Senator Stargel moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete lines 832 - 859

and insert:

Section 9. Present subsections (9) and (10) of section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (10) and (11), respectively, and a new subsection (9) is added to that section, to read:

1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.—

(9) CHILD WITH MEDICAL COMPLEXITY.—In addition to the exemption option provided for under s. 1008.212, effective July
1, 2014, a child with a medical complexity may be exempt from participating in statewide, standardized assessments, including the Florida Alternate Assessment (FAA), pursuant to the provisions of this subsection.

(a) Definition of child with medical complexity. A child with a medical complexity means a child who, based upon medical documentation from a physician licensed under chapter 458, is medically fragile and needs intensive care due to a condition such as congenital or acquired multisystem disease; has a severe neurological or cognitive disorder with marked functional impairment; or is technology dependent for activities of daily living; and lacks the capacity to take or perform on an assessment.

(b) Exemption options. If the parent consents in writing, and the IEP team determines that the child should not be assessed based upon medical documentation that the child meets the definition of a child with medical complexity, then the parent may choose one of the following three assessment exemption options.

1. One-year exemption approved by the district school superintendent. If the superintendent is provided written documentation of parental consent and appropriate medical documentation to support the IEP team’s determination that the child is a child with medical complexity, then the superintendent may approve a one-year exemption from all statewide, standardized assessments, including the FAA. The superintendent shall report annually to the district school board and the Commissioner of Education the number of students who are identified as a child with medical complexity who are
not participating in the assessment program.

2. One- to three-year exemption approved by the
Commissioner of Education. If the commissioner is provided
written documentation of parental consent; district school
superintendent approval; the IEP team’s determination that the
child is a child with medical complexity based upon appropriate
medical documentation; and all medical documentation, then the
commissioner may exempt the child from all statewide,
standardized assessments, including the FAA, for up to three
years. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
administer this subparagraph which must expedite the process by
which exemptions are reviewed and approved and which demonstrate
the utmost compassion and consideration for meeting the parent’s
and child’s needs.

3. Permanent exemption approved by the Commissioner of
Education. If the commissioner is provided written documentation
of parental consent; district school superintendent approval of
a permanent exemption; the IEP team’s determination that the
child is a child with medical complexity based upon appropriate
medical documentation and that a permanent exemption is
appropriate; and all medical documentation, then the
commissioner may approve a permanent exemption from all
statewide, standardized assessments, including the FAA. The
State Board of Education shall adopt rules to administer this
subparagraph which must expedite the process by which exemptions
are reviewed and approved and which demonstrate the utmost
compassion and consideration for meeting the parent’s and
child’s needs.

(c) Reporting requirements. The Commissioner of Education
shall annually report to the Legislature data, by district, related to the implementation of this subsection at the same time as results are reported regarding student performance on statewide, standardized assessments.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 25 - 31

and insert:

correcting cross-references; amending s. 1008.22, F.S.; providing that a child with a medical complexity may be exempt from participating in statewide, standardized assessments under specified circumstances; defining the term “child with a medical complexity”; authorizing a parent to choose assessment exemption options; specifying the assessment exemption options; requiring the Commissioner of Education to report to the Legislature regarding the implementation of the exemption; providing an