

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the detection of developmental
3 delays and autism spectrum disorder; creating s.
4 381.993, F.S.; requiring the Department of Health, in
5 collaboration with school districts throughout this
6 state, to develop informational materials for the
7 detection of developmental delays and autism spectrum
8 disorder for parents and guardians of certain
9 students; providing requirements for such
10 informational materials; amending s. 1002.53, F.S.;
11 requiring early learning coalitions to notify parents
12 and guardians of the availability of such
13 informational materials; providing an effective date.

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

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17 **Section 1. Section 381.993, Florida Statutes, is created**
18 **to read:**

19 381.993 Developmental delays; autism spectrum disorder;
20 detection.—

21 (1) The Department of Health, in collaboration with school
22 districts throughout this state, shall develop informational
23 materials for the detection of developmental delays and autism
24 spectrum disorder for parents and guardians of students. The
25 informational materials shall be made available to each learning

26 coalition, prekindergarten provider, school district, and
27 charter school through the department's website.

28 (2) Within 90 days after July 1, 2026, the department
29 shall develop the materials related to the detection of
30 developmental delays and autism spectrum disorder and post the
31 information on its website. The department shall develop a
32 standardized methodology for each learning coalition,
33 prekindergarten provider, school district, and charter school
34 for the notification of the parents or guardians of voluntary
35 prekindergarten, kindergarten, first grade, and second grade
36 students by September 30, 2026, and annually thereafter, of the
37 availability of the developmental delay and autism spectrum
38 disorder detection materials.

39 (3) Information provided to parents and guardians shall
40 include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

41 (a) A description of developmental delays and a
42 description of autism spectrum disorder.

43 (b) A description of the signs associated with
44 developmental delays and autism spectrum disorder.

45 (c) A recommendation for a developmental screening for
46 students displaying signs associated with developmental delays
47 and autism spectrum disorder.

48 (d) Existing state resources for students identified as
49 at-risk for developmental delays and autism spectrum disorder,
50 including, but not limited to, regional sites of the Center for

51 Autism and Related Disabilities and the Early Head Start
52 program.

53 **Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 1002.53, Florida**
54 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

55 1002.53 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program;
56 eligibility and enrollment.—

57 (5) The early learning coalition shall provide each parent
58 enrolling a child in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education
59 Program with a profile of every private prekindergarten provider
60 and public school delivering the program within the county where
61 the child is being enrolled. The profiles shall be provided to
62 parents in a format prescribed by the department in accordance
63 with s. 1002.92(3). The early learning coalition must also
64 annually notify parents and guardians of the availability of
65 informational materials for the early detection of Type 1
66 diabetes pursuant to s. 381.992 and for the detection of
67 developmental delays and autism spectrum disorder pursuant to s.
68 381.993.

69 **Section 3.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.