

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to employee child care assistance  
3       programs study; creating s. 402.3216, F.S.; requiring  
4       the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government  
5       Accountability, beginning on a specified date, to  
6       perform a study of public and private employee child  
7       care assistance programs; providing requirements for  
8       the study; requiring the office to submit a certain  
9       report to the Governor and Legislature by a specified  
10      date; providing for future repeal of the study;  
11      providing an effective date.

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

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15       **Section 1.   Section 402.3216, Florida Statutes, is created**  
16   **to read:**

17       402.3216   Child Care Cost and Affordability Study.—

18       (1)   Beginning July 1, 2026, the Office of Program Policy  
19   Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall perform a  
20   study of public and private child care assistance programs for  
21   employees to evaluate the costs and affordability of the  
22   programs and effects on school readiness. The study's scope must  
23   include, but need not be limited to, all of the following:

24       (a)   The characteristics of other states' programs.

25       (b)   The potential benefits of a Florida program.

26        (c) The potential effects of a Florida program on:

27        1. The state's school readiness program.

28        2. The state's child care workforce.

29        3. Childcare regulation and licensing.

30        (2) In conducting the study, OPPAGA must consult with the  
31 school readiness program within the Department of Education, the  
32 child care licensing program within the Department of Children  
33 and Families, the Florida Chamber of Commerce, and any other  
34 entity OPPAGA deems relevant.

35        (3) By January 30, 2027, OPPAGA shall submit a report to  
36 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of  
37 the House of Representatives that details the findings of the  
38 study and includes recommendations and potential options for a  
39 state program to enhance school readiness, increase the  
40 affordability of childcare assistance, and contain state costs.

41        (4) This section is repealed October 1, 2027.

42        **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.