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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: WD	.	
04/07/2010	.	
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The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs (Wise) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 1814 and 1815
insert:

Section 29. Subsections (7) and (8) are added to section 1002.69, Florida Statutes, to read:

1002.69 Statewide kindergarten screening; kindergarten readiness rates.-

(7) (a) Notwithstanding s. 1002.67(3)(c)4., the State Board of Education, upon the request of a private prekindergarten provider or public school that remains on probation for 2 consecutive years or more and subsequently fails to meet the



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13 minimum rate adopted under subsection (6) and for good cause
14 shown, may grant to the provider or public school an exemption
15 from being determined ineligible to deliver the Voluntary
16 Prekindergarten Education Program and receive state funds for
17 the program. Such exemption is valid for 1 year and, upon the
18 request of the private prekindergarten provider or public school
19 and for good cause shown, may be renewed.

20 (b) A private prekindergarten provider's or public school's
21 request for a good cause exemption, or renewal of such
22 exemption, must be submitted to the board in the manner and
23 within the timeframes prescribed by the board and must include
24 the following:

25 1. Submission of data by the private prekindergarten
26 provider or public school which documents on a standardized
27 assessment the achievement and progress of the children served.

28 2. Submission and review of data available from the
29 respective early learning coalition or district school board,
30 the Department of Children and Family Services, a local
31 licensing authority, or an accrediting association, as
32 applicable, relating to the private prekindergarten provider's
33 or public school's compliance with state and local health and
34 safety standards.

35 3. Submission and review of data available to the
36 department on the performance of the children served and the
37 calculation of the private prekindergarten provider's or public
38 school's kindergarten readiness rate.

39 (c) The State Board of Education shall adopt criteria for
40 granting good cause exemptions. Such criteria shall include, but
41 are not limited to:



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42 1. Learning gains of children served in the Voluntary
43 Prekindergarten Education Program by the private prekindergarten
44 provider or public school.

45 2. Verification that the private prekindergarten provider
46 or public school serves at least twice the statewide percentage
47 of children with disabilities as defined in s. 1003.01(3)(a) or
48 children identified as limited English proficient as defined by
49 s. 1003.56.

50 3. Verification that local and state health and safety
51 requirements are met.

52 (d) A good cause exemption may not be granted to any
53 private prekindergarten provider that has any class I violations
54 or two or more class II violations within the 2 years preceding
55 the provider's or public school's request for the exemption. For
56 purposes of this paragraph, class I and class II violations have
57 the same meaning as provided in s. 402.281(3).

58 (e) A private prekindergarten provider or public school
59 granted a good cause exemption shall continue to implement its
60 improvement plan and continue the corrective actions required
61 under s. 1002.67(3)(c)2., including the use of a curriculum
62 approved by the department, until the provider or public school
63 meets the minimum rate adopted under subsection (6).

64 (8) The State Board of Education shall notify the Agency
65 for Workforce Innovation of a good cause exemption granted to a
66 private prekindergarten provider under subsection (7). If a good
67 cause exemption has been granted to a private prekindergarten
68 provider who has remained on probation for 2 consecutive years,
69 the Agency for Workforce Innovation shall notify the early
70 learning coalition that it is not to remove the provider from



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71 eligibility to deliver the Voluntary prekindergarten Education
72 Program and receive state funds for the program in accordance
73 with s. 1002.67(3)(c)4.

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

76 And the title is amended as follows:

77 Between lines 100 and 101

78 insert:

79 amending s. 1002.69, F.S.; revising provisions
80 relating to statewide kindergarten screening and
81 kindergarten readiness rates; authorizing the State
82 Board of Education to grant an exemption to a private
83 prekindergarten provider or public school if requested
84 and good cause is shown; providing for the renewal of
85 such exemption; requiring that certain information be
86 submitted along with the provider's or public school's
87 request for the exemption; requiring that the board
88 adopt criteria for granting the exemption; providing
89 that the exemption not be granted under certain
90 circumstances; requiring notice to the Agency for
91 Workforce Innovation of exemptions;