

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2016 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Education Pre-K - 12

HB 585 — Instruction for Homebound and Hospitalized Students

by Rep. Burgess and others (SB 806 by Senator Legg)

The bill obligates school districts to provide instruction to homebound or hospitalized students, as part of its program of special instruction, for exceptional students receiving treatment in a children's specialty hospital.

More specifically, the bill requires each school district with a children's specialty hospital located within the district, to:

- Enter into an agreement with the hospital no later than August 15, 2016, to establish a process by which the hospital will notify the district of students who may be eligible for educational instruction, and to establish timelines for determining student eligibility and providing educational instruction.
- Provide educational instruction to eligible students receiving treatment in the hospital, until the district is able to enter into an agreement with the school district where the student resides.
- At least every three years, submit to the Department of Education its proposed procedures for the provision of special instruction and service for exceptional students.

The State Board of Education is required to establish rules regarding criteria and procedures for determining student eligibility, appropriate methods and requirements for providing instruction for eligible students, and a standard agreement for schools districts to use when students receiving services from a children's specialty hospital transition between school districts.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2016.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 119-0