

By Senator Stewart

13-01415-18

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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.; authorizing an early learning
8 coalition to revoke the eligibility of a school
9 readiness program provider to participate in the
10 school readiness program for a specified period under
11 certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

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

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

19 (5) (a) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) (b), a private
20 prekindergarten provider may not participate in the Voluntary
21 Prekindergarten Education Program if the provider has child
22 disciplinary policies that do not prohibit children from being
23 subjected to discipline that is severe, humiliating,
24 frightening, or associated with food, rest, toileting, spanking,
25 or any other form of physical punishment as provided in s.
26 402.305(12).

27 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) (b), a private
28 prekindergarten provider that has been cited for four or more
29 violations relating to the supervision of children within a 2-

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30 year period may not participate in the Voluntary Prekindergarten
31 Education Program for a period of 5 years from the date of the
32 last violation.

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

35 1002.88 School readiness program provider standards;
36 eligibility to deliver the school readiness program.-

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

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

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