

Education Committee

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. 102 HOB

Meeting Packet



AGENDA

Education Committee Wednesday, November 18, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

102 HOB

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call Chair O'Toole
- II. Welcome Chair O'Toole
- III. Workshop on the following:
 - Extracurricular Activities
 - Child Care and Development Block Grant
- IV. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

BILL ORIGINAL

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to extracurricular activities; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; conforming crossreferences; revising provisions related to participation in extracurricular activities; amending s. 1006.15, F.S.; providing definitions; revising academic eligibility requirements; specifying grounds for student ineligibility for participation in interscholastic athletics; specifying conditions under which students who are enrolled in public schools, certain private schools, or home education programs may participate in the extracurricular activities of a public school; deleting obsolete provisions; \amending s. 1006.20, F.S.; providing requirements regarding fees and admission prices; authorizing member schools to join other associations; revising provisions regarding eligibility, transfer, and recruiting; providing procedures for resolving student eligibility disputes; deleting provisions relating to the FHSAA's appeals committees; deleting requirements with respect to amendments to the FHSAA's bylaws; amending s. 1002.33, conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

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

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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Section 1. Subsections (17) and (18) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public school students must receive accurate and timely information regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory rights including, but not limited to, the following:

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(17) ATHLETICS; PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.-

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participating in <u>interscholastic</u> high school athletic competition must allow a student to be eligible in the school in which he or she first enrolls each school year, the school in which the student makes himself or herself a candidate for an

(a) Eliqibility.—Eliqibility requirements for all students

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athletic team by engaging in practice before enrolling, or the school to which the student has transferred with approval of the district school board, in accordance with the provisions of s.

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1006.20 1006.20(2)(a).

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(b) Medical evaluation.—Students must satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year before participating in athletics, unless the parent objects in writing based on religious tenets or practices, in accordance with the provisions of s. 1006.20 1006.20(2)(d).

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(18) EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES. - In accordance with the

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provisions of s. 1006.15:

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- (a) Eligibility.—Students who meet specified academic and conduct requirements are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.
- (b) Participation Home education students. -All public school students, including those enrolled in public schools of choice and virtual education, all home education students, and students attending an unaffiliated private school may participate in any extracurricular activity not offered by the student's school or home education program at any public school in the school district in which the student resides or a public school in another school district which the student could choose to attend pursuant to an interdistrict controlled open enrollment policy who meet specified academic and conduct requirements are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at the public school to which the student would be assigned or could choose to attend according to district school board policies, or may develop an agreement to participate at a private school.
- (c) Charter school students.—Charter school students who meet specified academic and conduct requirements are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at the public school to which the student would be assigned or could choose to attend according to district school board policies, unless such activity is provided by the student's charter school.

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- (d) Florida Virtual School full-time students.—Florida
 Virtual School full-time students who meet specified academic
 and conduct requirements are eligible to participate in
 extracurricular activities at the public school to which the
 student would be assigned or could choose to attend according to
 district school board policies.
- (c) (e) Discrimination prohibited.—Organizations that regulate or govern extracurricular activities of public schools shall not discriminate against any eligible student based on an educational choice of public, private, or home education.
- Section 2. Subsections (2) through (8) of section 1006.15, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 1006.15 Student standards for <u>eligibility to participate</u>

 participation in <u>interscholastic and intrascholastic</u>

 extracurricular <u>student</u> activities; regulation.—
 - (3) As used in this part section, the term:
- (a) "Eligible to participate" includes participating in extracurricular activities through tryouts, off-season conditioning, summer workouts, preseason conditioning, in-season practice, or contests. However, such participation may be limited if activity is at maximum capacity or if the student does not have the requisite skill and ability to participate.
- $\underline{\text{(b)}}$ "Extracurricular $\underline{\text{activity}}$ " means $\underline{\text{a}}$ any school-authorized or education-related activity occurring during or outside the regular instructional school day.

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- (c) "Home education cooperative" means a parent-directed group of individual home education students that provides opportunities for interscholastic competition to those students.
- (d) "Nonprofit association" means the nonprofit association that governs interscholastic athletic competition in this state pursuant to s. 1006.20.
- (e) "Public school student" means a student who is attending a traditional public school, charter school, magnet school, alternative school, developmental research laboratory school, other public school of choice, or public virtual school.
- (f) "Unaffiliated private school" means a private school that is not a member of the nonprofit association.
- (4)(3)(a) A student is To be eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular student activities if the, a student must:
- 1. Maintains Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the previous semester or a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1002.3105(5) or s. 1003.4282.
- 2. Executes Execute and fulfills fulfill the requirements of an academic performance contract between the student, the district school board or private school, the appropriate governing association, and the student's parents, if the student's cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0, or its

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equivalent, on a 4.0 scale in the courses required by s. 1002.3105(5) or s. 1003.4282. At a minimum, the contract must require that the student attend summer school, or its graded equivalent, between grades 9 and 10 or grades 10 and 11, as necessary.

- 3. <u>Has</u> Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1002.3105(5) or s. 1003.4282 during his or her junior or senior year.
- 4. Maintains Maintain satisfactory conduct as prescribed by the district school board's or private school's code, including adherence to appropriate dress and other codes of student conduct and complies with sports ethics and substance abuse policies of the FHSAA policies described in s. 1006.07(2). If a student is convicted of, or is found to have committed, a felony or a delinquent act that would have been a felony if committed by an adult, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the student's participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon established and published district school board or private school policy.
- 5. A home education student satisfies the requirements of subparagraphs 1. through 3. If the student meets the requirements of the home education program pursuant to s.

