



361654

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

.

House

.

.

Floor: 2/AD/3R

.

05/02/2014 09:28 PM

.

.

---

Senator Legg moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete lines 895 - 1437

and insert:

Section 15. Subsection (4) of section 1002.53, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.53 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program; eligibility and enrollment.-

(4) (a) Each parent enrolling a child in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program must complete and submit an application to the early learning coalition through the single



361654

12 point of entry established under s. 1002.82 or to a private  
13 prekindergarten provider if the provider is authorized by the  
14 early learning coalition to determine student eligibility for  
15 enrollment in the program.

16 (b) The application must be submitted on forms prescribed  
17 by the Office of Early Learning and must be accompanied by a  
18 certified copy of the child's birth certificate. The forms must  
19 include a certification, in substantially the form provided in  
20 s. 1002.71(6)(b)2., that the parent chooses the private  
21 prekindergarten provider or public school in accordance with  
22 this section and directs that payments for the program be made  
23 to the provider or school. The Office of Early Learning may  
24 authorize alternative methods for submitting proof of the  
25 child's age in lieu of a certified copy of the child's birth  
26 certificate.

27 (c) If a private prekindergarten provider has been  
28 authorized to determine child eligibility and enrollment, upon  
29 receipt of an application, the provider must:

30 1. Determine the child's eligibility for the program and be  
31 responsible for any errors in such determination.

32 2. Retain the original application and certified copy of  
33 the child's birth certificate or authorized alternative proof of  
34 age on file for at least 5 years.

35  
36 Pursuant to this paragraph, the early learning coalition may  
37 audit applications held by a private prekindergarten provider in  
38 the coalition's service area to determine whether children  
39 enrolled and reported for funding by the provider have met the  
40 eligibility criteria in subsection (2).



361654

41            (d) ~~(e)~~ Each early learning coalition shall coordinate with  
42 each of the school districts within the coalition's county or  
43 multicounty region in the development of procedures for  
44 enrolling children in prekindergarten programs delivered by  
45 public schools, including procedures for making child  
46 eligibility determinations and auditing enrollment records to  
47 confirm that enrolled children have met eligibility  
48 requirements.

49            Section 16. Section 1002.55, Florida Statutes, is amended  
50 to read:

51            1002.55 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by  
52 private prekindergarten providers.—

53            (1) Each early learning coalition shall administer the  
54 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program at the county or  
55 regional level for students enrolled under s. 1002.53(3)(a) in a  
56 school-year prekindergarten program delivered by a private  
57 prekindergarten provider. Each early learning coalition shall  
58 cooperate with the Office of Early Learning and the Child Care  
59 Services Program Office of the Department of Children and  
60 Families to reduce paperwork and to avoid duplicating  
61 interagency activities, health and safety monitoring, and  
62 acquiring and composing data pertaining to child care training  
63 and credentialing.

64            (2) Each school-year prekindergarten program delivered by a  
65 private prekindergarten provider must comprise at least 540  
66 instructional hours.

67            (3) To be eligible to deliver the prekindergarten program,  
68 a private prekindergarten provider must meet each of the  
69 following requirements:



361654

70 ~~(a) The private prekindergarten provider must be a child~~  
71 ~~care facility licensed under s. 402.305, family day care home~~  
72 ~~licensed under s. 402.313, large family child care home licensed~~  
73 ~~under s. 402.3131, nonpublic school exempt from licensure under~~  
74 ~~s. 402.3025(2), or faith-based child care provider exempt from~~  
75 ~~licensure under s. 402.316.~~

76 (a) (b) The private prekindergarten provider must:

77 1. Be accredited by an accrediting association that is a  
78 member of the National Council for Private School Accreditation,  
79 or the Florida Association of Academic Nonpublic Schools, or be  
80 accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools,  
81 or Western Association of Colleges and Schools, or North Central  
82 Association of Colleges and Schools, or Middle States  
83 Association of Colleges and Schools, or New England Association  
84 of Colleges and Schools; and have written accreditation  
85 standards that meet or exceed the state's licensing requirements  
86 under s. 402.305, s. 402.313, or s. 402.3131 and require at  
87 least one onsite visit to the provider or school before  
88 accreditation is granted;

89 2. Hold a current Gold Seal Quality Care designation under  
90 s. 402.281; ~~or~~

91 3. Be licensed under s. 402.305, s. 402.313, or s.  
92 402.3131; or

93 4. Be a child development center located on a military  
94 installation that is certified by the United States Department  
95 of Defense.

