

**By** the Committees on Appropriations; and Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and Senators Perry, Boyd, and Rouson

576-04661-21

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to economic self-sufficiency; amending  
3       s. 1002.81, F.S.; deleting obsolete language; amending  
4       s. 1002.87, F.S.; requiring an early learning  
5       coalition to give priority for participation in a  
6       school readiness program to certain children;  
7       requiring the Office of Early Learning within the  
8       Department of Education to coordinate with the  
9       University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for  
10      Excellence in Early Childhood Studies to conduct an  
11      analysis of certain assistance programs; providing  
12      requirements for the analysis; requiring certain  
13      agencies to enter into a data-sharing agreement with  
14      certain entities and annually provide certain data by  
15      a specified date; requiring the Department of Children  
16      and Families to provide certain assistance; requiring  
17      the University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for  
18      Excellence in Early Childhood Studies to provide an  
19      annual report on the analysis to the Office of Early  
20      Learning by a specified date; requiring the Office of  
21      Early Learning to provide an annual report to the  
22      Governor and the Legislature within a certain  
23      timeframe; providing for the scheduled expiration of  
24      the assistance program analysis project; providing an  
25      effective date.

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

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29       Section 1. Subsections (6) and (15) of section 1002.81,

576-04661-21

2021414c2

30 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

31 1002.81 Definitions.—Consistent with the requirements of 45  
32 C.F.R. parts 98 and 99 and as used in this part, the term:

33 ~~(6) "Earned income" means gross remuneration derived from~~  
34 ~~work, professional service, or self-employment. The term~~  
35 ~~includes commissions, bonuses, back pay awards, and the cash~~  
36 ~~value of all remuneration paid in a medium other than cash.~~

37 ~~(15) "Unearned income" means income other than earned~~  
38 ~~income. The term includes, but is not limited to:~~

39 ~~(a) Documented alimony and child support received.~~

40 ~~(b) Social security benefits.~~

41 ~~(c) Supplemental security income benefits.~~

42 ~~(d) Workers' compensation benefits.~~

43 ~~(e) Reemployment assistance or unemployment compensation~~  
44 ~~benefits.~~

45 ~~(f) Veterans' benefits.~~

46 ~~(g) Retirement benefits.~~

47 ~~(h) Temporary cash assistance under chapter 414.~~

48 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
49 1002.87, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

50 1002.87 School readiness program; eligibility and  
51 enrollment.—

52 (1) Each early learning coalition shall give priority for  
53 participation in the school readiness program as follows:

54 (a) Priority shall be given first to a child younger than  
55 13 years of age from a family that includes a parent who is  
56 receiving temporary cash assistance under chapter 414 and  
57 subject to the federal work requirements or a parent who has an  
58 Intensive Service Account or an Individual Training Account

576-04661-21

2021414c2

59 under s. 445.009.

60 Section 3. (1) The Office of Early Learning within the  
61 Department of Education shall coordinate with the University of  
62 Florida Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood  
63 Studies to conduct an analysis of, at a minimum, recipients of  
64 the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program established under  
65 7 U.S.C. ss. 2011 et seq., the temporary cash assistance program  
66 under s. 414.095, Florida Statutes, the Medicaid program under  
67 s. 409.963, Florida Statutes, the school readiness program under  
68 part VI of chapter 1002, Florida Statutes, and the Housing  
69 Choice Voucher Program established under 42 U.S.C. s. 1437f.

70 (2) The analysis must include a review of eligibility  
71 criteria, the manner in which each program establishes and  
72 documents eligibility and disbursement policies, the frequency  
73 of eligibility determinations, and the number of families  
74 receiving multiple program services out of the total number of  
75 eligible families.

76 (3) The University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for  
77 Excellence in Early Childhood Studies shall, through its  
78 analysis, develop participant profiles based on the number of  
79 families receiving multiple program services that include family  
80 composition and the most frequent program services or  
81 combination of services families are accessing in each county or  
82 geographic region.

83 (4) (a) Each agency responsible for the administration of a  
84 program to be analyzed under subsection (1) shall enter into a  
85 data sharing agreement with the Office of Early Learning and the  
86 University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in  
87 Early Childhood Studies by September 1, 2021. Upon execution of

576-04661-21

2021414c2

88 the data sharing agreement, and subject to any federal  
89 requirements, each agency shall submit a program services data  
90 file to the University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for  
91 Excellence in Early Childhood Studies by November 1, 2021,  
92 containing program service data from the preceding 10 federal  
93 fiscal years, if available. By November 1, 2022, and each year  
94 thereafter if applicable, each agency shall submit a  
95 supplemental data file to the University of Florida Anita Zucker  
96 Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies containing  
97 program service data from the preceding federal fiscal year.

98 (b) The Department of Children and Families shall assist  
99 the University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in  
100 Early Childhood Studies with receiving information required to  
101 be analyzed under subsection (1) that is related to the  
102 department's programs, including, but not limited to, providing  
103 assistance with seeking any required approvals or waivers from  
104 applicable federal agencies.

105 (5) The University of Florida Anita Zucker Center for  
106 Excellence in Early Childhood Studies shall provide a report to  
107 the Office of Early Learning based on the results of its  
108 analysis by May 31 of each year.

109 (6) The Office of Early Learning within 30 days after  
110 receiving the report shall submit it to the Governor, the  
111 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
112 Representatives.

113 (7) This section expires on June 30, 2023, unless reviewed  
114 and reenacted by the Legislature before that date.

115 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.