

577-1367A-05

1                             A bill to be entitled  
2             An act relating to early learning; amending s.  
3             411.01, F.S.; requiring early learning  
4             coalitions to provide parents with profiles of  
5             school readiness providers; deleting  
6             authorization for coalitions to receive  
7             subsidized child care funds for all children  
8             eligible for certain federal programs;  
9             authorizing the Agency for Workforce Innovation  
10            to allow coalitions to pay a rate differential  
11            to providers under certain circumstances;  
12            revising eligibility criteria and priorities  
13            for participation in school readiness programs;  
14            conforming provisions; creating s. 411.0101,  
15            F.S.; authorizing early learning coalitions to  
16            establish school-age readiness services under  
17            certain circumstances; providing requirements  
18            for these services; establishing eligibility  
19            criteria and priorities for participation in  
20            school-age readiness services; limiting the use  
21            of school readiness funds for school-age  
22            readiness services; transferring, renumbering,  
23            and amending s. 402.3145, F.S.; revising  
24            requirements for transportation services in  
25            school readiness programs; conforming  
26            provisions; authorizing contracts; deleting  
27            obsolete references to a repealed program;  
28            transferring, renumbering, and amending s.  
29            402.3017, F.S.; providing requirements for  
30            school readiness quality initiatives; revising  
31            requirements for the Teacher Education and

1 Compensation Helps scholarship program;  
2 establishing requirements for the Home  
3 Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters  
4 Program; transferring, renumbering, and  
5 amending s. 409.178, F.S.; revising  
6 requirements for the Child Care Executive  
7 Partnership Program; deleting a short title and  
8 legislative intent; revising requirements for  
9 family income; deleting obsolete references to  
10 a repealed program; requiring the Agency for  
11 Workforce Innovation to provide for staff;  
12 revising provisions for the administration of  
13 purchasing pools; providing for the adoption of  
14 rules; amending s. 411.0105, F.S.; revising  
15 federal lead agency responsibilities; requiring  
16 a contract; transferring, renumbering, and  
17 amending s. 402.27, F.S.; revising provisions  
18 for the statewide resource and referral  
19 network; conforming provisions; transferring,  
20 renumbering, and amending s. 402.3051, F.S.;  
21 revising definitions for purposes of child care  
22 market rate reimbursement; revising  
23 requirements for calculating the market rate  
24 and prevailing market rate; requiring the  
25 adoption of a prevailing market-rate schedule;  
26 transferring, renumbering, and amending s.  
27 402.3018, F.S.; providing for technical  
28 assistance to child care and early learning  
29 providers; conforming provisions; transferring,  
30 renumbering, and amending s. 402.25, F.S.;  
31 revising requirements for activities to foster

1 brain development in infants and toddlers in  
2 certain state-funded programs; conforming  
3 provisions; amending s. 411.011, F.S.,  
4 conforming a cross-reference; transferring,  
5 renumbering, and amending s. 402.3016, F.S.;  
6 revising provisions for Early Head Start  
7 collaboration grants; requiring the Agency for  
8 Workforce Innovation to submit a report;  
9 providing an appropriation; providing an  
10 effective date.

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

13  
14 Section 1. Paragraphs (c), (d), and (e) of subsection  
15 (5), and subsections (6) and (11) of section 411.01, Florida  
16 Statutes, as amended by section 2 of chapter 2004-484, Laws of  
17 Florida, are amended to read:

18 411.01 School readiness programs; early learning  
19 coalitions.--

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

21 (c) Program expectations.--

22 1. The school readiness program must meet the  
23 following expectations:

24 a. The program must, at a minimum, enhance the  
25 age-appropriate progress of each child in the development of  
26 the school readiness skills required under paragraph (4)(j),  
27 as measured by the performance standards and outcome measures  
28 adopted by the Agency for Workforce Innovation.

29 b. The program must provide extended-day and  
30 extended-year services to the maximum extent possible to meet  
31 the needs of parents who work.

1 c. There must be coordinated staff development and  
2 teaching opportunities.

3 d. There must be expanded access to community services  
4 and resources for families to help achieve economic  
5 self-sufficiency.

6 e. There must be a single point of entry and unified  
7 waiting list. As used in this sub-subparagraph, the term  
8 "single point of entry" means an integrated information system  
9 that allows a parent to enroll his or her child in the school  
10 readiness program at various locations throughout the county  
11 or multicounty region served by an early learning coalition,  
12 that may allow a parent to enroll his or her child by  
13 telephone or through an Internet website, and that uses a  
14 unified waiting list to track eligible children waiting for  
15 enrollment in the school readiness program. The Agency for  
16 Workforce Innovation shall establish a single statewide  
17 information system that integrates each early learning  
18 coalition's single point of entry, and each coalition must use  
19 the statewide system.

20 f. Each early learning coalition shall provide each  
21 parent enrolling a child in the coalition's school readiness  
22 program with a profile of every school readiness provider  
23 delivering the program within the coalition's county or  
24 multicounty region. The profiles shall be provided to parents  
25 in a format prescribed by the Agency for Workforce Innovation.  
26 The profiles must include, at a minimum, the following  
27 information about each provider:

28 (I) The provider's services, curriculum, instructor  
29 credentials, and instructor-to-student ratio;

30 (II) Whether the provider delivers the Voluntary  
31 Prekindergarten Education Program; and

1           (III) If the provider delivers the Voluntary  
2 Prekindergarten Education Program, the provider's kindergarten  
3 readiness rate calculated in accordance with s. 1002.69, based  
4 upon the most recent available results of the statewide  
5 kindergarten screening.

6           ~~g.f.~~ The Agency for Workforce Innovation must consider  
7 the access of eligible children to the school readiness  
8 program, as demonstrated in part by waiting lists, before  
9 approving a proposed increase in payment rates submitted by an  
10 early learning coalition. In addition, early learning  
11 coalitions shall use school readiness funds made available due  
12 to enrollment shifts from school readiness programs to the  
13 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program for increasing the  
14 number of children served in school readiness programs before  
15 increasing payment rates.

16           ~~h.g.~~ There must be a community plan to address the  
17 needs of all eligible children.

18           ~~i.h.~~ The program must meet all state licensing  
19 guidelines, where applicable.

20           2. The early learning coalition must implement a  
21 comprehensive program of school readiness services that  
22 enhance the cognitive, social, and physical development of  
23 children to achieve the performance standards and outcome  
24 measures adopted by the Agency for Workforce Innovation. At a  
25 minimum, these programs must contain the following elements:

26           a. Developmentally appropriate curriculum designed to  
27 enhance the age-appropriate progress of children in attaining  
28 the performance standards adopted by the Agency for Workforce  
29 Innovation under subparagraph (4)(d)8.

30           b. A character development program to develop basic  
31 values.

1 c. An age-appropriate assessment of each child's  
2 development.

3 d. A pretest administered to children when they enter  
4 a program and a posttest administered to children when they  
5 leave the program.