96 (b) The private prekindergarten provider must provide basic  
97 health and safety on its premises and in its facilities. For a  
98 public school, compliance with ss. 1003.22 and 1013.12 satisfies



361654

99 this requirement. For a nonpublic school, compliance with s.  
100 402.3025(2)(d) satisfies this requirement. For a child care  
101 facility, a licensed family day care home, or a large family  
102 child care home, compliance with s. 402.305, s. 402.313, or s.  
103 402.3131, respectively, satisfies this requirement. For a  
104 facility exempt from licensure, compliance with s. 402.316(4)  
105 satisfies this requirement and demonstrate, before delivering  
106 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, as verified by  
107 the early learning coalition, that the provider meets each of  
108 the requirements of the program under this part, including, but  
109 not limited to, the requirements for credentials and background  
110 screenings of prekindergarten instructors under paragraphs (c)  
111 and (d), minimum and maximum class sizes under paragraph (f),  
112 prekindergarten director credentials under paragraph (g), and a  
113 developmentally appropriate curriculum under s. 1002.67(2)(b).

114 (c) The private prekindergarten provider must have, for  
115 each prekindergarten class of 11 children or fewer, at least one  
116 prekindergarten instructor who meets each of the following  
117 requirements:

118 1. The prekindergarten instructor must hold, at a minimum,  
119 one of the following credentials:

120 a. A child development associate credential issued by the  
121 National Credentialing Program of the Council for Professional  
122 Recognition; ~~or~~

123 b. A credential approved by the Department of Children and  
124 Families, pursuant to s. 402.305(3)(c), as being equivalent to  
125 or greater than the credential described in sub-subparagraph a.;

126 c. An associate or higher degree in child development;

127 d. An associate or higher degree in an unrelated field, at



361654

128 least 6 credit hours in early childhood education or child  
129 development, and at least 480 hours of experience in teaching or  
130 providing child care services for children any age from birth  
131 through 8 years of age;

132 e. A baccalaureate or higher degree in early childhood  
133 education, prekindergarten or primary education, preschool  
134 education, or family and consumer science;

135 f. A baccalaureate or higher degree in family and child  
136 science and at least 480 hours of experience in teaching or  
137 providing child care services for children any age from birth  
138 through 8 years of age;

139 g. A baccalaureate or higher degree in elementary education  
140 if the prekindergarten instructor has been certified to teach  
141 children of any age from birth through grade 6, regardless of  
142 whether the instructor's educator certificate is current, and if  
143 the instructor is not ineligible to teach in a public school  
144 because his or her educator certificate is suspended or revoked;  
145 or

146 h. A credential approved by the department as being  
147 equivalent to or greater than a credential described in sub-  
148 subparagraphs a.-f. The department may adopt criteria and  
149 procedures for approving such equivalent credentials.

150  
151 ~~The Department of Children and Families may adopt rules under~~  
152 ~~ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 which provide criteria and procedures~~  
153 ~~for approving equivalent credentials under sub-subparagraph b.~~

154 2. The prekindergarten instructor must successfully  
155 complete an emergent literacy training course and a student  
156 performance standards training course approved by the office as



361654

157 meeting or exceeding the minimum standards adopted under s.  
158 1002.59. The requirement for completion of the standards  
159 training course shall take effect July 1, 2015 ~~2014~~, and the  
160 course shall be available online.

