

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to assistance programs; amending s.
3 1002.81, F.S.; deleting obsolete language; amending s.
4 1002.87, F.S.; requiring an early learning coalition
5 to give priority for participation in a school
6 readiness program to certain children; requiring the
7 Office of Early Learning within the Department of
8 Education to coordinate with the University of Florida
9 Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood
10 Studies to conduct an analysis of certain assistance
11 programs; providing requirements for the analysis;
12 requiring certain agencies to enter into a data
13 sharing agreement with certain entities and annually
14 provide certain data; requiring the University of
15 Florida Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early
16 Childhood Studies to provide an annual report to the
17 Office of Early Learning; requiring the Office of
18 Early Learning to provide an annual report to the
19 Governor and Legislature; providing for the scheduled
20 expiration of certain provisions; providing an
21 effective date.

22
23 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

24
25 Section 1. Subsections (6) and (15) of section 1002.81,

26 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

27 1002.81 Definitions.—Consistent with the requirements of
28 45 C.F.R. parts 98 and 99 and as used in this part, the term:

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

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

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

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

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

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

39 ~~(e) Reemployment assistance or unemployment compensation~~
40 ~~benefits.~~

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

42 ~~(g) Retirement benefits.~~

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

44 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
45 1002.87, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

46 1002.87 School readiness program; eligibility and
47 enrollment.—

48 (1) Each early learning coalition shall give priority for
49 participation in the school readiness program as follows:

50 (a) Priority shall be given first to a child younger than

51 13 years of age from a family that includes a parent who is
52 receiving temporary cash assistance under chapter 414 and
53 subject to the federal work requirements or a parent who has an
54 Intensive Service Account or an Individual Training Account
55 under s. 445.009.

56 Section 3. (1) The Office of Early Learning within the
57 Department of Education shall coordinate with the University of
58 Florida Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood
59 Studies to conduct an analysis of, at a minimum, recipients of
60 the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program established under
61 7 U.S.C. ss. 2011 et seq., the temporary cash assistance program
62 under s. 414.095, Florida Statutes, the Medicaid program under
63 s. 409.963, Florida Statutes, the school readiness program under
64 part VI of chapter 1002, Florida Statutes, and the Housing
65 Choice Voucher Program established under 42 U.S.C. s. 1437f.

66 (2) The analysis must include a review of eligibility
67 criteria, the manner in which each program establishes and
68 documents eligibility and disbursement policies, the frequency
69 of eligibility determinations, and the number of families
70 receiving multiple program services out of the total number of
71 eligible families.

72 (3) The University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for
73 Excellence in Early Childhood Studies shall, through its
74 analysis, develop participant profiles based on the number of
75 families receiving multiple program services that include family

76 composition and the most frequent program services or
77 combination of services families are accessing in each county or
78 geographic region.

79 (4) Each agency responsible for the administration of a
80 program that is required to be analyzed under subsection (1)
81 shall enter into a data sharing agreement with the Office of
82 Early Learning and the University of Florida Anita Zucker Center
83 for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies by September 1, 2021.
84 Upon execution of the data sharing agreement each agency shall
85 submit a program services data file to the University of Florida
86 Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies by
87 November 1, 2021, containing program service data from the
88 preceding 10 federal fiscal years, if available. By November 1,
89 2022, and each year thereafter if applicable, each agency shall
90 submit a supplemental data file to the University of Florida
91 Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies
92 containing program service data from the preceding federal
93 fiscal year.

94 (5) The University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for
95 Excellence in Early Childhood Studies shall provide a report to
96 the Office of Early Learning based on the results of its
97 analysis by June 30 of each year.

98 (6) The Office of Early Learning within 30 days after
99 receiving the report shall submit it to the Governor, the
100 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of

101 | Representatives.

102 | (7) This section expires on June 30, 2023.

103 | Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.