6 e. An appropriate staff-to-children ratio.

7 f. A healthy and safe environment.

8 g. A resource and referral network to assist parents  
9 in making an informed choice.

10 (d) Implementation.--

11 1. An early learning coalition may not implement the  
12 school readiness program until the coalition is authorized  
13 through approval of the coalition's school readiness plan by  
14 the Agency for Workforce Innovation.

15 2. Each early learning coalition shall develop a plan  
16 for implementing the school readiness program to meet the  
17 requirements of this section and the performance standards and  
18 outcome measures adopted by the Agency for Workforce  
19 Innovation. The plan must demonstrate how the program will  
20 ensure that each 3-year-old and 4-year-old child in a publicly  
21 funded school readiness program receives scheduled activities  
22 and instruction designed to enhance the age-appropriate  
23 progress of the children in attaining the performance  
24 standards adopted by the Agency for Workforce Innovation under  
25 subparagraph (4)(d)8. Before implementing the school readiness  
26 program, the early learning coalition must submit the plan to  
27 the Agency for Workforce Innovation for approval. The Agency  
28 for Workforce Innovation may approve the plan, reject the  
29 plan, or approve the plan with conditions. The Agency for  
30 Workforce Innovation shall review school readiness plans at  
31 least annually.

1           3. If the Agency for Workforce Innovation determines  
2 during the annual review of school readiness plans, or through  
3 monitoring and performance evaluations conducted under  
4 paragraph (4)(1), that an early learning coalition has not  
5 substantially implemented its plan, has not substantially met  
6 the performance standards and outcome measures adopted by the  
7 agency, or has not effectively administered the school  
8 readiness program or Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
9 Program, the Agency for Workforce Innovation may dissolve the  
10 coalition and temporarily contract with a qualified entity to  
11 continue school readiness and prekindergarten services in the  
12 coalition's county or multicounty region until the coalition  
13 is reestablished through resubmission of a school readiness  
14 plan and approval by the agency.

15           4. The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall adopt  
16 criteria for the approval of school readiness plans. The  
17 criteria must be consistent with the performance standards and  
18 outcome measures adopted by the agency and must require each  
19 approved plan to include the following minimum standards and  
20 provisions:

21           a. A sliding fee scale establishing a copayment for  
22 parents based upon their ability to pay, which is the same for  
23 all program providers, to be implemented and reflected in each  
24 program's budget.

25           b. A choice of settings and locations in licensed,  
26 registered, religious-exempt, or school-based programs to be  
27 provided to parents.

28           c. Instructional staff who have completed the training  
29 course as required in s. 402.305(2)(d)1., as well as staff who  
30 have additional training or credentials as required by the  
31 Agency for Workforce Innovation. The plan must provide a

1 method for assuring the qualifications of all personnel in all  
2 program settings.

3 d. Specific eligibility priorities for children within  
4 the early learning coalition's county or multicounty region in  
5 accordance with subsection (6).

6 e. Performance standards and outcome measures adopted  
7 by the Agency for Workforce Innovation.

8 f. Payment rates adopted by the early learning  
9 coalition and approved by the Agency for Workforce Innovation.  
10 Payment rates may not have the effect of limiting parental  
11 choice or creating standards or levels of services that have  
12 not been authorized by the Legislature.

13 g. Systems support services, including a central  
14 agency, child care resource and referral, eligibility  
15 determinations, training of providers, and parent support and  
16 involvement.

17 h. Direct enhancement services to families and  
18 children. System support and direct enhancement services shall  
19 be in addition to payments for the placement of children in  
20 school readiness programs.

21 i. The business organization of the early learning  
22 coalition, which must include the coalition's articles of  
23 incorporation and bylaws if the coalition is organized as a  
24 corporation. If the coalition is not organized as a  
25 corporation or other business entity, the plan must include  
26 the contract with a fiscal agent. An early learning coalition  
27 may contract with other coalitions to achieve efficiency in  
28 multicounty services, and these contracts may be part of the  
29 coalition's school readiness plan.

30 j. Strategies to meet the needs of unique populations,  
31 such as migrant workers.



1  
2 As part of the school readiness plan, the early learning  
3 coalition may request the Governor to apply for a waiver to  
4 allow the coalition to administer the Head Start Program to  
5 accomplish the purposes of the school readiness program. If a  
6 school readiness plan demonstrates that specific statutory  
7 goals can be achieved more effectively by using procedures  
8 that require modification of existing rules, policies, or  
9 procedures, a request for a waiver to the Agency for Workforce  
10 Innovation may be submitted as part of the plan. Upon review,  
11 the Agency for Workforce Innovation may grant the proposed  
12 modification.

13         5. Persons with an early childhood teaching  
14 certificate may provide support and supervision to other staff  
15 in the school readiness program.

16         6. An early learning coalition may not implement its  
17 school readiness plan until it submits the plan to and  
18 receives approval from the Agency for Workforce Innovation.  
19 Once the plan is approved, the plan and the services provided  
20 under the plan shall be controlled by the early learning  
21 coalition. The plan shall be reviewed and revised as  
22 necessary, but at least biennially. An early learning  
23 coalition may not implement the revisions until the coalition  
24 submits the revised plan to and receives approval from the  
25 Agency for Workforce Innovation. If the Agency for Workforce  
26 Innovation rejects a revised plan, the coalition must continue  
27 to operate under its prior approved plan.

28         7. Sections 125.901(2)(a)3., 411.221, and 411.232 do  
29 not apply to an early learning coalition with an approved  
30 school readiness plan. To facilitate innovative practices and  
31 to allow the regional establishment of school readiness

1 | programs, an early learning coalition may apply to the  
2 | Governor and Cabinet for a waiver of, and the Governor and  
3 | Cabinet may waive, any of the provisions of ss. 411.223,  
4 | 411.232, and 1003.54, if the waiver is necessary for  
5 | implementation of the coalition's school readiness plan.

6 |         8. Two or more counties may join for purposes of  
7 | planning and implementing a school readiness program.

8 |         ~~9. An early learning coalition may, subject to~~  
9 | ~~approval by the Agency for Workforce Innovation as part of the~~  
10 | ~~coalition's school readiness plan, receive subsidized child~~  
11 | ~~care funds for all children eligible for any federal~~  
12 | ~~subsidized child care program.~~

13 |         ~~9.10.~~ An early learning coalition may enter into  
14 | multiparty contracts with multicounty service providers in  
15 | order to meet the needs of unique populations such as migrant  
16 | workers.

17 |         (e) Requests for proposals; payment schedule.--

18 |         1. Each early learning coalition must comply with s.  
19 | 287.057 for the procurement of commodities or contractual  
20 | services from the funds described in paragraph (9)(d). The  
21 | period of a contract for purchase of these commodities or  
22 | contractual services, together with any renewal of the  
23 | original contract, may not exceed 3 years.

