekindergarten providers or public schools that have received a
2072 good cause exemption and the reasons for the exemptions as part
2073 of its annual reporting requirements under s. 1002.82(6).

2074 (7) Representatives from each school district and
2075 corresponding early learning coalitions must meet annually to

2076 develop strategies to transition students from the Voluntary
2077 Prekindergarten Education Program to kindergarten.

2078 Section 44. Section 1002.69, Florida Statutes, is
2079 repealed.

2080 Section 45. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3), subsection
2081 (4), paragraph (b) of subsection (5), paragraphs (b) and (d) of
2082 subsection (6), and subsection (7) of section 1002.71, Florida
2083 Statutes, are amended to read:

2084 1002.71 Funding; financial and attendance reporting.—

2085 (3)

2086 (c) The initial allocation shall be based on estimated
2087 student enrollment in each coalition service area. The
2088 department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ shall reallocate funds among
2089 the coalitions based on actual full-time equivalent student
2090 enrollment in each coalition service area. Each coalition shall
2091 report student enrollment pursuant to subsection (2) on a
2092 monthly basis. A student enrollment count for the prior fiscal
2093 year may not be amended after September 30 of the subsequent
2094 fiscal year.

2095 (4) Notwithstanding s. 1002.53(3) and subsection (2):

2096 (a) A child who, for any of the prekindergarten programs
2097 listed in s. 1002.53(3), has not completed more than 70 percent
2098 of the hours authorized to be reported for funding under
2099 subsection (2), or has not expended more than 70 percent of the
2100 funds authorized for the child under s. 1002.66, may withdraw

2101 from the program for good cause and reenroll in one of the
2102 programs. The total funding for a child who reenrolls in one of
2103 the programs for good cause may not exceed one full-time
2104 equivalent student. Funding for a child who withdraws and
2105 reenrolls in one of the programs for good cause shall be issued
2106 in accordance with the department's ~~Office of Early Learning's~~
2107 uniform attendance policy adopted pursuant to paragraph (6) (d).

2108 (b) A child who has not substantially completed any of the
2109 prekindergarten programs listed in s. 1002.53(3) may withdraw
2110 from the program due to an extreme hardship that is beyond the
2111 child's or parent's control, reenroll in one of the summer
2112 programs, and be reported for funding purposes as a full-time
2113 equivalent student in the summer program for which the child is
2114 reenrolled.

2115
2116 A child may reenroll only once in a prekindergarten program
2117 under this section. A child who reenrolls in a prekindergarten
2118 program under this subsection may not subsequently withdraw from
2119 the program and reenroll, unless the child is granted a good
2120 cause exemption under this subsection. The department ~~Office of~~
2121 ~~Early Learning~~ shall establish criteria specifying whether a
2122 good cause exists for a child to withdraw from a program under
2123 paragraph (a), whether a child has substantially completed a
2124 program under paragraph (b), and whether an extreme hardship
2125 exists which is beyond the child's or parent's control under

2126 paragraph (b).

2127 (5)

2128 (b) The department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ shall adopt
2129 procedures for the payment of private prekindergarten providers
2130 and public schools delivering the Voluntary Prekindergarten
2131 Education Program. The procedures shall provide for the advance
2132 payment of providers and schools based upon student enrollment
2133 in the program, the certification of student attendance, and the
2134 reconciliation of advance payments in accordance with the
2135 uniform attendance policy adopted under paragraph (6) (d). The
2136 procedures shall provide for the monthly distribution of funds
2137 by the department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ to the early learning
2138 coalitions for payment by the coalitions to private
2139 prekindergarten providers and public schools.

2140 (6)

2141 (b)1. Each private prekindergarten provider's and district
2142 school board's attendance policy must require the parent of each
2143 student in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program to
2144 verify, each month, the student's attendance on the prior
2145 month's certified student attendance.

2146 2. The parent must submit the verification of the
2147 student's attendance to the private prekindergarten provider or
2148 public school on forms prescribed by the department ~~Office of~~
2149 ~~Early Learning~~. The forms must include, in addition to the
2150 verification of the student's attendance, a certification, in

2151 substantially the following form, that the parent continues to
 2152 choose the private prekindergarten provider or public school in
 2153 accordance with s. 1002.53 and directs that payments for the
 2154 program be made to the provider or school:

2155 VERIFICATION OF STUDENT'S ATTENDANCE
 2156 AND CERTIFICATION OF PARENTAL CHOICE

2157 I, ...(Name of Parent)..., swear (or affirm) that my child,
 2158 ...(Name of Student)..., attended the Voluntary Prekindergarten
 2159 Education Program on the days listed above and certify that I
 2160 continue to choose ...(Name of Provider or School)... to deliver
 2161 the program for my child and direct that program funds be paid
 2162 to the provider or school for my child.

2163 ... (Signature of Parent) ...

2164 ... (Date) ...

2165 3. The private prekindergarten provider or public school
 2166 must keep each original signed form for at least 2 years. Each
 2167 private prekindergarten provider must permit the early learning
 2168 coalition, and each public school must permit the school
 2169 district, to inspect the original signed forms during normal
 2170 business hours. The department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ shall
 2171 adopt procedures for early learning coalitions and school
 2172 districts to review the original signed forms against the
 2173 certified student attendance. The review procedures shall
 2174 provide for the use of selective inspection techniques,
 2175 including, but not limited to, random sampling. Each early

2176 | learning coalition and the school districts must comply with the
 2177 | review procedures.

2178 | (d) The department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ shall adopt,
 2179 | for funding purposes, a uniform attendance policy for the
 2180 | Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program. The attendance
 2181 | policy must apply statewide and apply equally to all private
 2182 | prekindergarten providers and public schools. The attendance
 2183 | policy must include at least the following provisions:

2184 | 1. A student's attendance may be reported on a pro rata
 2185 | basis as a fractional part of a full-time equivalent student.

2186 | 2. At a maximum, 20 percent of the total payment made on
 2187 | behalf of a student to a private prekindergarten provider or a
 2188 | public school may be for hours a student is absent.

2189 | 3. A private prekindergarten provider or public school may
 2190 | not receive payment for absences that occur before a student's
 2191 | first day of attendance or after a student's last day of
 2192 | attendance.

2193 |

2194 | The uniform attendance policy shall be used only for funding
 2195 | purposes and does not prohibit a private prekindergarten
 2196 | provider or public school from adopting and enforcing its
 2197 | attendance policy under paragraphs (a) and (c).

2198 | (7) The department ~~Office of Early Learning~~ shall require
 2199 | that administrative expenditures be kept to the minimum
 2200 | necessary for efficient and effective administration of the

2201 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program. Administrative
2202 policies and procedures shall be revised, to the maximum extent
2203 practicable, to incorporate the use of automation and electronic
2204 submission of forms, including those required for child
2205 eligibility and enrollment, provider and class registration, and
2206 monthly certification of attendance for payment. A school
2207 district may use its automated daily attendance reporting system
2208 for the purpose of transmitting attendance records to the early
2209 learning coalition in a mutually agreed-upon format. In
2210 addition, actions shall be taken to reduce paperwork, eliminate
2211 the duplication of reports, and eliminate other duplicative
2212 activities. Each early learning coalition may retain and expend
2213 no more than 4.0 percent of the funds paid by the coalition to
2214 private prekindergarten providers and public schools under
2215 paragraph (5) (b). Funds retained by an early learning coalition
2216 under this subsection may be used only for administering the
2217 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and may not be used
2218 for the school readiness program or other programs.

2219 Section 46. Subsection (1) of section 1002.72, Florida
2220 Statutes, is amended to read:

2221 1002.72 Records of children in the Voluntary
2222 Prekindergarten Education Program.—

2223 (1) (a) The records of a child enrolled in the Voluntary
2224 Prekindergarten Education Program held by an early learning
2225 coalition, the department ~~Office of Early Learning~~, or a

2226 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program provider are
 2227 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I
 2228 of the State Constitution. For purposes of this section, such
 2229 records include assessment data, health data, records of teacher
 2230 observations, and personal identifying information of an
 2231 enrolled child and his or her parent.

2232 (b) This exemption applies to the records of a child
 2233 enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program held
 2234 by an early learning coalition, the department ~~Office of Early~~
 2235 ~~Learning~~, or a Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
 2236 provider before, on, or after the effective date of this
 2237 exemption.

2238 Section 47. Section 1002.73, Florida Statutes, is amended
 2239 to read:

2240 1002.73 Department of Education; powers and duties;
 2241 accountability requirements.—

2242 (1) The department shall adopt by rule a standard
 2243 statewide provider contract to be used with each Voluntary
 2244 Prekindergarten Education Program provider, with standardized
 2245 attachments by provider type. The department shall publish a
 2246 copy of the standard statewide provider contract on its website.
 2247 The standard statewide provider contract shall include, at a
 2248 minimum, provisions for provider probation, termination for
 2249 cause, and emergency termination for actions or inactions of a
 2250 provider that pose an immediate and serious danger to the

2251 health, safety, or welfare of children. The standard statewide
2252 provider contract shall also include appropriate due process
2253 procedures. During the pendency of an appeal of a termination,
2254 the provider may not continue to offer its services. Any
2255 provision imposed upon a provider that is inconsistent with, or
2256 prohibited by, law is void and unenforceable ~~administer the~~
2257 ~~accountability requirements of the Voluntary Prekindergarten~~
2258 ~~Education Program at the state level.~~

2259 (2) The department shall adopt procedures for ~~its~~:

2260 (a) The approval of prekindergarten director credentials
2261 under ss. 1002.55 and 1002.57.

2262 (b) The approval of emergent literacy and early
2263 mathematics skills training courses under ss. 1002.55 and
2264 1002.59.

2265 (c) Annually notifying private prekindergarten providers
2266 and public schools placed on probation for not meeting the
2267 minimum performance metric as required by s. 1002.68 of the free
2268 and low-cost, high-quality professional development
2269 opportunities developed or supported by the department.

2270 (d) The administration of the Voluntary Prekindergarten
2271 Education Program by the early learning coalitions and school
2272 districts, including, but not limited to, procedures for:

2273 1. Enrolling children in and determining the eligibility
2274 of children for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
2275 under s. 1002.53, which shall include the enrollment of children

2276 by public schools and private providers that meet specified
2277 requirements.

2278 2. Providing parents with profiles of private
2279 prekindergarten providers and public schools under s. 1002.53.

2280 3. Registering private prekindergarten providers and
2281 public schools to deliver the program under ss. 1002.55,
2282 1002.61, and 1002.63.

2283 4. Determining the eligibility of private prekindergarten
2284 providers to deliver the program under ss. 1002.55 and 1002.61
2285 and streamlining the process of determining provider eligibility
2286 whenever possible.

2287 5. Verifying the compliance of private prekindergarten
2288 providers and public schools and removing providers or schools
2289 from eligibility to deliver the program due to noncompliance or
2290 misconduct as provided in s. 1002.67.

2291 6. Paying private prekindergarten providers and public
2292 schools under s. 1002.71.

2293 7. Documenting and certifying student enrollment and
2294 student attendance under s. 1002.71.

2295 8. Reconciling advance payments in accordance with the
2296 uniform attendance policy under s. 1002.71.

2297 9. Reenrolling students dismissed by a private
2298 prekindergarten provider or public school for noncompliance with
2299 the provider's or school district's attendance policy under s.
2300 1002.71.

2301 (3) The department shall administer the accountability
2302 requirements of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
2303 at the state level.

2304 (4) The department shall adopt procedures governing the
2305 administration of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
2306 Program by the early learning coalitions and school districts
2307 for:

2308 (a) Approving improvement plans of private prekindergarten
2309 providers and public schools under s. 1002.68.

2310 (b) Placing private prekindergarten providers and public
2311 schools on probation and requiring corrective actions under s.
2312 1002.68.

2313 (c) Removing a private prekindergarten provider or public
2314 school from eligibility to deliver the program due to the
2315 provider's or school's remaining on probation beyond the time
2316 permitted under s. 1002.68. Notwithstanding any other law, if a
2317 private prekindergarten provider has been cited for a class I
2318 violation, as defined by rule by the Child Care Services Program
2319 Office of the Department of Children and Families, the coalition
2320 may refuse to contract with the provider or revoke the
2321 provider's eligibility to deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten
2322 Education Program.

2323 (d) Enrolling children in and determining the eligibility
2324 of children for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
2325 under s. 1002.66.

2326 (e) Paying specialized instructional services providers
 2327 under s. 1002.66.

2328 ~~(c) Administration of the statewide kindergarten screening~~
 2329 ~~and calculation of kindergarten readiness rates under s.~~
 2330 ~~1002.69.~~

2331 ~~(d) Implementation of, and determination of costs~~
 2332 ~~associated with, the state-approved prekindergarten enrollment~~
 2333 ~~screening and the standardized postassessment approved by the~~
 2334 ~~department, and determination of the learning gains of students~~
 2335 ~~who complete the state-approved prekindergarten enrollment~~
 2336 ~~screening and the standardized postassessment approved by the~~
 2337 ~~department.~~

2338 (f)(e) Approving ~~Approval~~ of specialized instructional
 2339 services providers under s. 1002.66.

2340 ~~(f) Annual reporting of the percentage of kindergarten~~
 2341 ~~students who meet all state readiness measures.~~

2342 (g) Granting of a private prekindergarten provider's or
 2343 public school's request for a good cause exemption under s.
 2344 1002.68 ~~s. 1002.69(7).~~

2345 (5) The department shall adopt procedures for the
 2346 distribution of funds to early learning coalitions under s.
 2347 1002.71.

2348 (6)(3) Except as provided by law, the department may not
 2349 impose requirements on a private prekindergarten provider or
 2350 public school that does not deliver the Voluntary

2351 Prekindergarten Education Program or receive state funds under
 2352 this part.

2353 Section 48. Sections 1002.75 and 1002.77, Florida
 2354 Statutes, are repealed.

2355 Section 49. Section 1002.79, Florida Statutes, is amended
 2356 to read:

2357 1002.79 Rulemaking authority.—The State Board of Education
 2358 ~~Office of Early Learning~~ shall adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1)
 2359 and 120.54 to administer the provisions of this part conferring
 2360 duties upon the department ~~office~~.

2361 Section 50. Section 1002.81, Florida Statutes, is amended
 2362 to read:

2363 1002.81 Definitions.—Consistent with the requirements of
 2364 45 C.F.R. parts 98 and 99 and as used in this part, the term:

2365 (1) "At-risk child" means:

2366 (a) A child from a family under investigation by the
 2367 Department of Children and Families or a designated sheriff's
 2368 office for child abuse, neglect, abandonment, or exploitation.

