

HB 1483

2011

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to high school graduation rates; amending
3 ss. 1003.435 and 1008.34 F.S.; revising provisions
4 relating to the high school equivalency diploma program
5 and the school rating system to include students who
6 receive a high school equivalency diploma in the high
7 school graduation rates for purposes of determining a
8 school's grade; providing an effective date.

9
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11
12 Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 1003.435, Florida
13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 1003.435 High school equivalency diploma program.—

15 (6) (a) All high school equivalency diplomas issued under
16 the provisions of this section shall have equal status with
17 other high school diplomas for all state purposes, including
18 admission to any state university or community college.

19 (b) Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, students who
20 earn a high school equivalency diploma shall be included in the
21 high school graduation rate for purposes of determining a
22 school's grade pursuant to s. 1008.34(3)(b).

23 (c) ~~(b)~~ The State Board of Education shall adopt rules
24 providing for the award of a standard high school diploma to
25 holders of high school equivalency diplomas who are assessed as
26 meeting designated criteria, and the commissioner shall
27 establish procedures for administering the assessment.

28 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section

29 | 1008.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

30 | 1008.34 School grading system; school report cards;
31 | district grade.—

32 | (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES.—

33 | (b)1. A school's grade shall be based on a combination of:

34 | a. Student achievement scores, including achievement on
35 | all FCAT assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1., end-
36 | of-course assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.,
37 | and achievement scores for students seeking a special diploma.

38 | b. Student learning gains in reading and mathematics as
39 | measured by FCAT and end-of-course assessments, as described in
40 | s. 1008.22(3)(c)1. and 2.a. Learning gains for students seeking
41 | a special diploma, as measured by an alternate assessment tool,
42 | shall be included not later than the 2009-2010 school year.

43 | c. Improvement of the lowest 25th percentile of students
44 | in the school in reading and mathematics on the FCAT or end-of-
45 | course assessments described in s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a., unless
46 | these students are exhibiting satisfactory performance.

47 | 2. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year for schools
48 | comprised of high school grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, or grades 10,
49 | 11, and 12, 50 percent of the school grade shall be based on a
50 | combination of the factors listed in sub-subparagraphs 1.a.-c.
51 | and the remaining 50 percent on the following factors:

52 | a. The high school graduation rate of the school.
53 | Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, at least 75 percent of
54 | the students who earn a high school equivalency diploma pursuant
55 | to s. 1003.435 shall be included in the calculation of the high
56 | school graduation rate;

HB 1483

2011

57 | b. As valid data becomes available, the performance and
58 | participation of the school's students in College Board Advanced
59 | Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses, dual
60 | enrollment courses, and Advanced International Certificate of
61 | Education courses; and the students' achievement of national
62 | industry certification identified in the Industry Certification
63 | Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of
64 | Education;

65 | c. Postsecondary readiness of the school's students as
66 | measured by the SAT, ACT, or the common placement test;

67 | d. The high school graduation rate of at-risk students who
68 | scored at Level 2 or lower on the grade 8 FCAT Reading and
69 | Mathematics examinations;

70 | e. As valid data becomes available, the performance of the
71 | school's students on statewide standardized end-of-course
72 | assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.b. and c.; and

73 | f. The growth or decline in the components listed in sub-
74 | subparagraphs a.-e. from year to year.

75 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.