

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative(s) Ausley and Kendrick offered the following:

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3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Between lines 156 and 157, insert:

5 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section

6 411.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

7 411.01 School readiness programs; early learning  
8 coalitions.--

9 (5) CREATION OF EARLY LEARNING COALITIONS.--

10 (a) Early learning coalitions.--

11 1. The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall establish the  
12 minimum number of children to be served by each early learning  
13 coalition through the coalition's school readiness program. The  
14 Agency for Workforce Innovation may only approve school  
15 readiness plans in accordance with this minimum number. The

499827

4/5/2005 5:00:43 PM

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

16 minimum number must be uniform for every early learning  
17 coalition and must:

- 18 a. Permit 32 ~~30~~ or fewer coalitions to be established; and
- 19 b. Require each coalition to serve at least 2,000 children  
20 based upon the average number of all children served per month  
21 through the coalition's school readiness program during the  
22 previous 12 months.

23  
24 The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall adopt procedures for  
25 merging early learning coalitions, including procedures for the  
26 consolidation of merging coalitions, and for the early  
27 termination of the terms of coalition members which are  
28 necessary to accomplish the mergers. Each early learning  
29 coalition must comply with the merger procedures and shall be  
30 organized in accordance with this subparagraph by April 1, 2005.  
31 By June 30, 2005, each coalition must complete the transfer of  
32 powers, duties, functions, rules, records, personnel, property,  
33 and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and  
34 other funds to the successor coalition, if applicable.

35 2. If an early learning coalition would serve fewer  
36 children than the minimum number established under subparagraph  
37 1., the coalition must merge with another county to form a  
38 multicounty coalition. However, the Agency for Workforce  
39 Innovation may authorize an early learning coalition to serve  
40 fewer children than the minimum number established under  
41 subparagraph 1., if:

499827

4/5/2005 5:00:43 PM

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

42 a. The coalition demonstrates to the Agency for Workforce  
43 Innovation that merging with another county or multicounty  
44 region contiguous to the coalition would cause an extreme  
45 hardship on the coalition;

46 b. The Agency for Workforce Innovation has determined  
47 during the most recent annual review of the coalition's school  
48 readiness plan, or through monitoring and performance  
49 evaluations conducted under paragraph (4)(1), that the coalition  
50 has substantially implemented its plan and substantially met the  
51 performance standards and outcome measures adopted by the  
52 agency; and

53 c. The coalition demonstrates to the Agency for Workforce  
54 Innovation the coalition's ability to effectively and  
55 efficiently implement the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
56 Program.

57  
58 If an early learning coalition fails or refuses to merge as  
59 required by this subparagraph, the Agency for Workforce  
60 Innovation may dissolve the coalition and temporarily contract  
61 with a qualified entity to continue school readiness and  
62 prekindergarten services in the coalition's county or  
63 multicounty region until the coalition is reestablished through  
64 resubmission of a school readiness plan and approval by the  
65 agency.

66 3. Each early learning coalition shall be composed of at  
67 least 18 members but not more than 35 members. The Agency for  
68 Workforce Innovation shall adopt standards establishing within

499827

4/5/2005 5:00:43 PM

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

69 | this range the minimum and maximum number of members that may be  
70 | appointed to an early learning coalition. These standards must  
71 | include variations for a coalition serving a multicounty region.  
72 | Each early learning coalition must comply with these standards.

73 |         4. The Governor shall appoint the chair and two other  
74 | members of each early learning coalition, who must each meet the  
75 | same qualifications as private-sector business members appointed  
76 | by the coalition under subparagraph 6.

77 |         5. Each early learning coalition must include the  
78 | following members:

79 |             a. A Department of Children and Family Services district  
80 | administrator or his or her designee who is authorized to make  
81 | decisions on behalf of the department.

82 |             b. A district superintendent of schools or his or her  
83 | designee who is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the  
84 | district, who shall be a nonvoting member.

85 |             c. A regional workforce board executive director or his or  
86 | her designee.

87 |             d. A county health department director or his or her  
88 | designee.

89 |             e. A children's services council or juvenile welfare board  
90 | chair or executive director, if applicable, who shall be a  
91 | nonvoting member if the council or board is the fiscal agent of  
92 | the coalition or if the council or board contracts with and  
93 | receives funds from the coalition.

94 |             f. An agency head of a local licensing agency as defined  
95 | in s. 402.302, where applicable.

499827

4/5/2005 5:00:43 PM

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

96 g. A president of a community college or his or her  
97 designee.

98 h. One member appointed by a board of county  
99 commissioners.

100 i. A central agency administrator, where applicable, who  
101 shall be a nonvoting member.

102 j. A Head Start director, who shall be a nonvoting member.

103 k. A representative of private child care providers,  
104 including family day care homes, who shall be a nonvoting  
105 member.

106 l. A representative of faith-based child care providers,  
107 who shall be a nonvoting member.

108 m. A representative of programs for children with  
109 disabilities under the federal Individuals with Disabilities  
110 Education Act, who shall be a nonvoting member.

111 6. Including the members appointed by the Governor under  
112 subparagraph 4., more than one-third of the members of each  
113 early learning coalition must be private-sector business members  
114 who do not have, and none of whose relatives as defined in s.  
115 112.3143 has, a substantial financial interest in the design or  
116 delivery of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program  
117 created under part V of chapter 1002 or the coalition's school  
118 readiness program. To meet this requirement an early learning  
119 coalition must appoint additional members from a list of  
120 nominees submitted to the coalition by a chamber of commerce or  
121 economic development council within the geographic region served  
122 by the coalition. The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall

499827

4/5/2005 5:00:43 PM

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

123 establish criteria for appointing private-sector business  
124 members. These criteria must include standards for determining  
125 whether a member or relative has a substantial financial  
126 interest in the design or delivery of the Voluntary  
127 Prekindergarten Education Program or the coalition's school  
128 readiness program.

129         7. A majority of the voting membership of an early  
130 learning coalition constitutes a quorum required to conduct the  
131 business of the coalition.

132         8. A voting member of an early learning coalition may not  
133 appoint a designee to act in his or her place, except as  
134 otherwise provided in this paragraph. A voting member may send a  
135 representative to coalition meetings, but that representative  
136 does not have voting privileges. When a district administrator  
137 for the Department of Children and Family Services appoints a  
138 designee to an early learning coalition, the designee is the  
139 voting member of the coalition, and any individual attending in  
140 the designee's place, including the district administrator, does  
141 not have voting privileges.

142         9. Each member of an early learning coalition is subject  
143 to ss. 112.313, 112.3135, and 112.3143. For purposes of s.  
144 112.3143(3)(a), each voting member is a local public officer who  
145 must abstain from voting when a voting conflict exists.

146         10. For purposes of tort liability, each member or  
147 employee of an early learning coalition shall be governed by s.  
148 768.28.

499827

4/5/2005 5:00:43 PM

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

149 11. An early learning coalition serving a multicounty  
150 region must include representation from each county.

151 12. Each early learning coalition shall establish terms  
152 for all appointed members of the coalition. The terms must be  
153 staggered and must be a uniform length that does not exceed 4  
154 years per term. Appointed members may serve a maximum of two  
155 consecutive terms. When a vacancy occurs in an appointed  
156 position, the coalition must advertise the vacancy.

157  
158 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

159 Remove line 9 and insert:  
160 financings; amending s. 411.01, F.S.; increasing the number of  
161 early learning coalitions authorized to be established; amending  
162 s. 394.908, F.S.; providing for