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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/20/2017	.	
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Appropriations Subcommittee on Pre-K - 12 Education (Stargel)
recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 1001.215, Florida Statutes, is amended
to read:

1001.215 Just Read, Florida! Office.—There is created in
the Department of Education the Just Read, Florida! Office. The
office shall be fully accountable to the Commissioner of
Education and shall:



395600

- 11 (1) Train highly effective reading coaches.
- 12 (2) Create multiple designations of effective reading
13 instruction, with accompanying credentials, which encourage all
14 teachers to integrate reading instruction into their content
15 areas.
- 16 (3) Train Voluntary Prekindergarten through grade 3
17 teachers, reading coaches, and school principals on effective
18 research-based reading instructional strategies and
19 interventions for all students. Contingent upon legislative
20 appropriation, this training must be designed to be consistently
21 delivered statewide in an appropriate format. The office shall
22 collaborate with the Office of Early Learning to develop the
23 training.
- 24 (4)~~(3)~~ Train grade 4-12 ~~K-12~~ teachers and school principals
25 on effective content-area-specific reading strategies. For
26 secondary teachers, emphasis shall be on technical text. These
27 strategies must be developed for all content areas in the grade
28 4-12 ~~K-12~~ curriculum.
- 29 (5)~~(4)~~ Provide parents with information and strategies for
30 assisting their children in reading in the content area.
- 31 (6)~~(5)~~ Provide technical assistance to school districts in
32 the development and implementation of district plans for use of
33 the research-based reading instruction allocation provided in s.
34 1011.62(9) and annually review and approve such plans.
- 35 (7)~~(6)~~ Review, evaluate, and provide technical assistance
36 to school districts' implementation of the K-12 comprehensive
37 reading plan required in s. 1011.62(9).
- 38 (8)~~(7)~~ Work with the Florida Center for Reading Research to
39 provide information on research-based reading programs and



40 effective reading in the content area strategies.

41 (9) Work with the Florida Center for Reading Research to
42 develop and provide access to sequenced curriculum programming,
43 instructional practices, and resources that help elementary
44 schools use state-adopted instructional materials and content-
45 rich texts to increase students' background knowledge and
46 literacy skills consistent with the state academic standards.

47 (10)~~(8)~~ Periodically review the Next Generation Sunshine
48 State Standards for reading at all grade levels.

49 (11)~~(9)~~ Periodically review teacher certification
50 examinations, including alternative certification exams, to
51 ascertain whether the examinations measure the skills needed for
52 research-based reading instruction ~~and instructional strategies~~
53 ~~for teaching reading in the content areas.~~

54 (12)~~(10)~~ Work with teacher preparation programs approved
55 pursuant to s. 1004.04 to integrate research-based reading
56 instructional strategies and reading in the content area
57 instructional strategies into teacher preparation programs.

58 (13)~~(11)~~ Administer grants and perform other functions as
59 necessary to meet the goal that all students read at grade
60 level.

61 Section 2. Subsection (8) is added to section 1002.51,
62 Florida Statutes, to read:

63 1002.51 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

64 (8) "Public school prekindergarten provider" includes a
65 charter school that is authorized to provide a prekindergarten
66 program in its charter consistent with s. 1002.33 and that is
67 eligible to deliver the school-year prekindergarten program
68 under s. 1002.63 or the summer prekindergarten program under s.



395600

69 1002.61.

70 Section 3. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (4) of
71 section 1002.53, Florida Statutes, to read:

72 1002.53 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program;
73 eligibility and enrollment.—

74 (4)

75 (d) Each early learning coalition shall coordinate with the
76 Office of Early Learning to assign student identification
77 numbers to each student who enrolls in the Voluntary
78 Prekindergarten Education Program.

79 Section 4. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (2) of
80 section 1002.67, Florida Statutes, are amended, paragraphs (d)
81 and (e) are added to subsection (3) of that section, present
82 subsection (4) of that section is redesignated as subsection
83 (5), and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

84 1002.67 Performance standards; curricula and
85 accountability.—

86 (2) (a) Each private prekindergarten provider and public
87 school may select or design the curriculum that the provider or
88 school uses to implement the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
89 Program, except as otherwise required for a provider or school
90 that is placed on probation under paragraph (5) (c) ~~(4) (e)~~.

