1   A bill to be entitled
2   An act relating to the Home Instruction for Parents of
3   Preschool Youngsters Grant Program; creating s.
4   1002.996, F.S.; creating the Home Instruction for
5   Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Grant Program;
6   providing the purpose of the program; providing
7   definitions; requiring the Florida HIPPY Training &
8   Technical Assistance Center at the University of South
9   Florida, subject to legislative appropriation, to
10   provide grants to organizations establishing a HIPPY
11   program and organizations with an existing HIPPY
12   program; providing Florida HIPPY Training & Technical
13   Assistance Center at the University of South Florida
14   duties; providing program and reporting requirements;
15   providing an effective date.
16
17   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
18
19   Section 1. Section 1002.996, Florida Statutes, is created
20   to read:
21   1002.996 The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool
22   Youngsters Grant Program.—
23   (1) PURPOSE.—Subject to legislative appropriation, the
24   Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)
25   Grant Program is established to fund HIPPY programs throughout

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26 the state to support the development and operation of such

27 programs which help empower parents to be their child's first

28 and most important teacher by equipping them with the tools,

29 skills, and confidence needed to educate their children at home.

30   (2)   DEFINITIONS.—

31   (a)   "Center" means the Florida HIPPY Training & Technical

32 Assistance Center at the University of South Florida.

33   (b)   "HIPPY program" means an evidence-based home

34 visitation program that supports parents in their critical role

35 as their child's first and most important teacher which is

36 created by the national nonprofit organization HIPPY USA and

37 administered to communities at a local level.

38   (c)   "Program operator" means an organization that has an

39 existing HIPPY program or is establishing a HIPPY program.

40   (3)   GRANT PROGRAM.—

41   (a)   Subject to legislative appropriation, the center shall

42 provide grants to program operators to fund HIPPY programs in

43 Florida counties, including, but not limited to, Alachua,

44 Bradford, Brevard, Broward, Duval, Gadsden, Gulf, Hillsborough,

45 Manatee, Marion, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, and

46 Sarasota Counties.

47   (b)   The center shall:

48   1.   Create and administer an application process for

49 program operators to apply for a grant pursuant to this section.

50   2.   Prioritize awards based on a program operator's

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51 demonstration of the technical and financial ability to sustain
52 a HIPPY program beyond an initial grant award.
53   (c) To receive a grant pursuant to this section:
54   1. If a program operator is establishing a HIPPY program,
55 the operator must successfully complete the HIPPY USA
56 application process and meet the requirements of HIPPY USA and
57 the center; or
58   2. If a program operator has an existing HIPPY program,
59 the operator must provide evidence that such program meets the
60 requirements of HIPPY USA and the center.
61   (4) REPORTING.—Beginning September 1, 2021, and annually
62 thereafter, the center shall publish on its website information
63 about each program operator receiving a grant from the center to
64 establish or operate a HIPPY program. The information must
65 include:
66   (a) The amount of grant funds provided by the center and
67 the amount of additional funds the program operator receives
68 from other sources.
69   (b) A description of the services and family engagement
70 activities provided through the HIPPY program.
71   (c) The number of children and families served through the
72 HIPPY program.
73   Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

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