 1002.41, and demonstrates educational progress using a method of evaluation agreed upon by the parent and the school principal

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152	teacher chosen by the parent; grades earned through
153	correspondence; grades earned in courses taken at a Florida
154	College System institution, university, or trade school;
155	standardized test scores above the 35th percentile; or any other

- (b) 1. A student may only be declared ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition if:
- a. The student fails to achieve compliance with paragraph
 (a);
- b. The student has been recruited, as defined by s. 1006.20(2)(b), and sanctions have been imposed against the responsible parties.
- c. The student has exhausted 4 years of athletic eligibility, graduated from high school, or attained the maximum age established by the nonprofit association, whichever occurs first;
- d. The student forfeits his or her amateur status, as defined by the nonprofit association; or
- e. The student does not pass a medical evaluation pursuant to s. 1006.20(2)(c), except as otherwise provided in s. 1006.20(2)(d).
- $\underline{\text{(c)1.(b)}}$ A Any student who is exempt from attending a full school day based on rules adopted by the district school board for double session schools or programs, experimental schools, or

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schools operating under emergency conditions must maintain the grade point average required by this section and pass each class for which he or she is enrolled.

- 2. A student who transfers from a home education program to a public or private school before or during the first semester of the school year is academically eligible to participate in extracurricular activities during the first semester if the student has a successful evaluation from the previous school year pursuant to subparagraph (a)5.
- 3. A public school or private school student who transfers into a home education program after being declared ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities pursuant to subsubparagraph (b)1.a. is ineligible to participate in such activities as a home education student until the student has successfully completed one semester in a home education program pursuant to s. 1002.41.
- 4. A public school student who transfers to a private school or another public school, or a private school student who transfers to a public school or another private school, after being declared ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities pursuant to sub-subparagraph (b)1.a. is ineligible to participate in such activities until the student has successfully completed one semester at the school to which he or she transfers and meets the requirements of paragraph (a).
 - (d) (c) A public school student, a student attending an

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unaffiliated private school, or a An individual home education student is eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity that is not offered by the student's school or home education program. Participation may occur at any the public school in the school district in which the student resides to which the student would be assigned according to district school board attendance area policies or a public school in another school district which the student could choose to attend pursuant to an district or interdistrict controlled open enrollment policy. A home education student provisions, or may also develop an agreement to participate at a private school, in the interscholastic or extracurricular activities of that school. In order to participate under this paragraph, a student must meet, provided the following conditions are met:

- 1. The home education student must meet the requirements of the home education program pursuant to s. 1002.41.
- 2. During the period of participation at a school, the home education student must demonstrate educational progress as required in paragraph (b) in all subjects taken in the home education program by a method of evaluation agreed upon by the parent and the school principal which may include: review of the student's work by a certified teacher chosen by the parent; grades earned through correspondence; grades earned in courses taken at a Florida College System institution, university, or trade school; standardized test scores above the 35th

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percentile; or any other method designated in s. 1002.41.

- 3. The home education student must meet the same residency requirements as other students in the school at which he or she participates.
- 1.4. The home education student must meet the same standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities.
- 2.5. The student must register with the school his or her intent to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities as a representative of the school before the beginning date of the nonathletic activity or season for the athletic activity in which he or she wishes to participate. A home education student must be able to participate in curricular activities if that is a requirement for an extracurricular activity.
- 3. A student who is enrolled in an unaffiliated private school, home education program, a full-time public virtual school, or any public school that does not offer any interscholastic athletic programs may only participate in interscholastic athletics at the public school in which the student first makes himself or herself a candidate for an athletic team by engaging in practice.
- 4. The student's parent is responsible for transporting the student to and from the school at which the student participates. The school the student attends, the school at

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which the student participates in the extracurricular activity, the district school board, and the nonprofit association are exempt from civil liability arising from any injury to the student which occurs during such transportation.

6. A student who transfers from a home education program to a public school before or during the first grading period of the school year is academically eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities during the first grading period provided the student has a successful evaluation from the previous school year, pursuant to subparagraph 2.

7. Any public school or private school student who has been unable to maintain academic eligibility for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is ineligible to participate in such activities as a home education student until the student has successfully completed one grading period in home education pursuant to subparagraph 2. to become eligible to participate as a home education student.

(d) An individual charter school student pursuant to s.

1002.33 is eligible to participate at the public school to which
the student would be assigned according to district school board
attendance area policies or which the student could choose to
attend, pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled openenrollment provisions, in any interscholastic extracurricular
activity of that school, unless such activity is provided by the
student's charter school, if the following conditions are met:

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1. The charter school student must meet the requirements of the charter school education program as determined by the charter school governing board.

2. During the period of participation at a school, the charter school student must demonstrate educational progress as required in paragraph (b).

3. The charter school student must meet the same residency requirements as other students in the school at which he or she participates.

4. The charter school student must meet the same standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance that are required of other students in extracurricular activities.

5. The charter school student must register with the school his or her intent to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities as a representative of the school before the beginning date of the season for the activity in which he or she wishes to participate. A charter school student must be able to participate in curricular activities if that is a requirement for an extracurricular activity.