2369 (b) A child who is in a diversion program provided by the
 2370 Department of Children and Families or its contracted provider
 2371 and who is from a family that is actively participating and
 2372 complying in department-prescribed activities, including
 2373 education, health services, or work.

2374 (c) A child from a family that is under supervision by the
 2375 Department of Children and Families or a contracted service

2376 provider for abuse, neglect, abandonment, or exploitation.

2377 (d) A child placed in court-ordered, long-term custody or
 2378 under the guardianship of a relative or nonrelative after
 2379 termination of supervision by the Department of Children and
 2380 Families or its contracted provider.

2381 (e) A child in the custody of a parent who is considered a
 2382 victim of domestic violence and is receiving services through a
 2383 certified domestic violence center.

2384 (f) A child in the custody of a parent who is considered
 2385 homeless as verified by a Department of Children and Families
 2386 certified homeless shelter.

2387 (2) "Authorized hours of care" means the hours of care
 2388 that are necessary to provide protection, maintain employment,
 2389 or complete work activities or eligible educational activities,
 2390 including reasonable travel time.

2391 (3)~~(4)~~ "Direct enhancement services" means services for
 2392 families and children that are in addition to payments for the
 2393 placement of children in the school readiness program. Direct
 2394 enhancement services for families and children may include
 2395 supports for providers, parent training and involvement
 2396 activities, and strategies to meet the needs of unique
 2397 populations and local eligibility priorities. Direct enhancement
 2398 services offered by an early learning coalition shall be
 2399 consistent with the activities prescribed in s. 1002.89(5)(b) ~~s.~~
 2400 ~~1002.89(6)(b)~~.

2401 (4)~~(5)~~ "Disenrollment" means the removal, either temporary
2402 or permanent, of a child from participation in the school
2403 readiness program. Removal of a child from the school readiness
2404 program may be based on the following events: a reduction in
2405 available school readiness program funding, participant's
2406 failure to meet eligibility or program participation
2407 requirements, fraud, or a change in local service priorities.

2408 (5)~~(6)~~ "Earned income" means gross remuneration derived
2409 from work, professional service, or self-employment. The term
2410 includes commissions, bonuses, back pay awards, and the cash
2411 value of all remuneration paid in a medium other than cash.

2412 (6)~~(7)~~ "Economically disadvantaged" means having a family
2413 income that does not exceed 150 percent of the federal poverty
2414 level and includes being a child of a working migratory family
2415 as defined by 34 C.F.R. s. 200.81(d) or (f) or an agricultural
2416 worker who is employed by more than one agricultural employer
2417 during the course of a year, and whose income varies according
2418 to weather conditions and market stability.

2419 (7)~~(8)~~ "Family income" means the combined gross income,
2420 whether earned or unearned, that is derived from any source by
2421 all family or household members who are 18 years of age or older
2422 who are currently residing together in the same dwelling unit.
2423 The term does not include income earned by a currently enrolled
2424 high school student who, since attaining the age of 18 years, or
2425 a student with a disability who, since attaining the age of 22

2426 | years, has not terminated school enrollment or received a high
 2427 | school diploma, high school equivalency diploma, special
 2428 | diploma, or certificate of high school completion. The term also
 2429 | does not include food stamp benefits or federal housing
 2430 | assistance payments issued directly to a landlord or the
 2431 | associated utilities expenses.

2432 | (8)~~(9)~~ "Family or household members" means spouses, former
 2433 | spouses, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are
 2434 | parents of a child in common regardless of whether they have
 2435 | been married, and other persons who are currently residing
 2436 | together in the same dwelling unit as if a family.

2437 | (9)~~(10)~~ "Full-time care" means at least 6 hours, but not
 2438 | more than 11 hours, of child care or early childhood education
 2439 | services within a 24-hour period.

2440 | (10)~~(11)~~ "Market rate" means the price that a child care
 2441 | or early childhood education provider charges for full-time or
 2442 | part-time daily, weekly, or monthly child care or early
 2443 | childhood education services.

2444 | ~~(12)~~ "Office" means the Office of Early Learning of the
 2445 | Department of Education.

2446 | (11)~~(13)~~ "Part-time care" means less than 6 hours of child
 2447 | care or early childhood education services within a 24-hour
 2448 | period.

2449 | (12)~~(3)~~ "Prevailing Average market rate" means the
 2450 | biennially determined 75th percentile of a reasonable frequency

2451 distribution ~~average~~ of the market rate by program care level
 2452 and provider type in a predetermined geographic market at which
 2453 child care providers charge a person for child care services.

2454 ~~(14)-(14)~~ "Single point of entry" means an integrated
 2455 information system that allows a parent to enroll his or her
 2456 child in the school readiness program or the Voluntary
 2457 Prekindergarten Education Program at various locations
 2458 throughout a county, that may allow a parent to enroll his or
 2459 her child by telephone or through a website, and that uses a
 2460 uniform waiting list to track eligible children waiting for
 2461 enrollment in the school readiness program.

2462 ~~(14)-(15)~~ "Unearned income" means income other than earned
 2463 income. The term includes, but is not limited to:

- 2464 (a) Documented alimony and child support received.
- 2465 (b) Social security benefits.
- 2466 (c) Supplemental security income benefits.
- 2467 (d) Workers' compensation benefits.
- 2468 (e) Reemployment assistance or unemployment compensation
- 2469 benefits.
- 2470 (f) Veterans' benefits.
- 2471 (g) Retirement benefits.
- 2472 (h) Temporary cash assistance under chapter 414.

2473 ~~(15)-(16)~~ "Working family" means:

- 2474 (a) A single-parent family in which the parent with whom
- 2475 the child resides is employed or engaged in eligible work or

2476 education activities for at least 20 hours per week;

2477 (b) A two-parent family in which both parents with whom
 2478 the child resides are employed or engaged in eligible work or
 2479 education activities for a combined total of at least 40 hours
 2480 per week; or

2481 (c) A two-parent family in which one of the parents with
 2482 whom the child resides is exempt from work requirements due to
 2483 age or disability, as determined and documented by a physician
 2484 licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, and one parent is
 2485 employed or engaged in eligible work or education activities at
 2486 least 20 hours per week.

2487 Section 51. Section 1002.82, Florida Statutes, is amended
 2488 to read:

2489 1002.82 Department of Education ~~Office of Early Learning~~;
 2490 powers and duties.—

2491 (1) For purposes of administration of the Child Care and
 2492 Development Block Grant Trust Fund, pursuant to 45 C.F.R. parts
 2493 98 and 99, the Department of Education ~~Office of Early Learning~~
 2494 is designated as the lead agency and must comply with lead
 2495 agency responsibilities pursuant to federal law. The department
 2496 ~~office~~ may apply to the Governor and Cabinet for a waiver of,
 2497 and the Governor and Cabinet may waive, any provision of ss.
 2498 411.223 and 1003.54 if the waiver is necessary for
 2499 implementation of the school readiness program. Section
 2500 125.901(2)(a)3. does not apply to the school readiness program.

2501 (2) The department ~~office~~ shall:

2502 (a) Focus on improving the educational quality delivered

2503 by all providers participating in the school readiness program.

2504 (b) Preserve parental choice by permitting parents to

2505 choose from a variety of child care categories, including

2506 center-based care, family child care, and informal child care to

2507 the extent authorized in the state's Child Care and Development

2508 Fund Plan as approved by the United States Department of Health

2509 and Human Services pursuant to 45 C.F.R. s. 98.18. Care and

2510 curriculum by a faith-based provider may not be limited or

2511 excluded in any of these categories.

2512 (c) Be responsible for the prudent use of all public and

2513 private funds in accordance with all legal and contractual

2514 requirements, safeguarding the effective use of federal, state,

2515 and local resources to achieve the highest practicable level of

2516 school readiness for the children described in s. 1002.87,

2517 including:

2518 1. The adoption of a uniform chart of accounts for

2519 budgeting and financial reporting purposes that provides

2520 standardized definitions for expenditures and reporting,

2521 consistent with the requirements of 45 C.F.R. part 98 and s.

2522 1002.89 for each of the following categories of expenditure:

2523 a. Direct services to children.

2524 b. Administrative costs.

2525 c. Quality activities.

2526 d. Nondirect services.

2527 2. Coordination with other state and federal agencies to
2528 perform data matches on children participating in the school
2529 readiness program and their families in order to verify the
2530 children's eligibility pursuant to s. 1002.87.

2531 (d) Establish procedures for the biennial calculation of
2532 the prevailing ~~average~~ market rate.

2533 (e) Review each early learning coalition's school
2534 readiness program plan every 2 years and provide final approval
2535 of the plan and any amendments submitted.

2536 (f) Establish a unified approach to the state's efforts to
2537 coordinate a comprehensive early learning program. In support of
2538 this effort, the department ~~office~~:

2539 1. Shall adopt specific program support services that
2540 address the state's school readiness program, including:

2541 a. Statewide data information program requirements that
2542 include:

2543 (I) Eligibility requirements.
2544 (II) Financial reports.
2545 (III) Program accountability measures.
2546 (IV) Child progress reports.

2547 b. Child care resource and referral services.
2548 c. A single point of entry and uniform waiting list.

2549 2. May provide technical assistance and guidance on
2550 additional support services to complement the school readiness

2551 program, including:

2552 a. Rating and improvement systems.

2553 b. Warm-Line services.

2554 c. Anti-fraud plans.

2555 d. School readiness program standards.

2556 e. Child screening and assessments.

2557 f. Training and support for parental involvement in

2558 children's early education.

2559 g. Family literacy activities and services.

2560 (g) Provide technical assistance to early learning

2561 coalitions.

2562 (h) In cooperation with the early learning coalitions,

2563 coordinate with the Child Care Services Program Office of the

2564 Department of Children and Families to reduce paperwork and to

2565 avoid duplicating interagency activities, health and safety

2566 monitoring, and acquiring and composing data pertaining to child

2567 care training and credentialing.

2568 (i) Enter into a memorandum of understanding with local

2569 licensing agencies and the Child Care Services Program Office of

2570 the Department of Children and Families for inspections of

2571 school readiness program providers to monitor and verify

2572 compliance with s. 1002.88 and the health and safety checklist

2573 adopted by the department ~~office~~. The provider contract of a

2574 school readiness program provider that refuses permission for

2575 entry or inspection shall be terminated. The health and safety

2576 checklist may not exceed the requirements of s. 402.305 and the
 2577 Child Care and Development Fund pursuant to 45 C.F.R. part 98. A
 2578 child development program that is accredited by a national
 2579 accrediting body and operates on a military installation that is
 2580 certified by the United States Department of Defense is exempted
 2581 from the inspection requirements under s. 1002.88.

2582 (j) Monitor the alignment and consistency of the Develop
 2583 and adopt standards and benchmarks developed and adopted by the
 2584 department that address the age-appropriate progress of children
 2585 in the development of school readiness skills. The standards for
 2586 children from birth to 5 years of age in the school readiness
 2587 program must be aligned with the performance standards adopted
 2588 for children in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
 2589 and must address the following domains:

- 2590 1. Approaches to learning.
- 2591 2. Cognitive development and general knowledge.
- 2592 3. Numeracy, language, and communication.
- 2593 4. Physical development.
- 2594 5. Self-regulation.

2595 (k) Identify observation-based child assessments that are
 2596 valid, reliable, and developmentally appropriate for use at
 2597 least three times a year. The assessments must:

- 2598 1. Provide interval level and norm-referenced ~~critereion-~~
 2599 ~~referenced~~ data that measures equivalent levels of growth across
 2600 the core domains of early childhood development and that can be

2601 used for determining developmentally appropriate learning gains.

2602 2. Measure progress in the performance standards adopted
2603 pursuant to paragraph (j).

2604 3. Provide for appropriate accommodations for children
2605 with disabilities and English language learners and be
2606 administered by qualified individuals, consistent with the
2607 developer's instructions.

2608 4. Coordinate with the performance standards adopted by
2609 the department under s. 1002.67(1) for the Voluntary
2610 Prekindergarten Education Program.

2611 5. Provide data in a format for use in the single
2612 statewide information system to meet the requirements of
2613 paragraph (q) ~~(p)~~.

2614 (l) Adopt a list of approved curricula that meet the
2615 performance standards for the school readiness program and
2616 establish a process for the review and approval of a provider's
2617 curriculum that meets the performance standards.

2618 (m) Provide technical support to an early learning
2619 coalition to facilitate the use of ~~Adopt by rule~~ a standard
2620 statewide provider contract to be used with each school
2621 readiness program provider, with standardized attachments by
2622 provider type. The department ~~office~~ shall publish a copy of the
2623 standard statewide provider contract on its website. The
2624 standard statewide contract shall include, at a minimum,
2625 contracted slots, if applicable, in accordance with the Child

2626 Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014, 45 C.F.R. parts 98
2627 and 99; quality improvement strategies, if applicable; program
2628 assessment requirements; and provisions for provider probation,
2629 termination for cause, and emergency termination for those
2630 actions or inactions of a provider that pose an immediate and
2631 serious danger to the health, safety, or welfare of the
2632 children. The standard statewide provider contract shall also
2633 include appropriate due process procedures. During the pendency
2634 of an appeal of a termination, the provider may not continue to
2635 offer its services. Any provision imposed upon a provider that
2636 is inconsistent with, or prohibited by, law is void and
2637 unenforceable. Provisions for termination for cause must also
2638 include failure to meet the minimum quality measures established
2639 under paragraph (n) for a period of up to 5 years, unless the
2640 coalition determines that the provider is essential to meeting
2641 capacity needs based on the assessment under s. 1002.85(2)(j)
2642 and the provider has an active improvement plan pursuant to
2643 paragraph (n).

2644 (n) Adopt a program assessment for school readiness
2645 program providers that measures the quality of teacher-child
2646 interactions, including emotional and behavioral support,
2647 engaged support for learning, classroom organization, and
2648 instructional support for children ages birth to 5 years. The
2649 implementation of the program assessment must also include the
2650 following components adopted by rule of the State Board of

2651 Education:

2652 1. Quality measures, including a minimum threshold for
2653 contracting purposes and program improvement through an
2654 improvement plan.

2655 2. Requirements for program participation, frequency of
2656 program assessment, and exemptions.

2657 (o) No later than July 1, 2019, develop a differential
2658 payment program based on the quality measures adopted by the
2659 department ~~office~~ under paragraph (n). The differential payment
2660 may not exceed a total of 15 percent for each care level and
2661 unit of child care for a child care provider. No more than 5
2662 percent of the 15 percent total differential may be provided to
2663 providers who submit valid and reliable data to the statewide
2664 information system in the domains of language and executive
2665 functioning using a child assessment identified pursuant to
2666 paragraph (k). Providers below the minimum threshold for
2667 contracting purposes are ineligible for such payment.

