

By Senator Wilson

33-00101-08

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to public child care; amending s. 402.301,
3 F.S.; providing legislative intent that children meeting
4 certain requirements be given first priority for placement
5 into the Gold Seal Quality Care Program; providing an
6 effective date.

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

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10 Section 1. Subsection (8) is added to section 402.301,
11 Florida Statutes, to read:

12 402.301 Child care facilities; legislative intent and
13 declaration of purpose and policy.--It is the legislative intent
14 to protect the health, safety, and well-being of the children of
15 the state and to promote their emotional and intellectual
16 development and care. Toward that end:

17 (8) It is the intent of the Legislature that a child care
18 center designated as a Gold Seal Quality Care facility under s.
19 402.281 allow children who have not attained the age of
20 eligibility for kindergarten and who are under the jurisdiction
21 of a circuit court of this state due to a documented case of
22 child abuse, abandonment, or neglect to receive first priority
23 for placement. To the extent that this subsection creates a
24 conflict with a priority placement pursuant to s. 411.01(6), a
25 child who is at least 3 years of age but who has not yet attained
26 the age of eligibility for kindergarten shall have first priority
27 for placement.

28 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.