24 |         2. Each early learning coalition shall adopt a payment  
25 | schedule that encompasses all programs funded by the coalition  
26 | under this section. The payment schedule must take into  
27 | consideration the prevailing market-rate schedule adopted  
28 | under s. 411.0107 ~~relevant market rate~~, must include the  
29 | projected number of children to be served, and must be  
30 | submitted for approval by the Agency for Workforce Innovation.  
31 | Informal child care arrangements shall be reimbursed at not

1 more than 50 percent of the rate developed for a family day  
2 care home. The Agency for Workforce Innovation may authorize  
3 early learning coalitions to use school readiness funds for  
4 providing a rate differential or stipend to school readiness  
5 providers that:

6 a. Hold a current Gold Seal Quality Care designation  
7 under s. 402.281; and

8 b. Demonstrate, as verified by the early learning  
9 coalition, that the provider complies with each of the  
10 requirements of the coalition's school readiness program and  
11 this section, including, but not limited to, the program  
12 elements listed in subparagraph (5)(c)2.

13  
14 The rate differential may not exceed 20 percent of the payment  
15 rate for providers that do not qualify for the rate  
16 differential under sub-subparagraphs a. and b.

17 (6) PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.--Each early learning  
18 coalition's school readiness program shall be established for  
19 children from birth to the beginning of the school year for  
20 which a child is eligible for admission to kindergarten in a  
21 public school under s. 1003.21(1)(a)2. ~~eligibility.~~ Each early  
22 learning coalition shall give priority for participation in  
23 its ~~the~~ school readiness program, as follows:

24 (a) Priority shall be given first to children from  
25 families in which there is an adult receiving temporary cash  
26 assistance who is subject to federal work requirements.

27 (b) Priority shall be given next to children ~~age 3~~  
28 years to school entry who are served by the Family Safety  
29 Program Office of the Department of Children and Family  
30 Services or a community-based lead agency under chapter 39 and  
31 for whom child care is needed to minimize risk of further

1 abuse, neglect, or abandonment. ~~Other eligible populations~~  
2 ~~include children who meet one or more of the following~~  
3 ~~criteria:~~

4 (c) Subsequent priority shall be given to children who  
5 meet one or more of the following criteria:

6 1.(a) Children under the age of kindergarten  
7 eligibility who are:

8 ~~1. Children determined to be at risk of abuse,~~  
9 ~~neglect, or exploitation who are currently clients of the~~  
10 ~~Family Safety Program Office of the Department of Children and~~  
11 ~~Family Services, but who are not otherwise given priority~~  
12 ~~under this subsection.~~

13 ~~a.2.~~ Children at risk of welfare dependency, including  
14 economically disadvantaged children, children of participants  
15 in the welfare transition program, children of migrant  
16 farmworkers, and children of teen parents.

17 ~~b.3.~~ Children of working families whose family income  
18 does not exceed 150 percent of the federal poverty level.

19 ~~c.4.~~ Children for whom the state is paying a relative  
20 caregiver payment under s. 39.5085.

21 2.(b) Three-year-old children and 4-year-old children  
22 who may not be economically disadvantaged but who have  
23 disabilities, have been served in a specific part-time or  
24 combination of part-time exceptional education programs with  
25 required special services, aids, or equipment, and were  
26 previously reported for funding part time with the Florida  
27 Education Finance Program as exceptional students.

28 3.(c) Economically disadvantaged children, children  
29 with disabilities, and children at risk of future school  
30 failure, from birth to 4 years of age, who are served at home  
31

1 through home visitor programs and intensive parent education  
2 programs.

3 ~~4.(d)~~ Children who meet federal and state eligibility  
4 requirements for the migrant preschool program but who do not  
5 meet the criteria of economically disadvantaged.

6  
7 As used in this subsection, the term "economically  
8 disadvantaged" child means a child whose family income does  
9 not exceed 150 percent of the federal poverty level.  
10 Notwithstanding any change in a family's economic status, but  
11 subject to additional family contributions in accordance with  
12 the sliding fee scale, a child who meets the eligibility  
13 requirements upon initial registration for the program remains  
14 eligible until the beginning of the school year for which the  
15 child is eligible for admission to kindergarten in a public  
16 school under s. 1003.21(1)(a)2.

17 ~~(11) PLACEMENTS. Notwithstanding any other provision~~  
18 ~~of this section to the contrary, the first children to be~~  
19 ~~placed in the school readiness program shall be those from~~  
20 ~~families receiving temporary cash assistance and subject to~~  
21 ~~federal work requirements. Subsequent placements shall be made~~  
22 ~~in accordance with subsection (6).~~

23 Section 2. Section 411.0101, Florida Statutes, is  
24 created to read:

25 411.0101 School-age readiness services.--

26 (1) Notwithstanding the age requirements of s.  
27 411.01(5)(b) and (6), each early learning coalition, if  
28 approved by the Agency for Workforce Innovation as part of the  
29 coalition's school readiness plan, may establish school-age  
30 readiness services for children who meet the age requirements  
31 for services under federal regulations governing the federal

1 Child Care and Development Fund, 45 C.F.R. parts 98 and 99,  
2 but who are ineligible for school readiness programs under s.  
3 411.01(5)(b) and (6) because of age.

4 (2) School-age readiness services authorized under  
5 this section are part of the early learning coalition's school  
6 readiness program. Except as provided in this section, s.  
7 411.01 applies to school-age readiness services. The following  
8 provisions do not apply to school-age readiness services:

9 (a) The provisions of s. 411.01(4)(j) and (5)(c)1.a.  
10 which require that school readiness services must enhance the  
11 age-appropriate progress of children in the development of the  
12 school readiness skills listed in s. 411.01(4)(j).

13 (b) The provisions of s. 411.01(5)(c)2.d. which  
14 require pretests and posttests.

15 (3) Each early learning coalition shall give priority  
16 for participation in its school-age readiness services, as  
17 follows:

18 (a) Priority shall be given first to a child from a  
19 family in which there is an adult receiving temporary cash  
20 assistance who is subject to federal work requirements.

21 (b) Priority shall be given next to a child who is  
22 served by the Family Safety Program Office of the Department  
23 of Children and Family Services or a community-based lead  
24 agency under chapter 39 and for whom school-age readiness  
25 services are needed to minimize the risk of further abuse,  
26 neglect, or abandonment.

27 (c) Subsequent priority shall be given to a child who  
28 meets one or more of the criteria, notwithstanding the age  
29 requirements, in s. 411.01(6)(c).

30 (4)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), an early  
31 learning coalition may not expend for school-age readiness

1 services more than 25 percent of the total school readiness  
2 funds paid by the coalition to providers for school readiness  
3 services.

4 (b) An early learning coalition may expend a larger  
5 percentage of its school readiness funds for school-age  
6 readiness services than authorized under paragraph (a) if  
7 necessary to serve each child who is eligible under paragraphs  
8 (3)(a) and (b). If, under this paragraph, a coalition expends  
9 a larger percentage of its school readiness funds for  
10 school-age readiness services than authorized under paragraph  
11 (a), the coalition may not provide school-age readiness  
12 services for children eligible under paragraph (3)(c).

