

By the Committee on Education/K-12 and Representative
Andrews

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to student standards; amending
3 s. 11.42, F.S.; correcting a cross reference;
4 amending s. 229.565, F.S., relating to
5 educational evaluation procedures; revising
6 provisions relating to student performance
7 standards; providing for the Commissioner of
8 Education to adopt rules; deleting obsolete
9 language; correcting a cross reference;
10 amending s. 229.57, F.S.; revising provisions
11 relating to the student assessment program in
12 the public schools; revising the statewide
13 student achievement testing program and
14 providing test requirements; revising
15 requirements of the school district testing
16 programs; amending s. 230.2305, F.S.;
17 correcting a cross reference; amending s.
18 232.245, F.S., relating to pupil progression;
19 conforming provisions relating to the
20 cumulative grade point average required for
21 graduation; requiring intensive reading
22 instruction under certain circumstances;
23 authorizing retention under certain
24 circumstances; amending s. 232.2454, F.S.;
25 revising provisions relating to student
26 performance standards; amending s. 232.246,
27 F.S., relating to requirements for high school
28 graduation; revising certain credit
29 requirements; providing for satisfaction of
30 certain requirements; raising the required
31 cumulative grade point average for 9th graders

1 entering during the 1997-1998 school year and
2 thereafter; raising the required cumulative
3 grade point average that must be earned
4 prospectively by students who entered the 9th
5 grade before the 1997-1998 school year;
6 restricting credit for certain courses;
7 correcting cross references; amending s.
8 232.2462, F.S.; providing requirements for
9 receipt of high school credit through
10 articulated acceleration; amending s. 232.2463,
11 F.S.; revising provisions relating to the high
12 school grading system; amending s. 232.425,
13 F.S.; raising the grade point average required
14 for participation in interscholastic
15 extracurricular student activities; providing
16 for participation based on conduct and on
17 school board policy under certain
18 circumstances; amending s. 233.011, F.S.;
19 deleting obsolete language; correcting cross
20 references; amending s. 240.116, F.S.;
21 requiring the adoption of guidelines relating
22 to dual enrollment; amending s. 240.1161, F.S.,
23 relating to district interinstitutional
24 articulation agreements; adding a component;
25 deleting obsolete language; clarifying
26 language; amending s. 240.117, F.S., relating
27 to the common placement test for postsecondary
28 education; revising a dual enrollment
29 requirement; amending s. 240.118, F.S.;
30 requiring the recommendation of statutory
31 changes to reduce postsecondary remediation;

1 amending s. 240.529, F.S.; requiring standards
2 for preparation of teachers to instruct
3 students in higher-level mathematics concepts;
4 providing an effective date.

5
6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

7
8 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section
9 11.42, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:
10 11.42 The Auditor General.--

11 (3)

12 (b)1. No person shall be employed as a financial
13 auditor who does not possess the qualifications to take the
14 examination for a certificate as certified public accountant
15 under the laws of this state, and no person shall be employed
16 or retained as legal adviser, on either a full-time or a
17 part-time basis, who is not a member of The Florida Bar.

18 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph 1.,
19 employees in the positions associated with the Florida
20 Education Finance Program full-time enrollment verification
21 function that is assigned to the Auditor General pursuant to
22 s. 229.565(2)(3) may continue to meet the job qualifications
23 that existed prior to such transfer for a period of 3 years
24 after such transfer. Thereafter, they shall meet the
25 requirements of subparagraph 1. This subparagraph is repealed
26 on July 1, 1998.

27 Section 2. Section 229.565, Florida Statutes, is
28 amended to read:

29 229.565 Educational evaluation procedures.--

30 (1) STUDENT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.--

31

1 (a) The State Board of Education shall approve student
2 performance standards in the various program categories and
3 chronological grade levels which the Commissioner of Education
4 designates as necessary for maintaining a good educational
5 system. The standards must apply, without limitation, to
6 language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, the arts,
7 health and physical education, and foreign language reading,
8 writing, mathematics, science, history, government, geography,
9 economics, and computer literacy. The commissioner shall
10 obtain opinions and advice from citizens, educators, and
11 members of the business community in developing the standards.
12 For purposes of this section, the term "student performance
13 standard" means a statement describing a skill or competency
14 students are expected to learn.

15 (b) The student performance standards must address the
16 skills and competencies that a student must learn in order to
17 graduate from high school. The commissioner shall also develop
18 performance standards for students who learn a higher level of
19 skills and competencies.