2668 (p) No later than July 1, 2021, develop and adopt
2669 requirements for the implementation of a program designed to
2670 make available contracted slots to serve children at the
2671 greatest risk of school failure as determined by such children
2672 being located in an area that has been designated as a poverty
2673 area tract according to the latest census data. The contracted
2674 slot program may also be used increase the availability of child
2675 care capacity based on the assessment under s. 1002.85(2)(j).

2676 (q)~~(p)~~ Establish a single statewide information system
 2677 that each coalition must use for the purposes of managing the
 2678 single point of entry, tracking children's progress,
 2679 coordinating services among stakeholders, determining
 2680 eligibility of children, tracking child attendance, and
 2681 streamlining administrative processes for providers and early
 2682 learning coalitions. By July 1, 2019, the system, subject to ss.
 2683 1002.72 and 1002.97, shall:

2684 1. Allow a parent to monitor the development of his or her
 2685 child as the child moves among programs within the state.

2686 2. Enable analysis at the state, regional, and local level
 2687 to measure child growth over time, program impact, and quality
 2688 improvement and investment decisions.

2689 (r)~~(q)~~ Provide technical support to coalitions to
 2690 facilitate the use of ~~Adopt by rule~~ standardized procedures
 2691 adopted by rule by the state board for coalitions to use when
 2692 monitoring the compliance of school readiness program providers
 2693 with the terms of the standard statewide provider contract.

2694 (s)~~(r)~~ Monitor and evaluate the performance of each early
 2695 learning coalition in administering the school readiness
 2696 program, ensuring proper payments for school readiness program
 2697 services, implementing the coalition's school readiness program
 2698 plan, and administering the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
 2699 Program. These monitoring and performance evaluations must
 2700 include, at a minimum, onsite monitoring of each coalition's

2701 finances, management, operations, and programs.

2702 (t)~~(s)~~ Work in conjunction with the Bureau of Federal
 2703 Education Programs within the Department of Education to
 2704 coordinate readiness and voluntary prekindergarten services to
 2705 the populations served by the bureau.

2706 (u)~~(t)~~ Administer a statewide toll-free Warm-Line to
 2707 provide assistance and consultation to child care facilities and
 2708 family day care homes regarding health, developmental,
 2709 disability, and special needs issues of the children they are
 2710 serving, particularly children with disabilities and other
 2711 special needs. The department ~~office~~ shall:

2712 1. Annually inform child care facilities and family day
 2713 care homes of the availability of this service through the child
 2714 care resource and referral network under s. 1002.92.

2715 2. Expand or contract for the expansion of the Warm-Line
 2716 to maintain at least one Warm-Line in each early learning
 2717 coalition service area.

2718 (v)~~(u)~~ Develop and implement strategies to increase the
 2719 supply and improve the quality of child care services for
 2720 infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, children who
 2721 receive care during nontraditional hours, children in
 2722 underserved areas, and children in areas that have significant
 2723 concentrations of poverty and unemployment.

2724 (w)~~(v)~~ Establish preservice and inservice training
 2725 requirements that address, at a minimum, school readiness child

2726 development standards, health and safety requirements, and
 2727 social-emotional behavior intervention models, which may include
 2728 positive behavior intervention and support models, including the
 2729 integration of early learning professional development pathways
 2730 established in s. 1002.995.

2731 (x)~~(w)~~ Establish standards for emergency preparedness
 2732 plans for school readiness program providers.

2733 (y)~~(x)~~ Establish group sizes.

2734 (z)~~(y)~~ Establish staff-to-children ratios that do not
 2735 exceed the requirements of s. 402.302(8) or (11) or s.
 2736 402.305(4), as applicable, for school readiness program
 2737 providers.

2738 (aa)~~(z)~~ Establish eligibility criteria, including
 2739 limitations based on income and family assets, in accordance
 2740 with s. 1002.87 and federal law.

2741 (3) If the department ~~office~~ determines during the review
 2742 of school readiness program plans, or through monitoring and
 2743 performance evaluations conducted under s. 1002.85, that an
 2744 early learning coalition has not substantially implemented its
 2745 plan, has not substantially met the performance standards and
 2746 outcome measures adopted by the department ~~office~~, or has not
 2747 effectively administered the school readiness program or
 2748 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, the department
 2749 ~~office~~ may remove the coalition from eligibility to administer
 2750 early learning programs and temporarily contract with a

2751 | qualified entity to continue school readiness program and
2752 | prekindergarten services in the coalition's county or
2753 | multicounty region until the department ~~office~~ reestablishes or
2754 | merges the coalition and a new school readiness program plan is
2755 | approved in accordance with the rules adopted by the state board
2756 | ~~office~~.

2757 | (4) The department shall adopt procedures for merging
2758 | early learning coalitions, including procedures for the
2759 | consolidation of merging coalitions that minimizes duplication
2760 | of programs and services due to the merger, and for the early
2761 | termination of the terms of the coalition members which are
2762 | necessary to accomplish the mergers.

2763 | (5)~~(4)~~ The department ~~office~~ may request the Governor to
2764 | apply for a waiver to allow a coalition to administer the Head
2765 | Start Program to accomplish the purposes of the school readiness
2766 | program.

2767 | (6)~~(5)~~ By January 1 of each year, the department ~~office~~
2768 | shall annually publish on its website a report of its activities
2769 | conducted under this section. The report must include a summary
2770 | of the coalitions' annual reports, a statewide summary, and the
2771 | following:

2772 | (a) An analysis of early learning activities throughout
2773 | the state, including the school readiness program and the
2774 | Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

2775 | 1. The total and average number of children served in the

2776 school readiness program, enumerated by age, eligibility
2777 priority category, and coalition, and the total number of
2778 children served in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
2779 Program.

2780 2. A summary of expenditures by coalition, by fund source,
2781 including a breakdown by coalition of the percentage of
2782 expenditures for administrative activities, quality activities,
2783 nondirect services, and direct services for children.

2784 3. A description of the department's ~~office's~~ and each
2785 coalition's expenditures by fund source for the quality and
2786 enhancement activities described in s. 1002.89(5)(b) ~~s.~~
2787 ~~1002.89(6)(b)~~.

2788 4. A summary of annual findings and collections related to
2789 provider fraud and parent fraud.

2790 5. Data regarding the coalitions' delivery of early
2791 learning programs.

2792 6. The total number of children disenrolled statewide and
2793 the reason for disenrollment.

2794 7. The total number of providers by provider type.

2795 8. The number of school readiness program providers who
2796 have completed the program assessment required under paragraph
2797 (2)(n); the number of providers who have not met the minimum
2798 threshold for contracting established under paragraph (2)(n);
2799 and the number of providers that have an active improvement plan
2800 based on the results of the program assessment under paragraph

2801 (2) (n) .

2802 9. The total number of provider contracts revoked and the
2803 reasons for revocation.

2804 (b) A summary of the activities and detailed expenditures
2805 related to the Child Care Executive Partnership Program.

2806 (7) (a) ~~(6) (a)~~ Parental choice of child care providers,
2807 including private and faith-based providers, shall be
2808 established to the maximum extent practicable in accordance with
2809 45 C.F.R. s. 98.30.

2810 (b) As used in this subsection, the term "payment
2811 certificate" means a child care certificate as defined in 45
2812 C.F.R. s. 98.2.

2813 (c) The school readiness program shall, in accordance with
2814 45 C.F.R. s. 98.30, provide parental choice through a payment
2815 certificate that provides, to the maximum extent possible,
2816 flexibility in the school readiness program and payment
2817 arrangements. The payment certificate must bear the names of the
2818 beneficiary and the program provider and, when redeemed, must
2819 bear the signatures of both the beneficiary and an authorized
2820 representative of the provider.

2821 (d) If it is determined that a provider has given any cash
2822 or other consideration to the beneficiary in return for
2823 receiving a payment certificate, the early learning coalition or
2824 its fiscal agent shall refer the matter to the Department of
2825 Financial Services pursuant to s. 414.411 for investigation.

2826 (8)~~(7)~~ Participation in the school readiness program does
 2827 not expand the regulatory authority of the state, its officers,
 2828 or an early learning coalition to impose any additional
 2829 regulation on providers beyond those necessary to enforce the
 2830 requirements set forth in this part and part V of this chapter.

2831 Section 52. Subsections (1), (2), and (3), paragraph (m)
 2832 of subsection (4), and subsections (5), (11), and (13) of
 2833 section 1002.83, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

2834 1002.83 Early learning coalitions.—

2835 (1) Thirty ~~Thirty-one~~ or fewer early learning coalitions
 2836 are established and shall maintain direct enhancement services
 2837 at the local level and provide access to such services in all 67
 2838 counties. Two or more early learning coalitions may join for
 2839 purposes of planning and implementing a school readiness program
 2840 and the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

2841 (2) Each early learning coalition shall be composed of at
 2842 least 13 ~~15~~ members but not more than 15 ~~30~~ members.

2843 (3) The Governor shall appoint the chair and two other
 2844 members of each early learning coalition, who must each meet the
 2845 ~~same~~ qualifications of a ~~as~~ private sector business member
 2846 ~~members appointed by the coalition~~ under subsection (5).

2847 (4) Each early learning coalition must include the
 2848 following member positions; however, in a multicounty coalition,
 2849 each ex officio member position may be filled by multiple
 2850 nonvoting members but no more than one voting member shall be

2851 seated per member position. If an early learning coalition has
2852 more than one member representing the same entity, only one of
2853 such members may serve as a voting member:

2854 ~~(m) A central agency administrator, where applicable.~~

2855 (5) ~~Including the~~ Members appointed by the Governor under
2856 subsection (3), ~~more than one-third of the members of each early~~
2857 ~~learning coalition~~ must be private sector business members,
2858 either for-profit or nonprofit, who do not have, and none of
2859 whose relatives as defined in s. 112.3143 has, a substantial
2860 financial interest in the design or delivery of the Voluntary
2861 Prekindergarten Education Program created under part V of this
2862 chapter or the school readiness program. ~~To meet this~~
2863 ~~requirement, an early learning coalition must appoint additional~~
2864 ~~members.~~ The department office shall establish criteria for
2865 appointing private sector business members. These criteria must
2866 include standards for determining whether a member or relative
2867 has a substantial financial interest in the design or delivery
2868 of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program or the school
2869 readiness program.

2870 (11) Each early learning coalition shall establish terms
2871 for all appointed members of the coalition. The terms must be
2872 staggered and must be a uniform length that does not exceed 4
2873 years per term. ~~Coalition chairs shall be appointed for 4 years~~
2874 ~~in conjunction with their membership on the Early Learning~~
2875 ~~Advisory Council pursuant to s. 20.052.~~ Appointed members may

2876 | serve a maximum of two consecutive terms. When a vacancy occurs
 2877 | in an appointed position, the coalition must advertise the
 2878 | vacancy.

2879 | (13) Each early learning coalition shall use a coordinated
 2880 | professional development system that supports the achievement
 2881 | and maintenance of core competencies by school readiness program
 2882 | teachers in helping children attain the performance standards
 2883 | adopted by the department ~~office~~.

2884 | Section 53. Subsections (17) through (20) of section
 2885 | 1002.84, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (16)
 2886 | through (19), respectively, and subsections (1), (2), (4), (7),
 2887 | (8), (15), and (16) and present subsections (17), (18), and (20)
 2888 | of that section are amended to read:

2889 | 1002.84 Early learning coalitions; school readiness powers
 2890 | and duties.—Each early learning coalition shall:

2891 | (1) Administer and implement a local comprehensive program
 2892 | of school readiness program services in accordance with this
 2893 | part and the rules adopted by the department ~~office~~, which
 2894 | enhances the cognitive, social, and physical development of
 2895 | children to achieve the performance standards.

2896 | (2) Establish a uniform waiting list to track eligible
 2897 | children waiting for enrollment in the school readiness program
 2898 | in accordance with rules adopted by the State Board of Education
 2899 | ~~office~~.

2900 | (4) Establish a regional Warm-Line as directed by the

2901 department office pursuant to s. 1002.82(2)(u) ~~s. 1002.82(2)(t)~~.
 2902 Regional Warm-Line staff shall provide onsite technical
 2903 assistance, when requested, to assist child care facilities and
 2904 family day care homes with inquiries relating to the strategies,
 2905 curriculum, and environmental adaptations the child care
 2906 facilities and family day care homes may need as they serve
 2907 children with disabilities and other special needs.

2908 (7) Determine child eligibility pursuant to s. 1002.87 and
 2909 provider eligibility pursuant to s. 1002.88. Child eligibility
 2910 must be redetermined annually. A coalition must document the
 2911 reason a child is no longer eligible for the school readiness
 2912 program according to the standard codes prescribed by the
 2913 department office.

2914 (8) Establish a parent sliding fee scale that provides for
 2915 a parent copayment that is not a barrier to families receiving
 2916 school readiness program services. ~~Providers are required to~~
 2917 ~~collect the parent's copayment.~~ A coalition may, ~~on a case-by-~~
 2918 ~~case basis,~~ waive the copayment for an at-risk child or
 2919 temporarily waive the copayment for a child whose family's
 2920 income is at or below the federal poverty level or ~~and~~ whose
 2921 family experiences a natural disaster or an event that limits
 2922 the parent's ability to pay, such as incarceration, placement in
 2923 residential treatment, or becoming homeless, or an emergency
 2924 situation such as a household fire or burglary, or while the
 2925 parent is participating in parenting classes or participating in

2926 an Early Head Start program or Head Start Program. A parent may
2927 not transfer school readiness program services to another school
2928 readiness program provider until the parent has submitted
2929 documentation from the current school readiness program provider
2930 to the early learning coalition stating that the parent has
2931 satisfactorily fulfilled the copayment obligation.

2932 (15) Monitor school readiness program providers in
2933 accordance with its plan, or in response to a parental
2934 complaint, to verify that the standards prescribed in ss.
2935 1002.82 and 1002.88 are being met using a standard monitoring
2936 tool adopted by the department ~~office~~. Providers determined to
2937 be high-risk by the coalition, as demonstrated by substantial
2938 findings of violations of federal law or the general or local
2939 laws of the state, shall be monitored more frequently. Providers
2940 with 3 consecutive years of compliance may be monitored
2941 biennially.

