

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Office of Early Learning;  
 3           amending s. 1002.82, F.S.; requiring certain  
 4           preservice and inservice training requirements  
 5           established by the Office of Early Learning to include  
 6           specified professional development pathways; creating  
 7           s. 1002.995, F.S.; requiring the office to develop  
 8           certain training and course standards for school  
 9           readiness program providers; requiring the office to  
 10          identify certain formal and informal career pathways,  
 11          stackable credentials, and certifications that meet  
 12          specified criteria for such providers; requiring such  
 13          credentials and certifications to align with a  
 14          specified training when possible; providing for  
 15          rulemaking; providing an effective date.

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

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 19           Section 1. Paragraph (v) of subsection (2) of section  
 20           1002.82, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

21           1002.82 Office of Early Learning; powers and duties.—

22           (2) The office shall:

23           (v) Establish preservice and inservice training  
 24           requirements that address, at a minimum, school readiness child  
 25           development standards, health and safety requirements, and

26 | social-emotional behavior intervention models, which may include  
27 | positive behavior intervention and support models, including the  
28 | integration of early learning professional development pathways  
29 | established in s. 1002.995.

30 | Section 2. Section 1002.995, Florida Statutes, is created  
31 | to read:

32 | 1002.995 Early learning professional development standards  
33 | and career pathways.-

34 | (1) The office shall:

35 | (a) Develop early learning professional development  
36 | training and course standards to be utilized for school  
37 | readiness program providers.

38 | (b) Identify both formal and informal early learning  
39 | career pathways with stackable credentials and certifications  
40 | that allow early childhood teachers to access specialized  
41 | professional development that:

42 | 1. Strengthens knowledge and teaching practices.

43 | 2. Aligns to established professional standards and core  
44 | competencies.

45 | 3. Provides a progression of attainable, competency-based  
46 | stackable credentials and certifications.

47 | 4. Improves outcomes for children to increase kindergarten  
48 | readiness and early grade success.

49 | (2) To the greatest extent possible, the credentials and  
50 | certifications established pursuant to this section shall align

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51 | with the training for K-12 teachers, reading coaches, and school  
52 | principals in s. 1001.215(3).

53 |       (3) The office shall adopt rules to administer this  
54 | section.

55 |       Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.