91 (c) The office shall review and approve curricula for use
92 by private prekindergarten providers and public schools that are
93 placed on probation under paragraph (5) (c) ~~(4) (e)~~. The office
94 shall maintain a list of the curricula approved under this
95 paragraph. Each approved curriculum must meet the requirements
96 of paragraph (b).

97 (3)



395600

98 (d) Each private prekindergarten provider and public school
99 in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program shall provide
100 parents with the results of the pre- and post-assessments,
101 including any resources that might be helpful for their
102 students, within 10 days after administration of the assessment.

103 (e) The results of the pre- and post-assessments must be
104 reported at the aggregate level, distributed to the respective
105 early learning coalitions and school districts, and displayed on
106 the office's website within 30 days after administration of the
107 assessment.

108 (4) The office shall determine the eligibility criteria for
109 enrollment, as authorized by s. 1002.71(4)(c), and for
110 reenrollment in the school year Voluntary Prekindergarten
111 Education Program.

112 Section 5. Subsections (1) and (2) and paragraphs (a), (e),
113 and (f) of subsection (7) of section 1002.69, Florida Statutes,
114 are amended to read:

115 1002.69 Statewide kindergarten screening; kindergarten
116 readiness rates; state-approved prekindergarten enrollment
117 screening; good cause exemption.—

118 (1) The department shall adopt a single statewide
119 kindergarten screening that assesses the readiness of each
120 student for kindergarten based upon the performance standards
121 adopted by the department under s. 1002.67(1) for the Voluntary
122 Prekindergarten Education Program. The department shall require
123 that each school district administer the statewide kindergarten
124 screening to each kindergarten student in the school district
125 within the first 30 school days of each school year. Nonpublic
126 schools may administer the statewide kindergarten screening to



395600

127 each kindergarten student in a nonpublic school who was enrolled
128 in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

129 (2) The statewide kindergarten screening must ~~shall~~ provide
130 objective data concerning each student's readiness for
131 kindergarten and progress in attaining the performance standards
132 adopted by the office under s. 1002.67(1), with an emphasis on
133 early literacy and numeracy skills. The screening must be a
134 direct assessment of these skills.

135 (7) (a) Notwithstanding s. 1002.67(5)(c)3. ~~s.~~
136 ~~1002.67(4)(e)3.~~, the office, upon the request of a private
137 prekindergarten provider or public school that remains on
138 probation for 2 consecutive years or more and subsequently fails
139 to meet the minimum rate adopted under subsection (6) and for
140 good cause shown, may grant to the provider or school an
141 exemption from being determined ineligible to deliver the
142 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and receive state
143 funds for the program. Such exemption is valid for 1 year and,
144 upon the request of the private prekindergarten provider or
145 public school and for good cause shown, may be renewed.

146 (e) A private prekindergarten provider or public school
147 granted a good cause exemption shall continue to implement its
148 improvement plan and continue the corrective actions required
149 under s. 1002.67(5)(c)1. ~~s. 1002.67(4)(e)1.~~, including the use
150 of a curriculum approved by the office, until the provider or
151 school meets the minimum rate adopted under subsection (6).

152 (f) If a good cause exemption is granted to a private
153 prekindergarten provider who remains on probation for 2
154 consecutive years, the office shall notify the early learning
155 coalition of the good cause exemption and direct that the



156 coalition, notwithstanding s. 1002.67(5)(c)3. ~~s.~~
157 ~~1002.67(4)(c)3.~~, not remove the provider from eligibility to
158 deliver the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program or to
159 receive state funds for the program, if the provider meets all
160 other applicable requirements of this part.

161 Section 6. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (4) of
162 section 1002.71, Florida Statutes, to read:

163 1002.71 Funding; financial and attendance reporting.—

164 (4) Notwithstanding s. 1002.53(3) and subsection (2):

165 (c) Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, a child who has
166 completed a school-year Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
167 Program but is determined to be at risk of not attaining the
168 performance standards specified by s. 1002.67(1) may reenroll in
169 one of the school-year programs, which is offered by a provider
170 that has met the adopted minimum readiness rate provided under
171 s. 1002.69(6), for the subsequent year at the request of the
172 child's parent. The prekindergarten program may report the child
173 for funding purposes as a full-time equivalent student in the
174 school-year program for which he or she is enrolled.

