A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the Committee on Early Grade Success; creating the Committee on Early Grade Success within the Department of Education; specifying committee purpose; requiring the committee to develop a proposal for specified purposes; providing proposal requirements; providing for membership of the committee; providing requirements for electing a committee chair and vice chair; providing committee meeting requirements; requiring the University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning to provide necessary staff for the committee; requiring the committee to submit a report by a specified date; providing for the expiration of the committee; authorizing rulemaking; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Committee on Early Grade Success.—The Committee on Early Grade Success, a committee as defined in s. 20.03, Florida Statutes, is created within the Department of Education to develop a proposal for establishing and implementing a coordinated child assessment system for the School Readiness Program, the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment and, except as otherwise
provided in this section, shall operate consistent with s. 20.052, Florida Statutes.

(1) The committee's proposal must include legislative recommendations for the design and implementation of a coordinated child assessment system, including, but not limited to:

(a) The purpose of a child assessment, with a focus on developmentally appropriate learning gains.
(b) Attributes for tool selection that provide guidance on procurement policies.
(c) An implementation schedule and protocols, including the frequency of data collection and a timeline for training to ensure reliability of the system.
(d) The methodology for collecting and analyzing data that define reporting requirements.
(e) A budget for the system, including cost analyses for purchasing materials and the necessary technology, training to ensure reliability, and data system management.
(f) Considerations for student privacy and tracking child development over time.

(2) The committee is composed of 17 members who are residents of the state and appointed as follows:

(a) Three members appointed by the Governor:
   1. One representative from the Office of Early Learning.
   2. One representative from the Department of Education.
3. One parent of a child who is 3 to 6 years of age.

(b) Fourteen members jointly appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

1. One representative of an urban school district.

2. One representative of a rural school district.

3. One representative of an urban early learning coalition.

4. One representative of a rural early learning coalition.

5. One representative of an early learning provider.

6. One representative of a faith-based early learning provider.

7. One representative who is a kindergarten teacher with at least 5 years of teaching experience.

8. One representative who is an elementary school principal.

9. Four representatives with subject matter expertise in early learning, early grade success, or child assessments. The four representatives may not be direct stakeholders within the early learning or public school systems or potential recipients of a contract resulting from the committee's proposal.

10. One member of the Senate.

11. One member of the House of Representatives.

(3) The committee shall elect a chair and vice chair. The chair must be one of the four members with subject matter expertise in early learning, early grade success, or child
The vice chair must be a member appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who is not one of the four members who are subject matter experts in early learning, early grade success, or child assessments. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

(4) The committee must meet at least three times and shall meet by teleconference or other electronic means, if possible, to reduce costs.

(5) A majority of the members constitutes a quorum.

(6) The University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning shall provide the committee with staff necessary to assist the committee in the performance of its duties.

(7) The committee shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1, 2017. Upon submission of the report, the committee shall expire.

(8) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to implement and administer this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.