6. A student who transfers from a charter school program to a traditional public school before or during the first grading period of the school year is academically eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities during the first grading period if the student has a successful evaluation from the previous school year, pursuant to

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subparagraph 2.

 7. Any public school or private school student who has been unable to maintain academic eligibility for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is ineligible to participate in such activities as a charter school student until the student has successfully completed one grading period in a charter school pursuant to subparagraph 2. to become eligible to participate as a charter school student.

- (e) A student of the Florida Virtual School full time program may participate in any interscholastic extracurricular activity at the public school to which the student would be assigned according to district school board attendance area policies or which the student could choose to attend, pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled open enrollment policies, if the student:
- 1. During the period of participation in the interscholastic extracurricular activity, meets the requirements in paragraph (a).
- 2. Meets any additional requirements as determined by the board of trustees of the Florida Virtual School.
- 3. Meets the same residency requirements as other students in the school at which he or she participates.
- 4. Meets the same standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance that are required of other students in extracurricular activities.

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- 5. Registers his or her intent to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities with the school before the beginning date of the season for the activity in which he or she wishes to participate. A Florida Virtual School student must be able to participate in curricular activities if that is a requirement for an extracurricular activity.
- (f) A student who transfers from the Florida Virtual School full-time program to a traditional public school before or during the first grading period of the school year is academically eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities during the first grading period if the student has a successful evaluation from the previous school year pursuant to paragraph (a).
- (g) A public school or private school student who has been unable to maintain academic eligibility for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is ineligible to participate in such activities as a Florida Virtual School student until the student successfully completes one grading period in the Florida Virtual School pursuant to paragraph (a).
- (5)(4) The student standards for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities must be applied beginning with the student's first semester of the 9th grade. Each student must meet such other requirements for participation as may be established by the district school board; however, such requirements must apply on an equal basis to all students

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and a district school board may not make establish requirements for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities which make participation in such activities less accessible to a transfer student or a student enrolled in a public school of choice, an unaffiliated private school, or a home education program students than to other students. A district school board or private school shall equitably apply its transfer policies regardless of the reason for the transfer and shall not establish transfer student eligibility policies which are more stringent than the policies established by the nonprofit association Except as set forth in paragraph (3)(c), evaluation processes or requirements that are placed on home education student participants may not go beyond those that apply under s. 1002.41 to home education students generally.

(8) (a) The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA), in cooperation with each district school board, shall facilitate a program in which a middle school or high school student who attends a private school shall be eligible to participate in an interscholastic or intrascholastic sport at a public high school, a public middle school, or a 6-12 public school that is zoned for the physical address at which the student resides if:

1. The private school in which the student is enrolled is not a member of the FHSAA and does not offer an interscholastic or intrascholastic athletic program.

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2. The private school student meets the guidelines for the conduct of the program established by the FHSAA's board of directors and the district school board. At a minimum, such guidelines shall provide:

a. A deadline for each sport by which the private school student's parents must register with the public school in

student's parents must register with the public school in writing their intent for their child to participate at that school in the sport.

b. Requirements for a private school student to participate, including, but not limited to, meeting the same standards of eligibility, acceptance, behavior, educational progress, and performance which apply to other students participating in interscholastic or intrascholastic sports at a public school or FHSAA member private school.

(b) The parents of a private school student participating in a public school sport under this subsection are responsible for transporting their child to and from the public school at which the student participates. The private school the student attends, the public school at which the student participates in a sport, the district school board, and the FHSAA are exempt from civil liability arising from any injury that occurs to the student during such transportation.

(c) For each academic year, a private school student may only participate at the public school in which the student is first registered under sub-subparagraph (a) 2.a. or makes himself

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or herself a candidate for an athletic team by engaging in a practice.

- (d) The athletic director of each participating FHSAA member public school shall maintain the student records necessary for eligibility, compliance, and participation in the program.
- (e) Any non-FHSAA member private school that has a student who wishes to participate in this program must make all student records, including, but not limited to, academic, financial, disciplinary, and attendance records, available upon request of the FHSAA.
- (f) A student must apply to participate in this program through the FHSAA program application process.
- (g) Only students who are enrolled in non-FHSAA member private schools consisting of 125 students or fewer are eligible to participate in the program in any given academic year.
- Section 3. Section 1006.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.-
- (1) GOVERNING NONPROFIT ASSOCIATION ORGANIZATION.—The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) is designated as the governing nonprofit association for purposes of membership in the National Federation of State High School Associations organization of athletics in Florida public schools. If, at any time, the FHSAA fails to meet the provisions

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of this part section, the commissioner, with the approval of the State Board of Education, shall designate another a nonprofit association organization to govern interscholastic athletic competition in this state and serve as Florida's voting member association of the National Federation of State High School Associations athletics with the approval of the State Board of Education. The FHSAA is not a state agency as defined in s. 120.52 but is. The FHSAA shall be subject to ss. 1006.15-1006.19. Any special event fees, sanctioning fees, including third-party sanctioning fees, or contest receipts collected annually by the FHSAA may not exceed its actual costs to perform the function or duty that is the subject of or justification for the fee the provisions of s. 1006.19. The FHSAA shall offer spectators seeking admission to interscholastic athletic competitions the option of purchasing a single-day pass or a multiple-day pass that is at a cost below that which one would pay on a per-event basis for the same number of contests. A private school that wishes to engage in high school athletic competition with a public high school may become a member of the FHSAA. Any high school in the state, including private schools, traditional public schools, charter schools, virtual schools, and home education cooperatives, may become a member of the FHSAA and participate in the activities of the FHSAA. However, Membership in the FHSAA is not mandatory for any school. The FHSAA shall allow a school the option of joining the association

