

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2       An act relating to economic self-sufficiency; amending  
 3       s. 11.45, F.S.; requiring the Auditor General to  
 4       perform certain audits within a specified time frame;  
 5       providing requirements for such audits; providing  
 6       reporting requirements for the results of such audits;  
 7       amending s. 1002.81, F.S.; repealing certain  
 8       definitions; amending s. 1002.87, F.S.; revising the  
 9       criteria for a child to be given priority enrollment  
 10      in the school readiness program; providing an  
 11      effective date.

12  
 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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15           Section 1. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (2) of  
 16 section 11.45, Florida Statutes, to read:

17           11.45 Definitions; duties; authorities; reports; rules.—

18           (2) DUTIES.—The Auditor General shall:

19           (m) At least every 3 years, conduct performance audits of  
 20 the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program established under  
 21 7 U.S.C. ss. 2011 et seq., the temporary cash assistance program  
 22 under s. 414.095, the Medicaid program under s. 409.963, the  
 23 School Readiness program under Part VI of chapter 1002, and the  
 24 housing choice voucher program established under 42 U.S.C. s.  
 25 1437. Such audits shall include a review of eligibility

26 | criteria; the manner that each program establishes and documents  
27 | eligibility and disbursement policies; the frequency of  
28 | eligibility determinations; the clarity in both written and  
29 | verbal communication in which eligibility requirements are  
30 | conveyed to current and potential program subscribers;  
31 | opportunities for improving service efficiency and efficacy made  
32 | possible by improved integration of state data system platforms,  
33 | processes, and procedures related to data collection, analysis,  
34 | documentation, and inter-agency sharing; and the number of  
35 | families receiving multiple program services out of the total  
36 | eligible families. If possible, the Auditor General shall also  
37 | determine the number of families receiving services and those  
38 | utilizing the Earned Income Tax Credit. The Auditor General  
39 | shall provide the results of the audits in a report to the  
40 | Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House  
41 | of Representatives, the Chief Financial Officer, and the  
42 | Legislative Auditing Committee within 30 days after completion  
43 | of the audit but no later than December 31, 2020, and every 3  
44 | years thereafter.

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46 | The Auditor General shall perform his or her duties  
47 | independently but under the general policies established by the  
48 | Legislative Auditing Committee. This subsection does not limit  
49 | the Auditor General's discretionary authority to conduct other  
50 | audits or engagements of governmental entities as authorized in

51 subsection (3).

52 Section 2. Subsections (6) and (15) of section 1002.81,  
53 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

54 1002.81 Definitions.—Consistent with the requirements of  
55 45 C.F.R. parts 98 and 99 and as used in this part, the term:

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

60 ~~(15) "Unearned income" means income other than earned~~  
61 ~~income. The term includes, but is not limited to:~~

62 ~~(a) Documented alimony and child support received.~~

63 ~~(b) Social security benefits.~~

64 ~~(c) Supplemental security income benefits.~~

65 ~~(d) Workers' compensation benefits.~~

66 ~~(e) Recemployment assistance or unemployment compensation~~  
67 ~~benefits.~~

68 ~~(f) Veterans' benefits.~~

69 ~~(g) Retirement benefits.~~

70 ~~(h) Temporary cash assistance under chapter 414.~~

71 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
72 1002.87, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

73 1002.87 School readiness program; eligibility and  
74 enrollment.—

75 (1) Each early learning coalition shall give priority for

76 participation in the school readiness program as follows:

77 (a) Priority shall be given first to a child younger than  
78 13 years of age from a family that includes a parent who is  
79 receiving temporary cash assistance under chapter 414 and  
80 subject to the federal work requirements or a parent who has an  
81 Intensive Services Account or an Individual Training Account  
82 under s. 445.009.

83 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.