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By the Committee on Education Pre-K - 12; and Senator Gaetz

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to career and professional academies; amending s. 1003.491, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the Florida Career and Professional Education Act; replacing references to local workforce boards with regional workforce boards; requiring that economic development agencies collaborate with each district school board, regional workforce boards, and postsecondary institutions to develop a strategic 5year plan that addresses local and regional workforce demands; requiring that the strategic plan include access to courses offered through virtual education providers and a review of career and professional academy courses; requiring that the strategic plan be reviewed, updated, and jointly approved; amending s. 1003.492, F.S.; revising provisions relating to industry-certified career education programs to conform to changes made by the act; requiring that rules adopted by the State Board of Education include an approval process for determining the funding weights of industry certifications; requiring that the performance factors for students participating in industry-certified career education programs include awards of postsecondary credit and state scholarships; amending s. 1003.493, F.S.; revising provisions relating to career and professional academies to conform to changes made by the act; requiring that career and professional academies discontinue enrollment of students for the following year if the

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passage rate on the industry certification exam falls below 50 percent; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the calculation of additional full-time equivalent membership based on certification of successful completion of industry-certified career and professional academy programs; requiring that the value of full-time equivalent membership be determined by weights adopted by the State Board of Education; amending s. 1012.39, F.S.; requiring that each district school board establish qualifications for nondegreed teachers of career and technical education courses for program clusters recognized in the state; authorizing district school boards to establish alternative qualifications for certain teachers; creating s. 1003.4935, F.S.; requiring that each district school board, in collaboration with regional workforce boards, economic development agencies, and state-approved postsecondary institutions, include a component in the strategic 5-year plan to implement a career and professional academy in at least one middle school in each district; providing requirements for the middle school career and professional academies; requiring that the Department of Education collect and report student achievement data for middle school career academy students; amending s. 1008.34, F.S.; conforming provisions relating to the designation of school grades to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsections (2), (3), and (5) of section 1003.491, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.491 Florida Career and Professional Education Act.—The Florida Career and Professional Education Act is created to provide a statewide planning partnership between the business and education communities in order to attract, expand, and retain targeted, high-value industry and to sustain a strong, knowledge-based economy.

(2) Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, Each district school board shall develop, in collaboration with regional local workforce boards, economic development agencies, and postsecondary institutions approved to operate in the state, a strategic 5-year plan to address and meet local and regional workforce demands. If involvement of a the regional local workforce board or an economic development agency in the strategic plan development is not feasible, the local school board, with the approval of the Agency for Workforce Innovation, shall collaborate with the most appropriate regional <del>local</del> business leadership board. Two or more school districts may collaborate in the development of the strategic plan and offer a career and professional academy as a joint venture. The strategic plan Such plans must describe in detail provisions for the efficient transportation of students, the maximum use of shared resources, and access to courses aligned to state curriculum standards through virtual education providers, and an objective review of career and professional academy courses to determine if the courses will lead to the attainment of industry

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certifications included on the Industry Certified Funding List pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education the Florida Virtual School when appropriate. Each strategic plan shall be reviewed, updated, and jointly approved every 5 years by the local school district, regional workforce boards, economic development agencies, and state-approved postsecondary institutions completed no later than June 30, 2008, and shall include provisions to have in place at least one operational career and professional academy, pursuant to s. 1003.492, no later than the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year.

- (3) The strategic 5-year plan developed jointly between the local school district, <u>regional</u> <del>local</del> workforce boards, <u>economic</u> <u>development agencies</u>, and state-approved postsecondary institutions shall be constructed and based on:
- (a) Research conducted to objectively determine local and regional workforce needs for the ensuing 5 years, using labor projections of the United States Department of Labor and the Agency for Workforce Innovation;
- (b) Strategies to develop and implement career academies based on those careers determined to be in high demand;
  - (c) Maximum use of private sector facilities and personnel;
- (d) Strategies that ensure instruction by industrycertified faculty and standards and strategies to maintain current industry credentials and for recruiting and retaining faculty to meet those standards;
- (e) Alignment of to requirements for middle school career exploration, middle and high school career and professional academies leading to industry certification, and high school graduation requirements redesign;

