

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to trust funds; creating the
3 Early Education and Child Care Trust Fund
4 within the Executive Office of the Governor;
5 providing for sources of moneys and purposes;
6 providing for future review and termination or
7 re-creation of the trust fund; providing a
8 contingent effective date.
9

10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
11

12 Section 1. The Early Education and Child Care Trust
13 Fund is created in the State Treasury, to be administered by
14 the Executive Office of the Governor. Funds shall be credited
15 to the trust fund as provided in SB 182 or similar
16 legislation, to be used for the purposes set forth therein.

17 Section 2. Funding; Early Education and Child Care
18 Trust Fund.--

19 (1) The intent of the Early Education and Child Care
20 Trust Fund is to ensure a seamless service delivery system for
21 all publicly funded early education and child care programs
22 operating in this state.

23 (2) Funds budgeted for a district school board for the
24 prekindergarten early intervention program, the subsidized
25 child care program, and other state or locally funded
26 education and care programs for preschool children may be
27 transferred to the Early Education and Child Care Trust Fund
28 for implementation of the early education and child care
29 program in a given county. Additional funds, including
30 state-appropriated incentive funds, may be placed in the trust
31 fund for purposes of this section.

1 (3) All funds transferred to and retained in the trust
2 fund shall be invested pursuant to section 18.125, Florida
3 Statutes. Any interest accruing to the trust fund shall be for
4 the benefit of counties providing an early education and child
5 care program. Notwithstanding section 216.301, Florida
6 Statutes, and pursuant to section 216.351, Florida Statutes,
7 any undisbursed balance remaining in the trust fund and
8 interest accruing to the trust fund not distributed at the end
9 of the fiscal year shall remain in the trust fund and shall
10 increase the total funds available for the counties
11 implementing an early education and child care program.

12 (4) The School Readiness Commission shall annually
13 distribute to the fiscal agent for each School Readiness
14 Coalition the funds that were transferred into the Early
15 Education and Child Care Trust Fund for the benefit of that
16 coalition. Additional funds and investment income from the
17 trust fund shall be distributed to the counties implementing
18 an early education and child care program based on achievement
19 of performance outcomes or need, or a combination thereof. The
20 School Readiness Commission shall provide incentives to
21 coalitions that serve more children in the early education and
22 child care program than participating programs were required
23 to serve in the previous year, if levels of program funding
24 did not decrease during the year.

25 (5) State funds appropriated for the early education
26 and child care program may not be used for the construction of
27 new facilities, the transportation of students, or the
28 purchase of buses, but may be used for educational field trips
29 that enhance the curriculum.

30 Section 3. It is the intent of the Legislature that
31 section 2 be compiled into section 402.265, Florida Statutes.

1 Section 4. Pursuant to the provisions of section
2 19(f)(2), Article III of the State Constitution, the Early
3 Education and Child Care Trust Fund shall, unless terminated
4 sooner, be terminated on July 1, 2002. Prior to its scheduled
5 termination, the trust fund shall be reviewed as provided in
6 section 215.3206(1) and (2), Florida Statutes.

7 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998, if
8 SB 182 or similar legislation is adopted in the same
9 legislative session or an extension thereof.

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31