20 ~~(c) Section 3, chapter 83-327, Laws of Florida, shall~~
21 ~~be implemented in the 1983-1984 school year and thereafter~~
22 ~~only to the extent specifically funded and authorized by law.~~

23 ~~(2) STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE.--The State Board of~~
24 ~~Education shall approve performance standards of excellence~~
25 ~~in, but not limited to, mathematics and science, which the~~
26 ~~Commissioner of Education determines shall best indicate the~~
27 ~~status of the state system of public education. This~~
28 ~~provision shall be implemented in the 1983-1984 school year~~
29 ~~and thereafter only to the extent specifically funded and~~
30 ~~authorized by law.~~

31

1 (2)~~(3)~~ EDUCATION EVALUATION.--The Commissioner of
2 Education, or the Auditor General as provided in paragraph
3 (a), shall periodically examine and evaluate procedures,
4 records, and programs in each district to determine compliance
5 with law and rules established by the state board, or by the
6 Commissioner of Education, and in each correctional
7 institution operated by the Department of Corrections to
8 determine compliance with law and rules established by the
9 Department of Corrections for the Correctional Education
10 Program pursuant to s. 944.801. Such evaluations shall
11 include, but not be limited to:

12 (a) Reported full-time equivalent membership in each
13 program category. This evaluation shall be conducted by the
14 Auditor General for the Florida Education Finance Program
15 full-time enrollment verification function.

16 (b) The organization of all special programs to ensure
17 compliance with law and the criteria established and approved
18 by the state board pursuant to the provisions of this section
19 and s. 230.23(4)(m).

20 (c) The procedures for identification and placement of
21 students in educational alternative programs for students who
22 are disruptive or unsuccessful in a normal school environment
23 and for diagnosis and placement of students in special
24 programs for exceptional students, to determine that the
25 district is following the criteria for placement established
26 by rules of the state board and the procedures for placement
27 established by that district school board and by the
28 Commissioner of Education.

29 ~~(d) Procedures for screening, identification, and~~
30 ~~assignment of instructional strategies of the Florida Primary~~
31 ~~Education Program, or an approved alternative program as~~

1 ~~provided in s. 230.2312, and any other provisions of the~~
2 ~~program.~~

3 (d)~~(e)~~ An evaluation of the standards by which the
4 school district evaluates basic and special programs for
5 quality, efficiency, and effectiveness.

6 (e)~~(f)~~ Determination of the ratio of administrators to
7 teachers in each school district.

8 (f)~~(g)~~ Compliance with the cost accounting and
9 reporting requirements of s. 237.34 and the extent to which
10 the percentage expenditure requirements therein are being met.

11 (g)~~(h)~~ Clearly defined data collection and
12 documentation requirements, including specifications of which
13 records and information need to be kept and how long the
14 records need to be retained. The information and
15 documentation needs for evaluation shall be presented to the
16 school districts and explained well in advance of the actual
17 audit date.

18 (h)~~(i)~~ Determination of school district achievement in
19 meeting the performance standards specified in s. 232.2454~~(1)~~.

20 (3)~~(4)~~ ASSISTANCE AND ADJUSTMENTS.--If discrepancies
21 or deficiencies are found, the Commissioner of Education shall
22 provide information and assistance to the superintendent and
23 personnel of the district in correcting the cited
24 deficiencies. Priority for such assistance shall be given to
25 providing the most deficient individual school programs with
26 research-based problem identification strategies and
27 alternatives to improve student performance. Such
28 alternatives shall be systematically drawn from research
29 related to school effectiveness, teacher effectiveness, or
30 management effectiveness. If it is determined that the
31 approved criteria and procedures for the placement of students

1 and the conduct of programs have not been followed by the
2 district, appropriate adjustments in the full-time equivalent
3 student count for that district shall be made, and any excess
4 funds shall be deducted from subsequent allocations of state
5 funds to that district. As provided for by rules ~~of the State~~
6 ~~Board of Education~~, if errors in a specific program of a
7 district recur in consecutive years due to lack of corrective
8 action by the district, adjustments may be made based upon
9 statistical estimates of error projected to the overall
10 district program.

11 (4)~~(5)~~ PREKINDERGARTEN EARLY INTERVENTION
12 PROGRAM.--The commissioner shall annually examine and evaluate
13 the procedures, records, and programs of each district which
14 has established a prekindergarten early intervention program
15 to determine the district's compliance with s. 230.2305 and
16 with the approved district plan for the prekindergarten early
17 intervention program.

