1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to child care facilities exempt from 3 licensing; amending s. 402.316, F.S.; exempting a 4 child care facility licensed or certified by a branch 5 of the United States Department of Defense or the 6 United States Coast Guard from certain state licensing 7 requirements; requiring exempt facilities to meet 8 certain screening requirements; amending ss. 1002.55, 9 1002.82, and 1002.88, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date. 10 11 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 13 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 402.316, Florida 14 15 Statutes, is amended to read: 16 402.316 Exemptions.-17 Sections The provisions of ss. 402.301-402.319, except 18 for the requirements regarding screening of child care 19 personnel, do shall not apply to a child care facility that: 20 which 21 Is an integral part of church or parochial schools 22 conducting regularly scheduled classes, courses of study, or 23 educational programs accredited by, or by a member of, an

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organization that which publishes and requires compliance with

its standards for health, safety, and sanitation. However, Such

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 $\underline{\text{facility must}}$   $\underline{\text{facilities shall}}$  meet minimum requirements of the applicable local governing body as to health, sanitation, and  $\underline{\text{safety; or}}$ 

- (b) Is licensed or certified as a child care facility by a branch of the United States Department of Defense or the United States Coast Guard.
- To qualify for an exemption under this subsection, a facility must, at a minimum, comply with and shall meet the screening requirements under pursuant to ss. 402.305 and 402.3055, or with equivalent or more stringent screening requirements. Failure by A facility loses its exemption from licensure if the facility fails to comply with such screening requirements shall result in the loss of the facility's exemption from licensure.
- Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1002.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1002.55 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by private prekindergarten providers.—
- (3) To be eligible to deliver the prekindergarten program, a private prekindergarten provider must meet each of the following requirements:
- (a) The private prekindergarten provider must be a child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, family day care home licensed under s. 402.313, large family child care home licensed under s. 402.3131, nonpublic school exempt from licensure under

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s. 402.3025(2), faith-based child care provider exempt from licensure under s. 402.316, child development program that is accredited by a national accrediting body and operates on a military installation that is certified by the United States Department of Defense, or private prekindergarten provider that has been issued a provisional license under s. 402.309. A private prekindergarten provider may not deliver the program while holding a probation-status license under s. 402.310.

Section 3. Paragraph (i) of subsection (2) of section 1002.82, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.82 Department of Education; powers and duties.-

(2) The department shall:

(i) Enter into a memorandum of understanding with local licensing agencies and the Child Care Services Program Office of the Department of Children and Families for inspections of school readiness program providers to monitor and verify compliance with s. 1002.88 and the health and safety checklist adopted by the department. The provider contract of a school readiness program provider that refuses permission for entry or inspection shall be terminated. The health and safety checklist may not exceed the requirements of s. 402.305 and the Child Care and Development Fund pursuant to 45 C.F.R. part 98. A child care provider exempt from licensure under s. 402.316(1)(b) or a child development program that is accredited by a national accrediting body and operates on a military installation that is certified

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by the United States Department of Defense <u>are</u> is exempted from the inspection requirements under s. 1002.88.

Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 1002.88, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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1002.88 School readiness program provider standards; eligibility to deliver the school readiness program.—

- (1) To be eligible to deliver the school readiness program, a school readiness program provider must:
- Be a child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, a family day care home licensed or registered under s. 402.313, a large family child care home licensed under s. 402.3131, a public school or nonpublic school exempt from licensure under s. 402.3025, a faith-based child care provider exempt from licensure under s. 402.316, a before-school or after-school program described in s. 402.305(1)(c), a child development program that is accredited by a national accrediting body and operates on a military installation that is certified by the United States Department of Defense, an informal child care provider to the extent authorized in the state's Child Care and Development Fund Plan as approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to 45 C.F.R. s. 98.18, or a provider who has been issued a provisional license pursuant to s. 402.309. A provider may not deliver the program while holding a probation-status license under s. 402.310.

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Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

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