

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission

2024-25 Ought To Be a Law
Sumner High School



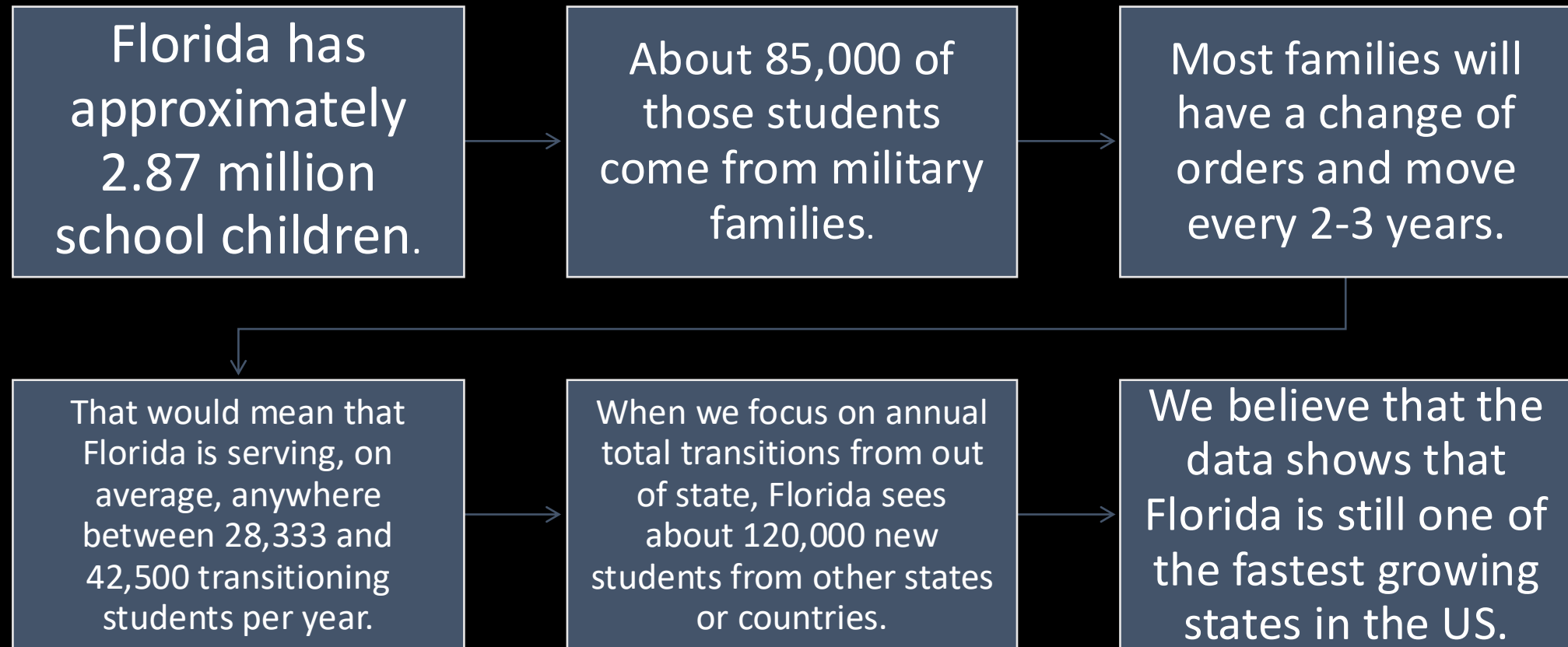


The Issue

As military families move through a permanent change of station (PCS), the military service member is not the only one who has to assimilate to their new surroundings. While many of our soldiers are taught to improvise, adapt, and overcome, their civilian families are left to reassemble their lives in new homes.

They don't want to be told to
"be resilient".

Florida Statistics



MIC3

The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) is a federal compact instituted by the State of Florida in 2008.

At the time, local state Senator Rhonda Storms was at the forefront of bringing Florida onto the compact. We were the 10th State to join.

What we have found is that even though MIC3 has been in Florida as Statute 1000.36 for 16 years, the execution of this statute has been less than satisfactory.

We have made contact with Dr. Venetia Waters from McDill Airforce Base and attended a workshop where families from our area talked about the difficulties they have faced while transitioning to our area.

What did we propose?