161 (d) Each prekindergarten instructor employed by the private  
162 prekindergarten provider must be of good moral character, must  
163 undergo background screening pursuant to s. 402.305(2)(a) ~~be~~  
164 ~~screened using the level 2 screening standards in s. 435.04~~  
165 before employment, must be ~~and~~ rescreened at least once every 5  
166 years, must be denied employment or terminated if required under  
167 s. 435.06, and must not be ineligible to teach in a public  
168 school because his or her educator certificate is suspended or  
169 revoked.

170 (e) A private prekindergarten provider may assign a  
171 substitute instructor to temporarily replace a credentialed  
172 instructor if the credentialed instructor assigned to a  
173 prekindergarten class is absent, as long as the substitute  
174 instructor meets the requirements of paragraph (d) ~~is of good~~  
175 ~~moral character and has been screened before employment in~~  
176 ~~accordance with level 2 background screening requirements in~~  
177 ~~chapter 435~~. The Office of Early Learning shall adopt rules to  
178 implement this paragraph which shall include required  
179 qualifications of substitute instructors and the circumstances  
180 and time limits for which a private prekindergarten provider may  
181 assign a substitute instructor.

182 (f) Each of the private prekindergarten provider's  
183 prekindergarten classes must be composed of at least 4 students  
184 but may not exceed 20 students. In order to protect the health  
185 and safety of students, each private prekindergarten provider



361654

186 must also provide appropriate adult supervision for students at  
187 all times and, for each prekindergarten class composed of 12 or  
188 more students, must have, in addition to a prekindergarten  
189 instructor who meets the requirements of paragraph (c), at least  
190 one adult prekindergarten instructor who is not required to meet  
191 those requirements but who must meet each requirement of s.  
192 402.305(2) paragraph (d). This paragraph does not supersede any  
193 requirement imposed on a provider under ss. 402.301-402.319.

194 (g) The private prekindergarten provider must have a  
195 prekindergarten director who has a prekindergarten director  
196 credential that is approved by the office as meeting or  
197 exceeding the minimum standards adopted under s. 1002.57.  
198 Successful completion of a child care facility director  
199 credential under s. 402.305(2) (f) before the establishment of  
200 the prekindergarten director credential under s. 1002.57 or July  
201 1, 2006, whichever occurs later, satisfies the requirement for a  
202 prekindergarten director credential under this paragraph.

203 (h) The private prekindergarten provider must register with  
204 the early learning coalition on forms prescribed by the Office  
205 of Early Learning.

206 (i) The private prekindergarten provider must execute the  
207 statewide provider contract prescribed under s. 1002.75, except  
208 that an individual who owns or operates multiple private  
209 prekindergarten providers within a coalition's service area may  
210 execute a single agreement with the coalition on behalf of each  
211 provider.

212 (j) The private prekindergarten provider must maintain  
213 general liability insurance and provide the coalition with  
214 written evidence of general liability insurance coverage,





361654

215 including coverage for transportation of children if  
216 prekindergarten students are transported by the provider. A  
217 provider must obtain and retain an insurance policy that  
218 provides a minimum of \$100,000 of coverage per occurrence and a  
219 minimum of \$300,000 general aggregate coverage. The office may  
220 authorize lower limits upon request, as appropriate. A provider  
221 must add the coalition as a named certificateholder ~~and as an~~  
222 ~~additional insured~~. A provider must provide the coalition with a  
223 minimum of 10 calendar days' advance written notice of  
224 cancellation of or changes to coverage. The general liability  
225 insurance required by this paragraph must remain in full force  
226 and effect for the entire period of the provider contract with  
227 the coalition.

228 (k) The private prekindergarten provider must obtain and  
229 maintain any required workers' compensation insurance under  
230 chapter 440 and any required reemployment assistance or  
231 unemployment compensation coverage under chapter 443, unless  
232 exempt under state or federal law.