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as a full-time member or on a per-sport basis and may not prohibit or discourage any school from simultaneously maintaining membership in the FHSAA and another athletic association. The FHSAA may not:

- 1. deny Deny or discourage interscholastic athletic competition between its member schools and nonmember non-FHSAA member Florida schools, including members of another athletic association governing organization, and may not take
- 2. Engage in any retributory or discriminatory action against any of its member schools that seek to participate in interscholastic athletic competition with nonmember non-FHSAA member Florida schools or become members in other associations for a sport for which they are not a member of the FHSAA. The FHSAA may not unreasonably withhold
- 3. Withhold its approval of an application to become an affiliate member of the National Federation of State High School Associations submitted by any other association organization that governs interscholastic athletic competition in this state which meets the requirements of the National Federation of State High School Associations. The commissioner may identify other associations that govern interscholastic athletic competition in compliance with the requirements of the National Federation of State High School Associations. The bylaws of the FHSAA are the rules by which high school athletic programs in its member schools, and the students who participate in them, are governed,

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unless otherwise specifically provided by statute. For the purposes of this section, "high school" includes grades 6 through 12.

- (2) <u>STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS; RECRUITING ADOPTION</u>

 OF BYLAWS, POLICIES; ELIGIBILITY DISPUTE RESOLUTION, OR

 GUIDELINES.—The FHSAA shall:
- (a) The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws that, unless specifically provided by statute, Establish eligibility requirements for all students who participate in interscholastic high school athletic competition in its member schools. A The bylaws governing residence and transfer shall allow the student is to be eligible in the school in which he or she first enrolls each school year or the school in which the student makes himself or herself a candidate for an athletic team by engaging in a practice before prior to enrolling in the school. A student who transfers The bylaws shall also allow the student to be eligible in the school to which the student has transferred during the school year is eligible in the school to which he or she transfers if the transfer is made by a deadline established by the FHSAA, which may not be prior to the date authorized for the beginning of practice for the sport. These transfers shall be allowed pursuant to the district school board policies in the case of transfer to a public school or pursuant to the private school policies in the case of transfer to a private school. The student shall be eligible in that school so long as he or she

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remains enrolled in that school. Subsequent eligibility shall be determined and enforced through the FHSAA's bylaws. Requirements governing eligibility and transfer between member schools shall be applied similarly to public school students and private school students.

- (b) The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws that specifically
 Prohibit the recruiting of students for athletic purposes and.
 The bylaws shall prescribe penalties and an appeals process for athletic recruiting violations. Recruiting is any effort by a school employee or athletic department staff member to pressure, urge, or entice a student to attend that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletic competition as determined by a neutral third party based upon a preponderance of the evidence.
- 1. If it is determined that a school has recruited a student in violation of FHSAA bylaws, the FHSAA may require the school to participate in a higher classification for the sport in which the recruited student competes for a minimum of one classification cycle, in addition to any other appropriate fine and sanction imposed on the school, its coaches, or adult representatives who commit violate recruiting violations rules.
- 2. Any recruitment by an adult in violation of FHSAA bylaws shall result in forfeiture of every competition in which the recruited student participates and escalating punishment, as follows:

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- a. First offense results in a \$5,000 fine.
- b. Second offense results in a \$7,500 fine and if the individual is employed by the school district, suspension without pay from any coaching, directing or advertising of any extracurricular activity for 12 months.
- c. Third offense results in a \$10,000 fine and if the individual holds a temporary or professional certificate required by ss. 1012.55 or 1012.56, the FHSAA shall refer the violation to the department for investigation pursuant to s. 1012.796. If the complaint is upheld, the educator's certificate must be revoked for a period of 3 years, in addition to the available penalties in s. 1012.796.

A student may only not be declared ineligible based on a recruiting violation if of recruiting rules unless the student or parent has the FHSAA has imposed sanctions against the individuals or member school engaging in recruiting falsified any enrollment or eligibility document or accepted any benefit or any promise of benefit if such benefit is not generally available to the school's students or family members or is based in any way on athletic interest, potential, or performance.

- (f) The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws that establish sanctions for coaches who have committed major violations of the FHSAA's bylaws and policies.
 - 1. Major violations include, but are not limited to,

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knowingly allowing an ineligible student to participate in a contest representing a member school in an interscholastic contest or committing a violation of the FHSAA's recruiting or sports ethics sportsmanship policies.