13 Section 3. Section 402.3145, Florida Statutes, is  
14 transferred, renumbered as section 411.0102, Florida Statutes,  
15 and amended to read:

16 411.0102 ~~402.3145~~ School readiness ~~Subsidized child~~  
17 ~~care~~ transportation services program.--

18 (1) The Agency for Workforce Innovation may  
19 ~~department, pursuant to chapter 427, shall~~ establish school  
20 readiness a subsidized child care transportation services  
21 ~~system~~ for children, including children at risk of abuse or  
22 neglect, participating in an early learning coalition's school  
23 readiness the subsidized child care program. If approved by  
24 the Agency for Workforce Innovation as part of the coalition's  
25 school readiness plan, an early learning coalition may state  
26 ~~community child care coordination agencies shall~~ contract for  
27 the provision of the transportation services authorized as  
28 ~~required~~ by this section. Contracts awarded under this section  
29 must comply with the competitive procurement requirements in  
30 s. 411.01(5)(e)1.

1           (2) If provided for by an early learning coalition,  
2 these ~~The~~ transportation services may ~~system shall~~ provide  
3 transportation for children ~~to each child~~ participating in the  
4 coalition's school readiness program ~~subsidized child care~~  
5 ~~when, and only if when,~~ transportation is necessary to provide  
6 school readiness services that ~~child care opportunities which~~  
7 otherwise would not be available to a child whose home is more  
8 than a reasonable walking distance from the nearest school  
9 readiness provider ~~child care facility or family day care~~  
10 ~~home.~~

11           Section 4. Section 402.3017, Florida Statutes, is  
12 transferred, renumbered as section 411.0103, Florida Statutes,  
13 and amended to read:

14           411.0103 ~~402.3017~~ School readiness quality initiatives  
15 ~~Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (TEACH) scholarship~~  
16 ~~program.--~~

17           ~~(1) The Legislature finds that the level of early~~  
18 ~~child care teacher education and training is a key predictor~~  
19 ~~for determining program quality. The Legislature also finds~~  
20 ~~that low wages for child care workers prevent many from~~  
21 ~~obtaining increased training and education and contribute to~~  
22 ~~high turnover rates. The Legislature therefore intends to~~  
23 ~~help fund a program which links teacher training and education~~  
24 ~~to compensation and commitment to the field of early childhood~~  
25 ~~education.~~

26           ~~(1)(2)~~ The Agency for Workforce Innovation may  
27 ~~Department of Children and Family Services is authorized to~~  
28 contract for the administration of the Teacher Education and  
29 Compensation Helps (TEACH) Early Childhood Project. The  
30 project shall be based on its national model and shall provide  
31 ~~scholarship program, which provides~~ educational scholarships



1 to ~~directors or operators and caregivers and administrators of~~  
2 ~~early childhood programs, family day care homes, and large~~  
3 ~~family child care personnel as defined in s. 402.302 and~~  
4 ~~prekindergarten directors and prekindergarten instructors as~~  
5 ~~defined in s. 1002.51 homes.~~

6 (2) The Agency for Workforce Innovation may contract  
7 for the administration of the Home Instruction for Parents of  
8 Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program. The program shall be  
9 based on its national model and shall encourage parental  
10 involvement in early learning programs by providing parents  
11 with assistance in preparing their children for school.

12 (3) The Agency for Workforce Innovation may department  
13 ~~shall~~ adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 as necessary  
14 to administer ~~implement~~ this section.

15 (4) ~~For the 2004 2005 fiscal year only, the Agency for~~  
16 ~~Workforce Innovation shall administer this section. This~~  
17 ~~subsection expires July 1, 2005.~~

18 Section 5. Section 409.178, Florida Statutes, is  
19 transferred, renumbered as section 411.0104, Florida Statutes,  
20 and amended to read:

21 411.0104 409.178 Early Learning Child Care Executive  
22 Partnership Act; findings and intent; grant; limitation;  
23 rules.--

24 (1) ~~This section may be cited as the "Child Care~~  
25 ~~Executive Partners Act."~~

26 (2)(a) ~~The Legislature finds that when private~~  
27 ~~employers provide onsite child care or provide other child~~  
28 ~~care benefits, they benefit by improved recruitment and higher~~  
29 ~~retention rates for employees, lower absenteeism, and improved~~  
30 ~~employee morale. The Legislature also finds that there are~~  
31 ~~many ways in which private employers can provide child care~~

1 ~~assistance to employees: information and referral, vouchering,~~  
2 ~~employer contribution to child care programs, and onsite care.~~  
3 ~~Private employers can offer child care as part of a menu of~~  
4 ~~employee benefits. The Legislature recognizes that flexible~~  
5 ~~compensation programs providing a child care option are~~  
6 ~~beneficial to the private employer through increased~~  
7 ~~productivity, to the private employee in knowing that his or~~  
8 ~~her children are being cared for in a safe and nurturing~~  
9 ~~environment, and to the state in more dollars being available~~  
10 ~~for purchasing power and investment.~~

11 ~~(b) It is the intent of the Legislature to promote~~  
12 ~~public/private partnerships to ensure that the children of the~~  
13 ~~state be provided safe and enriching child care at any time,~~  
14 ~~but especially while parents work to remain self sufficient.~~  
15 ~~It is the intent of the Legislature that private employers be~~  
16 ~~encouraged to participate in the future of this state by~~  
17 ~~providing employee child care benefits. Further, it is the~~  
18 ~~intent of the Legislature to encourage private employers to~~  
19 ~~explore innovative ways to assist employees to obtain quality~~  
20 ~~child care.~~

21 ~~(c) The Legislature further recognizes that many~~  
22 ~~parents need assistance in paying the full costs of quality~~  
23 ~~child care. The public and private sectors, by working in~~  
24 ~~partnership, can promote and improve access to quality child~~  
25 ~~care and early education for children of working families who~~  
26 ~~need it. Therefore, a more formal mechanism is necessary to~~  
27 ~~stimulate the establishment of public private partnerships. It~~  
28 ~~is the intent of the Legislature to expand the availability of~~  
29 ~~scholarship options for working families by providing~~  
30 ~~incentives for employers to contribute to meeting the needs of~~  
31

1 ~~their employees' families through matching public dollars~~  
2 ~~available for child care.~~

3 ~~(1)(a)(3)~~ There is created as a body politic and  
4 corporate ~~known as~~ the Early Learning Child Care Executive  
5 Partnership, which shall establish and govern the Early  
6 Learning Child Care Executive Partnership Program.

7 ~~(b)~~ The purpose of the Early Learning Child Care  
8 Executive Partnership Program is to use ~~utilize~~ state and  
9 federal funds as incentives for matching local funds derived  
10 from local governments, employers, charitable foundations, and  
11 other sources, in order so that ~~Florida~~ communities in this  
12 state may create local flexible partnerships with employers.