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(f) Provisions to ensure that courses offered through career and professional academies are academically rigorous, meet or exceed appropriate state-adopted subject area standards, result in attainment of industry certification, and, when appropriate, result in postsecondary credit;

- (g) Strategies to improve the passage rate for industry certification exams that fall below 50 percent;
- (h) (g) Establishment of student eligibility criteria in career and professional academies which include opportunities for students who have been unsuccessful in traditional classrooms but who show aptitude to participate in academies. School boards shall address the analysis of eighth grade student achievement data to provide opportunities for students who may be deemed as potential dropouts to participate in career and professional academies;
- (i) (h) Strategies to provide sufficient space within academies to meet workforce needs and to provide access to all interested and qualified students;
- <u>(j)</u>(i) Strategies to <u>implement</u> engage Department of Juvenile Justice students in career and professional academy training that leads to industry certification <u>in Department of</u> Juvenile Justice facilities;
- $\underline{\text{(k)}}$  Opportunities for high school students to earn weighted or dual enrollment credit for higher-level career and technical courses;
- (1) (k) Promotion of the benefits of the Gold Seal Bright
  Futures Scholarship;
- $\underline{\text{(m)}}$  (1) Strategies to ensure the review of district pupil-progression plans and to amend such plans to include career and

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professional courses and to include courses that may qualify as substitute courses for core graduation requirements and those that may be counted as elective courses; and

- $\underline{\text{(n)}}$  Strategies to provide professional development for secondary guidance counselors on the benefits of career and professional academies.
- (5) The submission and review of newly proposed core courses shall be conducted electronically, and each proposed core course shall be approved or denied within 60 days. All courses approved as core courses for purposes of middle school promotion and high school graduation purposes shall be immediately added to the Course Code Directory. Approved core courses shall also be reviewed and considered for approval for dual enrollment credit. The Board of Governors and the Commissioner of Education shall jointly recommend an annual deadline for approval of new core courses to be included for purposes of postsecondary admissions and dual enrollment credit the following academic year. The State Board of Education shall establish an appeals process in the event that a proposed course is denied which shall require a consensus ruling by the Agency for Workforce Innovation and the Commissioner of Education within 15 days. The curriculum review committee must be established and operational no later than September 1, 2007.

Section 2. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 1003.492, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 1003.492 Industry-certified career education programs.-
- (2) The State Board of Education shall use the expertise of Workforce Florida, Inc., and Enterprise Florida, Inc., to develop and adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54

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for implementing an industry certification process. These rules shall include an approval process for determining the funding weights of industry certifications based on the rigor of the certification and the value of the certification to Florida businesses and industry. Industry certification shall be defined by the Agency for Workforce Innovation, based upon the highest available national standards for specific industry certification, to ensure student skill proficiency and to address emerging labor market and industry trends. A regional workforce board or a career and professional academy may apply to Workforce Florida, Inc., to request additions to the approved list of industry certifications based on high-demand job requirements in the regional economy. The list of industry certifications approved by Workforce Florida, Inc., and the Department of Education shall be published and updated annually by a date certain, to be included in the adopted rule.

(3) The Department of Education shall collect student achievement and performance data in industry-certified career education programs and shall work with Workforce Florida, Inc., and Enterprise Florida, Inc., in the analysis of collected data. The data collection and analyses shall examine the performance of participating students over time. Performance factors shall include, but not be limited to, graduation rates, retention rates, awards of postsecondary credit and state scholarships under chapter 1009 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship awards, additional educational attainment, employment records, earnings, industry certification, and employer satisfaction. The performance results and analyses of this study shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the

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204 House of Representatives annually by December 31.