233 (l) Notwithstanding paragraph (j), for a private  
234 prekindergarten provider that is a state agency or a subdivision  
235 thereof, as defined in s. 768.28(2), the provider must agree to  
236 notify the coalition of any additional liability coverage  
237 maintained by the provider in addition to that otherwise  
238 established under s. 768.28. The provider shall indemnify the  
239 coalition to the extent permitted by s. 768.28.

240 (m) The private prekindergarten provider shall be denied  
241 initial eligibility to offer the program if the provider has  
242 been cited for a class I violation in the 12 months before  
243 seeking eligibility and the Office of Early Learning determines



361654

244 that denial of initial eligibility is appropriate after a review  
245 of the violation and the provider's licensure history. The  
246 Office of Early Learning shall establish a procedure of due  
247 process which ensures each provider the opportunity to appeal  
248 such a denial of initial eligibility to offer the program. The  
249 decision of the Office of Early Learning is not subject to the  
250 provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 120.

251 (n) ~~(m)~~ The private prekindergarten provider must deliver  
252 the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program in accordance  
253 with this part and have child disciplinary policies that  
254 prohibit children from being subjected to discipline that is  
255 severe, humiliating, frightening, or associated with food, rest,  
256 toileting, spanking, or any other form of physical punishment as  
257 provided in s. 402.305(12).

258 (o) Beginning January 1, 2015, at least 50 percent of the  
259 instructors employed by a prekindergarten provider at each  
260 location, who are responsible for supervising children in care,  
261 must be trained in first aid and infant and child  
262 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, as evidenced by current  
263 documentation of course completion. As a condition of  
264 employment, instructors hired on or after January 1, 2015, must  
265 complete this training within 60 days after employment.

266 (p) Beginning January 1, 2016, the private prekindergarten  
267 provider must employ child care personnel who hold a high school  
268 diploma or its equivalent and are at least 18 years of age,  
269 unless the personnel are not responsible for supervising  
270 children in care or are under direct supervision and are not  
271 counted for the purposes of computing the personnel-to-child  
272 ratio.



361654

273           ~~(4) A prekindergarten instructor, in lieu of the minimum~~  
274 ~~credentials and courses required under paragraph (3) (c), may~~  
275 ~~hold one of the following educational credentials:~~  
276           ~~(a) A bachelor's or higher degree in early childhood~~  
277 ~~education, prekindergarten or primary education, preschool~~  
278 ~~education, or family and consumer science;~~  
279           ~~(b) A bachelor's or higher degree in elementary education,~~  
280 ~~if the prekindergarten instructor has been certified to teach~~  
281 ~~children any age from birth through 6th grade, regardless of~~  
282 ~~whether the instructor's educator certificate is current, and if~~  
283 ~~the instructor is not ineligible to teach in a public school~~  
284 ~~because his or her educator certificate is suspended or revoked;~~  
285           ~~(c) An associate's or higher degree in child development;~~  
286           ~~(d) An associate's or higher degree in an unrelated field,~~  
287 ~~at least 6 credit hours in early childhood education or child~~  
288 ~~development, and at least 480 hours of experience in teaching or~~  
289 ~~providing child care services for children any age from birth~~  
290 ~~through 8 years of age; or~~  
291           ~~(e) An educational credential approved by the department as~~  
292 ~~being equivalent to or greater than an educational credential~~  
293 ~~described in this subsection. The department may adopt criteria~~  
294 ~~and procedures for approving equivalent educational credentials~~  
295 ~~under this paragraph.~~  
296           ~~(5) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) (b), a private~~  
297 ~~prekindergarten provider may not participate in the Voluntary~~  
298 ~~Prekindergarten Education Program if the provider has child~~  
299 ~~disciplinary policies that do not prohibit children from being~~  
300 ~~subjected to discipline that is severe, humiliating,~~  
301 ~~frightening, or associated with food, rest, toileting, spanking,~~



361654

302 ~~or any other form of physical punishment as provided in s.~~  
303 ~~402.305(12).~~