- 2. Sanctions placed upon an individual coach may include, but are not limited to, prohibiting or suspending the coach from coaching, participating in, or attending any athletic activity sponsored, recognized, or sanctioned by the FHSAA and the member school for which the coach committed the violation. If a coach is sanctioned by the FHSAA and the coach transfers to another member school, those sanctions remain in full force and effect during the term of the sanction.
- 3. If a member school is assessed a financial penalty as a result of a coach committing a major violation, the coach shall reimburse the member school before being allowed to coach, participate in, or attend any athletic activity sponsored, recognized, or sanctioned by the FHSAA and a member school.
- 4. The FHSAA shall establish a due process procedure for coaches sanctioned under this paragraph, consistent with the appeals procedures set forth in subsection (7).
- eligibility disputes. The FHSAA shall provide an opportunity to resolve eligibility issues through an informal conference procedure. The FHSAA must provide written notice to the student athlete, parent, and member school stating specific findings of

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fact that support a determination of ineligibility. The student athlete must request an informal conference if he or she intends to contest the charges. The informal conference must be held within 10 days after receipt of the student athlete's request. If the eligibility dispute is not resolved at the informal conference, the FHSAA shall provide a process for the timely and cost-effective resolution of an eligibility dispute using a neutral third party, including the use of retired or former judges, mediation, or arbitration. The neutral third party shall be selected by the parent of the student athlete from a list maintained by the FHSAA. A final determination regarding the eligibility dispute must be issued no later than 30 days after the informal conference. The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws establishing the process for resolving eligibility disputes must and standards by which FHSAA determinations of eligibility are made. Such bylaws shall provide that:

- 1. Ineligibility must be established by a preponderance of the clear and convincing evidence.
- 2. Student athletes, parents, and schools must have notice of the initiation of any investigation or other inquiry into eligibility and may present, to the investigator and to the individual or body making the eligibility determination, any information or evidence that is credible, persuasive, and of a kind reasonably prudent persons rely upon in the conduct of serious affairs.

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- 3. An investigator may not determine matters of eligibility but must submit information and evidence to the individual or body designated by the FHSAA executive director or a person designated by the executive director or by the board of directors for an unbiased and objective determination of eligibility.; and
- 4. A determination of ineligibility must be made in writing, setting forth the findings of fact and specific violation upon which the decision is based.
- 5. Any proceedings concerning student athlete eligibility must be held in the county in which the student athlete resides and may be conducted by telephone, videoconference, or other electronic means.
- 6. A student athlete may not be declared ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition until a final decision is issued by the neutral third party unless the determination of ineligibility is based on s. 1006.15(4)(b)1.c., d., or e. It is the responsibility of the member school to assess the facts underlying the eligibility dispute and any potential penalties that may result from a determination of ineligibility in deciding whether to allow the student athlete to continue to participate before a final eligibility determination.
- (h) In lieu of bylaws adopted under paragraph (g), the FHSAA may adopt bylaws providing as a minimum the procedural

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safeguards of ss. 120.569 and 120.57, making appropriate provision for appointment of unbiased and qualified hearing officers.

- (i) The FHSAA bylaws may not limit the competition of student athletes prospectively for rule violations of their school or its coaches or their adult representatives. The FHSAA bylaws may not unfairly punish student athletes for eligibility or recruiting violations perpetrated by a teammate, coach, or administrator. Contests may not be forfeited for inadvertent eligibility violations unless the coach or a school administrator should have known of the violation. Contests may not be forfeited for other eligibility violations or recruiting violations in excess of the number of contests that the coaches and adult representatives responsible for the violations are
 - (7) APPEALS .-

- (a) The FHSAA shall establish a procedure of due process which ensures each student the opportunity to appeal an unfavorable ruling with regard to his or her eligibility to compete. The initial appeal shall be made to a committee on appeals within the administrative region in which the student lives. The FHSAA's bylaws shall establish the number, size, and composition of each committee on appeals.
- (b) No member of the board of directors is eligible to serve on a committee on appeals.
 - (c) Members of a committee on appeals shall serve terms of

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3 years and are eligible to succeed themselves only once. A member of a committee on appeals may serve a maximum of 6 consecutive years. The FHSAA's bylaws shall establish a rotation of terms to ensure that a majority of the members' terms do not expire concurrently.

- (d) The authority and duties of a committee on appeals shall be to consider requests by member schools seeking exceptions to bylaws and regulations, to hear undue hardship eligibility cases filed by member schools on behalf of student athletes, and to hear appeals filed by member schools or student athletes.
- (e) A student athlete or member school that receives an unfavorable ruling from a committee on appeals shall be entitled to appeal that decision to the board of directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting or called meeting. The board of directors shall have the authority to uphold, reverse, or amend the decision of the committee on appeals. In all such cases, the decision of the board of directors shall be final.
- (f) The FHSAA shall expedite the appeals process on determinations of ineligibility so that disposition of the appeal can be made before the end of the applicable sports season, if possible.
- (g) In any appeal from a decision on eligibility made by the executive director or a designee, a school or student athlete filing the appeal must be permitted to present

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information and evidence that was not available at the time of the initial determination or if the determination was not made by an unbiased, objective individual using a process allowing full due process rights to be heard and to present evidence. If evidence is presented on appeal, a de novo decision must be made by the committee or board hearing the appeal, or the determination may be suspended and the matter remanded for a new determination based on all the evidence. If a de novo decision is made on appeal, the decision must be made in writing, setting forth the findings of fact and specific violation upon which the decision is based. If a de novo decision is not required, the decision appealed must be set aside if the decision on incligibility was not based on clear and convincing evidence. Any further appeal shall be considered on a record that includes all evidence presented.