13 ~~(c)~~ The Early Learning Child Care Executive  
14 Partnership Program funds shall be used at the discretion of  
15 local communities to meet the needs of working parents. An  
16 early learning ~~A child care~~ purchasing pool shall be developed  
17 with ~~the~~ state, federal, and local funds to provide subsidies  
18 to low-income working parents whose family income does not  
19 exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty level ~~who are~~  
20 ~~eligible for subsidized child care~~ with a dollar-for-dollar  
21 match from employers, local government, and other matching  
22 contributions. The funds used from the early learning child  
23 ~~care~~ purchasing pool must be used to supplement or extend the  
24 use of existing public or private funds.

25 ~~(2)(4)~~ The Early Learning Child Care Executive  
26 Partnership, ~~staffed by the department,~~ shall consist of a  
27 representative of the Executive Office of the Governor and  
28 nine members of the corporate or early learning child care  
29 community, appointed by the Governor.

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1 (a) Members shall serve for a period of 4 years,  
2 except that the representative of the Executive Office of the  
3 Governor shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

4 (b) The Early Learning ~~Child Care~~ Executive  
5 Partnership shall be chaired by a member chosen by a majority  
6 vote and shall meet at least quarterly and at other times upon  
7 the call of the chair.

8 (c) Members shall serve without compensation, but may  
9 be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses in accordance  
10 with s. 112.061.

11 (d) The Early Learning ~~Child Care~~ Executive  
12 Partnership has ~~shall have~~ all the powers and authority, not  
13 explicitly prohibited by law statute, necessary to administer  
14 ~~carry out and effectuate the purposes of this section, as well~~  
15 ~~as the functions, duties, and responsibilities of the~~  
16 ~~partnership~~, including, but not limited to, the following:

17 1. Assisting in the formulation and coordination of  
18 the state's early learning ~~child care~~ policy.

19 2. Adopting an official seal.

20 3. Soliciting, accepting, receiving, investing, and  
21 expending funds from public or private sources.

22 4. Contracting with public or private entities as  
23 necessary.

24 5. Approving an annual budget.

25 6. Carrying forward any unexpended state  
26 appropriations into succeeding fiscal years.

27 7. Providing a report to the Governor, the Speaker of  
28 the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate,  
29 on or before December 1 of each year.

30 (e) The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall provide,  
31 or shall contract with a qualified entity using a request for

1 proposals to provide, staff for the Early Learning Executive  
2 Partnership.

3 ~~(3)(5)~~(a) The Legislature shall annually determine the  
4 amount of state and ~~or~~ federal funds ~~low income child care~~  
5 ~~moneys~~ which shall be used to create the Early Learning Child  
6 ~~Care Executive Partnership Program's Program~~ child care  
7 purchasing pools in counties chosen by the Early Learning  
8 Child Care Executive Partnership and statewide purchasing  
9 pools established by the Agency for Workforce Innovation. A  
10 purchasing pool must be created in, provided that at least two  
11 ~~of the~~ counties that have populations of ~~no more than~~ 300,000  
12 or fewer persons. The Legislature shall annually review the  
13 effectiveness of the early learning child care purchasing pool  
14 program and reevaluate the percentage of additional state or  
15 federal funds, if any, that may ~~can~~ be used for the program's  
16 expansion.

17 (b) The Agency for Workforce Innovation ~~To ensure a~~  
18 ~~seamless service delivery and ease of access for families, the~~  
19 ~~community coordinated child care agencies or the state~~  
20 ~~resource and referral agency~~ shall administer the statewide  
21 child care purchasing pool funds, and the respective early  
22 learning coalition shall administer the purchasing pool funds  
23 of a county served by the coalition.

24 (c) The Agency for Workforce Innovation ~~department~~, in  
25 conjunction with the Early Learning Child Care Executive  
26 Partnership, shall develop procedures for disbursement of  
27 funds through the early learning child care purchasing pools.  
28 In order to be considered for funding, the entity  
29 administering the purchasing pool ~~community coordinated child~~  
30 ~~care agency or the statewide resource and referral agency~~ must  
31 commit to:

1           1. Matching the state and federal ~~purchasing pool~~  
2 funds allocated to the purchasing pool on a dollar-for-dollar  
3 basis; and

4           2. Expending only those state and federal ~~public~~ funds  
5 that ~~which~~ are matched by employers, local government, and  
6 other matching contributors who contribute to the purchasing  
7 pool. Parents shall also pay a fee, which must ~~shall be~~ not be  
8 less than the amount identified in the ~~department's subsidized~~  
9 ~~child care~~ sliding fee scale adopted by the early learning  
10 coalition for its school readiness program.

11           (d) Each early learning coalition ~~must~~ ~~community~~  
12 ~~coordinated child care agency shall be required to~~ establish a  
13 community ~~child care~~ task force for each early learning child  
14 ~~care~~ purchasing pool. The task force must be composed of  
15 employers, parents, private child care providers, and one  
16 representative from the local children's services council, if  
17 one exists in the area of the purchasing pool. The early  
18 learning coalition shall ~~community coordinated child care~~  
19 ~~agency is expected to~~ recruit the task force members from  
20 existing child care councils, commissions, or task forces  
21 ~~already~~ operating in the area of the ~~a~~ purchasing pool. A  
22 majority of the task force shall consist of employers. Each  
23 task force shall develop a plan for ~~the~~ use of the early  
24 learning child care purchasing pool funds. The plan must  
25 demonstrate ~~show~~ how many children will be served by the  
26 purchasing pool, how many will be new to receiving early  
27 learning child care services, and how the early learning  
28 coalition ~~community coordinated child care agency~~ intends to  
29 attract new employers and their employees to the program.

30           ~~(4)(6)~~ The Agency for Workforce Innovation may  
31 ~~Department of Children and Family Services shall adopt any~~

1 rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer ~~necessary~~  
2 ~~for the implementation and administration of~~ this section.

3 Section 6. Section 411.0105, Florida Statutes, is  
4 amended to read:

5 411.0105 Federal ~~Early Learning Opportunities Act and~~  
6 ~~Even Start Family Literacy Programs~~; lead agency  
7 responsibilities.--

8 (1) The Governor may designate the Agency for  
9 Workforce Innovation as the lead agency for purposes of  
10 administering the federal Child Care and Development Fund, 45  
11 C.F.R. parts 98 and 99, and the federal Early Learning  
12 Opportunities Act, 20 U.S.C. ss. 9401-9413. If designated as  
13 the lead agency, the Agency for Workforce Innovation must  
14 comply with the lead agency responsibilities under federal  
15 law.

