

SENATE BILL SUMMARY

Prepared by the Division of Legislative Information for the Senate Bill **AS ORIGINALLY FILED**. For more detail, see Senate Bill Analyses, if available, prepared by the Senate's professional committee staff.

SB 1404

Child Care/Early Learning Programs/Pre-K Education
by Senator Rich

Creates Florida's Sunshine State Stars Quality Rating System within the Agency for Workforce Innovation to provide a voluntary, statewide standard rating system for licensed early learning programs, child care facilities, and facilities participating in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program.

Provides a five tier rating system to communicate the level of quality to parents, consumers, and the participating early learning programs. Provides that programs that meet the highest level of quality in the rating system, shall be awarded five stars.

Creates Florida's Sunshine State Stars Quality Rating System Voluntary Pilot Program to implement the rating system tier program in Broward, Duval, Hillsborough, Leon, Miami-Dade, Orange, Palm Beach, and Pinellas counties, including urban counties and rural counties which have established or are in the process of establishing quality rating systems. Provides that the expiration of the pilot program shall be July 1, 2010. (See bill for details)