Section 4. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 1012.795, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.795 Education Practices Commission; authority to discipline.—

(1) The Education Practices Commission may suspend the educator certificate of any person as defined in s. 1012.01(2) or (3) for up to 5 years, thereby denying that person the right to teach or otherwise be employed by a district school board or public school in any capacity requiring direct contact with students for that period of time, after which the holder may

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return to teaching as provided in subsection (4); may revoke the educator certificate of any person, thereby denying that person the right to teach or otherwise be employed by a district school board or public school in any capacity requiring direct contact with students for up to 10 years, with reinstatement subject to the provisions of subsection (4); may revoke permanently the educator certificate of any person thereby denying that person the right to teach or otherwise be employed by a district school board or public school in any capacity requiring direct contact with students; may suspend the educator certificate, upon an order of the court or notice by the Department of Revenue relating to the payment of child support; or may impose any other penalty provided by law, if the person:

- (a) Obtained or attempted to obtain an educator certificate by fraudulent means.
- (b) Knowingly failed to report actual or suspected child abuse as required in s. 1006.061 or report alleged misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student as required in s. 1012.796.
- (c) Has proved to be incompetent to teach or to perform duties as an employee of the public school system or to teach in or to operate a private school.
- (d) Has been guilty of gross immorality or an act involving moral turpitude as defined by rule of the State Board

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- (e) Has had an educator certificate sanctioned by revocation, suspension, or surrender in another state.
- (f) Has been convicted or found guilty of, or entered a plea of guilty to, regardless of adjudication of guilt, a misdemeanor, felony, or any other criminal charge, other than a minor traffic violation.
- (g) Upon investigation, has been found guilty of personal conduct that seriously reduces that person's effectiveness as an employee of the district school board.
- (h) Has breached a contract, as provided in s. 1012.33(2) or s. 1012.335.
- (i) Has been the subject of a court order or notice by the Department of Revenue pursuant to s. 409.2598 directing the Education Practices Commission to suspend the certificate as a result of noncompliance with a child support order, a subpoena, an order to show cause, or a written agreement with the Department of Revenue.
- (j) Has violated the Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession prescribed by State Board of Education rules.
- (k) Has otherwise violated the provisions of law, the penalty for which is the revocation of the educator certificate.
- (1) Has violated any order of the Education Practices Commission.

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- (m) Has been the subject of a court order or plea agreement in any jurisdiction which requires the certificateholder to surrender or otherwise relinquish his or her educator's certificate. A surrender or relinquishment shall be for permanent revocation of the certificate. A person may not surrender or otherwise relinquish his or her certificate prior to a finding of probable cause by the commissioner as provided in s. 1012.796.
- (n) Has been disqualified from educator certification under s. 1012.315.
- (o) Has committed a third recruiting offense as determined by the Florida High School Athletic Association pursuant to s. 1006.20(2)(b).
- (5) Each district school superintendent and the governing authority of each university lab school, state-supported school, or private school, and the Florida High School Athletic

 Association shall report to the department the name of any person certified pursuant to this chapter or employed and qualified pursuant to s. 1012.39:
- (a) Who has been convicted of, or who has pled nolo contendere to, a misdemeanor, felony, or any other criminal charge, other than a minor traffic infraction;
- (b) Who that official has reason to believe has committed or is found to have committed any act which would be a ground for revocation or suspension under subsection (1); or

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(c) Who has been dismissed or severed from employment because of conduct involving any immoral, unnatural, or lascivious act.

Section 5. Subsections (3) and (7) of section 1012.796, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.796 Complaints against teachers and administrators; procedure; penalties.—

The department staff shall advise the commissioner concerning the findings of the investigation, and of all referrals by the Florida High School Athletic Association pursuant to ss. 1006.20(2)(b) and 1012.795. The department general counsel or members of that staff shall review the investigation, or referral, and advise the commissioner concerning probable cause or lack thereof. The determination of probable cause shall be made by the commissioner. The commissioner shall provide an opportunity for a conference, if requested, prior to determining probable cause. The commissioner may enter into deferred prosecution agreements in lieu of finding probable cause if, in his or her judgment, such agreements are in the best interests of the department, the certificateholder, and the public. Such deferred prosecution agreements shall become effective when filed with the clerk of the Education Practices Commission. However, a deferred prosecution agreement shall not be entered into if there is probable cause to believe that a recruiting offense, felony or an act of moral turpitude, as defined by rule of the State Board

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of Education, has occurred. Upon finding no probable cause, the commissioner shall dismiss the complaint.

Section 6. Subsection (11) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.-

(11) PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.—A charter school student is eligible to participate in an interscholastic extracurricular activity at another the public school to which the student would be otherwise assigned to attend pursuant to s. 1006.15 1006.15(3)(d).

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

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Child Care and Development Block Grant

BILL ORIGINAL

YEAR

A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Child Care and Development Block Grant Program; amending s. 39.202, F.S.; specified entities access to the child abuse registry for purposes of approving providers of school readiness; amending s. 402.302, F.S.; revising the definition of screening; amending s. 402.306, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and Families and local licensing agencies to post information relating school readiness providers; amending s. 402.311, F.S.; requiring school readiness program providers to provide access to facilities for purposes of inspection; amending s. 1002.82, F.S.; requiring the Office of Early Learning to coordinate with the Department of Children and Families and local licensing agencies for inspections of school readiness program providers; revising the duties of the Office of Early Learning; amending s. 1002.84, F.S.; revising requirements for determining copayments; amending s. 1002.88, F.S.; revising requirements for school readiness program providers; amending s. 1002.92, F.S.; requiring the Office of Early Learning to make certain information available on its website; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 39.202, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

30 39.202 Confidentiality of reports and records in cases of child abuse or neglect.—

- (2) Except as provided in subsection (4), access to such records, excluding the name of the reporter which shall be released only as provided in subsection (5), shall be granted only to the following persons, officials, and agencies:
- (a) Employees, authorized agents, or contract providers of the department, the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, or county agencies responsible for carrying out:
 - Child or adult protective investigations;
 - Ongoing child or adult protective services;
 - 3. Early intervention and prevention services;
 - 4. Healthy Start services;
- 5. Licensure or approval of adoptive homes, foster homes, child care facilities, facilities licensed under chapter 393, or family day care homes or informal child care providers who receive school readiness funding, or other homes used to provide for the care and welfare of children; or
- 6. Services for victims of domestic violence when provided by certified domestic violence centers working at the

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department's request as case consultants or with shared clients.