304 Section 17. Subsection (1) of section 1002.59, Florida  
305 Statutes, is amended to read:

306 1002.59 Emergent literacy and performance standards  
307 training courses.—

308 (1) The office shall adopt minimum standards for one or  
309 more training courses in emergent literacy for prekindergarten  
310 instructors. Each course must comprise 5 clock hours and provide  
311 instruction in strategies and techniques to address the age-  
312 appropriate progress of prekindergarten students in developing  
313 emergent literacy skills, including oral communication,  
314 knowledge of print and letters, phonemic and phonological  
315 awareness, and vocabulary and comprehension development. Each  
316 course must also provide resources containing strategies that  
317 allow students with disabilities and other special needs to  
318 derive maximum benefit from the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
319 Education Program. Successful completion of an emergent literacy  
320 training course approved under this section satisfies  
321 requirements for approved training in early literacy and  
322 language development under ss. 402.305(2)(d)5., 402.313(4)(c)  
323 ~~402.313(6)~~, and 402.3131(5).

324 Section 18. Subsections (4) through (7) of section 1002.61,  
325 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

326 1002.61 Summer prekindergarten program delivered by public  
327 schools and private prekindergarten providers.—

328 (4) ~~Notwithstanding ss. 1002.55(3)(c)1. and 1002.63(4),~~  
329 Each public school and private prekindergarten provider that  
330 delivers the summer prekindergarten program must have, for each



361654

331 prekindergarten class, at least one prekindergarten instructor  
332 who is a certified teacher or holds one of the educational  
333 credentials specified in s. 1002.55(3)(c)1.e.-h. ~~1002.55(4)(a)~~  
334 ~~or (b).~~ As used in this subsection, the term "certified teacher"  
335 means a teacher holding a valid Florida educator certificate  
336 under s. 1012.56 who has the qualifications required by the  
337 district school board to instruct students in the summer  
338 prekindergarten program. In selecting instructional staff for  
339 the summer prekindergarten program, each school district shall  
340 give priority to teachers who have experience or coursework in  
341 early childhood education.

342 (5) Each prekindergarten instructor employed by a ~~public~~  
343 ~~school or~~ private prekindergarten provider delivering the summer  
344 prekindergarten program must be of good moral character, must  
345 undergo background screening pursuant to s. 402.305(2)(a) be  
346 ~~screened using the level 2 screening standards in s. 435.04~~  
347 before employment, must be ~~and~~ rescreened at least once every 5  
348 years, and must be denied employment or terminated if required  
349 under s. 435.06. Each prekindergarten instructor employed by a  
350 public school delivering the summer prekindergarten program, and  
351 must satisfy the ~~not be ineligible to teach in a public school~~  
352 ~~because his or her educator certificate is suspended or revoked.~~  
353 ~~This subsection does not supersede~~ employment requirements for  
354 instructional personnel in public schools as provided in s.  
355 1012.32 ~~which are more stringent than the requirements of this~~  
356 ~~subsection.~~

357 (6) A public school or private prekindergarten provider may  
358 assign a substitute instructor to temporarily replace a  
359 credentialed instructor if the credentialed instructor assigned



361654

360 to a prekindergarten class is absent, as long as the substitute  
361 instructor meets the requirements of subsection (5) ~~is of good~~  
362 ~~moral character and has been screened before employment in~~  
363 ~~accordance with level 2 background screening requirements in~~  
364 ~~chapter 435. This subsection does not supersede employment~~  
365 ~~requirements for instructional personnel in public schools which~~  
366 ~~are more stringent than the requirements of this subsection.~~ The  
367 Office of Early Learning shall adopt rules to implement this  
368 subsection which must ~~shall~~ include required qualifications of  
369 substitute instructors and the circumstances and time limits for  
370 which a public school or private prekindergarten provider may  
371 assign a substitute instructor.