18 Section 3. Subsections (3), (4), (5), and (6) of
19 section 229.57, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

20 229.57 Student assessment program.--

21 (3) STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.--The commissioner is
22 directed to design and implement a statewide program of
23 educational assessment that provides information for the
24 improvement of the operation and management of the public
25 schools. The program must be designed, as far as possible, so
26 as not to conflict with ongoing district assessment programs
27 and so as to use information obtained from district programs.
28 Pursuant to the statewide assessment program, the commissioner
29 shall:

30 (a) Submit to the state board a list that specifies
31 student skills and competencies to which the goals for

1 education specified in the state plan apply, including, but
2 not limited to, reading, writing, and mathematics. The skills
3 and competencies must include problem-solving and higher-order
4 skills as appropriate. The commissioner shall select such
5 skills and competencies after receiving recommendations from
6 educators, citizens, and members of the business community.
7 ~~Such skills and competencies must include, without limitation,~~
8 ~~those which comprise minimum standards of student performance.~~
9 The commissioner shall submit to the state board revisions to
10 the list of student skills and competencies in order to
11 maintain continuous progress toward improvements in student
12 proficiency.

13 (b) Develop and implement a uniform system of
14 indicators to describe the performance of public school
15 students and the characteristics of the public school
16 districts and the public schools. These indicators must
17 include, without limitation, information gathered by the
18 comprehensive management information system created pursuant
19 to s. 229.555 and student achievement information obtained
20 pursuant to this section.

21 (c) Develop and implement a student achievement
22 testing program as part of the statewide assessment program,
23 to be administered at designated times at the elementary,
24 middle, and high school levels to measure ~~each spring, of~~
25 ~~grades 4, 7, and 10~~ in reading, writing, and mathematics. The
26 testing program must be designed so that ~~as follows:~~

27 1. The tests measure student skills and competencies
28 adopted by the state board as specified in paragraph (a). The
29 tests must measure and report student proficiency levels in
30 reading, writing, and mathematics. Other content areas may be
31 included as directed by the commissioner. The commissioner

1 shall provide for the tests to be developed or obtained, as
2 appropriate, through contracts and project agreements with
3 private vendors, public vendors, public agencies,
4 postsecondary institutions, or school districts. The
5 commissioner shall obtain input with respect to the design and
6 implementation of the testing program from state educators and
7 the public.

8 2. The tests are criterion-referenced and include, to
9 the extent determined by the commissioner, items that require
10 the student to produce information or perform tasks in such a
11 way that the skills and competencies he or she uses can be
12 measured.

13 ~~1. For grades 4 and 7, the testing program must use~~
14 ~~nationally normed achievement tests that are administered by~~
15 ~~school districts in accordance with subsection (4). The State~~
16 ~~Board of Education shall adopt rules specifying the procedures~~
17 ~~to be used in reviewing available tests and rules designating~~
18 ~~a list of tests that are acceptable for this purpose. Each~~
19 ~~school district must administer one of the designated tests to~~
20 ~~fulfill the requirements of this section. The commissioner~~
21 ~~shall take steps to assure that the designated tests are~~
22 ~~administered in a uniform and acceptable manner and shall~~
23 ~~designate the dates of administration of these tests.~~

24 ~~2. For grade 10, the testing program must use a~~
25 ~~nationally normed student achievement test selected through an~~
26 ~~appropriate bidding process. The commissioner shall designate~~
27 ~~the criteria to be considered in the bidding process,~~
28 ~~including, without limitation, the degree to which the~~
29 ~~nationally normed test is compatible with college-level~~
30 ~~communication and computation skills defined pursuant to s.~~
31 ~~229.551(3)(f), the degree of relationship with the skills~~

1 ~~measured by the college-level communication and computation~~
2 ~~skills examination prescribed by s. 240.107, the technical~~
3 ~~quality of the test, the adequacy of normative data, and the~~
4 ~~security of the test forms to be used in this state. The~~
5 ~~content of the tests must include testing of problem-solving~~
6 ~~and higher-order skills to the extent possible. Participation~~
7 ~~in the 10th grade testing program is mandatory for all~~
8 ~~students in public schools except as may be otherwise~~
9 ~~prescribed by the commissioner for students not pursuing~~
10 ~~regular high school diplomas.~~

11 3. Each ~~The~~ testing program, whether at the
12 elementary, middle, or high school level, includes programs
13 ~~for grades 4, 7, and 10 must include~~ a test of writing in
14 which students are required to produce writings which are then
15 scored by appropriate methods.