2942 ~~(16) Adopt a payment schedule that encompasses all~~
2943 ~~programs funded under this part and part V of this chapter. The~~
2944 ~~payment schedule must take into consideration the average market~~
2945 ~~rate, include the projected number of children to be served, and~~
2946 ~~be submitted for approval by the office. Informal child care~~
2947 ~~arrangements shall be reimbursed at not more than 50 percent of~~
2948 ~~the rate adopted for a family day care home.~~

2949 (16) ~~(17)~~ Implement an anti-fraud plan addressing the
2950 detection, reporting, and prevention of overpayments, abuse, and

2951 fraud relating to the provision of and payment for school
 2952 readiness program and Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
 2953 Program services and submit the plan to the department ~~office~~
 2954 for approval, as required by s. 1002.91.

2955 (17)~~(18)~~ By October 1 of each year, submit an annual
 2956 report to the department ~~office~~. The report shall conform to the
 2957 format adopted by the department ~~office~~ and must include:

2958 (a) Segregation of school readiness program funds,
 2959 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program funds, Child Care
 2960 Executive Partnership Program funds, and other local revenues
 2961 available to the coalition.

2962 (b) Details of expenditures by fund source, including
 2963 total expenditures for administrative activities, quality
 2964 activities, nondirect services, and direct services for
 2965 children.

2966 (c) The total number of coalition staff and the related
 2967 expenditures for salaries and benefits. For any subcontracts,
 2968 the total number of contracted staff and the related
 2969 expenditures for salaries and benefits must be included.

2970 (d) The number of children served in the school readiness
 2971 program, by provider type, enumerated by age and eligibility
 2972 priority category, reported as the number of children served
 2973 during the month, the average participation throughout the
 2974 month, and the number of children served during the month.

2975 (e) The total number of children disenrolled during the

2976 | year and the reasons for disenrollment.

2977 | (f) The total number of providers by provider type.

2978 | (g) A listing of any school readiness program provider, by
2979 | type, whose eligibility to deliver the school readiness program
2980 | is revoked, including a brief description of the state or
2981 | federal violation that resulted in the revocation.

2982 | (h) An evaluation of its direct enhancement services.

2983 | (i) The total number of children served in each provider
2984 | facility.

2985 | (19) (a) ~~(20)~~ To increase transparency and accountability,
2986 | comply with the requirements of this section before contracting
2987 | with one or more of the following persons or business entities
2988 | which employs, has a contractual relationship with, or is owned
2989 | by the following persons:

2990 | 1. A member of the coalition appointed pursuant to s.
2991 | 1002.83(4);

2992 | 2. A board member of any other early learning subrecipient
2993 | entity;

2994 | 3. A coalition employee; or

2995 | 4. A relative, as defined in s. 112.3143(1)(c), of any
2996 | person listed in subparagraphs 1.-3 ~~a coalition member or of an~~
2997 | employee of the coalition.

2998 | (b) Such contracts may not be executed without the
2999 | approval of the department ~~office~~. Such contracts, as well as
3000 | documentation demonstrating adherence to this section by the

3001 coalition, must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the
 3002 coalition, a quorum having been established; all conflicts of
 3003 interest must be disclosed before the vote; and any member who
 3004 may benefit from the contract, or whose relative may benefit
 3005 from the contract, must abstain from the vote. A contract under
 3006 \$25,000 ~~between an early learning coalition and a member of that~~
 3007 ~~coalition or between a relative, as defined in s.~~
 3008 ~~112.3143(1)(c), of a coalition member or of an employee of the~~
 3009 ~~coalition~~ is not required to have the prior approval of the
 3010 department ~~office~~ but must be approved by a two-thirds vote of
 3011 the coalition, a quorum having been established, and must be
 3012 reported to the department ~~office~~ within 30 days after approval.
 3013 If a contract cannot be approved by the department ~~office~~, a
 3014 review of the decision to disapprove the contract may be
 3015 requested by the early learning coalition or other parties to
 3016 the disapproved contract.

3017 Section 54. Section 1002.85, Florida Statutes, is amended
 3018 to read:

3019 1002.85 Early learning coalition plans.—

3020 (1) The department ~~office~~ shall adopt rules prescribing
 3021 the standardized format and required content of school readiness
 3022 program plans as necessary for a coalition or other qualified
 3023 entity to administer the school readiness program as provided in
 3024 this part.

3025 (2) Each early learning coalition must biennially submit a

3026 school readiness program plan to the department ~~office~~ before
3027 the expenditure of funds. A coalition may not implement its
3028 school readiness program plan until it receives approval from
3029 the department ~~office~~. A coalition may not implement any
3030 revision to its school readiness program plan until the
3031 coalition submits the revised plan to and receives approval from
3032 the department ~~office~~. If the department ~~office~~ rejects a plan
3033 or revision, the coalition must continue to operate under its
3034 previously approved plan. The plan must include, but is not
3035 limited to:

3036 (a) The coalition's operations, including its membership
3037 and business organization, and the coalition's articles of
3038 incorporation and bylaws if the coalition is organized as a
3039 corporation. If the coalition is not organized as a corporation
3040 or other business entity, the plan must include the contract
3041 with a fiscal agent.

3042 (b) The minimum number of children to be served by care
3043 level.

3044 (c) The coalition's procedures for implementing the
3045 requirements of this part, including:

- 3046 1. Single point of entry.
- 3047 2. Uniform waiting list.
- 3048 3. Eligibility and enrollment processes and local
3049 eligibility priorities for children pursuant to s. 1002.87.
- 3050 4. Parent access and choice.

3051 5. Sliding fee scale and policies on applying the waiver
 3052 or reduction of fees in accordance with s. 1002.84(8).

3053 6. Use of preassessments and postassessments, as
 3054 applicable.

3055 7. Payment rate schedule.

3056 8. Use of contracted slots, as applicable, based on the
 3057 results of the assessment required under paragraph (j).

3058 (d) A detailed description of the coalition's quality
 3059 activities and services, including, but not limited to:

- 3060 1. Resource and referral and school-age child care.
- 3061 2. Infant and toddler early learning.
- 3062 3. Inclusive early learning programs.
- 3063 4. Quality improvement strategies that strengthen teaching
 3064 practices and increase child outcomes.

3065 (e) A detailed budget that outlines estimated expenditures
 3066 for state, federal, and local matching funds at the lowest level
 3067 of detail available by other-cost-accumulator code number; all
 3068 estimated sources of revenue with identifiable descriptions; a
 3069 listing of full-time equivalent positions; contracted
 3070 subcontractor costs with related annual compensation amount or
 3071 hourly rate of compensation; and a capital improvements plan
 3072 outlining existing fixed capital outlay projects and proposed
 3073 capital outlay projects that will begin during the budget year.

3074 (f) A detailed accounting, in the format prescribed by the
 3075 department ~~office~~, of all revenues and expenditures during the

3076 previous state fiscal year. Revenue sources should be
3077 identifiable, and expenditures should be reported by three
3078 categories: state and federal funds, local matching funds, and
3079 Child Care Executive Partnership Program funds.

3080 (g) Updated policies and procedures, including those
3081 governing procurement, maintenance of tangible personal
3082 property, maintenance of records, information technology
3083 security, and disbursement controls.

3084 (h) A description of the procedures for monitoring school
3085 readiness program providers, including in response to a parental
3086 complaint, to determine that the standards prescribed in ss.
3087 1002.82 and 1002.88 are met using a standard monitoring tool
3088 adopted by the department ~~office~~. Providers determined to be
3089 high risk by the coalition as demonstrated by substantial
3090 findings of violations of law shall be monitored more
3091 frequently.

3092 (i) Documentation that the coalition has solicited and
3093 considered comments regarding the proposed school readiness
3094 program plan from the local community.

3095 (j) An assessment of local priorities within the county or
3096 multicounty region based on the needs of families and provider
3097 capacity using available community data.

3098 (3) The coalition may periodically amend its plan as
3099 necessary. An amended plan must be submitted to and approved by
3100 the department ~~office~~ before any expenditures are incurred on

3101 the new activities proposed in the amendment.

3102 (4) The department ~~office~~ shall publish a copy of the
3103 standardized format and required content of school readiness
3104 program plans on its website.

3105 (5) The department ~~office~~ shall collect and report data on
3106 coalition delivery of early learning programs. Elements shall
3107 include, but are not limited to, measures related to progress
3108 towards reducing the number of children on the waiting list, the
3109 percentage of children served by the program as compared to the
3110 number of administrative staff and overhead, the percentage of
3111 children served compared to total number of children under the
3112 age of 5 years below 150 percent of the federal poverty level,
3113 provider payment processes, fraud intervention, child attendance
3114 and stability, use of child care resource and referral, and
3115 kindergarten readiness outcomes for children in the Voluntary
3116 Prekindergarten Education Program or the school readiness
3117 program upon entry into kindergarten. The department ~~office~~
3118 shall request input from the coalitions and school readiness
3119 program providers before finalizing the format and data to be
3120 used. The report shall be implemented beginning July 1, 2014,
3121 and results of the report must be included in the annual report
3122 under s. 1002.82.

3123 Section 55. Paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (e), (f), (m), (n),
3124 (p), and (q) of subsection (1) and subsection (3) of section
3125 1002.88, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (s) is

3126 added to subsection (1) of that section, to read:
 3127 1002.88 School readiness program provider standards;
 3128 eligibility to deliver the school readiness program.—
 3129 (1) To be eligible to deliver the school readiness
 3130 program, a school readiness program provider must:
 3131 (a) Be a child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, a
 3132 family day care home licensed or registered under s. 402.313, a
 3133 large family child care home licensed under s. 402.3131, a
 3134 public school or nonpublic school exempt from licensure under s.
 3135 402.3025, a faith-based child care provider exempt from
 3136 licensure under s. 402.316, a before-school or after-school
 3137 program described in s. 402.305(1)(c), a child development
 3138 program that is accredited by a national accrediting body and
 3139 operates on a military installation that is certified by the
 3140 United States Department of Defense, ~~or~~ an informal child care
 3141 provider to the extent authorized in the state's Child Care and
 3142 Development Fund Plan as approved by the United States
 3143 Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to 45 C.F.R. s.
 3144 98.18, or a provider who has been issued a provisional license
 3145 pursuant to s. 402.309. A provider may not deliver the program
 3146 while holding a probation-status license under s. 402.310.
 3147 (b) Provide instruction and activities to enhance the age-
 3148 appropriate progress of each child in attaining the child
 3149 development standards adopted by the department ~~office~~ pursuant
 3150 to s. 1002.82(2)(j). A provider should include activities to

3151 foster brain development in infants and toddlers; provide an
3152 environment that is rich in language and music and filled with
3153 objects of various colors, shapes, textures, and sizes to
3154 stimulate visual, tactile, auditory, and linguistic senses; and
3155 include 30 minutes of reading to children each day.

3156 (c) Provide basic health and safety of its premises and
3157 facilities and compliance with requirements for age-appropriate
3158 immunizations of children enrolled in the school readiness
3159 program.

3160 1. For a provider that is licensed, compliance with s.
3161 402.305, s. 402.3131, or s. 402.313 and this subsection, as
3162 verified pursuant to s. 402.311, satisfies this requirement.

3163 2. For a provider that is a registered family day care
3164 home or is not subject to licensure or registration by the
3165 Department of Children and Families, compliance with this
3166 subsection, as verified pursuant to s. 402.311, satisfies this
3167 requirement. Upon verification pursuant to s. 402.311, the
3168 provider shall annually post the health and safety checklist
3169 adopted by the department ~~office~~ prominently on its premises in
3170 plain sight for visitors and parents and shall annually submit
3171 the checklist to its local early learning coalition.

3172 3. For a child development program that is accredited by a
3173 national accrediting body and operates on a military
3174 installation that is certified by the United States Department
3175 of Defense, the submission and verification of annual

3176 inspections pursuant to United States Department of Defense
3177 Instructions 6060.2 and 1402.05 satisfies this requirement.

3178 (e) Employ child care personnel, as defined in s.
3179 402.302(3), who have satisfied the screening requirements of
3180 chapter 402 and fulfilled the training requirements of the
3181 department office.

3182 (f) Implement one of the curricula approved by the
3183 department office that meets the child development standards.

3184 (m) For a provider that is not an informal provider,
3185 maintain general liability insurance and provide the coalition
3186 with written evidence of general liability insurance coverage,
3187 including coverage for transportation of children if school
3188 readiness program children are transported by the provider. A
3189 provider must obtain and retain an insurance policy that
3190 provides a minimum of \$100,000 of coverage per occurrence and a
3191 minimum of \$300,000 general aggregate coverage. The department
3192 office may authorize lower limits upon request, as appropriate.
3193 A provider must add the coalition as a named certificateholder
3194 and as an additional insured. A provider must provide the
3195 coalition with a minimum of 10 calendar days' advance written
3196 notice of cancellation of or changes to coverage. The general
3197 liability insurance required by this paragraph must remain in
3198 full force and effect for the entire period of the provider
3199 contract with the coalition.

3200 (n) For a provider that is an informal provider, comply

3201 with the provisions of paragraph (m) or maintain homeowner's
3202 liability insurance and, if applicable, a business rider. If an
3203 informal provider chooses to maintain a homeowner's policy, the
3204 provider must obtain and retain a homeowner's insurance policy
3205 that provides a minimum of \$100,000 of coverage per occurrence
3206 and a minimum of \$300,000 general aggregate coverage. The
3207 department ~~office~~ may authorize lower limits upon request, as
3208 appropriate. An informal provider must add the coalition as a
3209 named certificateholder and as an additional insured. An
3210 informal provider must provide the coalition with a minimum of
3211 10 calendar days' advance written notice of cancellation of or
3212 changes to coverage. The general liability insurance required by
3213 this paragraph must remain in full force and effect for the
3214 entire period of the provider's contract with the coalition.

3215 (p) Notwithstanding paragraph (m), for a provider that is
3216 a state agency or a subdivision thereof, as defined in s.
3217 768.28(2), agree to notify the coalition of any additional
3218 liability coverage maintained by the provider in addition to
3219 that otherwise established under s. 768.28. The provider shall
3220 indemnify the coalition to the extent permitted by s. 768.28.
3221 Notwithstanding paragraph (m), for a child development program
3222 that is accredited by a national accrediting body and operates
3223 on a military installation that is certified by the United
3224 States Department of Defense, the provider may demonstrate
3225 liability coverage by affirming that it is subject to the

3226 Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. ss. 2671 et seq.
 3227 (q) Execute the standard statewide provider contract
 3228 adopted by the department ~~office~~.
 3229 (s) Collect all parent copayment fees unless a waiver has
 3230 been granted under s. 1002.84(8).
 3231 (3) The department ~~office~~ and the coalitions may not:
 3232 (a) Impose any requirement on a child care provider or
 3233 early childhood education provider that does not deliver
 3234 services under the school readiness program or receive state or
 3235 federal funds under this part;
 3236 (b) Impose any requirement on a school readiness program
 3237 provider that exceeds the authority provided under this part or
 3238 part V of this chapter or rules adopted pursuant to this part or
 3239 part V of this chapter; or
 3240 (c) Require a provider to administer a preassessment or
 3241 postassessment.
 3242 Section 56. Subsections (3) through (7) of section
 3243 1002.89, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2)
 3244 through (6), respectively, and subsection (2) and present
 3245 subsections (3), and (6) of that section are amended, to read:
 3246 1002.89 School readiness program; funding.—
 3247 ~~(2) The office shall administer school readiness program~~
 3248 ~~funds and prepare and submit a unified budget request for the~~
 3249 ~~school readiness program in accordance with chapter 216.~~
 3250 (2)~~(3)~~ All instructions to early learning coalitions for

3251 administering this section shall emanate from the department
 3252 ~~office~~ in accordance with the policies of the Legislature.

