## **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS**

BILL #: HB 1233

SPONSOR(S): Ausley

Early Learning

TIED BILLS: IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 2376

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) PreK-12 Committee		Beagle	Mizereck
2) Finance & Tax Committee			
3) Education Appropriations Committee			
4) Education Council			
5)		<u> </u>	

### **SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

Currently, there is no statewide system for rating and providing incentives based on the quality and performance of early learning service providers.

The bill creates a task force to study existing early learning rating and incentive systems and prescribes certain duties.

The bill requires the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCF) to contract with an independent research institution to conduct an independent study of the administrative and operational structure of the Child Care Services Program Office of the DCF.

The bill takes effect upon becoming law.

The bill has a minimal fiscal impact. See Fiscal Comments.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives. STORAGE NAME: h1233.PKT.doc

**DATE**: 3/17/2006

#### **FULL ANALYSIS**

### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

This bill does not appear to implicate any of the House Principles.

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

## **Current Situation:**

Current Florida law requires the AWI to administer the state's early learning programs.<sup>1</sup> AWI is responsible for maintaining and improving the quality of publicly funded early learning programs.<sup>2</sup> Federal regulations governing the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) require that at least 4 percent of federal funding from the CCDF be devoted to quality initiatives.<sup>3</sup> Florida currently spends \$24.2 million, constituting 5.4 percent of its CCDF funds, on quality initiatives.<sup>4</sup>

According to the AWI, there is no state system in place that rates or provides incentives to providers based on higher quality services or performance. However, early learning service providers that meet certain national standards may earn a Gold Seal Quality Care designation pursuant to s. 402.281, F.S.

## Effect of Proposed Changes:

House Bill 1233 establishes the Early Learning Quality and Incentives Task Force to study existing early learning quality initiatives in Florida and other states. The bill requires the task force to make recommendations pertaining to the development and funding of a statewide rating and incentive system for providers of early learning services, and appropriate levels of state funding to ensure quality learning programs. Task force recommendations are to be submitted to the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The bill requires the AWI to administer the task force and authorizes it to contract with outside experts. The bill provides for the composition and appointment of Task Force members.

In addition, the bill requires the DCF and AWI to contract with an independent research institution to conduct an independent study of the administrative and operational structure of the Child Care Services Program Office of the DCF. The bill requires that this study be submitted to the task force so it may be incorporated into its final recommendations.

## C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

- Section 1. Creates an unnumbered section of law; establishes a task force and provides duties.
- Section 2. Creates an unnumbered section of law requiring an independent study.
- Section 3. Provides that the bill is effective upon becoming law.

## II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

# A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

STORAGE NAME: DATE:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 411.01(4), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Section 411.01(4)(b)3., F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 45 C.F.R. § 98.51.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Agency for Workforce Innovation, Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 2376.

### 1. Revenues:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state government revenues.

## 2. Expenditures:

This bill has a fiscal impact on state government expenditures. See Fiscal Comments.

### B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

### 1. Revenues:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government revenues.

## 2. Expenditures:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government expenditures.

## C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on the private sector.

## D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The AWI will incur costs associated with administering the task force. The AWI and the DCF will incur costs in contracting for the independent study. While the cost has not been determined, estimates from the agencies and bill sponsor range from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

### III. COMMENTS

## A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The bill does not require a city or county to spend funds or to take any action requiring the expenditure of funds.

2. Other:

None.

### **B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

None.

# C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

# IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

STORAGE NAME: h1233.PKT.doc PAGE: 3 3/17/2006

DATE: