

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to instruction for homebound and
 3 hospitalized students; amending s. 1003.57, F.S.;
 4 requiring school districts to provide instruction to
 5 homebound or hospitalized students; requiring the
 6 State Board of Education to adopt rules for student
 7 eligibility, methods of providing instruction to
 8 homebound or hospitalized students, and the initiation
 9 of services; providing an effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
 14 1003.57, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15 1003.57 Exceptional students instruction.—

16 (1)

17 (b) Each district school board shall provide for an
 18 appropriate program of special instruction, facilities, and
 19 services for exceptional students as prescribed by the State
 20 Board of Education as acceptable. Each district program must,
 21 ~~including provisions that:~~

22 1. ~~The district school board~~ Provide the necessary
 23 professional services for diagnosis and evaluation of
 24 exceptional students. At least once every 3 years, the district
 25 school board must submit to the department its proposed
 26 procedures for the provision of special instruction and services

27 for exceptional students.

28 2. ~~The district school board~~ Provide the special
29 instruction, classes, and services, either within the district
30 school system, in cooperation with other district school
31 systems, or through contractual arrangements with approved
32 private schools or community facilities that meet standards
33 established by the commissioner.

34 3. ~~The district school board~~ Annually provide information
35 describing the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind and all
36 other programs and methods of instruction available to the
37 parent of a sensory-impaired student.

38 4. Provide instruction to homebound or hospitalized
39 students in accordance with this section and rules adopted by
40 the state board, which must establish, at a minimum, the
41 following:

42 a. Criteria for the eligibility of K-12 homebound or
43 hospitalized students for specially designed instruction.

44 b. Procedures for determining student eligibility.

45 c. A list of appropriate methods for providing instruction
46 to homebound or hospitalized students.

47 d. Requirements for initiating instructional services for
48 a homebound or hospitalized student once the student is
49 determined to be eligible. ~~The district school board, once every~~
50 ~~3 years, submit to the department its proposed procedures for~~
51 ~~the provision of special instruction and services for~~
52 ~~exceptional students.~~

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.