175
176 A child may reenroll only once in a prekindergarten program
177 under this section. A child who reenrolls in a prekindergarten
178 program under this subsection may not subsequently withdraw from
179 the program and reenroll, unless the child is granted a good
180 cause exemption under this subsection. The Office of Early
181 Learning shall establish criteria specifying whether a good
182 cause exists for a child to withdraw from a program under
183 paragraph (a), whether a child has substantially completed a
184 program under paragraph (b), and whether an extreme hardship



395600

185 exists which is beyond the child's or parent's control under
186 paragraph (b).

187 Section 7. Paragraph (d) of subsection (9) of section
188 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

189 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual
190 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each
191 district for operation of schools is not determined in the
192 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing
193 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as
194 follows:

195 (9) RESEARCH-BASED READING INSTRUCTION ALLOCATION.—

196 (d) Annually, by a date determined by the Department of
197 Education but before May 1, school districts shall submit a K-12
198 comprehensive reading plan for the specific use of the research-
199 based reading instruction allocation in the format prescribed by
200 the department for review and approval by the Just Read,
201 Florida! Office created pursuant to s. 1001.215. The plan
202 annually submitted by school districts shall be deemed approved
203 unless the department rejects the plan on or before June 1. If a
204 school district and the Just Read, Florida! Office cannot reach
205 agreement on the contents of the plan, the school district may
206 appeal to the State Board of Education for resolution. School
207 districts shall be allowed reasonable flexibility in designing
208 their plans and shall be encouraged to offer reading
209 intervention through innovative methods, including career
210 academies. The plan format shall be developed with input from
211 school district personnel, including teachers and principals,
212 and shall allow courses in core, career, and alternative
213 programs that deliver intensive reading remediation through



395600

214 integrated curricula, provided that the teacher is deemed highly
215 qualified to teach reading or is working toward that status. No
216 later than July 1 annually, the department shall release the
217 school district's allocation of appropriated funds to those
218 districts having approved plans. A school district that spends
219 100 percent of this allocation on its approved plan shall be
220 deemed to have been in compliance with the plan. The department
221 may withhold funds upon a determination that reading instruction
222 allocation funds are not being used to implement the approved
223 plan. The department shall monitor and track the implementation
224 of each district plan, including conducting site visits and
225 collecting specific data on expenditures and reading improvement
226 results. By December ~~February~~ 1 of each year, the department
227 shall report its findings from the previous school year to the
228 Legislature.

229 Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

230

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

232 And the title is amended as follows:

233 Delete everything before the enacting clause
234 and insert:

235 A bill to be entitled
236 An act relating to voluntary prekindergarten
237 education; amending s. 1001.215, F.S.; requiring the
238 Just Read, Florida! Office to provide teachers,
239 reading coaches, and principals in prekindergarten
240 through grade 3 with specified training; requiring the
241 office to work with the Florida Center for Reading
242 Research to develop and provide access to certain



395600

243 programming, practices, and resources; amending s.
244 1002.51; defining the term "public school
245 prekindergarten provider"; amending s. 1002.53, F.S.;
246 requiring each early learning coalition to coordinate
247 with the Office of Early Learning to assign student
248 identification numbers for the Voluntary
249 Prekindergarten Education Program; amending s.
250 1002.67, F.S.; requiring voluntary prekindergarten
251 providers to provide parents with pre- and post-
252 assessment results within a specified timeframe;
253 providing for the reporting and distribution of the
254 results; requiring the office to determine eligibility
255 criteria for reenrollment; amending s. 1002.69, F.S.;
256 revising requirements for the adoption and use of the
257 statewide kindergarten screening; conforming cross-
258 references; amending s. 1002.71, F.S.; authorizing a
259 child to reenroll in certain school-year programs
260 under certain circumstances; amending s. 1011.62,
261 F.S.; revising the date by which the Department of
262 Education must submit specified information regarding
263 the implementation of school district K-12
264 comprehensive reading plans to the Legislature;
265 providing an effective date.