16 (2)(a) For purposes of administration of the William  
17 F. Goodling ~~Early Learning Opportunities Act and the Even~~  
18 ~~Start Family Literacy Programs, 20 U.S.C. ss. 6381-6381k~~  
19 ~~pursuant to Pub. L. No. 106 554, the Department of Education~~  
20 ~~Agency for Workforce Innovation~~ is designated as the lead  
21 agency and must comply with the lead agency responsibilities  
22 under ~~pursuant to~~ federal law.

23 (b) The Department of Education shall contract with  
24 the Agency for Workforce Innovation to administer the William  
25 F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Programs.

26 Section 7. Section 402.27, Florida Statutes, is  
27 transferred, renumbered as section 411.0106, Florida Statutes,  
28 and amended to read:

29 402.27 Child care and early learning childhood  
30 resource and referral.--The Agency for Workforce Innovation  
31 ~~Department of Children and Family Services~~ shall establish a

1 statewide ~~child care~~ resource and referral network. The  
2 network shall be composed of a state resource and referral  
3 agency and a system of local agencies. ~~Preference shall be~~  
4 ~~given to using the already established central agencies for~~  
5 ~~subsidized child care as the child care resource and referral~~  
6 ~~agency.~~ ~~If the agency cannot comply with the requirements to~~  
7 ~~offer the resource information component or does not want to~~  
8 ~~offer that service,~~ The Agency for Workforce Innovation  
9 Department of Children and Family Services shall select the  
10 state resource and referral information agency using based  
11 ~~upon~~ a request for proposals ~~proposal~~. Each early learning  
12 coalition shall establish at least one local child care  
13 resource and referral agency ~~must be established~~ in each  
14 county or multicounty region served by the coalition district  
15 ~~of the department,~~ but no more than one local agency may be  
16 established in a any county. ~~Child care~~ Resource and referral  
17 agencies shall provide the following services:  
18 (1) Identification of existing public and private  
19 child care and early learning providers ~~childhood education~~  
20 ~~services, including child care services by public and private~~  
21 ~~employers,~~ and the development of a database resource file of  
22 those providers services. These providers services may include  
23 a family day care, public and private child care provider that  
24 is licensed, exempt from licensure, or registered under ss.  
25 402.301-402.319; a private prekindergarten provider or public  
26 school delivering the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
27 Program under part V of chapter 1002; a school readiness  
28 provider participating in an early learning coalition's school  
29 readiness program; a programs, Head Start program;  
30 ~~prekindergarten early intervention programs,~~ special education  
31 programs for prekindergarten ~~handicapped~~ children with



1 ~~disabilities;~~ services for children with developmental  
2 ~~disabilities;~~ full-time and part-time programs; school-age  
3 readiness program; ~~before school and after school programs;~~  
4 vacation care programs; parent education; a welfare  
5 transition; ~~the WAGES program;~~ and related family support  
6 services. The database ~~resource~~ file shall include, but not be  
7 limited to, the following information:

8 (a) Type of child care and early learning provider  
9 program.

10 (b) Hours of service.

11 (c) Ages of children served.

12 (d) Number of children served.

13 (e) Significant program information.

14 (f) Fees and eligibility for services.

15 (g) Availability of transportation.

16 (2) The establishment of a referral process ~~that which~~  
17 responds to parental need for information and ~~that which~~ is  
18 provided with full recognition of the confidentiality rights  
19 of parents. Resource and referral agencies may only ~~programs~~  
20 ~~shall~~ make referrals to licensed child care providers, except  
21 that a referral may facilities. ~~Referrals shall~~ be made to an  
22 unlicensed provider ~~child care facility or arrangement only~~ if  
23 ~~there is no requirement that the provider is not required to~~  
24 ~~facility or arrangement~~ be licensed.

25 (3) Maintenance of ongoing documentation of requests  
26 for service tabulated through the internal referral process.  
27 The following documentation of requests for service shall be  
28 maintained by each ~~all child care~~ resource and referral agency  
29 agencies:

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1 (a) Number of calls and contacts to the resource child  
2 ~~care information~~ and referral agency ~~component~~ by the type of  
3 provider service requested.

4 (b) Ages of children for whom child care or early  
5 learning services are ~~service was~~ requested.

6 (c) Time category of child care or early learning  
7 requests for each child.

8 (d) Special time category, such as nights, weekends,  
9 and swing shifts ~~shift~~.

10 (e) Reason that ~~the~~ child care or early learning  
11 services are ~~is~~ needed.

12 (f) Name of the employer and primary focus of the  
13 business.

14 (4) Provision of technical assistance to existing and  
15 potential ~~providers of~~ child care and early learning providers  
16 services. This assistance may include:

17 (a) Information on initiating new child care or early  
18 learning services, zoning, and program and budget development  
19 and assistance in finding the ~~such~~ information from other  
20 sources.

21 (b) Information and resources that assist ~~which help~~  
22 existing child care and early learning ~~services~~ providers to  
23 maximize their ability to serve children and parents in their  
24 community.

25 (c) Information and incentives that may assist ~~which~~  
26 ~~could help~~ existing or planned child care or early learning  
27 services offered by public or private employers seeking to  
28 maximize their ability to serve the children of their ~~working~~  
29 ~~parent~~ employees who are working parents in their community,  
30 through contractual or other funding arrangements with  
31 businesses.

1 (5) Assistance to families and employers in applying  
2 for various early learning programs, ~~sources of subsidy~~  
3 including, but not limited to, the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
4 Education Program; a coalition's school readiness program; a  
5 subsidized child care, Head Start program; ~~prekindergarten~~  
6 ~~early intervention programs~~, Project Independence, private  
7 scholarships; ~~and~~ the federal child and dependent care tax  
8 credit.

9 (6) Assistance to state agencies in determining the  
10 prevailing market rate for child care.

11 (7) Assistance in negotiating discounts or other  
12 special arrangements with child care and early learning  
13 providers.

14 (8) Information and assistance to local interagency  
15 councils coordinating services for prekindergarten ~~handicapped~~  
16 children with disabilities.

17 (9) Assistance to families in identifying summer  
18 recreation camp and summer day camp programs and in evaluating  
19 the health and safety qualities of summer recreation camp, ~~and~~  
20 summer day camp, ~~programs and in evaluating the health and~~  
21 ~~safety qualities of summer camp programs~~. Subject to  
22 legislative ~~Contingent upon specific~~ appropriation, a  
23 checklist of important health and safety qualities that  
24 parents may ~~can~~ use to choose their summer camp programs shall  
25 be developed and distributed in a manner that will reach  
26 parents interested in these ~~such~~ programs for their children.

27 (10) Each ~~A~~ child care provider facility licensed or  
28 registered under ss. 402.301-402.319, and each early learning  
29 provider receiving state or federal funds, ~~s. 402.305 and~~  
30 ~~licensed and registered family day care homes~~ must provide the  
31

1 ~~local statewide child care and~~ resource and referral agency  
2 ~~agencies~~ with the following information annually:

3 (a) Type of child care or early learning provider  
4 ~~program~~.

