

By Senator Perry

8-01224B-19

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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.

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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 career
39 pathways with stackable credentials and certifications that
40 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
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.