

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative Ausley offered the following:

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3 **Amendment to Senate Amendment (172566) (with title**
4 **amendment)**

5 On page 2, between lines 18 and 19, insert:

6 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section
7 411.01, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2004-484, Laws
8 of Florida, is amended to read:

9 411.01 School readiness programs; early learning
10 coalitions.--

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

12 (a) Early learning coalitions.--

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

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17 | readiness plans in accordance with this minimum number. The
18 | minimum number must be uniform for every early learning
19 | coalition and must:

20 | a. Permit 30 or fewer coalitions to be established; and

21 | b. Require each coalition to serve at least 2,000 children
22 | based upon the average number of all children served per month
23 | through the coalition's school readiness program during the
24 | previous 12 months.

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

37 | Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection , the early
38 | learning coalition that includes Jefferson, Liberty, Madison,
39 | Wakulla, and Taylor counties currently in operation is
40 | established and authorized to continue operation as an
41 | independent coalition and shall not be counted toward the limit
42 | of 30 coalitions pursuant to this subsection.

43 | 2. If an early learning coalition would serve fewer
44 | children than the minimum number established under subparagraph

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45 1., the coalition must merge with another county to form a
46 multicounty coalition. However, the Agency for Workforce
47 Innovation may authorize an early learning coalition to serve
48 fewer children than the minimum number established under
49 subparagraph 1., if:

50 a. The coalition demonstrates to the Agency for Workforce
51 Innovation that merging with another county or multicounty
52 region contiguous to the coalition would cause an extreme
53 hardship on the coalition;

54 b. The Agency for Workforce Innovation has determined
55 during the most recent annual review of the coalition's school
56 readiness plan, or through monitoring and performance
57 evaluations conducted under paragraph (4)(1), that the coalition
58 has substantially implemented its plan and substantially met the
59 performance standards and outcome measures adopted by the
60 agency; and

61 c. The coalition demonstrates to the Agency for Workforce
62 Innovation the coalition's ability to effectively and
63 efficiently implement the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
64 Program.

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66 If an early learning coalition fails or refuses to merge as
67 required by this subparagraph, the Agency for Workforce
68 Innovation may dissolve the coalition and temporarily contract
69 with a qualified entity to continue school readiness and
70 prekindergarten services in the coalition's county or
71 multicounty region until the coalition is reestablished through

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72 resubmission of a school readiness plan and approval by the
73 agency.

74 3. Each early learning coalition shall be composed of at
75 least 18 members but not more than 35 members. The Agency for
76 Workforce Innovation shall adopt standards establishing within
77 this range the minimum and maximum number of members that may be
78 appointed to an early learning coalition. These standards must
79 include variations for a coalition serving a multicounty region.
80 Each early learning coalition must comply with these standards.

81 4. The Governor shall appoint the chair and two other
82 members of each early learning coalition, who must each meet the
83 same qualifications as private-sector business members appointed
84 by the coalition under subparagraph 6.

85 5. Each early learning coalition must include the
86 following members:

87 a. A Department of Children and Family Services district
88 administrator or his or her designee who is authorized to make
89 decisions on behalf of the department.

90 b. A district superintendent of schools or his or her
91 designee who is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the
92 district, who shall be a nonvoting member.

93 c. A regional workforce board executive director or his or
94 her designee.

95 d. A county health department director or his or her
96 designee.

97 e. A children's services council or juvenile welfare board
98 chair or executive director, if applicable, who shall be a
99 nonvoting member if the council or board is the fiscal agent of

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100 the coalition or if the council or board contracts with and
101 receives funds from the coalition.

102 f. An agency head of a local licensing agency as defined
103 in s. 402.302, where applicable.

104 g. A president of a community college or his or her
105 designee.

106 h. One member appointed by a board of county
107 commissioners.

108 i. A central agency administrator, where applicable, who
109 shall be a nonvoting member.

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

111 k. A representative of private child care providers,
112 including family day care homes, who shall be a nonvoting
113 member.

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

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

119 6. Including the members appointed by the Governor under
120 subparagraph 4., more than one-third of the members of each
121 early learning coalition must be private-sector business members
122 who do not have, and none of whose relatives as defined in s.
123 112.3143 has, a substantial financial interest in the design or
124 delivery of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program
125 created under part V of chapter 1002 or the coalition's school
126 readiness program. To meet this requirement an early learning
127 coalition must appoint additional members from a list of

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128 nominees submitted to the coalition by a chamber of commerce or
129 economic development council within the geographic region served
130 by the coalition. The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall
131 establish criteria for appointing private-sector business
132 members. These criteria must include standards for determining
133 whether a member or relative has a substantial financial
134 interest in the design or delivery of the Voluntary
135 Prekindergarten Education Program or the coalition's school
136 readiness program.

137 7. A majority of the voting membership of an early
138 learning coalition constitutes a quorum required to conduct the
139 business of the coalition.

140 8. A voting member of an early learning coalition may not
141 appoint a designee to act in his or her place, except as
142 otherwise provided in this paragraph. A voting member may send a
143 representative to coalition meetings, but that representative
144 does not have voting privileges. When a district administrator
145 for the Department of Children and Family Services appoints a
146 designee to an early learning coalition, the designee is the
147 voting member of the coalition, and any individual attending in
148 the designee's place, including the district administrator, does
149 not have voting privileges.

150 9. Each member of an early learning coalition is subject
151 to ss. 112.313, 112.3135, and 112.3143. For purposes of s.
152 112.3143(3)(a), each voting member is a local public officer who
153 must abstain from voting when a voting conflict exists.

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154 10. For purposes of tort liability, each member or
155 employee of an early learning coalition shall be governed by s.
156 768.28.

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

159 12. Each early learning coalition shall establish terms
160 for all appointed members of the coalition. The terms must be
161 staggered and must be a uniform length that does not exceed 4
162 years per term. Appointed members may serve a maximum of two
163 consecutive terms. When a vacancy occurs in an appointed
164 position, the coalition must advertise the vacancy.

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166 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

167 On page 3, line 15,
168 remove: all of said line

169
170 and insert:
171 education and arts instructors; amending s. 411.01, F.S.;
172 providing that specified counties continue to operate as an
173 independent early learning coalition for certain purposes;