3253 (5)~~(6)~~ Costs shall be kept to the minimum necessary for
 3254 the efficient and effective administration of the school
 3255 readiness program with the highest priority of expenditure being
 3256 direct services for eligible children. However, no more than 5
 3257 percent of the funds described in subsection (4) ~~subsection (5)~~
 3258 may be used for administrative costs and no more than 22 percent
 3259 of the funds described in subsection (4) ~~subsection (5)~~ may be
 3260 used in any fiscal year for any combination of administrative
 3261 costs, quality activities, and nondirect services as follows:

3262 (a) Administrative costs as described in 45 C.F.R. s.
 3263 98.52, which shall include monitoring providers using the
 3264 standard methodology adopted under s. 1002.82 to improve
 3265 compliance with state and federal regulations and law pursuant
 3266 to the requirements of the statewide provider contract adopted
 3267 under s. 1002.82(2)(m).

3268 (b) Activities to improve the quality of child care as
 3269 described in 45 C.F.R. s. 98.51, which shall be limited to the
 3270 following:

3271 1. Developing, establishing, expanding, operating, and
 3272 coordinating resource and referral programs specifically related
 3273 to the provision of comprehensive consumer education to parents
 3274 and the public to promote informed child care choices specified
 3275 in 45 C.F.R. s. 98.33.

3276 2. Awarding grants and providing financial support to
3277 school readiness program providers and their staff to assist
3278 them in meeting applicable state requirements for the program
3279 assessment required under s. 1002.82(2)(n), child care
3280 performance standards, implementing developmentally appropriate
3281 curricula and related classroom resources that support
3282 curricula, providing literacy supports, and providing continued
3283 professional development and training. Any grants awarded
3284 pursuant to this subparagraph shall comply with ss. 215.971 and
3285 287.058.

3286 3. Providing training, technical assistance, and financial
3287 support to school readiness program providers, staff, and
3288 parents on standards, child screenings, child assessments, child
3289 development research and best practices, developmentally
3290 appropriate curricula, character development, teacher-child
3291 interactions, age-appropriate discipline practices, health and
3292 safety, nutrition, first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, the
3293 recognition of communicable diseases, and child abuse detection,
3294 prevention, and reporting.

3295 4. Providing, from among the funds provided for the
3296 activities described in subparagraphs 1.-3., adequate funding
3297 for infants and toddlers as necessary to meet federal
3298 requirements related to expenditures for quality activities for
3299 infant and toddler care.

3300 5. Improving the monitoring of compliance with, and

3301 enforcement of, applicable state and local requirements as
 3302 described in and limited by 45 C.F.R. s. 98.40.

3303 6. Responding to Warm-Line requests by providers and
 3304 parents, including providing developmental and health screenings
 3305 to school readiness program children.

3306 (c) Nondirect services as described in applicable Office
 3307 of Management and Budget instructions are those services not
 3308 defined as administrative, direct, or quality services that are
 3309 required to administer the school readiness program. Such
 3310 services include, but are not limited to:

- 3311 1. Assisting families to complete the required application
- 3312 and eligibility documentation.
- 3313 2. Determining child and family eligibility.
- 3314 3. Recruiting eligible child care providers.
- 3315 4. Processing and tracking attendance records.
- 3316 5. Developing and maintaining a statewide child care
- 3317 information system.

3318
 3319 As used in this paragraph, the term "nondirect services" does
 3320 not include payments to school readiness program providers for
 3321 direct services provided to children who are eligible under s.
 3322 1002.87, administrative costs as described in paragraph (a), or
 3323 quality activities as described in paragraph (b).

3324 Section 57. Subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection
 3325 (2), and subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 1002.895,

3326 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

3327 1002.895 Market rate schedule.—The school readiness
 3328 program market rate schedule shall be implemented as follows:

3329 (1) The department ~~office~~ shall establish procedures for
 3330 the adoption of a market rate schedule. The schedule must
 3331 include, at a minimum, county-by-county rates:

3332 (a) The market rate, including the minimum and the maximum
 3333 rates for child care providers that hold a Gold Seal Quality
 3334 Care designation under s. 1002.945 and adhere to its accrediting
 3335 association's teacher-to-child ratios and group size
 3336 requirements ~~s. 402.281~~.

3337 (b) The market rate for child care providers that do not
 3338 hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation.

3339 (2) The market rate schedule, at a minimum, must:

3340 (a) Differentiate rates by type, including, but not
 3341 limited to, a child care provider that holds a Gold Seal Quality
 3342 Care designation under s. 1002.945 and adheres to its
 3343 accrediting association's teacher-to-child ratios and group size
 3344 requirements ~~s. 402.281~~, a child care facility licensed under s.
 3345 402.305, a public or nonpublic school exempt from licensure
 3346 under s. 402.3025, a faith-based child care facility exempt from
 3347 licensure under s. 402.316 that does not hold a Gold Seal
 3348 Quality Care designation, a large family child care home
 3349 licensed under s. 402.3131, or a family day care home licensed
 3350 or registered under s. 402.313.

3351 (4) The market rate schedule shall be considered by the
 3352 Early Learning Program Estimating Conference under s. 216.136(8)
 3353 ~~an early learning coalition~~ in the adoption of a payment
 3354 schedule. The payment schedule must take into consideration the
 3355 prevailing average market rate and, include the projected number
 3356 of children to be served by each county, ~~and be submitted for~~
 3357 ~~approval by the office~~. Informal child care arrangements shall
 3358 be reimbursed at not more than 50 percent of the rate adopted
 3359 for a family day care home.

3360 (5) The department ~~office~~ may contract with one or more
 3361 qualified entities to administer this section and provide
 3362 support and technical assistance for child care providers.

3363 (6) The department ~~office~~ may adopt rules for establishing
 3364 procedures for the collection of child care providers' market
 3365 rate, the calculation of the prevailing average market rate by
 3366 program care level and provider type in a predetermined
 3367 geographic market, and the publication of the market rate
 3368 schedule.

3369 Section 58. Section 1002.91, Florida Statutes, is amended
 3370 to read:

3371 1002.91 Investigations of fraud or overpayment;
 3372 penalties.—

3373 (1) As used in this subsection, the term "fraud" means an
 3374 intentional deception, omission, or misrepresentation made by a
 3375 person with knowledge that the deception, omission, or

3376 misrepresentation may result in unauthorized benefit to that
3377 person or another person, or any aiding and abetting of the
3378 commission of such an act. The term includes any act that
3379 constitutes fraud under applicable federal or state law.

3380 (2) To recover state, federal, and local matching funds,
3381 the department ~~office~~ shall investigate early learning
3382 coalitions, recipients, and providers of the school readiness
3383 program and the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program to
3384 determine possible fraud or overpayment. If by its own
3385 inquiries, or as a result of a complaint, the department ~~office~~
3386 has reason to believe that a person, coalition, or provider has
3387 engaged in, or is engaging in, a fraudulent act, it shall
3388 investigate and determine whether any overpayment has occurred
3389 due to the fraudulent act. During the investigation, the
3390 department ~~office~~ may examine all records, including electronic
3391 benefits transfer records, and make inquiry of all persons who
3392 may have knowledge as to any irregularity incidental to the
3393 disbursement of public moneys or other items or benefits
3394 authorizations to recipients.

3395 (3) Based on the results of the investigation, the
3396 department ~~office~~ may, in its discretion, refer the
3397 investigation to the Department of Financial Services for
3398 criminal investigation or refer the matter to the applicable
3399 coalition. Any suspected criminal violation identified by the
3400 department ~~office~~ must be referred to the Department of

3401 Financial Services for criminal investigation.

3402 (4) An early learning coalition may suspend or terminate a
3403 provider from participation in the school readiness program or
3404 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program when it has
3405 reasonable cause to believe that the provider has committed
3406 fraud. The department ~~office~~ shall adopt by rule appropriate due
3407 process procedures that the early learning coalition shall apply
3408 in suspending or terminating any provider, including the
3409 suspension or termination of payment. If suspended, the provider
3410 shall remain suspended until the completion of any investigation
3411 by the department ~~office~~, the Department of Financial Services,
3412 or any other state or federal agency, and any subsequent
3413 prosecution or other legal proceeding.

3414 (5) If a school readiness program provider or a Voluntary
3415 Prekindergarten Education Program provider, or an owner,
3416 officer, or director thereof, is convicted of, found guilty of,
3417 or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of
3418 adjudication, public assistance fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, or
3419 is acting as the beneficial owner for someone who has been
3420 convicted of, found guilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo
3421 contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance
3422 fraud pursuant to s. 414.39, the early learning coalition shall
3423 refrain from contracting with, or using the services of, that
3424 provider for a period of 5 years. In addition, the coalition
3425 shall refrain from contracting with, or using the services of,

3426 any provider that shares an officer or director with a provider
 3427 that is convicted of, found guilty of, or pleads guilty or nolo
 3428 contendere to, regardless of adjudication, public assistance
 3429 fraud pursuant to s. 414.39 for a period of 5 years.

3430 (6) If the investigation is not confidential or otherwise
 3431 exempt from disclosure by law, the results of the investigation
 3432 may be reported by the department ~~office~~ to the appropriate
 3433 legislative committees, the Department of Children and Families,
 3434 and such other persons as the department ~~office~~ deems
 3435 appropriate.

3436 (7) The early learning coalition may not contract with a
 3437 school readiness program provider or a Voluntary Prekindergarten
 3438 Education Program provider who is on the United States
 3439 Department of Agriculture National Disqualified List. In
 3440 addition, the coalition may not contract with any provider that
 3441 shares an officer or director with a provider that is on the
 3442 United States Department of Agriculture National Disqualified
 3443 List.

3444 (8) Each early learning coalition shall adopt an anti-
 3445 fraud plan addressing the detection and prevention of
 3446 overpayments, abuse, and fraud relating to the provision of and
 3447 payment for school readiness program and Voluntary
 3448 Prekindergarten Education Program services and submit the plan
 3449 to the department ~~office~~ for approval. The department ~~office~~
 3450 shall adopt rules establishing criteria for the anti-fraud plan,

3451 including appropriate due process provisions. The anti-fraud
 3452 plan must include, at a minimum:

3453 (a) A written description or chart outlining the
 3454 organizational structure of the plan's personnel who are
 3455 responsible for the investigation and reporting of possible
 3456 overpayment, abuse, or fraud.

3457 (b) A description of the plan's procedures for detecting
 3458 and investigating possible acts of fraud, abuse, or overpayment.

3459 (c) A description of the plan's procedures for the
 3460 mandatory reporting of possible overpayment, abuse, or fraud to
 3461 the Office of Inspector General within the department ~~office~~.

3462 (d) A description of the plan's program and procedures for
 3463 educating and training personnel on how to detect and prevent
 3464 fraud, abuse, and overpayment.

3465 (e) A description of the plan's procedures, including the
 3466 appropriate due process provisions adopted by the department
 3467 ~~office~~ for suspending or terminating from the school readiness
 3468 program or the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program a
 3469 recipient or provider who the early learning coalition believes
 3470 has committed fraud.

3471 (9) A person who commits an act of fraud as defined in
 3472 this section is subject to the penalties provided in s.
 3473 414.39(5) (a) and (b).

3474 Section 59. Subsections (1) and (2) and paragraph (a) of
 3475 subsection (3) of section 1002.92, Florida Statutes, are amended

3476 to read:

3477 1002.92 Child care and early childhood resource and
3478 referral.—

3479 (1) As a part of the school readiness program, the
3480 department ~~office~~ shall establish a statewide child care
3481 resource and referral network that is unbiased and provides
3482 referrals to families for child care and information on
3483 available community resources. Preference shall be given to
3484 using early learning coalitions as the child care resource and
3485 referral agencies. If an early learning coalition cannot comply
3486 with the requirements to offer the resource information
3487 component or does not want to offer that service, the early
3488 learning coalition shall select the resource and referral agency
3489 for its county or multicounty region based upon the procurement
3490 requirements of s. 1002.84(12).

3491 (2) At least one child care resource and referral agency
3492 must be established in each early learning coalition's county or
3493 multicounty region. The department ~~office~~ shall adopt rules
3494 regarding accessibility of child care resource and referral
3495 services offered through child care resource and referral
3496 agencies in each county or multicounty region which include, at
3497 a minimum, required hours of operation, methods by which parents
3498 may request services, and child care resource and referral staff
3499 training requirements.

3500 (3) Child care resource and referral agencies shall

3501 provide the following services:

3502 (a) Identification of existing public and private child
3503 care and early childhood education services, including child
3504 care services by public and private employers, and the
3505 development of a resource file of those services through the
3506 single statewide information system developed by the department
3507 ~~office~~ under s. 1002.82(2)(q) ~~s. 1002.82(2)(p)~~. These services
3508 may include family day care, public and private child care
3509 programs, the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, Head
3510 Start, the school readiness program, special education programs
3511 for prekindergarten children with disabilities, services for
3512 children with developmental disabilities, full-time and part-
3513 time programs, before-school and after-school programs, vacation
3514 care programs, parent education, the temporary cash assistance
3515 program, and related family support services. The resource file
3516 shall include, but not be limited to:

- 3517 1. Type of program.
- 3518 2. Hours of service.
- 3519 3. Ages of children served.
- 3520 4. Number of children served.
- 3521 5. Program information.
- 3522 6. Fees and eligibility for services.
- 3523 7. Availability of transportation.

3524 Section 60. Subsection (1) of section 1002.93, Florida
3525 Statutes, is amended to read:

3526 | 1002.93 School readiness program transportation services.—

3527 | (1) The department ~~office~~ may authorize an early learning
 3528 | coalition to establish school readiness program transportation
 3529 | services for children at risk of abuse or neglect who are
 3530 | participating in the school readiness program, pursuant to
 3531 | chapter 427. The early learning coalitions may contract for the
 3532 | provision of transportation services as required by this
 3533 | section.