Also, employees or agents of the Department of Juvenile Justice responsible for the provision of services to children, pursuant to chapters 984 and 985.

Section 2. Subsection (15) of section 402.302, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

402.302 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(15) "Screening" means the act of assessing the background of child care personnel and volunteers and includes, but is not limited to, employment history checks, local criminal records checks through local law enforcement agencies, fingerprinting for all purposes and checks in this subsection, statewide criminal records checks through the Department of Law Enforcement, and federal criminal records checks through the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and searches of the National Sex Offender Registry, as well as searches of the state criminal records, sex offender registry and child abuse and neglect registry of any state in which the child care personnel resided during the preceding 5 years.

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 402.306, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

402.306 Designation of licensing agency; dissemination by the department and local licensing agency of information on child care.—

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(3) The department and local licensing agencies, or the designees thereof, shall be responsible for coordination and dissemination of information on child care to the community and shall make available upon request all licensing standards and procedures, health and safety standards and procedures for school readiness providers, monitoring and inspection reports, in addition to the names and addresses of licensed child care facilities, school readiness program providers and, where applicable pursuant to s. 402.313, licensed or registered family day care homes.

Section 4. Section 402.311, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

402.311 Inspection.—A licensed child care facility shall accord to the department or the local licensing agency, whichever is applicable, the privilege of inspection, including access to facilities and personnel and to those records required in s. 402.305, at reasonable times during regular business hours, to ensure compliance with the provisions of ss. 402.301-402.319. A school readiness program provider shall accord to the department or the local licensing agency, whichever is applicable, the privilege of inspection, including access to facilities, personnel, and records to determine compliance with the requirements of s. 1002.88. The right of entry and inspection shall also extend to any premises which the department or local licensing agency has reason to believe are

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being operated or maintained as a child care facility without a license, but no such entry or inspection of any premises shall be made without the permission of the person in charge thereof unless a warrant is first obtained from the circuit court authorizing same. Any application for a license or renewal made pursuant to this act or the advertisement to the public for the provision of child care as defined in s. 402.302 shall constitute permission for any entry or inspection of the premises for which the license is sought in order to facilitate verification of the information submitted on or in connection with the application. In the event a licensed facility refuses permission for entry or inspection to the department or local licensing agency, a warrant shall be obtained from the circuit court authorizing same prior to such entry or inspection. A school readiness program provider who refuses permission for entry or inspection shall have its provider contract terminated in accordance with s. 1002.82. The department or local licensing agency may institute disciplinary proceedings pursuant to s. 402.310, for such refusal.

Section 5. Paragraphs (i) and (m) of subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 1002.82, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.82 Office of Early Learning; powers and duties.-

- (2) The office shall:
- (i) Coordinate Develop, in coordination with local

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licensing agencies and the Child Care Services Program Office of
the Department of Children and Families, for inspections of
license-exempt school readiness program providers to monitor
compliance with the and adopt a health and safety checklist
adopted by the office. to be completed by license exempt
providers The health and safety checklist shall that does not
exceed the requirements s. 402.305. A license-exempt school
readiness program provider is a provider who seeks to
participate in the school readiness program and is not licensed
by the Department of Children and Families such as public and
nonpublic schools, family day care homes, large family day care
homes, and child care facilities which are an integral part of
church or parochial schools.

- (s) Establish pre-service and in-service training requirements that address, at a minimum, school readiness child development standards, health and safety requirements, and social-emotional behavior intervention models, which may include positive behavior intervention and support models.
- (t) Establish standards for emergency preparedness plans for child care providers.
- Section 6. Subsection (8) of section 1002.84, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1002.84 Early learning coalitions; school readiness powers and duties.—Each early learning coalition shall:
 - (8) Establish a parent sliding fee scale that requires a

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parent copayment to participate in the school readiness program. The copayment shall not be a barrier to families receiving assistance. Providers are required to collect the parent's copayment. A coalition may, on a case-by-case basis, waive the copayment for an at-risk child or temporarily waive the copayment for a child whose family experiences a natural disaster or an event that limits the parent's ability to pay, such as incarceration, placement in residential treatment, or becoming homeless, or an emergency situation such as a household fire or burglary, or while the parent is participating in parenting classes. A parent may not transfer school readiness program services to another school readiness program provider until the parent has submitted documentation from the current school readiness program provider to the early learning coalition stating that the parent has satisfactorily fulfilled the copayment obligation.

Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 1002.88, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

- (1) To be eligible to deliver the school readiness program, a school readiness program provider must:
- (a) Be a child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, a family day care home licensed or registered under s. 402.313, a large family child care home licensed under s. 402.3131, a

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public school or nonpublic school exempt from licensure under s. 402.3025, a faith-based child care provider exempt from licensure under s. 402.316, a before-school or after-school program described in s. 402.305(1)(c), or an informal child care provider to the extent authorized in the state's Child Care and Development Fund Plan as approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to 45 C.F.R. s. 98.18.