372 (7) Notwithstanding ss. 1002.55(3)(e) ~~1002.55(3)(f)~~ and  
373 1002.63(7), each prekindergarten class in the summer  
374 prekindergarten program, regardless of whether the class is a  
375 public school's or private prekindergarten provider's class,  
376 must be composed of at least 4 students but may not exceed 12  
377 students ~~beginning with the 2009 summer session~~. In order to  
378 protect the health and safety of students, each public school or  
379 private prekindergarten provider must also provide appropriate  
380 adult supervision for students at all times. This subsection  
381 does not supersede any requirement imposed on a provider under  
382 ss. 402.301-402.319.

383 Section 19. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 1002.63,  
384 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

385 1002.63 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by  
386 public schools.—

387 (5) Each prekindergarten instructor employed by a public  
388 school delivering the school-year prekindergarten program must



361654

389 ~~satisfy the be of good moral character, must be screened using~~  
390 ~~the level 2 screening standards in s. 435.04 before employment~~  
391 ~~and rescreened at least once every 5 years, must be denied~~  
392 ~~employment or terminated if required under s. 435.06, and must~~  
393 ~~not be ineligible to teach in a public school because his or her~~  
394 ~~educator certificate is suspended or revoked. This subsection~~  
395 ~~does not supersede~~ employment requirements for instructional  
396 personnel in public schools as provided in s. 1012.32 ~~which are~~  
397 ~~more stringent than the requirements of this subsection.~~

398 (6) A public school prekindergarten provider may assign a  
399 substitute instructor to temporarily replace a credentialed  
400 instructor if the credentialed instructor assigned to a  
401 prekindergarten class is absent, as long as the substitute  
402 instructor meets the requirements of subsection (5) ~~is of good~~  
403 ~~moral character and has been screened before employment in~~  
404 ~~accordance with level 2 background screening requirements in~~  
405 ~~chapter 435. This subsection does not supersede employment~~  
406 ~~requirements for instructional personnel in public schools which~~  
407 ~~are more stringent than the requirements of this subsection. The~~  
408 Office of Early Learning shall adopt rules to implement this  
409 subsection which must ~~shall~~ include required qualifications of  
410 substitute instructors and the circumstances and time limits for  
411 which a public school prekindergarten provider may assign a  
412 substitute instructor.

413 Section 20. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section  
414 1002.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

415 1002.71 Funding; financial and attendance reporting.—

416 (6) (a) Each parent enrolling his or her child in the  
417 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program must agree to comply



361654

418 with the attendance policy of the private prekindergarten  
419 provider or district school board, as applicable. Upon  
420 enrollment of the child, the private prekindergarten provider or  
421 public school, as applicable, must provide the child's parent  
422 with program information, including, but not limited to, child  
423 development, expectations for parent engagement, the daily  
424 schedule, and the ~~a copy of the provider's or school district's~~  
425 attendance policy, which must include procedures for contacting  
426 a parent on the second consecutive day a child is absent for  
427 which the reason is unknown ~~as applicable.~~

428 Section 21. Subsection (1) of section 1002.75, Florida  
429 Statutes, is amended to read:

430 1002.75 Office of Early Learning; powers and duties.-

431 (1) The Office of Early Learning shall adopt by rule a  
432 standard statewide provider contract to be used with each  
433 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program provider, with  
434 standardized attachments by provider type. The office shall  
435 publish a copy of the standard statewide provider contract on  
436 its website. The standard statewide contract must ~~shall~~ include,  
437 at a minimum, provisions that:

438 (a) Govern ~~for~~ provider probation, termination for cause,  
439 and emergency termination for those actions or inactions of a  
440 provider that pose an immediate and serious danger to the  
441 health, safety, or welfare of children. The standard statewide  
442 contract must ~~shall~~ also include appropriate due process  
443 procedures. During the pendency of an appeal of a termination,  
444 the provider may not continue to offer its services.

445 (b) Require each private prekindergarten provider to  
446 conspicuously post violations on the premises, pursuant to s.





