

By Senator Bean

4-01020A-22

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to early learning; requiring the  
3       Division of Early Learning of the Department of  
4       Education to conduct an analysis of solutions to help  
5       close early learning opportunity gaps for children in  
6       the child welfare system; providing requirements for  
7       the analysis; requiring the division to submit a  
8       report of its findings and recommendations to the  
9       Governor and Legislature by a specified date;  
10      providing an effective date.

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

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14       Section 1. (1) The Division of Early Learning of the  
15 Department of Education shall conduct an analysis of solutions  
16 to help close early learning opportunity gaps through increasing  
17 access to high-quality early childhood programs provided by  
18 private prekindergarten providers as defined in s. 1002.51(7),  
19 Florida Statutes, or school readiness program providers approved  
20 under s. 1002.88, Florida Statutes, for children in the child  
21 welfare system. Any such solutions shall address the feasibility  
22 of a scholarship program to help fund such a child's enrollment  
23 in an early childhood program.

24       (2) The division shall submit a report of its findings and  
25 recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate,  
26 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1,  
27 2023.

28       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.