

By Senator Rich

34-00560A-08

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to prekindergarten education; amending s.
3 1002.65, F.S.; making mandatory requirements for increased
4 levels of education for prekindergarten instructors in
5 future years; providing an effective date.
6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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9 Section 1. Section 1002.65, Florida Statutes, is amended to
10 read:

11 1002.65 Professional credentials of prekindergarten
12 instructors; ~~aspirational~~ goals; legislative intent.--

13 (1) The Legislature recognizes that there is a strong
14 relationship between the skills and preparation of
15 prekindergarten instructors and the educational outcomes of
16 students in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

17 (2) To improve these educational outcomes, the Legislature
18 intends that all prekindergarten instructors shall ~~will~~ continue
19 to improve their skills and preparation through education and
20 training, so that the following ~~aspirational~~ goals are ~~will be~~
21 achieved:

22 (a) By the 2010-2011 school year:

23 1. Each prekindergarten class shall ~~will~~ have at least one
24 prekindergarten instructor who holds an associate's or higher
25 degree in the field of early childhood education or child
26 development; and

27 2. For each prekindergarten class composed of 11 or more
28 students, in addition to a prekindergarten instructor who meets
29 the requirements of subparagraph 1., the class shall ~~will~~ have at

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30 least one prekindergarten instructor who meets the requirements
31 of s. 1002.55(3)(c).

32 (b) By the 2013-2014 school year, each prekindergarten
33 class shall ~~will~~ have at least one prekindergarten instructor who
34 holds a bachelor's or higher degree in the field of early
35 childhood education or child development.

36 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.