16 4. ~~For the tests for grades 4 and 7,~~A score is ~~must~~
17 ~~be~~ designated for each subject area tested, below which score
18 a student's performance is deemed inadequate. The school
19 districts shall provide appropriate remedial instruction to
20 students who score below these levels.

21 5. All 11th grade students ~~shall be required to take a~~
22 high school competency test ~~tests~~ developed by the state board
23 to test minimum student performance skills and competencies in
24 reading, writing, and mathematics. The test must be based on
25 the skills and competencies adopted by the state board
26 pursuant to paragraph (a).Upon recommendation of the
27 commissioner, the state board shall designate a passing score
28 for each part of the high school competency test. In
29 establishing passing scores, the state board shall consider
30 any possible negative impact of the test ~~tests~~ on minority
31 students. A student must earn a passing score on each part

1 taken to qualify for a regular high school diploma. ~~The~~
2 ~~commissioner shall recommend rules to the state board for the~~
3 ~~provision of test adaptations and modifications of procedures~~
4 ~~as necessary for students in exceptional education programs~~
5 ~~and for students who have limited English proficiency.~~ The
6 school districts shall provide appropriate remedial
7 instruction to students who do not pass part of the competency
8 test.

9 6. Participation in the testing program is mandatory
10 for all students, except as otherwise prescribed by the
11 commissioner. The commissioner shall recommend rules to the
12 state board for the provision of test adaptations and
13 modifications of procedures as necessary for students in
14 exceptional education programs and for students who have
15 limited English proficiency.

16 ~~7.6.~~ A student seeking an adult high school diploma
17 must meet the same testing requirements that a regular high
18 school student must meet.

19
20 The commissioner may design and implement student testing
21 programs for any other grade level levels and subject area
22 areas, based on procedures designated by the commissioner to
23 monitor educational achievement in the state a census or
24 sampling.

25 (d) Obtain or develop a career planning assessment to
26 be administered to students, at their option, in grades 7 and
27 10 to assist them in preparing for further education or
28 entering the workforce. The statewide student assessment
29 program must include career planning assessment ~~as a free~~
30 ~~service to schools.~~

31

1 (e) Conduct ongoing research to develop improved
2 methods of assessing student performance, including, without
3 limitation, the use of technology to administer tests, the use
4 of electronic transfer of data, the development of
5 work-product assessments, and the development of process
6 assessments.

7 (f) Conduct ongoing research and analysis of student
8 achievement data, including, without limitation, monitoring
9 trends in student achievement, identifying school programs
10 that are successful, and analyzing correlates of school
11 achievement.

12 (g) Provide technical assistance to school districts
13 in the implementation of state and district testing programs
14 and the use of the data produced pursuant to such programs.

15 (4) DISTRICT TESTING PROGRAMS.--Each district shall
16 periodically assess student performance and achievement within
17 each school of the district. The ~~Such~~ assessment programs
18 must be based upon local goals and objectives that are
19 compatible with the state plan for education and that
20 supplement the skills and competencies adopted by the State
21 Board of Education. In grades 4 and 8 ~~7~~, each district shall
22 administer a nationally normed achievement test selected from
23 a list approved by the state board; the data resulting from
24 these tests must be provided to the Department of Education
25 according to procedures specified by the commissioner. The
26 commissioner may request achievement data for other grade
27 levels as necessary.

28 (5) SCHOOL TESTING PROGRAMS.--Each public school
29 administering an achievement test, whether at the elementary,
30 middle, or high school level, and each public school
31 administering ~~grades 4, 7, and 10 as well as~~ the high school

1 competency test, shall prepare an analysis of the resultant
2 data after each administration. The analysis must identify
3 strengths and needs in the educational program and trends over
4 time. The analysis must be used in conjunction with the
5 budgetary planning processes developed pursuant to s. 229.555
6 and the development of the programs of remediation described
7 in s. 233.051.

8 (6) ANNUAL REPORTS.--The commissioner shall prepare
9 annual reports of the results of the statewide assessment
10 program ~~in grades 4, 7, and 10~~ which describe student
11 achievement in the state, each district, and each school. The
12 commissioner shall prescribe the design and content of these
13 reports which must include, without limitation, descriptions
14 of the performance of students at both low levels and
15 exemplary levels, as well as the performance of students
16 scoring in the middle 50 percent of the test population.

