

HB 1297

2018

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to early childhood education; amending
3 s. 1002.55, F.S.; prohibiting a private
4 prekindergarten provider from participating in the
5 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program for a
6 specified period under certain circumstances; amending
7 s. 1002.88, F.S.; prohibiting a private
8 prekindergarten provider from participating in the
9 school readiness program for a specified period under
10 certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 1002.55, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 1002.55 School-year prekindergarten program delivered by
17 private prekindergarten providers.—

18 (5) (a) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) (b), a private
19 prekindergarten provider may not participate in the Voluntary
20 Prekindergarten Education Program if the provider has child
21 disciplinary policies that do not prohibit children from being
22 subjected to discipline that is severe, humiliating,
23 frightening, or associated with food, rest, toileting, spanking,
24 or any other form of physical punishment as provided in s.
25 402.305(12).

26 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) (b), a private
27 prekindergarten provider that has been cited for four or more
28 violations relating to the supervision of children within a 2
29 year period may not participate in the Voluntary Prekindergarten
30 Education Program for a period of 5 years from the date of the
31 last violation.

32 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 1002.88, Florida
33 Statutes, is amended to read:

34 1002.88 School readiness program provider standards;
35 eligibility to deliver the school readiness program.—

36 (2) (a) If a school readiness program provider fails or
37 refuses to comply with this part or any contractual obligation
38 of the statewide provider contract under s. 1002.82(2) (m), the
39 coalition may revoke the provider's eligibility to deliver the
40 school readiness program or receive state or federal funds under
41 this chapter for a period of 5 years.

42 (b) If a school readiness program provider has been cited
43 for four or more violations relating to the supervision of
44 children within a 2 year period, the coalition may revoke the
45 provider's eligibility to deliver the school readiness program
46 for a period of 5 years from the date of the last violation.

47 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.