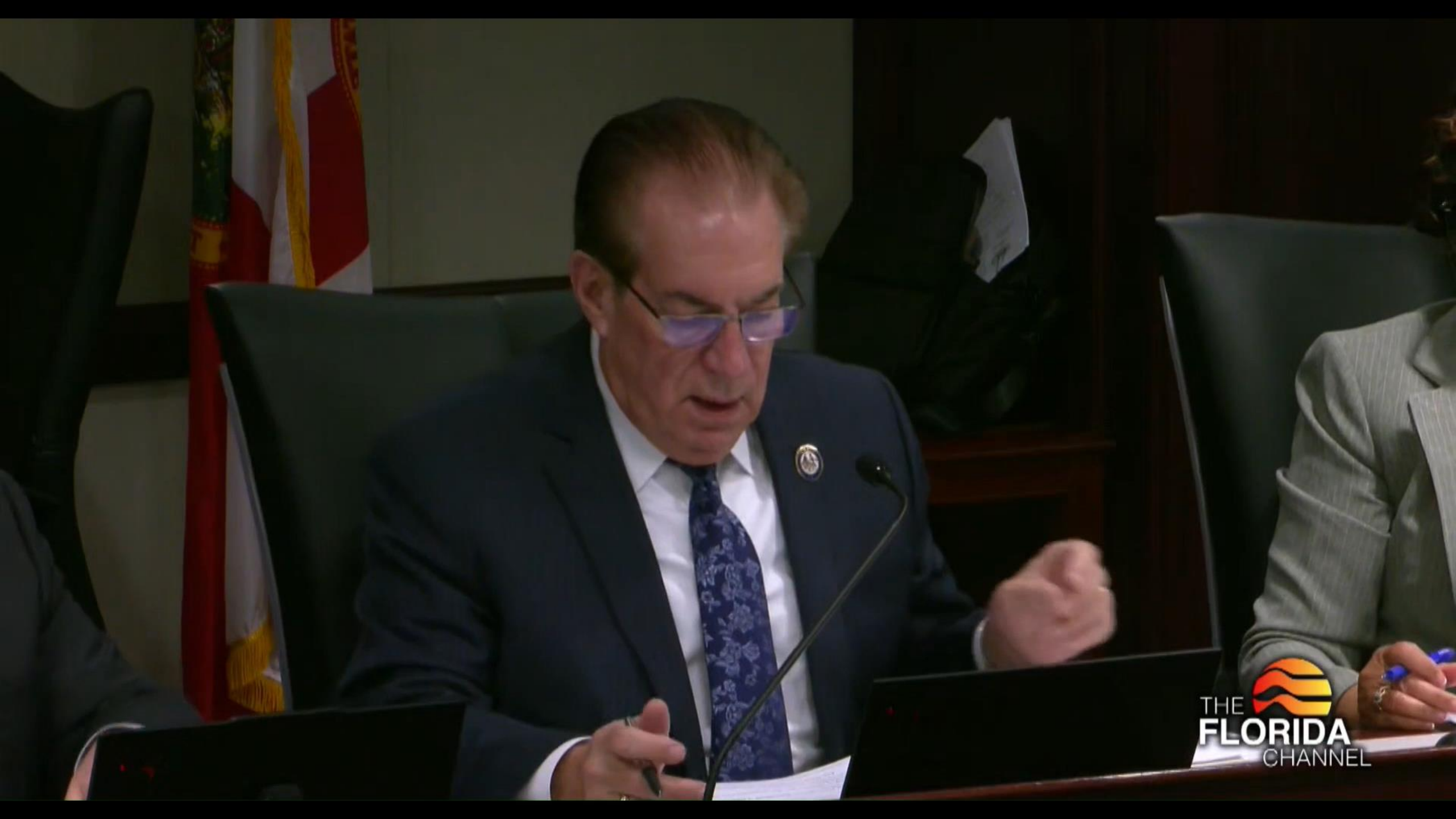
We propose that MIC3 be renewed prior to F.S. 1000.40 taking effect on July 1, 2025, that would effectually sunset F.S. 1000.36.



We would suggest that F.S. 1000.36 be amended to include a training component for a minimum of 1 member of a school site administration and 1 member of the school counseling team qualified to schedule and enroll students along with each school's data processor. (Make this a requirement for Purple Star Schools)



We would also suggest that elements of the Compact be rolled over into general FLDOE Policy as statute.



What was the result?



MIC3 was renewed prior to F.S. 1000.40 taking effect on July 1, 2025, that would effectually sunset F.S. 1000.36. Florida's Commitment to MIC3 has been extended through 2028.



F.S. 1000.36 was amended to include a training component to be created by the DOE. This training component will be made available to school districts for the upcoming school year and will be rolled out to potentially all staff at the discretion of each school district.



The bill was signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis on May 30, 2025 and took effect July 1, 2025.

Benefits for Floridians

- ✓ This bill provides access to the high-quality education each child deserves as promptly as possible.
- ✓ It allows for students who met benchmarks in subjects in other states to not be held accountable for meeting benchmarks again.
- ✓ It allows for military families to have a better experience while stationed at one of Florida's bases. If they have a great experience while they live here, they may be more likely to become a permanent resident once their military careers come to an end. These are the type of citizens we want in our communities.
- ✓ Ensures that each site has trained staff that know how to handle the student transitioning from out of state according to the Compact and Statute.



Since we have a captive audience...

- We ask for the help of the HCPS Board and Deputy Superintendent(s) at this meeting today to make a commitment to training our school level personnel to execute the Military Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) in its entirety. With the same level of precision, you would expect the members of our Armed Forces to execute in a combat zone. We owe it to them to do everything we can to do our very best for their children so they can focus on the missions ahead.

- It is our goal to let the families of the members of our armed forces active duty and veteran know that we love and appreciate them and their families for their selfless sacrifice in the name of the defense our our nation. It was our pleasure to bring this bill before the Florida legislature on behalf of these families as a recognition of their sacrifice and our willingness to step up a fill a gap that will ensure a smoother transition for our service members and their families into our communities across the State of Florida and especially here in Hillsborough County, Florida!

“A nation that does not honor its heroes will not long endure.”

— **President Abraham Lincoln**



THANK
YOU.