361654

447 402.3125(1)(b), and to post class I and class II violations, as  
448 defined by rules of the Department of Children and Families,  
449 which result in disciplinary action, on the provider's Internet  
450 website, if available. Such postings must use simple language to  
451 describe each violation with specificity and include a copy of  
452 the citation and the contact information of the Department of  
453 Children and Families or the local licensing agency from which  
454 the parent may obtain additional information regarding the  
455 citation. The provider must post such violations within 24 hours  
456 after receipt of the citation. Additionally, such provider shall  
457 post each inspection report on the premises in an area visible  
458 to parents, which report must remain posted until the next  
459 inspection report is available.

460 (c) Specify that child care personnel employed by the  
461 provider who are responsible for supervising children in care  
462 must be trained in developmentally appropriate practices aligned  
463 to the age and needs of children over which the personnel are  
464 assigned supervision duties. This requirement is met by the  
465 completion of developmentally appropriate practice courses  
466 administered by the Department of Children and Families under s.  
467 402.305(2)(d)1. within 30 days after being assigned such  
468 children if the child care personnel has not previously  
469 completed the training.

470  
471 Any provision imposed upon a provider that is inconsistent with,  
472 or prohibited by, law is void and unenforceable.

473 Section 22. Subsections (1), (3), and (5) of section  
474 1002.77, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

475 1002.77 Florida Early Learning Advisory Council.-



361654

476 (1) There is created the Florida Early Learning Advisory  
477 Council within the Office of Early Learning. The purpose of the  
478 advisory council is to provide written input ~~submit~~  
479 ~~recommendations~~ to the executive director ~~office~~ on early  
480 learning best practices, including ~~recommendations relating to~~  
481 ~~the most effective~~ program administration; ~~of the Voluntary~~  
482 ~~Prekindergarten Education Program under this part and the school~~  
483 ~~readiness program under part VI of this chapter. The advisory~~  
484 ~~council shall periodically analyze and provide recommendations~~  
485 ~~to the office on the~~ effective and efficient use of local,  
486 state, and federal funds; ~~the content of professional~~  
487 development training programs; and ~~best practices for the~~  
488 ~~development and implementation of~~ coalition plans pursuant to s.  
489 1002.85.

490 (3) The advisory council shall meet at least quarterly upon  
491 the call of the executive director ~~but may meet as often as~~  
492 ~~necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities. The~~  
493 executive director is encouraged to ~~advisory council may use~~  
494 communications media technology ~~any method of telecommunications~~  
495 to conduct meetings in accordance with s. 120.54(5) (b) ~~7~~  
496 ~~including establishing a quorum through telecommunications, only~~  
497 ~~if the public is given proper notice of a telecommunications~~  
498 ~~meeting and reasonable access to observe and, when appropriate,~~  
499 ~~participate.~~

500 (5) The Office of Early Learning shall provide staff and  
501 administrative support for the advisory council as determined by  
502 the executive director.

503  
504 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====



361654

505 And the title is amended as follows:  
506       Delete lines 49 - 69  
507 and insert:  
508       amending s. 1002.53, F.S.; revising requirements for  
509       application and determination of eligibility to enroll  
510       in the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education  
511       Program; amending s. 1002.55, F.S.; revising  
512       requirements for a school-year prekindergarten program  
513       delivered by a private prekindergarten provider,  
514       including requirements for providers, instructors, and  
515       child care personnel; providing requirements in the  
516       case of provider violations; amending s. 1002.59,  
517       F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; amending ss.  
518       1002.61 and 1002.63, F.S.; revising employment  
519       requirements and educational credentials of certain  
520       instructional personnel; amending s. 1002.71, F.S.;  
521       revising information that must be reported to parents;  
522       amending s. 1002.75, F.S.; revising provisions  
523       included in the standard statewide VPK program  
524       provider contract; amending s. 1002.77, F.S.; revising  
525       the purpose and meetings of the Florida Early Learning  
526       Advisory Council; amending s. 1002.81, F.S.;