

By the Committees on Commerce and Consumer Services;
Education; and Senator Wise

577-2279-05

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to assistive technology devices and services; creating s. 1003.575, F.S.; 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. Section 1003.575, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1003.575 Assistive technology devices; findings; interagency agreements.--Accessibility, utilization, and coordination of appropriate assistive technology devices and services are essential as a young person with disabilities moves from early-intervention to preschool, 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, individual support plan, or an individual education plan remains with the individual through such transitions, the following agencies shall enter into interagency agreements, as appropriate, to ensure the transaction of assistive technology devices:

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

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

4 (3) The Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
5 administered by the Department of Education and the Agency for
6 Workforce Innovation.

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8 Interagency agreements entered into pursuant to this section
9 shall provide a framework for ensuring that young persons with
10 disabilities and their families, educators, and employers are
11 informed about the utilization and coordination of assistive
12 technology devices and services that may assist in meeting
13 transition needs, and shall establish a mechanism by which a
14 young person or his or her parent may request that an
15 assistive technology device remain with the young person as he
16 or she moves through the continuum from home to school to
17 postschool.

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

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20 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
21 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
22 CS/SB 2550

23 This committee substitute includes a catch-line in the bill
24 and includes transitions from early intervention to pre-school
25 in the list of required interagency agreements.
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