17 Section 4. Subsection (8) of section 230.2305, Florida
18 Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:

19 230.2305 Prekindergarten early intervention program.--

20 (8) MONITORING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.--Pursuant to
21 s. 229.565(4)(5), the Commissioner of Education shall monitor
22 each district prekindergarten early intervention program at
23 least annually to determine compliance with the district plan
24 and the provisions of this section. If a program is not
25 brought into compliance within 3 months after the
26 commissioner's evaluation citing specific deficiencies, the
27 commissioner must withhold such funds as have been allocated
28 to the school board for its prekindergarten early intervention
29 program and which have not yet been released. The department
30 shall develop manuals and guidelines for the development of
31 district plans and shall provide ongoing technical assistance

1 to ensure that each district program maintains high standards
2 of quality and effectiveness.

3 Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 232.245, Florida
4 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to said
5 section, to read:

6 232.245 Pupil progression.--

7 (3) Each district comprehensive program for pupil
8 progression shall attempt ~~reflect an effort~~ to identify those
9 students at each grade level in grades 9 through 12 who have
10 attained a cumulative grade point average at ~~of 1.5~~ or below
11 the minimum cumulative grade point average required for
12 graduation pursuant to s. 232.246(5). The program must ~~shall~~
13 ~~further~~ include provisions for assisting such students to
14 achieve the required ~~the 1.5~~ cumulative grade point average
15 ~~required for graduation pursuant to s. 232.246~~.

16 (4) Beginning with the 1997-1998 school year, any
17 student who exhibits substantial deficiency in reading skills,
18 based on locally determined assessments conducted at the
19 beginning of grade 2, grade 3, and grade 4, or based on
20 teacher recommendation, must be given intensive reading
21 instruction immediately following the identification of the
22 reading deficiency. The student's reading proficiency must be
23 reassessed by locally determined assessment or based on
24 teacher recommendation at the beginning of the grade following
25 the intensive reading instruction, and the student must
26 continue to be given intensive reading instruction until the
27 reading deficiency is remedied. If the student's reading
28 deficiency is not remedied by the end of grade 5, the student
29 may be retained.

30 Section 6. Subsection (2) of section 232.2454, Florida
31 Statutes, is amended to read:

1 232.2454 District student performance standards,
2 instruments, and assessment procedures.--

3 (2) Each district school board shall adopt student
4 performance standards for each course ~~academic program~~ in
5 grades 9 through 12 for which credit toward high school
6 graduation is awarded. The board shall also establish
7 policies that require ~~as to~~ student mastery of performance
8 standards before credit for a course ~~program~~ may be awarded.
9 Teacher observations, classroom assignments, and examinations
10 may be considered appropriate methods of assessing student
11 mastery.

12 Section 7. Subsections (1), (5), (9), and (10) of
13 section 232.246, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph
14 (d) is added to subsection (7) of said section, to read:

15 232.246 General requirements for high school
16 graduation.--

17 (1) Graduation requires successful completion of
18 either a minimum of 24 academic credits in grades 9 through 12
19 ~~<U>or shall be required for graduation, provided that student~~
20 ~~completion of an International Baccalaureate curriculum shall~~
21 ~~be deemed to meet the curricular requirements of this~~
22 ~~subsection.~~ The 24 credits shall be distributed as follows:

23 (a) Four credits in English, with major concentration
24 in composition and literature.

25 (b) Three credits in mathematics. Effective for
26 students entering the 9th grade in the 1997-1998 school year
27 and thereafter, one of these credits must be Algebra I, a
28 series of courses equivalent to Algebra I, or a higher-level
29 mathematics course.

30 (c) Three credits in science, two of which must have a
31 laboratory component. The State Board of Education may grant

1 an annual waiver of the laboratory requirement to a school
2 district that certifies that its laboratory facilities are
3 inadequate, provided the district submits a capital outlay
4 plan to provide adequate facilities and makes the funding of
5 this plan a priority of the school board.

6 (d) One credit in American history.

7 (e) One credit in world history, including a
8 comparative study of the history, doctrines, and objectives of
9 all major political systems.

10 (f) One-half credit in economics, including a
11 comparative study of the history, doctrines, and objectives of
12 all major economic systems. The Florida Council on Economic
13 Education shall provide technical assistance to the department
14 and local school boards in developing curriculum materials for
15 the study of economics.

16 (g) One-half credit in American government, including
17 study of the Constitution of the United States. For students
18 entering the 9th grade in the 1997-1998 school year and
19 thereafter, the study of Florida government, including study
20 of the State Constitution, the three branches of state
21 government, and municipal and county government, shall be
22 included as part of the required study of American government.