3534 | Section 61. Subsection (2), paragraphs (b) and (c) of
 3535 | subsection (3), and subsection (4) of section 1002.94, Florida
 3536 | Statutes, are amended to read:

3537 | 1002.94 Child Care Executive Partnership Program.—

3538 | (2) The Child Care Executive Partnership, staffed by the
 3539 | department ~~office~~, shall consist of a representative of the
 3540 | Executive Office of the Governor and nine members of the
 3541 | corporate or child care community, appointed by the Governor.

3542 | (a) Members shall serve for a period of 4 years, except
 3543 | that the representative of the Executive Office of the Governor
 3544 | shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

3545 | (b) The Child Care Executive Partnership shall be chaired
 3546 | by a member chosen by a majority vote and shall meet at least
 3547 | quarterly and at other times upon the call of the chair. The
 3548 | Child Care Executive Partnership may use any method of
 3549 | telecommunications to conduct meetings, including establishing a
 3550 | quorum through telecommunications, only if the public is given

3551 | proper notice of a telecommunications meeting and reasonable
 3552 | access to observe and, when appropriate, participate.

3553 | (c) Members shall serve without compensation, but may be
 3554 | reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses in accordance with
 3555 | s. 112.061.

3556 | (d) The Child Care Executive Partnership shall have all
 3557 | the powers and authority, not explicitly prohibited by law,
 3558 | necessary to carry out and effectuate the purposes of this
 3559 | section, as well as the functions, duties, and responsibilities
 3560 | of the partnership, including, but not limited to, the
 3561 | following:

3562 | 1. Making recommendations concerning the implementation
 3563 | and coordination of the school readiness program.

3564 | 2. Soliciting, accepting, receiving, investing, and
 3565 | expending funds from public or private sources.

3566 | 3. Contracting with public or private entities as
 3567 | necessary.

3568 | 4. Approving an annual budget.

3569 | 5. Providing a report to the Governor, the Speaker of the
 3570 | House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate on or
 3571 | before December 1 of each year.

3572 |
 3573 | Notwithstanding this subsection, the corporate body politic
 3574 | previously established by prior law is the corporate body
 3575 | politic for purposes of this section and shall continue in

3576 | existence. All member terms of the existing corporate body
 3577 | politic expire as of June 30, 2013, and new members shall be
 3578 | appointed beginning July 1, 2013, in accordance with this
 3579 | subsection.

3580 | (3)

3581 | (b) To ensure a seamless service delivery and ease of
 3582 | access for families, the department ~~office~~ shall administer the
 3583 | child care purchasing pool funds.

3584 | (c) The department ~~office~~, in conjunction with the Child
 3585 | Care Executive Partnership, shall develop procedures for
 3586 | disbursement of funds through the child care purchasing pools.
 3587 | In order to be considered for funding, an early learning
 3588 | coalition or the department ~~office~~ must commit to:

3589 | 1. Matching the state purchasing pool funds on a dollar-
 3590 | for-dollar basis.

3591 | 2. Expending only those public funds that are matched by
 3592 | employers, local government, and other matching contributors who
 3593 | contribute to the purchasing pool. Parents shall also pay a fee,
 3594 | which may not be less than the amount identified in the early
 3595 | learning coalition's school readiness program sliding fee scale.

3596 | (4) The State Board of Education ~~office~~ may adopt any
 3597 | rules necessary for the implementation and administration of
 3598 | this section.

3599 | Section 62. Section 1002.95, Florida Statutes, is amended
 3600 | to read:

3601 1002.95 Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (TEACH)
 3602 scholarship program.—

3603 (1) The department ~~office~~ may contract for the
 3604 administration of the Teacher Education and Compensation Helps
 3605 (TEACH) scholarship program, which provides educational
 3606 scholarships to caregivers and administrators of early childhood
 3607 programs, family day care homes, and large family child care
 3608 homes. The goal of the program is to increase the education and
 3609 training for caregivers, increase the compensation for child
 3610 caregivers who complete the program requirements, and reduce the
 3611 rate of participant turnover in the field of early childhood
 3612 education.

3613 (2) The State Board of Education ~~office~~ shall adopt rules
 3614 as necessary to administer this section.

3615 Section 63. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 1002.96,
 3616 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

3617 1002.96 Early Head Start collaboration grants.—

3618 (1) Contingent upon specific appropriation, the department
 3619 ~~office~~ shall establish a program to award collaboration grants
 3620 to assist local agencies in securing Early Head Start programs
 3621 through Early Head Start program federal grants. The
 3622 collaboration grants shall provide the required matching funds
 3623 for public and private nonprofit agencies that have been
 3624 approved for Early Head Start program federal grants.

3625 (3) The department ~~office~~ may adopt rules as necessary for

3626 | the award of collaboration grants to competing agencies and the
 3627 | administration of the collaboration grants program under this
 3628 | section.

3629 | Section 64. Subsection (1) and paragraph (g) of subsection
 3630 | (3) of section 1002.97, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

3631 | 1002.97 Records of children in the school readiness
 3632 | program.—

3633 | (1) The individual records of children enrolled in the
 3634 | school readiness program provided under this part, held by an
 3635 | early learning coalition or the department ~~office~~, are
 3636 | confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I
 3637 | of the State Constitution. For purposes of this section, records
 3638 | include assessment data, health data, records of teacher
 3639 | observations, and personal identifying information.

3640 | (3) School readiness program records may be released to:

3641 | (g) Parties to an interagency agreement among early
 3642 | learning coalitions, local governmental agencies, providers of
 3643 | the school readiness program, state agencies, and the department
 3644 | ~~office~~ for the purpose of implementing the school readiness
 3645 | program.

3646 |
 3647 | Agencies, organizations, or individuals that receive school
 3648 | readiness program records in order to carry out their official
 3649 | functions must protect the data in a manner that does not permit
 3650 | the personal identification of a child enrolled in a school

3651 | readiness program and his or her parent by persons other than
 3652 | those authorized to receive the records.

3653 | Section 65. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 1002.995,
 3654 | Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

3655 | 1002.995 Early learning professional development standards
 3656 | and career pathways.—

3657 | (1) The department ~~office~~ shall:

3658 | (a) Develop early learning professional development
 3659 | training and course standards to be utilized for school
 3660 | readiness program providers.

3661 | (b) Identify both formal and informal early learning
 3662 | career pathways with stackable credentials and certifications
 3663 | that allow early childhood teachers to access specialized
 3664 | professional development that:

3665 | 1. Strengthens knowledge and teaching practices.

3666 | 2. Aligns to established professional standards and core
 3667 | competencies.

3668 | 3. Provides a progression of attainable, competency-based
 3669 | stackable credentials and certifications.

3670 | 4. Improves outcomes for children to increase kindergarten
 3671 | readiness and early grade success.

3672 | (3) The State Board of Education ~~office~~ shall adopt rules
 3673 | to administer this section.

3674 | Section 66. Subsection (3) of section 1003.575, Florida
 3675 | Statutes, is amended to read:

3676 1003.575 Assistive technology devices; findings;
3677 interagency agreements.—Accessibility, utilization, and
3678 coordination of appropriate assistive technology devices and
3679 services are essential as a young person with disabilities moves
3680 from early intervention to preschool, from preschool to school,
3681 from one school to another, from school to employment or
3682 independent living, and from school to home and community. If an
3683 individual education plan team makes a recommendation in
3684 accordance with State Board of Education rule for a student with
3685 a disability, as defined in s. 1003.01(3), to receive an
3686 assistive technology assessment, that assessment must be
3687 completed within 60 school days after the team's recommendation.
3688 To ensure that an assistive technology device issued to a young
3689 person as part of his or her individualized family support plan,
3690 individual support plan, individualized plan for employment, or
3691 individual education plan remains with the individual through
3692 such transitions, the following agencies shall enter into
3693 interagency agreements, as appropriate, to ensure the
3694 transaction of assistive technology devices:

3695 (3) The Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
3696 administered by the Department of Education ~~and the Office of~~
3697 ~~Early Learning.~~

3698
3699 Interagency agreements entered into pursuant to this section
3700 shall provide a framework for ensuring that young persons with

3701 disabilities and their families, educators, and employers are
3702 informed about the utilization and coordination of assistive
3703 technology devices and services that may assist in meeting
3704 transition needs, and shall establish a mechanism by which a
3705 young person or his or her parent may request that an assistive
3706 technology device remain with the young person as he or she
3707 moves through the continuum from home to school to postschool.

3708 Section 67. Section 1007.01, Florida Statutes, is amended
3709 to read:

3710 1007.01 Articulation; legislative intent; purpose; role of
3711 the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors;
3712 Articulation Coordinating Committee.—

3713 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to facilitate
3714 articulation and seamless integration of the Early Learning-20
3715 ~~K-20~~ education system by building, sustaining, and strengthening
3716 relationships among Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ public organizations,
3717 between public and private organizations, and between the
3718 education system as a whole and Florida's communities. The
3719 purpose of building, sustaining, and strengthening these
3720 relationships is to provide for the efficient and effective
3721 progression and transfer of students within the education system
3722 and to allow students to proceed toward their educational
3723 objectives as rapidly as their circumstances permit. The
3724 Legislature further intends that articulation policies and
3725 budget actions be implemented consistently in the practices of

3726 | the Department of Education and postsecondary educational
3727 | institutions and expressed in the collaborative policy efforts
3728 | of the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors.

3729 | (2) To improve and facilitate articulation systemwide, the
3730 | State Board of Education and the Board of Governors shall
3731 | collaboratively establish and adopt policies with input from
3732 | statewide K-20 advisory groups established by the Commissioner
3733 | of Education and the Chancellor of the State University System
3734 | and shall recommend the policies to the Legislature. The
3735 | policies shall relate to:

3736 | (a) The alignment between the exit requirements of one
3737 | education system and the admissions requirements of another
3738 | education system into which students typically transfer.

3739 | (b) The identification of common courses, the level of
3740 | courses, institutional participation in a statewide course
3741 | numbering system, and the transferability of credits among such
3742 | institutions.

3743 | (c) Identification of courses that meet general education
3744 | or common degree program prerequisite requirements at public
3745 | postsecondary educational institutions.

3746 | (d) Dual enrollment course equivalencies.

3747 | (e) Articulation agreements.

3748 | (3) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with
3749 | the Chancellor of the State University System, shall establish
3750 | the Articulation Coordinating Committee, which shall make

3751 recommendations related to statewide articulation policies and
 3752 issues regarding access, quality, and reporting of data
 3753 maintained by the educational ~~K-20~~ data warehouse, established
 3754 pursuant to ss. 1001.10 and 1008.31, to the Higher Education
 3755 Coordination Council, the State Board of Education, and the
 3756 Board of Governors. The committee shall consist of two members
 3757 each representing the State University System, the Florida
 3758 College System, public career and technical education, K-12
 3759 education, and nonpublic postsecondary education and one member
 3760 representing students. The chair shall be elected from the
 3761 membership. The Office of K-20 Articulation shall provide
 3762 administrative support for the committee. The committee shall:

3763 (a) Monitor the alignment between the exit requirements of
 3764 one education system and the admissions requirements of another
 3765 education system into which students typically transfer and make
 3766 recommendations for improvement.

3767 (b) Propose guidelines for interinstitutional agreements
 3768 between and among public schools, career and technical education
 3769 centers, Florida College System institutions, state
 3770 universities, and nonpublic postsecondary institutions.

3771 (c) Annually recommend dual enrollment course and high
 3772 school subject area equivalencies for approval by the State
 3773 Board of Education and the Board of Governors.

3774 (d) Annually review the statewide articulation agreement
 3775 pursuant to s. 1007.23 and make recommendations for revisions.

3776 (e) Annually review the statewide course numbering system,
 3777 the levels of courses, and the application of transfer credit
 3778 requirements among public and nonpublic institutions
 3779 participating in the statewide course numbering system and
 3780 identify instances of student transfer and admissions
 3781 difficulties.

3782 (f) Annually publish a list of courses that meet common
 3783 general education and common degree program prerequisite
 3784 requirements at public postsecondary institutions identified
 3785 pursuant to s. 1007.25.

3786 (g) Foster timely collection and reporting of statewide
 3787 education data to improve the Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education
 3788 performance accountability system pursuant to ss. 1001.10 and
 3789 1008.31, including, but not limited to, data quality,
 3790 accessibility, and protection of student records.

3791 (h) Recommend roles and responsibilities of public
 3792 education entities in interfacing with the single, statewide
 3793 computer-assisted student advising system established pursuant
 3794 to s. 1006.735.

3795 Section 68. Section 1008.2125, Florida Statutes, is
 3796 created to read:

3797 1008.2125 Coordinated screening and progress monitoring
 3798 program for students in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
 3799 Program through grade 3.-

3800 (1) The primary purpose of the coordinated screening and

3801 progress monitoring program for students in the Voluntary
3802 Prekindergarten Education Program through grade 3 is to provide
3803 information on students' progress in mastering the appropriate
3804 grade-level standards and to provide information on their
3805 progress to parents, teachers, and school and program
3806 administrators. Data shall be used by Voluntary Prekindergarten
3807 Education Program providers and school districts to improve
3808 instruction, by parents and teachers to guide learning
3809 objectives and provide timely and appropriate supports and
3810 interventions to students not meeting grade level expectations,
3811 and by the public to assess the cost benefit of the expenditure
3812 of taxpayer dollars. The coordinated screening and progress
3813 monitoring program must:

3814 (a) Assess the progress of students in the Voluntary
3815 Prekindergarten Education Program through grade 3 in meeting the
3816 appropriate expectations in early literacy and math skills and
3817 in English Language Arts and mathematics, as required by ss.
3818 1002.67(1) (a) and 1003.41.

3819 (b) Provide data for accountability of the Voluntary
3820 Prekindergarten Education Program, as required by s. 1002.68.

3821 (c) Provide baseline data to the department of each
3822 student's readiness for kindergarten, which must be based on
3823 each kindergarten students progress monitoring results within
3824 the first 30 days of enrollment in accordance with paragraph
3825 (2) (a). The methodology for determining a student's readiness

3826 for kindergarten shall be developed by the same contracted
3827 independent expert identified in s. 1002.68(4)(d).

3828 (d) Identify the educational strengths and needs of
3829 students in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
3830 through grade 3.

3831 (e) Provide teachers with progress monitoring data to
3832 provide timely interventions and supports pursuant to s.
3833 1008.25(4).

3834 (f) Assess how well educational goals and curricular
3835 standards are met at the provider, school, district, and state
3836 levels.

3837 (g) Provide information to aid in the evaluation and
3838 development of educational programs and policies.