5 (b) Hours of service.

6 (c) Ages of children served.

7 (d) Fees and eligibility for services.

8 Section 8. Section 402.3051, Florida Statutes, is  
9 transferred, renumbered as section 411.0107, Florida Statutes,  
10 and amended to read:

11 411.0107 402.3051 Prevailing market-rate schedule  
12 ~~Child care market rate reimbursement~~; child care grants.--

13 (1) As used in this section, the term:

14 ~~(a) "Child care program assessment tool" means an~~  
15 ~~assessment instrument designated or developed by the~~  
16 ~~department to determine quality child care and other child~~  
17 ~~development services to children under the provision of s.~~  
18 ~~402.3015, Title IV A of the Social Security Act, and the Child~~  
19 ~~Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990.~~

20 ~~(a)(b)~~ "Market rate" means the price that a child care  
21 provider charges for daily, weekly, or monthly child care  
22 services. The market rate shall:

23 1. Be established for licensed child care facilities  
24 ~~or facilities that are not subject to s. 402.305~~, licensed or  
25 registered family day care homes, licensed large family child  
26 care homes, child care providers exempt from licensure,  
27 licensed before-school and after-school child care programs,  
28 and informal providers of unregulated child care services  
29 ~~provided by a relative or other caretaker.~~

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1 2. Differentiate among child care for children with  
2 special needs or risk categories, infants, toddlers, ~~and~~  
3 preschool children, and school-age children.

4 3. Differentiate between full-time and part-time  
5 services care.

6 4. Consider reductions in the cost of services care  
7 for additional children in the same family.

8 ~~(b)(c)~~ "Prevailing market rate" means the annually  
9 determined 75th percentile of a reasonable frequency  
10 distribution of market rate in a predetermined geographic  
11 market at which ~~licensed~~ child care providers charge a person  
12 for child care services.

13 (2) The Agency for Workforce Innovation department  
14 shall establish procedures for the adoption of a prevailing  
15 market-rate schedule, which shall be considered by each early  
16 learning coalition when the coalition adopts its payment  
17 schedule under s. 411.01(5)(e)2. The prevailing market-rate  
18 schedule shall comprise county-by-county rates for: to  
19 ~~reimburse~~

20 (a) Licensed, exempt, or registered child care  
21 providers ~~that who~~ hold a Gold Seal Quality Care designation  
22 at 120 percent of the prevailing market rate for child care  
23 services for children who are eligible to participate in a  
24 coalition's school readiness program under s. 411.01 receive  
25 ~~subsidized child care; and~~

26 (b) Licensed, exempt, or registered child care  
27 providers at the prevailing market rate for child care  
28 services for children who are eligible to participate in a  
29 coalition's school readiness program under s. 411.01 receive  
30 ~~subsidized child care, unless prohibited by federal law under~~  
31 ~~s. 402.3015. The department shall establish procedures to~~

1 ~~reimburse providers of unregulated child care at not more than~~  
2 ~~50 percent of the market rate.~~

3  
4 The prevailing market-rate schedule adopted under this  
5 subsection ~~payment system~~ may not interfere with the parental  
6 choice of school readiness providers under s. 411.01(7)  
7 ~~parents' decision as to the appropriate child care~~  
8 ~~arrangement~~, regardless of the level of available funding for  
9 early learning programs ~~child care~~. The prevailing market-rate  
10 schedule must be based exclusively on the costs and prices  
11 charged for child care services and must not be based on any  
12 ~~program~~ assessment tool ~~may not be used to evaluate child care~~  
13 providers determine reimbursement rates.

14 (3) The Agency for Workforce Innovation ~~department~~ may  
15 provide child care grants to early learning coalitions ~~central~~  
16 ~~agencies, community colleges, and career programs~~ for the  
17 purpose of providing support and technical assistance to  
18 licensed child care providers.

19 (4) The Agency for Workforce Innovation ~~department~~ may  
20 contract, using a request for proposals, with a qualified  
21 entity ~~use the state community child care coordination~~  
22 ~~agencies (central agencies), community colleges, and career~~  
23 ~~programs~~ to administer ~~implement~~ this section.

24 (5) The Agency for Workforce Innovation ~~department~~ may  
25 adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 ~~and other policy~~  
26 ~~provisions necessary to administer~~ ~~implement~~ this section.

27 (6) This section shall be implemented only to the  
28 extent that funding is available.

29 Section 9. Section 402.3018, Florida Statutes, is  
30 transferred, renumbered as section 411.0108, Florida Statutes,  
31 and amended to read:

1            411.0108 ~~402.3018~~ Consultation to child care and early  
2 learning providers centers and family day care homes regarding  
3 health, developmental, disability, and special needs issues.--

4            (1) Subject to legislative appropriation ~~Contingent~~  
5 ~~upon specific appropriations~~, the Agency for Workforce  
6 Innovation shall ~~department is directed to~~ contract with the  
7 state statewide resource ~~information~~ and referral agency for a  
8 statewide toll-free Warm-Line for the purpose of providing  
9 assistance and consultation to child care and early learning  
10 providers centers and family day care homes regarding health,  
11 developmental, disability, and special needs issues of the  
12 children they are serving, particularly children with  
13 disabilities and other special needs.

14            (2) The purpose of the Warm-Line is to provide advice  
15 to child care personnel concerning strategies, curriculum, and  
16 environmental adaptations that allow a child to derive maximum  
17 benefit from receiving the child care services ~~experience~~.

18            (3) The early learning coalitions, coordinated by the  
19 Agency for Workforce Innovation, department shall at least  
20 annually inform child care and early learning providers  
21 ~~centers and family day care homes~~ of the availability of this  
22 service, ~~on an annual basis~~.

23            (4) Subject to legislative appropriation ~~Contingent~~  
24 ~~upon specific appropriations~~, the Agency for Workforce  
25 Innovation ~~department~~ shall expand, or contract for, the  
26 expansion of the Warm-Line from one statewide site to one  
27 Warm-Line site in each county or multicounty ~~child care~~  
28 ~~resource and referral agency~~ region served by an early  
29 learning coalition.

30            (5) Each county or regional Warm-Line shall provide  
31 assistance and consultation to child care and early learning

1 ~~providers centers and family day care homes~~ regarding health,  
2 developmental, disability, and special needs issues of the  
3 children they are serving, particularly children with  
4 disabilities and other special needs. County or regional  
5 Warm-Line staff shall provide onsite technical assistance,  
6 when requested, to assist child care and early learning  
7 ~~providers centers and family day care homes~~ with inquiries  
8 relative to the strategies, curriculum, and environmental  
9 adaptations the child care or early learning providers centers  
10 ~~and family day care homes~~ may need as they serve children with  
11 disabilities and other special needs.