23 (h)1. One credit in practical arts career education or
24 exploratory career education. Any vocational course as
25 defined in s. 228.041(22) may be taken to satisfy the high
26 school graduation requirement for one credit in practical arts
27 or exploratory career education provided in this subparagraph;

28 2. One credit in performing fine arts to be selected
29 from music, dance, drama, painting, or sculpture. A course in
30 any art form, in addition to painting or sculpture, that
31 requires manual dexterity, or a course in speech and debate,

1 may be taken to satisfy the high school graduation requirement
2 for one credit in performing arts pursuant to this
3 subparagraph; or

4 3. One-half credit each in practical arts career
5 education or exploratory career education and performing fine
6 arts, as defined in this paragraph.

7
8 Such credit for practical arts career education or exploratory
9 career education or for performing fine arts shall be made
10 available in the 9th grade, and students shall be scheduled
11 into a 9th grade course as a priority.

12 (i) One-half credit in life management skills to
13 include consumer education, positive emotional development,
14 nutrition, prevention of human immunodeficiency virus
15 infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome and other
16 sexually transmissible diseases, benefits of sexual abstinence
17 and consequences of teenage pregnancy, information and
18 instruction on breast cancer detection and breast
19 self-examination, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, drug
20 education, and the hazards of smoking. Such credit shall be
21 given for a course to be taken by all students in either the
22 9th or 10th grade.

23 (j) One-half credit in physical education to include
24 assessment, improvement, and maintenance of personal fitness.
25 Participation in an interscholastic sport, whether at the
26 freshman, junior-varsity, or varsity level, for a full season,
27 shall satisfy the one-half credit requirement in physical
28 education.

29 (k) Nine elective credits.

30
31

1 School boards may award a maximum of one-half credit in social
2 studies and one-half elective credit for student completion of
3 nonpaid voluntary community or school service work. Students
4 choosing this option must ~~shall~~ complete a minimum of 75 hours
5 of service in order to earn the one-half credit in either
6 category of instruction. Credit may not be earned for service
7 provided as a result of court action. School boards that
8 approve the award of credit for student volunteer service
9 shall develop guidelines regarding the award of the such
10 credit and school principals are ~~shall be~~ responsible for
11 approving specific volunteer activities. A course designated
12 in the Course Code Directory as grade 9 through grade 12 which
13 is taken below the 9th grade may be used to satisfy high
14 school graduation requirements or Florida Academic Scholar's
15 Certificate Program requirements as specified in a district's
16 pupil progression plan.

17 (5) Each district school board shall establish
18 standards for graduation from its schools, and these standards
19 must ~~which shall~~ include:

20 (a) Earning passing scores on the high school
21 competency test defined in s. 229.57(3)(c).

22 (b) Completion of all other applicable requirements
23 prescribed by the district school board pursuant to s.
24 232.245.

25 (c) Achievement of ~~Effective for the 1988-1989 school~~
26 ~~year and each year thereafter,~~ a cumulative grade point
27 average of 1.5 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, for students
28 entering 9th grade before the 1997-1998 school year; however,
29 these students must earn a cumulative grade point average of
30 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required
31 by subsection (1) that are taken after July 1, 1997.

1 (d) Achievement of a cumulative grade point average of
2 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required
3 by subsection (1), for students entering 9th grade in the
4 1997-1998 school year and thereafter ~~required courses for~~
5 graduation.

6 (e) For purposes of paragraphs (c) and (d):

7 1. Each district shall adopt policies ~~which are~~
8 designed to assist students in meeting these requirements ~~this~~
9 ~~requirement.~~ ~~These~~ Such policies may include, but are ~~shall~~
10 not ~~be~~ limited to: forgiveness policies, summer school
11 attendance, special counseling, volunteer and/or peer tutors,
12 school-sponsored help sessions, homework hotlines, and study
13 skills classes.

14 2. At the end of each semester, the parent or guardian
15 of each student in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 who has a
16 cumulative grade point average of less than 0.5 above the
17 cumulative grade point average required for graduation ~~2.0~~
18 shall be notified that the student is at risk of not meeting
19 the requirements for graduation. The notice shall contain an
20 explanation of the policies the district has ~~put~~ in place to
21 assist the student in meeting the grade point average
22 requirement.

23 3. Special assistance to obtain a high school
24 equivalency diploma pursuant to s. 229.814 may ~~shall~~ be given
25 only when ~~in such cases where~~ the student has completed all
26 requirements for graduation except the attainment of the
27 required ~~a 1.5~~ cumulative grade point average.