3839 (2) The Commissioner of Education shall design a
3840 statewide, standardized coordinated screening and progress
3841 monitoring program to assess early literacy and mathematics
3842 skills and the English Language Arts and mathematics standards
3843 established in ss. 1002.67(1)(a) and 1003.41, respectively. The
3844 coordinated screening and progress monitoring program must
3845 provide interval level and norm-referenced data that measures
3846 equivalent levels of growth; be a developmentally appropriate,
3847 valid, and reliable direct assessment; be able to capture data
3848 on students who may be performing below grade or developmental
3849 level; accurately measure the core content in the applicable
3850 grade level standards; document learning gains for the

3851 achievement of these standards; and provide teachers with
3852 progress monitoring supports and materials that enhance
3853 differentiated instruction and parent communication.
3854 Participation in the coordinated screening and progress
3855 monitoring program is mandatory for all students in the
3856 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and enrolled in a
3857 public school in kindergarten through grade 3. The coordinated
3858 screening and progress monitoring program shall be implemented
3859 beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, as follows:

3860 (a) The coordinated screening and progress monitoring
3861 program shall be administered within the first 30 days after
3862 enrollment, midyear, and within the last 30 days of the program
3863 or school year, in accordance with the rules adopted by the
3864 State Board of Education. The state board may adopt alternate
3865 timeframes to address nontraditional school year calendars or
3866 summer programs to ensure administration of the coordinated
3867 screening and progress monitoring program is administered a
3868 minimum of 3 times within a year or program.

3869 (b) The results of the coordinated screening and progress
3870 monitoring program shall be reported to the department, in
3871 accordance with the rules adopted by the state board, and
3872 maintained in the department's educational data warehouse.

3873 (3) The Commissioner of Education shall:

3874 (a) Develop a plan, in coordination with the Early Grade
3875 Success Advisory Committee, for implementing the coordinated

3876 screening and progress monitoring program in consideration of
3877 the timelines required for the completion of the review of the
3878 Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and the Voluntary
3879 Prekindergarten Education Program standards.

3880 (b) Provide data, reports, and information as requested to
3881 the Early Grade Success Advisory Committee.

3882 (4) The Early Grade Success Advisory Committee, a
3883 committee as defined in s. 20.03, is created within the
3884 Department of Education to oversee the coordinated screening and
3885 progress monitoring program and, except as otherwise provided in
3886 this section, shall operate consistent with s. 20.052.

3887 (a) The committee shall be responsible for reviewing the
3888 implementation of, training for, and outcomes from the
3889 coordinated screening and progress monitoring program to provide
3890 recommendations to the department that supports grade 3 students
3891 reading at or above grade level. The committee, at a minimum,
3892 shall:

3893 1. Provide recommendations on the implementation of the
3894 coordinated screening and progress monitoring program, including
3895 reviewing any procurement solicitation documents and criteria
3896 before being published.

3897 2. Develop training plans and timelines for such training.

3898 3. Identify appropriate personnel, processes, and
3899 procedures required for the administration of the coordinated
3900 screening and progress monitoring program.

3901 4. Provide input on the methodology for calculating a
3902 provider's or school's performance metric and the grading system
3903 under s. 1002.68.

3904 5. Work with the department's contracted independent
3905 expert to review the methodology for determining a child's
3906 kindergarten readiness.

3907 6. Review data on age-appropriate learning gains by grade
3908 level that a student would need to attain in order to
3909 demonstrate proficiency in reading by grade 3.

3910 7. Continually review anonymized data from the results of
3911 the coordinated screening and progress monitoring program for
3912 students in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
3913 through grade 3 to help inform recommendations to the department
3914 that support practices that will enable grade 3 students to read
3915 at or above grade level.

3916 (b) The committee shall be composed of 17 members who are
3917 residents of the state and appointed, as follows:

3918 1. Fifteen members appointed by the Commissioner of
3919 Education:

3920 a. One representative from the Department of Education.

3921 b. One parent of a child who is 4 to 9 years of age.

3922 c. One representative of an urban school district.

3923 d. One representative of a rural school district.

3924 e. One representative of an urban early learning
3925 coalition.

- 3926 f. One representative of a rural early learning coalition.
- 3927 g. One representative of an early learning provider.
- 3928 h. One representative of a faith-based early learning
- 3929 provider.
- 3930 i. One representative who is a kindergarten teacher who
- 3931 has at least 5 years of teaching experience.
- 3932 j. One representative who is a second grade teacher with
- 3933 at least 5 years of teaching experience.
- 3934 k. One representative who is a school principal.
- 3935 l. Four representatives with subject matter expertise in
- 3936 early learning, early grade success, or child assessments. The
- 3937 four representatives with subject matter expertise may not be
- 3938 direct stakeholders within the early learning or public school
- 3939 systems or potential recipients of a contract resulting from the
- 3940 committee's recommendations.
- 3941 2. One senator who is appointed by and serves at the
- 3942 pleasure of the President of the Senate.
- 3943 3. One representative who is appointed by and serves at
- 3944 the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- 3945 (5) The committee shall elect a chair and vice chair, one
- 3946 of whom must be a member who has subject matter expertise in
- 3947 early learning, early grade success, or child assessments, and
- 3948 one of whom must be a senator or representative. Members of the
- 3949 committee shall serve without compensation but are entitled to
- 3950 reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses pursuant to s.

3951 | 112.061.

3952 | (6) The committee must meet at least biennially and may
 3953 | meet by teleconference or other electronic means, if possible,
 3954 | to reduce costs.

3955 | (7) A majority of the members constitutes a quorum.

3956 | (8) The committee terminates on July 1, 2023.

3957 | Section 69. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (5) of
 3958 | section 1008.25, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 3959 | paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, paragraph (b) of
 3960 | subsection (6), subsection (7), and paragraph (a) of subsection
 3961 | (8) are amended, and a new paragraph (b) is added to subsection
 3962 | (5) of that section, to read:

3963 | 1008.25 Public school student progression; student
 3964 | support; reporting requirements.—

3965 | (5) READING DEFICIENCY AND PARENTAL NOTIFICATION.—

3966 | (b) Any Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
 3967 | student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in early literacy
 3968 | in accordance with the standards under s. 1002.67(1)(a) and
 3969 | based upon the results of the administration of the final
 3970 | coordinated screening and progress monitoring under s. 1008.2125
 3971 | shall be referred to the local school district and may be
 3972 | eligible to receive intensive reading interventions before
 3973 | participating in kindergarten. Such intensive reading
 3974 | interventions shall be paid for using funds from the district's
 3975 | research-based reading instruction allocation in accordance with

3976 | s. 1011.62(9).

3977 | (6) ELIMINATION OF SOCIAL PROMOTION.—

3978 | (b) The district school board may only exempt students
 3979 | from mandatory retention, as provided in paragraph (5)(c)
 3980 | ~~(5)(b)~~, for good cause. A student who is promoted to grade 4
 3981 | with a good cause exemption shall be provided intensive reading
 3982 | instruction and intervention that include specialized diagnostic
 3983 | information and specific reading strategies to meet the needs of
 3984 | each student so promoted. The school district shall assist
 3985 | schools and teachers with the implementation of explicit,
 3986 | systematic, and multisensory reading instruction and
 3987 | intervention strategies for students promoted with a good cause
 3988 | exemption which research has shown to be successful in improving
 3989 | reading among students who have reading difficulties. Good cause
 3990 | exemptions are limited to the following:

3991 | 1. Limited English proficient students who have had less
 3992 | than 2 years of instruction in an English for Speakers of Other
 3993 | Languages program based on the initial date of entry into a
 3994 | school in the United States.

3995 | 2. Students with disabilities whose individual education
 3996 | plan indicates that participation in the statewide assessment
 3997 | program is not appropriate, consistent with the requirements of
 3998 | s. 1008.212.

3999 | 3. Students who demonstrate an acceptable level of
 4000 | performance on an alternative standardized reading or English

4001 Language Arts assessment approved by the State Board of
4002 Education.

4003 4. A student who demonstrates through a student portfolio
4004 that he or she is performing at least at Level 2 on the
4005 statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment.

4006 5. Students with disabilities who take the statewide,
4007 standardized English Language Arts assessment and who have an
4008 individual education plan or a Section 504 plan that reflects
4009 that the student has received intensive instruction in reading
4010 or English Language Arts for more than 2 years but still
4011 demonstrates a deficiency and was previously retained in
4012 kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3.

4013 6. Students who have received intensive reading
4014 intervention for 2 or more years but still demonstrate a
4015 deficiency in reading and who were previously retained in
4016 kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3 for a total of 2
4017 years. A student may not be retained more than once in grade 3.

4018 (7) SUCCESSFUL PROGRESSION FOR RETAINED THIRD GRADE
4019 STUDENTS.—

4020 (a) Students retained under paragraph (5)(c) ~~(5)(b)~~ must
4021 be provided intensive interventions in reading to ameliorate the
4022 student's specific reading deficiency and prepare the student
4023 for promotion to the next grade. These interventions must
4024 include:

4025 1. Evidence-based, explicit, systematic, and multisensory

4026 reading instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency,
4027 vocabulary, and comprehension and other strategies prescribed by
4028 the school district.

4029 2. Participation in the school district's summer reading
4030 camp, which must incorporate the instructional and intervention
4031 strategies under subparagraph 1.

4032 3. A minimum of 90 minutes of daily, uninterrupted reading
4033 instruction incorporating the instructional and intervention
4034 strategies under subparagraph 1. This instruction may include:

4035 a. Integration of content-rich texts in science and social
4036 studies within the 90-minute block.

4037 b. Small group instruction.

4038 c. Reduced teacher-student ratios.

4039 d. More frequent progress monitoring.

4040 e. Tutoring or mentoring.

4041 f. Transition classes containing 3rd and 4th grade
4042 students.

4043 g. Extended school day, week, or year.

4044 (b) Each school district shall:

4045 1. Provide written notification to the parent of a student
4046 who is retained under paragraph (5) (c) ~~(5) (b)~~ that his or her
4047 child has not met the proficiency level required for promotion
4048 and the reasons the child is not eligible for a good cause
4049 exemption as provided in paragraph (6) (b). The notification must
4050 comply with paragraph (5) (d) ~~(5) (e)~~ and must include a

4051 description of proposed interventions and supports that will be
4052 provided to the child to remediate the identified areas of
4053 reading deficiency.

4054 2. Implement a policy for the midyear promotion of a
4055 student retained under paragraph (5) (c) ~~(5) (b)~~ who can
4056 demonstrate that he or she is a successful and independent
4057 reader and performing at or above grade level in reading or,
4058 upon implementation of English Language Arts assessments,
4059 performing at or above grade level in English Language Arts.
4060 Tools that school districts may use in reevaluating a student
4061 retained may include subsequent assessments, alternative
4062 assessments, and portfolio reviews, in accordance with rules of
4063 the State Board of Education. Students promoted during the
4064 school year after November 1 must demonstrate proficiency levels
4065 in reading equivalent to the level necessary for the beginning
4066 of grade 4. The rules adopted by the State Board of Education
4067 must include standards that provide a reasonable expectation
4068 that the student's progress is sufficient to master appropriate
4069 grade 4 level reading skills.

4070 3. Provide students who are retained under paragraph
4071 (5) (c) ~~(5) (b)~~, including students participating in the school
4072 district's summer reading camp under subparagraph (a)2., with a
4073 highly effective teacher as determined by the teacher's
4074 performance evaluation under s. 1012.34, and, beginning July 1,
4075 2020, the teacher must also be certified or endorsed in reading.

4076 4. Establish at each school, when applicable, an intensive
 4077 reading acceleration course for any student retained in grade 3
 4078 who was previously retained in kindergarten, grade 1, or grade
 4079 2. The intensive reading acceleration course must provide the
 4080 following:

4081 a. Uninterrupted reading instruction for the majority of
 4082 student contact time each day and opportunities to master the
 4083 grade 4 Next Generation Sunshine State Standards in other core
 4084 subject areas through content-rich texts.

4085 b. Small group instruction.

4086 c. Reduced teacher-student ratios.

4087 d. The use of explicit, systematic, and multisensory
 4088 reading interventions, including intensive language, phonics,
 4089 and vocabulary instruction, and use of a speech-language
 4090 therapist if necessary, that have proven results in accelerating
 4091 student reading achievement within the same school year.

4092 e. A read-at-home plan.

4093 (8) ANNUAL REPORT.—

4094 (a) In addition to the requirements in paragraph (5) (c)
 4095 ~~(5) (b)~~, each district school board must annually report to the
 4096 parent of each student the progress of the student toward
 4097 achieving state and district expectations for proficiency in
 4098 English Language Arts, science, social studies, and mathematics.
 4099 The district school board must report to the parent the
 4100 student's results on each statewide, standardized assessment.

4101 The evaluation of each student's progress must be based upon the
 4102 student's classroom work, observations, tests, district and
 4103 state assessments, response to intensive interventions provided
 4104 under paragraph (5) (a), and other relevant information. Progress
 4105 reporting must be provided to the parent in writing in a format
 4106 adopted by the district school board.

4107 Section 70. Section 1008.31, Florida Statutes, is amended
 4108 to read:

4109 1008.31 Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education
 4110 performance accountability system; legislative intent; mission,
 4111 goals, and systemwide measures; data quality improvements.-

4112 (1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.-It is the intent of the
 4113 Legislature that:

4114 (a) The performance accountability system implemented to
 4115 assess the effectiveness of Florida's seamless Early Learning-20
 4116 ~~K-20~~ education delivery system provide answers to the following
 4117 questions in relation to its mission and goals:

4118 1. What is the public receiving in return for funds it
 4119 invests in education?

4120 2. How effectively is Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~
 4121 education system educating its students?

4122 3. How effectively are the major delivery sectors
 4123 promoting student achievement?

4124 4. How are individual schools and postsecondary education
 4125 institutions performing their responsibility to educate their

4126 students as measured by how students are performing and how much
 4127 they are learning?

4128 (b) The Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education performance
 4129 accountability system be established as a single, unified
 4130 accountability system with multiple components, including, but
 4131 not limited to, student performance in public schools and school
 4132 and district grades.

4133 (c) The K-20 education performance accountability system
 4134 comply with the requirements of the "No Child Left Behind Act of
 4135 2001," Pub. L. No. 107-110, and the Individuals with
 4136 Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

4137 (d) The early learning accountability system comply with
 4138 the requirements of part V and part VI of chapter 1002 and the
 4139 requirements of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Trust
 4140 Fund, pursuant to 45 C.F.R. parts 98 and 99.