Section 3. Subsections (2), (4), (5), and (6) of section 1003.493, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.493 Career and professional academies.-

- (2) The goals of a career and professional academy are to:
- (a) Increase student academic achievement and graduation rates through integrated academic and career curricula.
- (b) Prepare graduating high school students to make appropriate choices relative to employment and future educational experiences.
- (c) Focus on career preparation through rigorous academics and industry certification.
- (d) Raise student aspiration and commitment to academic achievement and work ethics through relevant coursework.
- (e) Support graduation requirements pursuant to s. 1003.428 by providing creative, applied major areas of interest.
- (e) (f) Promote acceleration mechanisms, such as dual enrollment, articulated credit, or occupational completion points, so that students may earn postsecondary credit while in high school.
- (f) (g) Support the state's economy by meeting industry needs for skilled employees in high-demand occupations.
  - (4) Each career and professional academy must:
- (a) Provide a rigorous standards-based academic curriculum integrated with a career curriculum. The curriculum must take into consideration multiple styles of student learning; promote learning by doing through application and adaptation; maximize relevance of the subject matter; enhance each student's capacity to excel; and include an emphasis on work habits and work

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ethics.

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- (b) Include one or more partnerships with postsecondary institutions, businesses, industry, employers, economic development organizations, or other appropriate partners from the local community. Such partnerships shall be delineated in articulation agreements to provide for career-based courses that earn postsecondary credit. Such agreements may include articulation between the academy and public or private 2-year and 4-year postsecondary institutions and technical centers. The Department of Education, in consultation with the Board of Governors, shall establish a mechanism to ensure articulation and transfer of credits to postsecondary institutions in this state. Such partnerships must provide opportunities for:
- 1. Instruction from highly skilled professionals who possess industry-certification credentials for courses they are teaching.
  - 2. Internships, externships, and on-the-job training.
  - 3. A postsecondary degree, diploma, or certificate.
  - 4. The highest available level of industry certification.
- 5. Maximum articulation of credits pursuant to s. 1007.23 upon program completion.
- (c) Provide shared, maximum use of private sector facilities and personnel.
- (d) Provide personalized student advisement, including a parent-participation component, and coordination with middle schools to promote and support career exploration and education planning as required under s. 1003.4156. Coordination with middle schools must provide information to middle school students about secondary and postsecondary career education

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programs and academies.

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(e) Promote and provide opportunities for career and professional academy students to attain, at minimum, the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award pursuant to s. 1009.536.

- (f) Provide instruction in careers designated as high growth, high demand, and high pay by the <a href="regional local">regional local</a> workforce development board, the chamber of commerce, <a href="economic development agencies">economic development agencies</a>, or the Agency for Workforce Innovation.
- (g) Deliver academic content through instruction relevant to the career, including intensive reading and mathematics intervention required by s. 1003.428, with an emphasis on strengthening reading for information skills.
- (h) Offer applied courses that combine academic content with technical skills.
- (i) Provide instruction resulting in competency, certification, or credentials in workplace skills, including, but not limited to, communication skills, interpersonal skills, decisionmaking skills, the importance of attendance and timeliness in the work environment, and work ethics.
- (j) Provide opportunities for students to obtain the Florida Ready to Work Certification pursuant to s. 1004.99.
- (k) Include an evaluation plan developed jointly with the Department of Education and the local workforce board. The evaluation plan must include an assessment tool based on national industry standards, such as the Career Academy National Standards of Practice, and outcome measures, including, but not limited to, achievement of national industry certifications identified in the Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education, graduation

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rates, enrollment in postsecondary education, business and industry satisfaction, employment and earnings, awards of postsecondary credit and scholarships, and student achievement levels and learning gains on statewide assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c). The Department of Education shall use Workforce Florida, Inc., and Enterprise Florida, Inc., in identifying industry experts to participate in developing and implementing such assessments.

- (j) (1) Include a plan to sustain career and professional academies.
- $\underline{\text{(k)}}$  (m) Redirect appropriated career funding to career and professional academies.
- (5) All career courses offered in a career and professional academy must lead to industry certification or college credit linked directly to the career theme of the course. If the passage rate on the industry certification exam that is associated with the career and professional academy falls below 50 percent, the academy must discontinue enrollment of students the following school year. At least 50 percent of students enrolled in a career course must achieve industry certifications or college credits during the second year the course is offered in order for the course to be offered a third year. At least 66 percent of students enrolled in such a course must achieve industry certifications or college credits during the third year the course is offered in order for it to be offered a fourth year and thereafter.
- (6) Workforce Florida, Inc., through the secondary career academies initiatives, The Okaloosa County School District

  CHOICE Institutes shall serve in an advisory role and shall

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offer technical assistance in the development <u>and deployment</u> of newly established career and professional academies <del>for a 3-year period beginning July 1, 2007</del>.