28
29 The standards required in this subsection, and any subsequent
30 modifications ~~thereto~~, shall be reprinted in the Florida
31

1 Administrative Code even though ~~such standards are~~ not defined
2 as "rules."

3 (7) No student may be granted credit toward high
4 school graduation for enrollment in the following courses or
5 programs:

6 (d) Any Level I course unless the student's assessment
7 indicates that a more rigorous course of study would be
8 inappropriate, in which case a written assessment of the need
9 must be included in the student's individual educational plan
10 or in a student performance plan, signed by the principal, the
11 guidance counselor, and the parent or guardian of the student,
12 or the student if the student is 18 years of age or older.

13 (9) A student who meets all requirements prescribed in
14 subsections (1), ~~(4)(5)~~, and ~~(5)(6)~~ shall be awarded a
15 standard diploma in a form prescribed by the state board. A
16 school board may attach the Florida gold seal vocational
17 endorsement to a standard diploma pursuant to s. 239.217 or,
18 instead in lieu of the standard diploma, award differentiated
19 diplomas to those exceeding the prescribed minimums. A student
20 who completes the minimum number of credits and other
21 requirements prescribed by subsections (1) and ~~(4)(5)~~, but who
22 is unable to meet the standards of paragraph ~~(5)(6)(a)~~,
23 paragraph ~~(5)(6)(b)~~, or paragraph ~~(5)(c)(6)(d)~~, shall be
24 awarded a certificate of completion in a form prescribed by
25 the state board. However, any student who is otherwise
26 entitled to a certificate of completion may elect to remain in
27 the secondary school either as a full-time student or a
28 part-time student for up to 1 additional year and receive
29 special instruction designed to remedy his or her identified
30 deficiencies. This special instruction shall be funded from
31 the state compensatory education funds of the district.

1 (10) The public hearing and consideration required in
2 ~~paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (6) and in~~ subsection
3 ~~(8)(9)~~ shall not be construed to amend or nullify the
4 requirements of security relating to the contents of
5 examinations or assessment instruments and related materials
6 or data as prescribed in s. 232.248.

7 Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
8 232.2462, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

9 232.2462 Attendance requirement for receipt of high
10 school credit; definition of "credit".--

11 (1)(a) For the purposes of requirements for high
12 school graduation, one full credit means a minimum of 150
13 hours of bona fide instruction in a designated course of study
14 which contains student performance standards as provided for
15 in s. 232.2454. Six semester credit hours of instruction
16 earned through enrollment pursuant to s. 240.116, which
17 satisfy the requirement of a district's interinstitutional
18 articulation agreement under s. 240.1161, shall also equal one
19 full credit.

20 Section 9. Section 232.2463, Florida Statutes, is
21 amended to read:

22 232.2463 High school grading system.--The grading
23 system and interpretation of letter grades used in public high
24 schools shall be as follows:

25 (1) Grade "A" equals 94 percent through 100 percent,
26 has a grade point average value of 4, and is defined as
27 "outstanding progress."

28 (2) Grade "B" equals 85 percent through 93 percent,
29 has a grade point average value of 3, and is defined as "above
30 average progress."
31

1 (3) Before the 1997-1998 school year, grade "C" equals
2 75 percent through 84 percent, has a grade point average value
3 of 2, and is defined as "average progress." For the 1997-1998
4 school year and each year thereafter, grade "C" equals 77
5 percent through 84 percent, has a grade point average value of
6 2, and is defined as "average progress."

7 (4) Before the 1997-1998 school year, grade "D" equals
8 65 percent through 74 percent, has a grade point average value
9 of 1, and is defined as "lowest acceptable progress." For the
10 1997-1998 school year and each year thereafter, grade "D"
11 equals 70 percent through 76 percent, has a grade point
12 average value of 1, and is defined as "lowest acceptable
13 progress."

14 (5) Before the 1997-1998 school year, grade "F" equals
15 zero percent through 64 percent, has a grade point average
16 value of zero, and is defined as "failure." For the 1997-1998
17 school year and each year thereafter, grade "F" equals zero
18 percent through 69 percent, has a grade point average value of
19 zero, and is defined as "failure."

20 (6) Grade "I" equals zero percent, has a grade point
21 average value of zero, and is defined as "incomplete."

22
23 For the purposes of class ranking, school districts may
24 exercise a weighted grading system.

