

By Senator Fasano

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to publicly funded facilities for
3 children; amending s. 402.3051, F.S.; revising provisions
4 concerning establishment of the market rate for certain
5 child care services; requiring that the rate be
6 established annually for each county; including child care
7 facilities that are subject to specified licensing
8 requirements on the list of child care services for which
9 a market rate must be established; amending s. 1002.55,
10 F.S.; revising the number of instructional hours that are
11 required for a school-year prekindergarten program
12 delivered by a private kindergarten provider; amending s.
13 1002.63, F.S.; revising the number of instructional hours
14 that are required for a school-year prekindergarten
15 program delivered by a public school; amending s. 1002.67,
16 F.S.; requiring that private prekindergarten providers and
17 public schools conduct certain assessments of the progress
18 of students enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten
19 Education Program; requiring that the assessments be
20 approved and scored by the Department of Education, the
21 Agency for Workforce Innovation, or an early learning
22 coalition and administered by certain teachers; providing
23 requirements concerning the assessment and its use;
24 requiring the incorporation of the assessment scores in
25 certain kindergarten screenings and readiness rates
26 adopted by the department and the State Board of
27 Education; amending s. 1002.71, F.S.; revising the number
28 of instructional hours that are required in order for a
29 student in a school-year prekindergarten program delivered

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30 by a public school or a private prekindergarten provider
31 to be considered a full-time equivalent student in the
32 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program; providing an
33 effective date.

34
35 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

36
37 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
38 402.3051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39 402.3051 Child care market rate reimbursement; child care
40 grants.--

41 (1) As used in this section, the term:

42 (b) "Market rate" means the price that a child care
43 provider charges for daily, weekly, or monthly child care
44 services. Market rate shall annually:

45 1. Be established for each county for licensed child care
46 facilities, including ~~or~~ facilities that are ~~not~~ subject to s.
47 402.305, licensed or registered family day care homes, licensed
48 before-school and after-school child care programs, and
49 unregulated care provided by a relative or other caretaker.

50 2. Differentiate among child care for children with special
51 needs or risk categories, infants, toddlers, and preschool and
52 school-age children.

53 3. Differentiate between full-time and part-time care.

54 4. Be based on consideration of ~~Consider~~ reductions in the
55 cost of care for additional children in the same family.

56 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 1002.55, Florida
57 Statutes, is amended to read:

58 1002.55 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by

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59 private prekindergarten providers.--

60 (2) Each school-year prekindergarten program delivered by a
61 private prekindergarten provider must comprise up to 720 ~~at least~~
62 ~~540~~ instructional hours or the same number of instructional hours
63 as is provided to a student in kindergarten and first grade, if
64 the provider provides instruction in kindergarten and first
65 grade.

66 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 1002.63, Florida
67 Statutes, is amended to read:

68 1002.63 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by
69 public schools.--

70 (2) Each school-year prekindergarten program delivered by a
71 public school must comprise at least the same number of 540
72 instructional hours as the school provides for a student in
73 kindergarten and first grade.

74 Section 4. Present subsection (3) of section 1002.67,
75 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (4), and a new
76 subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

77 1002.67 Performance standards; curricula and
78 accountability.--

79 (3) (a) Each private prekindergarten provider and public
80 school shall conduct a preassessment and a postassessment of each
81 student enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
82 Program using an assessment tool that the Department of
83 Education, the Agency for Workforce Innovation, or an early
84 learning coalition has approved as suitable for measuring student
85 progress. The preassessment must be conducted within 30 days
86 after the student enrolls in the program. The postassessment must
87 be conducted within 15 days before the end of the program. The

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88 lead teacher for the program in each classroom shall administer
89 the assessments. The Department of Education or an early learning
90 coalition shall score the assessments.

91 (b) The department, the State Board of Education, private
92 prekindergarten providers, and public schools shall use the
93 assessment scores to:

94 1. Identify a student who has developmental delays or other
95 special needs and attempt to have services in place to
96 accommodate such needs before the student enrolls in
97 kindergarten.

98 2. Ensure that all students have an equal opportunity to
99 benefit from the program.

100 (c) The assessment scores shall be incorporated into the
101 statewide kindergarten screening adopted by the department under
102 s. 1002.69 and into the required minimum kindergarten readiness
103 rate that is adopted by the board under s. 1002.69. Such
104 incorporation shall be done in a manner to ensure that a
105 prekindergarten student's readiness for kindergarten is measured
106 by the student's progress since enrolling in the program, not
107 purely on outcome, and to ensure that private prekindergarten
108 providers and public schools are not penalized for providing
109 educational services to students who are less able to perform
110 well due to social, economic, language, or speech barriers.

111 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 1002.71, Florida
112 Statutes, is amended to read:

113 1002.71 Funding; financial and attendance reporting.--

114 (2) A full-time equivalent student in the Voluntary
115 Prekindergarten Education Program shall be calculated as follows:

116 (a) For a student in a school-year prekindergarten program

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117 delivered by a private prekindergarten provider: up to 720 ~~540~~
118 instructional hours or the same number of instructional hours as
119 is provided to a student in kindergarten and first grade, if the
120 provider provides instruction in kindergarten and first grade.

121 (b) For a student in a summer prekindergarten program
122 delivered by a public school or private prekindergarten provider:
123 300 instructional hours.

124 (c) For a student in a school-year prekindergarten program
125 delivered by a public school: the same number of ~~540~~
126 instructional hours as the school provides for a student in
127 kindergarten and first grade.

128
129 Except as provided in subsection (4), a student may not be
130 reported for funding purposes as more than one full-time
131 equivalent student.

132 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.