

Bill No. CS for SB 840

Barcode 624358

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Conference Committee on CS for SB 840 recommended the following amendment:

Conference Committee Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Section 402.3017, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

402.3017 Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (TEACH) scholarship program.--

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

(2) The Agency for Workforce Innovation ~~Department of~~

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1 ~~Children and Family Services~~ is authorized to contract for the
 2 administration of the Teacher Education and Compensation Helps
 3 (TEACH) scholarship program, which provides educational
 4 scholarships to caregivers and administrators of early
 5 childhood programs, family day care homes, and large family
 6 child care homes.

7 (3) The agency ~~department~~ shall adopt rules as
 8 necessary to implement this section.

9 ~~(4) For the 2005-2006 fiscal year only, the Agency for~~
 10 ~~Workforce Innovation shall administer this section. This~~
 11 ~~subsection expires July 1, 2006.~~

12 Section 2. Subsection (9) of section 411.01, Florida
 13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 411.01 School readiness programs; early learning
 15 coalitions.--

16 (9) FUNDING; SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM.--

17 (a) It is the intent of this section to establish an
 18 integrated and quality seamless service delivery system for
 19 all publicly funded early childhood education and child care
 20 programs operating in this state.

21 (b)1. The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall
 22 administer school readiness funds, plans, and policies and
 23 shall prepare and submit a unified budget request for the
 24 school readiness system in accordance with chapter 216.

25 2. All instructions to early learning coalitions for
 26 administering this section shall emanate from the Agency for
 27 Workforce Innovation in accordance with the policies of the
 28 Legislature.

29 (c) The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall
 30 recommend ~~adopt~~ a formula for the allocation among the early
 31 learning coalitions of all state and federal school readiness

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1 funds for children participating in public or private school
 2 readiness programs based upon equity and performance. The
 3 allocation formula must be submitted to the Governor, ~~and the~~
 4 chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee or its successor,
 5 and the chair of the House Fiscal Council or its successor no
 6 later than January 1 of each year. The Legislature shall
 7 specify in the annual General Appropriations Act any changes
 8 from the allocation methodology for the prior fiscal year
 9 which must be used by the Agency for Workforce Innovation in
 10 allocating the appropriations provided in the General
 11 Appropriations Act ~~Legislative Budget Commission. Upon~~
 12 ~~approval, the Legislative Budget Commission shall authorize~~
 13 ~~the Agency for Workforce Innovation to distribute funds in~~
 14 ~~accordance with the allocation formula. For fiscal year~~
 15 ~~2004-2005, the Agency for Workforce Innovation shall allocate~~
 16 ~~funds to the early learning coalitions consistent with the~~
 17 ~~fiscal year 2003-2004 funding allocations to the school~~
 18 ~~readiness coalitions.~~

19 (d) All state, federal, and required local
 20 maintenance-of-effort or matching funds provided to an early
 21 learning coalition for purposes of this section shall be used
 22 by the coalition for implementation of its school readiness
 23 plan, including the hiring of staff to effectively operate the
 24 coalition's school readiness program. As part of plan approval
 25 and periodic plan review, the Agency for Workforce Innovation
 26 shall require that administrative costs be kept to the minimum
 27 necessary for efficient and effective administration of the
 28 school readiness plan, but total administrative expenditures
 29 must not exceed 5 percent unless specifically waived by the
 30 Agency for Workforce Innovation. The Agency for Workforce
 31 Innovation shall annually report to the Legislature any

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1 problems relating to administrative costs.

2 (e) The Agency for Workforce Innovation shall annually
3 distribute, to a maximum extent practicable, all eligible
4 funds provided under this section as block grants to the early
5 learning coalitions.

6 (f) State funds appropriated for the school readiness
7 program may not be used for the construction of new facilities
8 or the purchase of buses. The Agency for Workforce Innovation
9 shall present to the Legislature recommendations for providing
10 necessary transportation services for school readiness
11 programs.

12 (g) All cost savings and all revenues received through
13 a mandatory sliding fee scale shall be used to help fund each
14 early learning coalition's school readiness program.

15 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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

19 And the title is amended as follows:

20 Delete everything before the enacting clause

21

22 and insert:

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A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to early childhood education;

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amending s. 402.3017, F.S.; authorizing the

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Agency for Workforce Innovation to contract for

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the administration of the Teacher Education and

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Compensation Helps (TEACH) scholarship program;

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providing for rulemaking; deleting provisions

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that limit agency administration of the program

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to the 2005-2006 fiscal year; amending s.

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1 411.01, F.S.; requiring the Agency for
2 Workforce Innovation to recommend a school
3 readiness equity allocation formula; providing
4 for changes in the allocation of funds to be
5 specified in the General Appropriations Act;
6 eliminating approval of the allocation formula
7 by the Legislative Budget Commission;
8 eliminating an obsolete provision; providing an
9 effective date.

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