- appropriate progress of each child in attaining the child development standards adopted by the office pursuant to s. 1002.82(2)(j). A provider should include activities to foster brain development in infants and toddlers; provide an environment that is rich in language and music and filled with objects of various colors, shapes, textures, and sizes to stimulate visual, tactile, auditory, and linguistic senses; and include 30 minutes of reading to children each day.
- (c) Provide basic health and safety of its premises and facilities and compliance with requirements for age-appropriate immunizations of children enrolled in the school readiness program. For a provider who is licensed, child care facility, a large family child care home, or a licensed family day care home, compliance with s. 402.305, s. 402.3131, or s. 402.313 satisfies this requirement. For a license-exempt provider, compliance with the health and safety checklist satisfies this

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requirement. For a public or nonpublic school, compliance with s. 402.3025 or s. 1003.22 satisfies this requirement. A faith-based child care provider, an informal child care provider, or a nonpublic school, exempt from licensure under s. 402.316 or s. 402.3025, shall annually complete the health and safety checklist adopted by the office, post the checklist prominently on its premises in plain sight for visitors and parents, and submit it annually to its local early learning coalition.

- (d) Provide an appropriate group size and staff-to-children ratio, pursuant to s. 402.305(4) or s. 402.302(8) or (11), as applicable, and as verified pursuant to s. 402.311.
- (e) Provide a healthy and safe environment pursuant to s. 402.305(5), (6), and (7), as applicable, and as verified pursuant to s. 402.311. Employ child care personnel, as defined in s. 402.301(3), who have satisfied the screening requirements of chapter 402, fulfilled the training requirements of the office, and executed an affidavit of compliance with the mandatory reporting requirements of s. 39.201.
- (f) Implement one of the curricula approved by the office that meets the child development standards.
- (g) Implement a character development program to develop basic values.
- (h) Collaborate with the respective early learning coalition to complete initial screening for each child, aged 6 weeks to kindergarten eligibility, within 45 days after the

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child's first or subsequent enrollment, to identify a child who may need individualized supports.

- (i) Implement minimum standards for child discipline practices that are age-appropriate and consistent with the requirements in s. 402.305(12). Such standards must provide that children not be subjected to discipline that is severe, humiliating, or frightening or discipline that is associated with food, rest, or toileting. Spanking or any other form of physical punishment is prohibited.
- (j) Obtain and keep on file record of the child's immunizations, physical development, and other health requirements as necessary, including appropriate vision and hearing screening and examination, within 30 days after enrollment.
- (k) Implement before-school or after-school programs that meet or exceed the requirements of s. 402.305(5), (6), and (7).
- (1) For a provider that is not an informal provider, maintain general liability insurance and provide the coalition with written evidence of general liability insurance coverage, including coverage for transportation of children if school readiness program children are transported by the provider. A provider must obtain and retain an insurance policy that provides a minimum of \$100,000 of coverage per occurrence and a minimum of \$300,000 general aggregate coverage. The office may authorize lower limits upon request, as appropriate. A provider

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must add the coalition as a named certificateholder and as an additional insured. A provider must provide the coalition with a minimum of 10 calendar days' advance written notice of cancellation of or changes to coverage. The general liability insurance required by this paragraph must remain in full force and effect for the entire period of the provider contract with the coalition.

- (m) For a provider that is an informal provider, comply with the provisions of paragraph (1) or maintain homeowner's liability insurance and, if applicable, a business rider. If an informal provider chooses to maintain a homeowner's policy, the provider must obtain and retain a homeowner's insurance policy that provides a minimum of \$100,000 of coverage per occurrence and a minimum of \$300,000 general aggregate coverage. The office may authorize lower limits upon request, as appropriate. An informal provider must add the coalition as a named certificateholder and as an additional insured. An informal provider must provide the coalition with a minimum of 10 calendar days' advance written notice of cancellation of or changes to coverage. The general liability insurance required by this paragraph must remain in full force and effect for the entire period of the provider's contract with the coalition.
- (n) Obtain and maintain any required workers' compensation insurance under chapter 440 and any required reemployment assistance or unemployment compensation coverage under chapter

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- (o) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), for a provider that is a state agency or a subdivision thereof, as defined in s. 768.28(2), agree to notify the coalition of any additional liability coverage maintained by the provider in addition to that otherwise established under s. 768.28. The provider shall indemnify the coalition to the extent permitted by s. 768.28.
- (p) Execute the standard statewide provider contract adopted by the office.
- (q) Operate on a full-time and part-time basis and provide extended-day and extended-year services to the maximum extent possible without compromising the quality of the program to meet the needs of parents who work.
- (s) Comply with the mandatory reporting requirements of s. 39.201.
- Section 8. Paragraph (i) is added to subsection (3) of section 1002.92, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 1002.92 Child care and early childhood resource and referral.—
- (3) Child care resource and referral agencies shall provide the following services:
- (i) Maintain a website with information and resources that enable parents to make informed child care choices, including the child care provider database maintained by the Department of Children and Families; child care licensing, health, safety, and

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inspection requirements for each type of child care provider; requirements for child care background screening and the disqualifying offenses; research and best practices in child development and state resources regarding social emotional development, parent and family engagement, healthy eating and physical activity.

Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.



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