12 Section 10. Section 402.25, Florida Statutes, is  
13 transferred, renumbered as section 411.0109, Florida Statutes,  
14 and amended to read:

15 411.0109 ~~402.25~~ Infants and toddlers in state-funded  
16 child education and care and early learning programs; brain  
17 development activities.--Each state-funded child education and  
18 care and early learning program for children from birth to 5  
19 years of age must provide activities to foster brain  
20 development in infants and toddlers. Each ~~A~~ program must  
21 provide an environment rich in language and music and filled  
22 with objects of various colors, shapes, textures, and sizes to  
23 stimulate visual, tactile, auditory, and linguistic senses in  
24 the children and must include classical music and at least 30  
25 minutes of reading to the children each day. ~~A program may be~~  
26 ~~offered through an existing early childhood program such as~~  
27 ~~Healthy Start, the Title I program, contracted or directly~~  
28 ~~operated subsidized child care, the prekindergarten early~~  
29 ~~intervention program, Florida First Start, the Head Start~~  
30 ~~program, or a private child care program.~~ Each ~~A~~ program must  
31 also provide training for the infants' and toddlers' parents



1 including direct dialogue and interaction between teachers and  
2 parents demonstrating the urgency of brain development in the  
3 first year of a child's life. A family day care home is  
4 ~~centers are~~ encouraged, but not required, to comply with this  
5 section.

6 Section 11. Section 411.011, Florida Statutes, as  
7 amended by section 9 of chapter 2004-484, Laws of Florida, is  
8 amended to read:

9 411.011 Records of children in school readiness  
10 programs.--The individual records of children enrolled in  
11 school readiness programs provided under ss. 411.01 and  
12 411.0101 ~~s. 411.01~~, when held in the possession of the early  
13 learning coalition or the Agency for Workforce Innovation, are  
14 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07 and s. 24(a), Art. I of  
15 the State Constitution. For purposes of this section, records  
16 include assessment data, health data, records of teacher  
17 observations, and identifying data, including the child's  
18 social security number. A parent, guardian, or individual  
19 acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or guardian has  
20 the right to inspect and review the individual school  
21 readiness program record of his or her child and to obtain a  
22 copy of the record. School readiness records may be released  
23 to the United States Secretary of Education, the United States  
24 Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Comptroller  
25 General of the United States for the purpose of federal  
26 audits; to individuals or organizations conducting studies for  
27 institutions to develop, validate, or administer assessments  
28 or improve instruction; to accrediting organizations in order  
29 to carry out their accrediting functions; to appropriate  
30 parties in connection with an emergency if the information is  
31 necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or

1 other individuals; to the Auditor General in connection with  
2 his or her official functions; to a court of competent  
3 jurisdiction in compliance with an order of that court in  
4 accordance with a lawfully issued subpoena; and to parties to  
5 an interagency agreement among early learning coalitions,  
6 local governmental agencies, providers of school readiness  
7 programs, state agencies, and the Agency for Workforce  
8 Innovation for the purpose of implementing the school  
9 readiness program. Agencies, organizations, or individuals  
10 that receive school readiness records in order to carry out  
11 their official functions must protect the data in a manner  
12 that does not permit the personal identification of students  
13 and their parents by persons other than those authorized to  
14 receive the records. This section is subject to the Open  
15 Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s.  
16 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2005, unless  
17 reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the  
18 Legislature.

19 Section 12. Section 402.3016, Florida Statutes, is  
20 transferred, renumbered as section 411.0111, Florida Statutes,  
21 and amended to read:

22 411.0111 ~~402.3016~~ Early Head Start collaboration  
23 grants.--

24 (1) Subject to legislative appropriation ~~Contingent~~  
25 ~~upon specific appropriations~~, the Agency for Workforce  
26 Innovation may ~~Florida Partnership for School Readiness shall~~  
27 establish a program to award collaboration grants to assist  
28 local agencies in securing Early Head Start programs through  
29 Early Head Start program federal grants. The collaboration  
30 grants may only be used to ~~shall~~ provide the required matching  
31

1 funds for public and private nonprofit agencies that have been  
2 approved for Early Head Start program federal grants.

3 (2) Each public or ~~and~~ private nonprofit agency  
4 ~~agencies~~ providing Early Head Start programs applying for  
5 collaborative grants must:

6 (a) Ensure quality performance by meeting the  
7 requirements in the Head Start program performance standards  
8 and other applicable rules and regulations;

9 (b) Ensure collaboration with other service providers  
10 at the local level; and

11 (c) Ensure that a comprehensive array of health,  
12 nutritional, and other services are provided to the program's  
13 pregnant women and very young children, and their families.

14 (3) If the program is established, the Agency for  
15 Workforce Innovation ~~partnership~~ shall report to the  
16 Legislature on an annual basis the number of agencies  
17 receiving Early Head Start collaboration grants and the number  
18 of children served.

19 (4) The Agency for Workforce Innovation ~~partnership~~  
20 may adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer  
21 this section, including requirements ~~as necessary~~ for the  
22 award of collaboration grants to competing agencies ~~and the~~  
23 ~~administration of the collaboration grants program under this~~  
24 ~~section.~~

25 Section 13. The Agency for Workforce Innovation, in  
26 cooperation with the Department of Education, shall conduct a  
27 comprehensive study of outcome measurement, screening and  
28 assessment, and performance accountability for the early  
29 learning system. The study must include research from national  
30 experts in the field of early learning. By December 15, 2006,  
31 the Agency for Workforce Innovation shall submit a report to

1 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of  
2 the House of Representatives. The report must include  
3 recommendations or options to improve the methods used for  
4 measuring the effectiveness of prekindergarten and school  
5 readiness providers in delivering the Voluntary  
6 Prekindergarten Education Program and the school readiness  
7 programs and of the early learning coalitions in monitoring  
8 and assisting providers, as demonstrated by the outcomes of  
9 children enrolled in these programs.

10 Section 14. The sum of \$150,000 is appropriated from  
11 nonrecurring funds in the General Revenue Fund to the Agency  
12 for Workforce Innovation for purposes of conducting the  
13 comprehensive study of outcome measurement, screening and  
14 assessment, and performance accountability for the early  
15 learning system during the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

16 Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

17  
18 \*\*\*\*\*

19 SENATE SUMMARY

20 Revises various provisions of the School Readiness Act.  
21 Requires early learning coalitions to provide parents  
22 with profiles of school readiness providers. Requires  
23 that providers be paid a rate differential under certain  
24 circumstances. Revises eligibility criteria and  
25 priorities for participation in school readiness  
26 programs. Authorizes early learning coalitions to  
27 establish school-age readiness services under certain  
28 circumstances. Provides eligibility criteria and  
29 priorities for participation in school-age readiness  
30 services. Revises requirements for transportation  
31 services in school readiness programs. Provides  
requirements for school readiness quality initiatives.  
Revises the Teacher Education and Compensation Helps  
scholarship program and establishes the Home Instruction  
for Parents of Preschool Youngsters Program. Revises  
requirements for the Child Care Executive Partnership  
Program. (See bill for details.)