By Senator Cowin

11-392-99

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to school-entry health and vision examinations; amending s. 232.0315, 3 4 F.S.; requiring children who enter public or 5 nonpublic schools in this state to present evidence of having received a comprehensive 6 7 vision examination; providing an exemption; deleting provisions relating to rulemaking 8 9 authority with respect to medical examinations; providing an effective date. 10 11 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 13 14 Section 1. Section 232.0315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 15 16 232.0315 School-entry health examinations.--(1) The school board of each district and the 17 governing authority of each nonpublic school shall require 18 19 that each child who is entitled to admittance to prekindergarten or kindergarten, or is entitled to any other 20 21 initial entrance into a public or nonpublic school in this 22 state, present a certification of a school-entry health 23 examination and a certification of a school-entry comprehensive vision examination and analysis performed within 24 25 1 year prior to enrollment in school. The school board of 26 each district, and the governing authority of each nonpublic 27 school, may establish a policy which permits a student up to 28 30 school days to present a certification of a school-entry 29 health examination and up to 120 days to present a 30 certification of a school-entry comprehensive vision examination and analysis. Any school board that which

establishes such a policy shall include provisions in its local school health services plan to assist students in obtaining the health and vision examinations. However, any child shall be exempt from the examinations requirement of a health examination upon written request of the parent or quardian of such child stating objections to such examination on religious grounds. (2) The Department of Education, subject to the concurrence of the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, shall adopt rules to govern medical examinations performed under this section. Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999. SENATE SUMMARY Requires children who are entering public or nonpublic schools in this state to present evidence of having received a comprehensive vision examination. Provides an exemption if the child's parent or guardian objects in writing on religious grounds. Deletes provisions relating to rulemaking authority with respect to medical examinations.