Florida Senate - 2002

By Senator Silver

Ī	38-1531-02 See HB
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to child care; amending s.
3	402.3131, F.S.; increasing the introductory
4	course requirement for operators of large
5	family child care homes; providing for
6	community college credit; amending s. 402.305,
7	F.S.; revising minimum training requirements
8	for child care personnel and operators of
9	family day care homes; increasing the
10	introductory course requirement; providing
11	additional training topics; requiring a
12	competency examination upon successful
13	completion of the required training; providing
14	for community college credit; providing an
15	automatic exemption from certain training for
16	personnel with a bachelor's degree in specified
17	areas; providing an effective date.
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19	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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21	Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 402.3131, Florida
22	Statutes, is amended to read:
23	402.3131 Large family child care homes
24	(3) Operators of large family child care homes shall
25	take an approved <u>45-clock-hour</u> 40-clock-hour introductory
26	course in group child care. Successful completion of the
27	45-clock-hour introductory course shall articulate into 3
28	hours of community college credit in early childhood
29	education.
30	Section 2. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section
31	402.305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
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SB 1550

1 402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.--2 (2) PERSONNEL. -- Minimum standards for child care 3 personnel shall include minimum requirements as to: 4 (d) Minimum training requirements for child care 5 personnel. б 1. Such minimum standards for training shall ensure 7 that all child care personnel and operators of family day care 8 homes serving at-risk children in a subsidized child care 9 program pursuant to s. 402.3015 take an approved 45-clock-hour 10 40-clock-hour introductory course in child care, which course 11 covers at least the following topic areas: a. State and local rules and regulations which govern 12 child care. 13 b. Health, safety, and nutrition. 14 15 Identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect. с. Child development, including typical and atypical 16 d. 17 language, cognitive, motor, social, and self-help skills 18 development. 19 e. Observation of developmental behaviors, including 20 using a checklist or other similar observation tools and 21 techniques to determine the child's developmental age level. f. Brain research and computer technology. 22 g.f. Specialized areas, as determined by the 23 24 department, for owner-operators and child care personnel of a 25 child care facility. 26 Within 90 days after of employment, child care personnel shall 27 28 begin training to meet the training requirements. Child care 29 personnel and shall successfully complete such training within 1 year after of the date on which the training began, as 30 31 evidenced by passage of a competency examination. Successful 2

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1 completion of the 45-clock-hour introductory course shall articulate into 3 hours of community college credit in early 2 3 childhood education. Exemption from all or a portion of the 4 required training shall be granted to child care personnel 5 based upon educational credentials or passage of competency б examinations. Child care personnel holding a bachelor's degree in early childhood or child development shall be automatically 7 8 exempted from the training requirements in subparagraphs b., d., and e. 9 10 2. The introductory course in child care shall stress, 11 to the extent possible, an interdisciplinary approach to the study of children. 12 3. On an annual basis in order to further their child 13 care skills and, if appropriate, administrative skills, child 14 care personnel who have fulfilled the requirements for the 15 child care training shall be required to take an additional 16 17 approved 8 clock hours of inservice training or an equivalent as determined by the department. 18 19 4. Procedures for ensuring the training of qualified 20 child care professionals to provide training of child care 21 personnel, including onsite training, shall be included in the minimum standards. It is recommended that the state community 22 child care coordination agencies (central agencies) be 23 24 contracted by the department to coordinate such training when possible. Other district educational resources, such as 25 community colleges and vocational-technical programs, can be 26 designated in such areas where central agencies may not exist 27 28 or are determined not to have the capability to meet the 29 coordination requirements set forth by the department. 30 Training requirements shall not apply to certain 5. 31 occasional or part-time support staff, including, but not

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1 limited to, swimming instructors, piano teachers, dance 2 instructors, and gymnastics instructors. 3 The State Coordinating Council for School Readiness 6. 4 Programs, in coordination with the department, shall evaluate 5 or contract for an evaluation for the general purpose of б determining the status of and means to improve staff training 7 requirements and testing procedures. The evaluation shall be completed by October 1, 1992, and conducted every 2 years 8 9 thereafter. The evaluation shall include, but not be limited 10 to, determining the availability, quality, scope, and sources of current staff training; determining the need for specialty 11 training; and determining ways to increase inservice training 12 and ways to increase the accessibility, quality, and 13 cost-effectiveness of current and proposed staff training. The 14 15 evaluation methodology shall include a reliable and valid 16 survey of child care personnel. 17 7. The child care operator shall be required to take basic training in serving children with disabilities within 5 18 19 years after employment, either as a part of the introductory 20 training or the annual 8 hours of inservice training. Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002. 21 22 23 24 HOUSE SUMMARY 25 Increases from 40 to 45 clock hours the introductory Increases from 40 to 45 clock hours the introductory training course requirement for operators of large family child care homes and for child care personnel and operators of family day care homes. Provides for community college credit in early childhood education for such coursework. Revises minimum training requirements for child care personnel and operators of family day care homes to include training in brain research and computer technology. Requires a competency examination for such 26 27 28 29 technology. Requires a competency examination for such personnel upon successful completion of the required training. Provides an automatic exemption from certain training requirements for personnel with a bachelor's degree in early childhood or child development. 4 30 31

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