Section 4. Paragraph (p) of subsection (1) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each district for operation of schools is not determined in the annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as follows:

- (1) COMPUTATION OF THE BASIC AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED FOR OPERATION.—The following procedure shall be followed in determining the annual allocation to each district for operation:
- (p) Calculation of additional full-time equivalent membership based on certification of successful completion of industry-certified career and professional academy programs pursuant to ss. 1003.491, 1003.492, and 1003.493, and 1003.4935 and identified in the Industry Certified Funding List pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education.—A maximum value of 0.3 full-time equivalent student membership shall be calculated for each student who completes an industry-certified career and professional academy program under ss. 1003.491, 1003.492, and 1003.493, and 1003.4935 and who is issued the highest level of industry certification identified annually in the Industry Certification Funding List approved under rules adopted by the State Board of Education and a high school diploma. The value of full-time equivalent student membership

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shall be determined by weights adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to s. 1003.492. Such value shall be added to the total full-time equivalent student membership in secondary career education programs for grades 9 through 12 in the subsequent year for courses that were not funded through dual enrollment. The additional full-time equivalent membership authorized under this paragraph may not exceed 0.3 per student. Allocated funds shall be proportionately prorated and distributed to middle school career and professional academies for those students who earned industry certifications. Each district must allocate at least 80 percent of the funds generated by student attainment of an provided for industry certification, in accordance with this paragraph, to the program in which the student earned the industry certification that generated the funds. Unless a different amount is specified in the General Appropriations Act, the appropriation for this calculation is limited to \$15 million annually. If the appropriation is insufficient to fully fund the total calculation, the appropriation shall be prorated.

Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1012.39, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.39 Employment of substitute teachers, teachers of adult education, nondegreed teachers of career education, and career specialists; students performing clinical field experience.—

(1) Notwithstanding ss. 1012.32, 1012.55, 1012.56, and 1012.57, or any other provision of law or rule to the contrary, each district school board shall establish the minimal qualifications for:

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(a) Substitute teachers to be employed pursuant to s. 1012.35. The qualifications shall require the filing of a complete set of fingerprints in the same manner as required by s. 1012.32; documentation of a minimum education level of a high school diploma or equivalent; and completion of an initial orientation and training program in district policies and procedures addressing school safety and security procedures, educational liability laws, professional responsibilities, and ethics.

- (b) Part-time and full-time teachers in adult education programs. The qualifications shall require the filing of a complete set of fingerprints in the same manner as required by s. 1012.32. Faculty employed solely to conduct postsecondary instruction may be exempted from this requirement.
- (c) Part-time and full-time nondegreed teachers of career programs. Qualifications shall be established for nondegreed teachers of career and technical education courses for program clusters that are recognized in this state agriculture, business, health occupations, family and consumer sciences, industrial, marketing, career specialist, and public service education teachers, based primarily on successful occupational experience rather than academic training. The qualifications for such teachers shall require:
- 1. The filing of a complete set of fingerprints in the same manner as required by s. 1012.32. Faculty employed solely to conduct postsecondary instruction may be exempted from this requirement.
- 2. Documentation of education and successful occupational experience including documentation of:

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- a. A high school diploma or the equivalent.
- b. Completion of 6 years of full-time successful occupational experience or the equivalent of part-time experience in the teaching specialization area. The district school board may establish alternative qualifications for teachers who hold industry certificates in the career areas in which they teach. Alternate means of determining successful occupational experience may be established by the district school board.
- c. Industry certification if state or national industry certifications are available and applicable.
- $\underline{\text{d.e.}}$  Completion of career education training conducted through the local school district inservice master plan.
- <u>e.d.</u> For full-time teachers, completion of professional education training in teaching methods, course construction, lesson planning and evaluation, and teaching special needs students. This training may be completed through coursework from an accredited or approved institution or an approved district teacher education program.
- $\underline{\text{f.e.}}$  Demonstration of successful teaching performance. Section 6. Section 1003.4935, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
- $\underline{1003.4935}$  Middle school career and professional academy courses.—
- (1) Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, each district school board, in collaboration with regional workforce boards, economic development agencies, and state-approved postsecondary institutions, shall include plans to implement a career and professional academy in at least one middle school in the

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district as part of the strategic 5-year plan pursuant to s.

