

By the Committee on Education; and Senator Wise

581-2041-05

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to assistive technology devices and services; requiring interagency agreements to ensure that assistive technology devices be retained for use by a person with disabilities as he or she makes certain transitions; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Accessibility, utilization, and coordination of appropriate assistive technology devices and services are essential as a young person with disabilities moves from preschool to school, from one school to another, and from school to employment or independent living. To ensure that an assistive technology device issued to a young person as part of his or her individualized family support plan or individual education plan remains with the individual through such transitions, interagency agreements shall be developed and executed. The request that an assistive technology device be retained for use by an individual as he or she moves through the continuum from home to school to postschool must be made to the owner by the individual or his or her parent or guardian. Interagency agreements shall be entered into by the following:

(1) The Florida Infants and Toddlers Early Intervention Program in the Division of Children's Medical Services of the Department of Health.

(2) The Division of Blind Services, the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Education.

1 (3) The Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
2 administered by the Department of Education and the Agency for
3 Workforce Innovation.

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5 Interagency agreements shall provide a system for ensuring
6 that young persons with disabilities and their families,
7 educators, and employers are informed about the utilization
8 and coordination of assistive technology devices and services
9 that may assist in meeting transition needs.

10 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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12 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
13 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
14 Senate Bill 2550

15 The committee substitute clarifies who receives the request
16 for retaining use of an assistive technology device and
17 conforms a reference to a plan for a person with a disability
18 to federal law.
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