

HB 585

2016

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; requiring certain school districts to
10 enter into an agreement with certain children's
11 specialty hospitals to establish certain processes and
12 timelines relating to the instruction of homebound or
13 hospitalized students; providing an effective date.

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

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17 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
18 1003.57, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

19 1003.57 Exceptional students instruction.-

20 (1)

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

26 1. ~~The district school board~~ Provide the necessary

27 professional services for diagnosis and evaluation of
28 exceptional students. At least once every 3 years, the district
29 school board must submit to the department its proposed
30 procedures for the provision of special instruction and services
31 for exceptional students.

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

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

42 4. Provide instruction to homebound or hospitalized
43 students in accordance with this section and rules adopted by
44 the state board, which must establish, at a minimum, the
45 following:

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

48 b. Procedures for determining student eligibility.

49 c. A list of appropriate methods for providing instruction
50 to homebound or hospitalized students.

51 d. Requirements for providing instructional services for a
52 homebound or hospitalized student once the student is determined

53 to be eligible. Eligible students receiving treatment in a
54 children's specialty hospital licensed under part I of chapter
55 395 must be provided educational instruction from the school
56 district in which the hospital is located until the school
57 district in which the hospital is located enters into an
58 agreement with the school district in which the student resides.
59 The department shall develop a standard agreement for use by
60 school districts to provide seamless educational instruction to
61 students who transition between school districts while receiving
62 treatment in the children's specialty hospital.

63
64 No later than August 15, 2016, each school district in which a
65 children's specialty hospital licensed under part I of chapter
66 395 is located shall enter into an agreement with the hospital
67 which establishes a process by which the hospital must notify
68 the school district of students who may be eligible for
69 instruction consistent with this subparagraph and the timelines
70 for determining student eligibility and providing educational
71 instruction to eligible students ~~The district school board, once~~
72 ~~every 3 years, submit to the department its proposed procedures~~
73 ~~for the provision of special instruction and services for~~
74 ~~exceptional students.~~

75 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.