1003.491(2). The middle school career and professional academy component of the strategic plan must ensure the transition of middle school career and professional academy students to a high school career and professional academy currently operating within the school district. Students who complete a middle school career and professional academy must have the opportunity to earn an industry certificate and high school credit and participate in career planning, job shadowing, and business leadership development activities.

- (2) Each middle school career and professional academy must be aligned with at least one high school career and professional academy offered in the district and maintain partnerships with local business and industry and economic development boards.

  Middle school career and professional academies must:
- (a) Provide instruction in courses leading to careers in occupations designated as high growth, high demand, and high pay in the Industry Certification Funding List approved under rules adopted by the State Board of Education;
- (b) Offer career and professional academy courses that integrate content from core subject areas;
- (c) Offer courses that integrate career and professional academy content with intensive reading and mathematics pursuant to s. 1003.428;
- (d) Coordinate with high schools to maximize opportunities for middle school career and professional academy students to earn high school credit;
- (e) Provide access to virtual instruction courses aligned to state curriculum standards for middle school career and

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professional academy students, with priority given to students
who have required course deficits;

- (f) Provide instruction from highly skilled professionals
  who hold industry certificates in the career area in which they
  teach;
  - (g) Offer externships; and
- (h) Provide personalized student advisement to include a parent-participation component.
- (3) Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, the

  Department of Education shall collect and report student

  achievement data pursuant to performance factors identified

  under s. 1003.492(3) for middle school career and professional
  academy students.

Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 1008.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

- (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES.-
- (b) 1. A school's grade shall be based on a combination of:
- a. Student achievement scores, including achievement on all FCAT assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c)1., end-of-course assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a., and achievement scores for students seeking a special diploma.
- b. Student learning gains in reading and mathematics as measured by FCAT and end-of-course assessments, as described in s. 1008.22(3)(c)1. and 2.a. Learning gains for students seeking a special diploma, as measured by an alternate assessment tool, shall be included not later than the 2009-2010 school year.
  - c. Improvement of the lowest 25th percentile of students in

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the school in reading and mathematics on the FCAT or end-of-course assessments described in s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a., unless these students are exhibiting satisfactory performance.

- 2. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year for schools comprised of high school grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, or grades 10, 11, and 12, 50 percent of the school grade shall be based on a combination of the factors listed in sub-subparagraphs 1.a.-c. and the remaining 50 percent on the following factors:
  - a. The high school graduation rate of the school;
- b. As valid data becomes available, the performance and participation of the school's students in College Board Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses, dual enrollment courses, and Advanced International Certificate of Education courses; and the students' achievement of national industry certification identified in the Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education;
- c. Postsecondary readiness of the school's students as measured by the SAT, ACT, or the common placement test;
- d. The high school graduation rate of at-risk students who scored at Level 2 or lower on the grade 8 FCAT Reading and Mathematics examinations;
- e. As valid data becomes available, the performance of the school's students on statewide standardized end-of-course assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.b. and c.; and
- f. The growth or decline in the components listed in subsubparagraphs a.-e. from year to year.
- 3. Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year for schools comprised of middle school grades 6, 7, and 8, or grades 7, 8,

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523	and 9, 50 percent of the school grade shall be based on a
524	combination of the factors listed in sub-subparagraphs 1.ac.
525	and the remaining 50 percent on the following factors:
526	a. As valid data becomes available, the participation of
527	the school's students in career and professional academies under
528	s. 1003.4935;
529	b. As valid data becomes available, the students'
530	attainment of national industry certification identified in the
531	Industry Certification Funding List pursuant to rules adopted by
532	the State Board of Education;
533	c. As valid data becomes available, the performance of the
534	school's students on statewide standardized end-of-course
535	assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.b. and c.; and
536	d. The growth or decline in the components listed in sub-
537	subparagraphs ac. from year to year.

Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

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