HB 1301 2006

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program; amending s. 402.3057, F.S.; exempting certain Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program personnel from refingerprinting or rescreening; amending s. 1002.67, F.S.; requiring curriculum selected or designed by a private prekindergarten provider or a public school to include certain assessments of a student's progress; amending s. 1002.69, F.S.; deleting a restriction with respect to the minimum kindergarten readiness rate adopted by the State Board of Education as satisfactory for a private prekindergarten provider or a public school; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 402.3057, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

402.3057 Persons not required to be refingerprinted or rescreened.—Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, human resource personnel who have been fingerprinted or screened pursuant to chapters 393, 394, 397, 402, and 409, and teachers and noninstructional personnel who have been fingerprinted pursuant to chapter 1012 or requirements of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, who have not been unemployed for more than 90 days thereafter, and who under the penalty of perjury attest to the completion of such fingerprinting or screening and to compliance with the

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provisions of this section and the standards for good moral character as contained in such provisions as ss. 110.1127(3), 393.0655(1), 394.457(6), 397.451, 402.305(2), and 409.175(6), shall not be required to be refingerprinted or rescreened in order to comply with any caretaker screening or fingerprinting requirements.

Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1002.67, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.67 Performance standards; curricula and accountability.--

(2)(a) Each private prekindergarten provider and public school may select or design the curriculum that the provider or school uses to implement the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, except as otherwise required for a provider or school that is placed on probation under paragraph (3)(c). The curriculum selected or designed pursuant to this paragraph must include a curriculum-based preassessment and postassessment for the purpose of determining a student's progress during the program year.

Section 3. Subsection (6) of section 1002.69, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.69 Statewide kindergarten screening; kindergarten readiness rates.--

(6) (a) The State Board of Education shall periodically adopt a minimum kindergarten readiness rate that, if achieved by a private prekindergarten provider or public school, would demonstrate the provider's or school's satisfactory delivery of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

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(b) The minimum rate must not exceed the rate at which more than 15 percent of the kindergarten readiness rates of all private prekindergarten providers and public schools delivering the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program in the state would fall below the minimum rate.

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Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.