4141 (e) ~~(d)~~ The State Board of Education and the Board of
 4142 Governors of the State University System recommend to the
 4143 Legislature systemwide performance standards; the Legislature
 4144 establish systemwide performance measures and standards; and the
 4145 systemwide measures and standards provide Floridians with
 4146 information on what the public is receiving in return for the
 4147 funds it invests in education and how well the Early Learning-20
 4148 ~~K-20~~ system educates its students.

4149 (f) 1. ~~(e) 1.~~ The State Board of Education establish
 4150 performance measures and set performance standards for

4151 individual public schools and Florida College System
 4152 institutions, with measures and standards based primarily on
 4153 student achievement.

4154 2. The Board of Governors of the State University System
 4155 establish performance measures and set performance standards for
 4156 individual state universities, including actual completion
 4157 rates.

4158 (2) MISSION, GOALS, AND SYSTEMWIDE MEASURES.—

4159 (a) The mission of Florida's Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~
 4160 education system shall be to increase the proficiency of all
 4161 students within one seamless, efficient system, by allowing them
 4162 the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through
 4163 learning opportunities and research valued by students, parents,
 4164 and communities.

4165 (b) The process for establishing state and sector-specific
 4166 standards and measures must be:

- 4167 1. Focused on student success.
- 4168 2. Addressable through policy and program changes.
- 4169 3. Efficient and of high quality.
- 4170 4. Measurable over time.
- 4171 5. Simple to explain and display to the public.
- 4172 6. Aligned with other measures and other sectors to
 4173 support a coordinated Early Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ education system.

4174 (c) The Department of Education shall maintain an
 4175 accountability system that measures student progress toward the

4176 following goals:

4177 1. Highest student achievement, as indicated by evidence
4178 of student learning gains at all levels.

4179 2. Seamless articulation and maximum access, as measured
4180 by evidence of progression, readiness, and access by targeted
4181 groups of students identified by the Commissioner of Education.

4182 3. Skilled workforce and economic development, as measured
4183 by evidence of employment and earnings.

4184 4. Quality efficient services, as measured by evidence of
4185 return on investment.

4186 5. Other goals as identified by law or rule.

4187 (3) ~~K-20~~ EDUCATION DATA QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS.—To provide
4188 data required to implement education performance accountability
4189 measures in state and federal law, the Commissioner of Education
4190 shall initiate and maintain strategies to improve data quality
4191 and timeliness. The Board of Governors shall make available to
4192 the department all data within the State University Database
4193 System to be integrated into the educational ~~K-20~~ data
4194 warehouse. The commissioner shall have unlimited access to such
4195 data for the purposes of conducting studies, reporting annual
4196 and longitudinal student outcomes, and improving college
4197 readiness and articulation. All public educational institutions
4198 shall annually provide data from the prior year to the
4199 educational ~~K-20~~ data warehouse in a format based on data
4200 elements identified by the commissioner.

4201 (a) School districts and public postsecondary educational
4202 institutions shall maintain information systems that will
4203 provide the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors of
4204 the State University System, and the Legislature with
4205 information and reports necessary to address the specifications
4206 of the accountability system. The level of comprehensiveness and
4207 quality must be no less than that which was available as of June
4208 30, 2001.

4209 (b) Colleges and universities eligible to participate in
4210 the William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education
4211 Grant Program shall annually report student-level data from the
4212 prior year for each student who receives state funds in a format
4213 prescribed by the Department of Education. At a minimum, data
4214 from the prior year must include retention rates, transfer
4215 rates, completion rates, graduation rates, employment and
4216 placement rates, and earnings of graduates. By October 1 of each
4217 year, the colleges and universities described in this paragraph
4218 shall report the data to the department.

4219 (c) The Commissioner of Education shall determine the
4220 standards for the required data, monitor data quality, and
4221 measure improvements. The commissioner shall report annually to
4222 the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors of the
4223 State University System, the President of the Senate, and the
4224 Speaker of the House of Representatives data quality indicators
4225 and ratings for all school districts and public postsecondary

4226 | educational institutions.

4227 | (d) Before establishing any new reporting or data
4228 | collection requirements, the commissioner shall use existing
4229 | data being collected to reduce duplication and minimize
4230 | paperwork.

4231 | (4) RULES.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules
4232 | pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the
4233 | provisions of this section relating to the educational ~~K-20~~ data
4234 | warehouse.

4235 | Section 71. Section 1008.32, Florida Statutes, is amended
4236 | to read:

4237 | 1008.32 State Board of Education oversight enforcement
4238 | authority.—The State Board of Education shall oversee the
4239 | performance of early learning coalitions, district school
4240 | boards, and Florida College System institution boards of
4241 | trustees in enforcement of all laws and rules. District school
4242 | boards and Florida College System institution boards of trustees
4243 | shall be primarily responsible for compliance with law and state
4244 | board rule.

4245 | (1) In order to ensure compliance with law or state board
4246 | rule, the State Board of Education shall have the authority to
4247 | request and receive information, data, and reports from early
4248 | learning coalitions, school districts, and Florida College
4249 | System institutions. Early Learning Coalition chief executive
4250 | officers or executive directors, district school

4251 superintendents, and Florida College System institution
 4252 presidents are responsible for the accuracy of the information
 4253 and data reported to the state board.

4254 (2) (a) The Commissioner of Education may investigate
 4255 allegations of noncompliance with law or state board rule and
 4256 determine probable cause. The commissioner shall report
 4257 determinations of probable cause to the State Board of Education
 4258 which shall require the early learning coalition, district
 4259 school board, or Florida College System institution board of
 4260 trustees to document compliance with law or state board rule.

4261 (b) The Commissioner of Education shall report to the
 4262 State Board of Education any findings by the Auditor General
 4263 that an early learning coalition, a district school board, or
 4264 Florida College System institution is acting without statutory
 4265 authority or contrary to general law. The State Board of
 4266 Education shall require the early learning coalition, district
 4267 school board, or Florida College System institution board of
 4268 trustees to document compliance with such law.

4269 (3) If the early learning coalition, district school
 4270 board, or Florida College System institution board of trustees
 4271 cannot satisfactorily document compliance, the State Board of
 4272 Education may order compliance within a specified timeframe.

4273 (4) If the State Board of Education determines that an
 4274 early learning coalition, a district school board, or Florida
 4275 College System institution board of trustees is unwilling or

4276 | unable to comply with law or state board rule within the
 4277 | specified time, the state board shall have the authority to
 4278 | initiate any of the following actions:

4279 | (a) Report to the Legislature that the early learning
 4280 | coalition, school district, or Florida College System
 4281 | institution is unwilling or unable to comply with law or state
 4282 | board rule and recommend action to be taken by the Legislature.

4283 | (b) Withhold the transfer of state funds, discretionary
 4284 | grant funds, discretionary lottery funds, or any other funds
 4285 | specified as eligible for this purpose by the Legislature until
 4286 | the early learning coalition, school district, or Florida
 4287 | College System institution complies with the law or state board
 4288 | rule.

4289 | (c) Declare the early learning coalition, school district,
 4290 | or Florida College System institution ineligible for competitive
 4291 | grants.

4292 | (d) Require monthly or periodic reporting on the situation
 4293 | related to noncompliance until it is remedied.

4294 | (5) Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a
 4295 | private cause of action or create any rights for individuals or
 4296 | entities in addition to those provided elsewhere in law or rule.

4297 | Section 72. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section
 4298 | 1008.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

4299 | 1008.33 Authority to enforce public school improvement.—

4300 | (3) (a) The academic performance of all students has a

4301 significant effect on the state school system. Pursuant to Art.
4302 IX of the State Constitution, which prescribes the duty of the
4303 State Board of Education to supervise Florida's public school
4304 system, the state board shall equitably enforce the
4305 accountability requirements of the state school system and may
4306 impose state requirements on school districts in order to
4307 improve the academic performance of all districts, schools, and
4308 students based upon the provisions of the Florida Early
4309 Learning-20 ~~K-20~~ Education Code, chapters 1000-1013; the federal
4310 ESEA and its implementing regulations; and the ESEA flexibility
4311 waiver approved for Florida by the United States Secretary of
4312 Education.

4313 Section 73. Subsection (9) of section 1011.62, Florida
4314 Statutes, is amended to read:

4315 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual
4316 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each
4317 district for operation of schools is not determined in the
4318 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing
4319 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as
4320 follows:

4321 (9) RESEARCH-BASED READING INSTRUCTION ALLOCATION.—

4322 (a) The research-based reading instruction allocation is
4323 created to provide comprehensive reading instruction to students
4324 in kindergarten through grade 12, including certain students who
4325 exhibit a substantial deficiency in early literacy and completed

4326 | the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program pursuant to s.
4327 | 1008.25(5)(b). Each school district that has one or more of the
4328 | 300 lowest-performing elementary schools based on a 3-year
4329 | average of the state reading assessment data must use the
4330 | school's portion of the allocation to provide an additional hour
4331 | per day of intensive reading instruction for the students in
4332 | each school. The additional hour may be provided within the
4333 | school day. Students enrolled in these schools who earned a
4334 | level 4 or level 5 score on the statewide, standardized English
4335 | Language Arts assessment for the previous school year may
4336 | participate in the additional hour of instruction. Exceptional
4337 | student education centers may not be included in the 300
4338 | schools. The intensive reading instruction delivered in this
4339 | additional hour shall include: research-based reading
4340 | instruction that has been proven to accelerate progress of
4341 | students exhibiting a reading deficiency; differentiated
4342 | instruction based on screening, diagnostic, progress monitoring,
4343 | or student assessment data to meet students' specific reading
4344 | needs; explicit and systematic reading strategies to develop
4345 | phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and
4346 | comprehension, with more extensive opportunities for guided
4347 | practice, error correction, and feedback; and the integration of
4348 | social studies, science, and mathematics-text reading, text
4349 | discussion, and writing in response to reading.

4350 | (b) Funds for comprehensive, research-based reading

4351 instruction shall be allocated annually to each school district
4352 in the amount provided in the General Appropriations Act. Each
4353 eligible school district shall receive the same minimum amount
4354 as specified in the General Appropriations Act, and any
4355 remaining funds shall be distributed to eligible school
4356 districts based on each school district's proportionate share of
4357 K-12 base funding.

4358 (c) Funds allocated under this subsection must be used to
4359 provide a system of comprehensive reading instruction to
4360 students enrolled in the K-12 programs and certain students who
4361 exhibit a substantial deficiency in early literacy and completed
4362 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program pursuant to s.
4363 1008.25(5)(b), which may include the following:

4364 1. An additional hour per day of intensive reading
4365 instruction to students in the 300 lowest-performing elementary
4366 schools by teachers and reading specialists who have
4367 demonstrated effectiveness in teaching reading as required in
4368 paragraph (a).

4369 2. Kindergarten through grade 5 reading intervention
4370 teachers to provide intensive intervention during the school day
4371 and in the required extra hour for students identified as having
4372 a reading deficiency.

4373 3. Highly qualified reading coaches to specifically
4374 support teachers in making instructional decisions based on
4375 student data, and improve teacher delivery of effective reading

4376 instruction, intervention, and reading in the content areas
4377 based on student need.

4378 4. Professional development for school district teachers
4379 in scientifically based reading instruction, including
4380 strategies to teach reading in content areas and with an
4381 emphasis on technical and informational text, to help school
4382 district teachers earn a certification or an endorsement in
4383 reading.

4384 5. Summer reading camps, using only teachers or other
4385 district personnel who are certified or endorsed in reading
4386 consistent with s. 1008.25(7)(b)3., for all students in
4387 kindergarten through grade 2 who demonstrate a reading
4388 deficiency as determined by district and state assessments, ~~and~~
4389 students in grades 3 through 5 who score at Level 1 on the
4390 statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment, and
4391 certain students who exhibit a substantial deficiency in early
4392 literacy and completed the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
4393 Program pursuant to s. 1008.25(5)(b).

4394 6. Supplemental instructional materials that are grounded
4395 in scientifically based reading research as identified by the
4396 Just Read, Florida! Office pursuant to s. 1001.215(8).

4397 7. Intensive interventions for students in kindergarten
4398 through grade 12 who have been identified as having a reading
4399 deficiency or who are reading below grade level as determined by
4400 the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment or

4401 for certain students who exhibit a substantial deficiency in
4402 early literacy and completed the Voluntary Prekindergarten
4403 Education Program pursuant to s. 1008.25(5)(b).

4404 (d)1. Annually, by a date determined by the Department of
4405 Education but before May 1, school districts shall submit a ~~K-12~~
4406 comprehensive reading plan for the specific use of the research-
4407 based reading instruction allocation in the format prescribed by
4408 the department for review and approval by the Just Read,
4409 Florida! Office created pursuant to s. 1001.215. The plan
4410 annually submitted by school districts shall be deemed approved
4411 unless the department rejects the plan on or before June 1. If a
4412 school district and the Just Read, Florida! Office cannot reach
4413 agreement on the contents of the plan, the school district may
4414 appeal to the State Board of Education for resolution. School
4415 districts shall be allowed reasonable flexibility in designing
4416 their plans and shall be encouraged to offer reading
4417 intervention through innovative methods, including career
4418 academies. The plan format shall be developed with input from
4419 school district personnel, including teachers and principals,
4420 and shall provide for intensive reading interventions through
4421 integrated curricula, provided that, beginning with the 2020-
4422 2021 school year, the interventions are delivered by a teacher
4423 who is certified or endorsed in reading. Such interventions must
4424 incorporate strategies identified by the Just Read, Florida!
4425 Office pursuant to s. 1001.215(8). No later than July 1

4426 annually, the department shall release the school district's
4427 allocation of appropriated funds to those districts having
4428 approved plans. A school district that spends 100 percent of
4429 this allocation on its approved plan shall be deemed to have
4430 been in compliance with the plan. The department may withhold
4431 funds upon a determination that reading instruction allocation
4432 funds are not being used to implement the approved plan. The
4433 department shall monitor and track the implementation of each
4434 district plan, including conducting site visits and collecting
4435 specific data on expenditures and reading improvement results.
4436 By February 1 of each year, the department shall report its
4437 findings to the Legislature.

4438 2. Each school district that has a school designated as
4439 one of the 300 lowest-performing elementary schools as specified
4440 in paragraph (a) shall specifically delineate in the
4441 comprehensive reading plan, or in an addendum to the
4442 comprehensive reading plan, the implementation design and
4443 reading intervention strategies that will be used for the
4444 required additional hour of reading instruction. The term
4445 "reading intervention" includes evidence-based strategies
4446 frequently used to remediate reading deficiencies and also
4447 includes individual instruction, tutoring, mentoring, or the use
4448 of technology that targets specific reading skills and
4449 abilities.

4450 Section 74. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.