

By Senator Wise

5-01090B-11

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Voluntary Prekindergarten
3 Program; amending s. 1002.69, F.S.; authorizing
4 nonpublic schools to administer the statewide
5 kindergarten screening to kindergarten students who
6 were enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten
7 Program; requiring the Department of Education to
8 include the percentage of students who meet all state
9 readiness measures in its provider rating methodology;
10 removing a limitation on the minimum kindergarten
11 readiness rate for private and public prekindergarten
12 providers; amending s. 1002.73, F.S.; requiring the
13 department to adopt procedures for annually reporting
14 the percentage of students who meet all state
15 readiness measures; providing an effective date.

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

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19 Section 1. Subsections (1), (5), and (6) of section
20 1002.69, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

21 1002.69 Statewide kindergarten screening; kindergarten
22 readiness rates.—

23 (1) The department shall adopt a statewide kindergarten
24 screening that assesses the readiness of each student for
25 kindergarten based upon the performance standards adopted by the
26 department under s. 1002.67(1) for the Voluntary Prekindergarten
27 Education Program. The department shall require that each school
28 district administer the statewide kindergarten screening to each
29 kindergarten student in the school district within the first 30

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30 school days of each school year. Nonpublic schools may
31 administer the statewide kindergarten screening to each
32 kindergarten student in a nonpublic school who was enrolled in
33 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

34 (5) The State Board of Education shall adopt procedures for
35 the department to annually calculate each private
36 prekindergarten provider's and public school's kindergarten
37 readiness rate, which must be expressed as the percentage of the
38 provider's or school's students who are assessed as ready for
39 kindergarten. The kindergarten readiness rates must be based
40 exclusively upon the results of the statewide kindergarten
41 screening for students completing the Voluntary Prekindergarten
42 Education Program, beginning with students completing the
43 program during the 2005-2006 school year who are administered
44 the statewide kindergarten screening during the 2006-2007 school
45 year. The methodology for calculating each provider's readiness
46 rate must include the percentage of students who meet all state
47 readiness measures. The rates must not include students who are
48 not administered the statewide kindergarten screening.

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

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

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59 Section 3. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (2) of
60 section 1002.73, Florida Statutes, to read:

61 1002.73 Department of Education; powers and duties;
62 accountability requirements.-

63 (2) The department shall adopt procedures for its:

64 (f) Annual reporting of the percentage of kindergarten
65 students who meet all state readiness measures.

66 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.