25 Section 10. Subsection (3) of section 232.425, Florida
26 Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:

27 232.425 Student standards for participation in
28 interscholastic extracurricular student activities;
29 regulation.--

30 (3)(a) To be eligible to participate in interscholastic
31 extracurricular student activities, a student entering the 9th

1 grade during the 1997-1998 school year and thereafter must
2 maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above ~~1.5~~
3 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by
4 s. 232.246(1). In order to be eligible under this section,
5 students who entered the 9th grade prior to the 1997-1998
6 school year must maintain a cumulative grade point average of
7 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses
8 required by s. 232.246(1) that are taken after July 1, 1997.
9 Eligibility for the first semester of the 1997-1998 school
10 year for those students who entered the 9th grade prior to the
11 1997-1998 school year shall be based on the school board's
12 policy in effect for the 1996-1997 school year. Additionally,
13 a student must maintain satisfactory conduct and, if a student
14 is convicted of, or is found to have committed, a felony or a
15 delinquent act which would have been a felony if committed by
16 an adult, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the
17 student's participation in interscholastic extracurricular
18 activities is contingent upon established and published school
19 board policy.~~and must pass five subjects for the grading~~
20 ~~period immediately preceding participation; except that~~
21 ~~student eligibility for the first grading period of each new~~
22 ~~school year shall be based on passing five subjects and~~
23 ~~maintaining the required grade point average the previous~~
24 ~~school year, including subjects completed during the interim~~
25 ~~summer school session.~~

26 (b) Any student who is exempt from attending a full
27 school day under s. 228.041(13) must maintain the a 1.5 grade
28 point average required by this section and pass each class for
29 which he or she is enrolled.

30 (c) An individual home education student is ~~shall be~~
31 eligible to participate at a public school, and may develop an

1 agreement to participate at a nonpublic school, in the
2 interscholastic extracurricular activities of that school,
3 provided the following conditions are met:

4 1. The home education student must meet the
5 requirements of the home education program pursuant to s.
6 232.02(4).

7 2. During the period of participation at a school, the
8 home education student must demonstrate educational progress
9 as required in paragraph (b) in all subjects taken in the home
10 education program by a method of evaluation agreed upon by the
11 parent and the principal which may include: review of the
12 student's work by a certified teacher chosen by the parent;
13 grades earned through correspondence; grades earned in courses
14 taken at a community college, university, or trade school;
15 standardized test scores above the 35th percentile; or any
16 other method designated in s. 232.02(4).

17 3. The home education student must meet the same
18 residency requirements as other students in the school at
19 which he or she participates.

20 4. The home education student must meet the same
21 standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance as required
22 of other students in extracurricular activities.

23 5. The student must register with the school his or
24 her intent to participate in interscholastic extracurricular
25 activities as a representative of the school before ~~prior to~~
26 the beginning date of the season for the activity in which he
27 or she wishes to participate.

28 6. A student who transfers from a home education
29 program to a public school before ~~prior to~~ or during the first
30 grading period of the school year is ~~shall be~~ academically
31 eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular

1 activities during the first grading period provided the
2 student has a successful evaluation from the previous school
3 year, pursuant to subparagraph 2.

4 7. Any public school or nonpublic school student who
5 has been unable to maintain academic eligibility for
6 participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is
7 ~~shall be~~ ineligible to participate in such activities as a
8 home education student until ~~such time as~~ the student has
9 successfully completed one grading period in home education
10 pursuant to subparagraph 2. to become eligible to participate
11 as a home education student.

12 Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
13 233.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 233.011 Accountability in curriculum, educational
15 instructional materials, and testing.--

16 (2)(a) Subject to State Board of Education review and
17 approval, the Department of Education shall provide ~~develop,~~
18 ~~by April 1, 1985,~~ guidelines for the identification or
19 development, evaluation, oversight, and revision of:

20 1. Curriculum frameworks as specified in subsection
21 (3).

22 2. Student performance standards as specified in ss.
23 232.2454(1) and 229.565(1) ~~and (2)~~.

24 3. Model standards and procedures for the adoption of
25 state and district instructional materials and software
26 consistent with curriculum frameworks and student performance
27 standards as specified in this paragraph. Such models shall
28 provide the diverse student populations of the state with the
29 highest quality instructional materials and software in the
30 most cost-effective manner possible. Such models shall
31 include a component to ensure the production of instructional

1 materials and software by the state, or a consortium of
2 states, when economical or superior quality instructional
3 materials or software are unavailable from commercial sources
4 by special contract.

5 4. Model standards and procedures for state and
6 district adoption, analyses, and use of nationally normed
7 student achievement tests or other nationally normed
8 assessment instruments, as specified in subsection (4).

9 5. Criteria and procedures to determine which ~~the~~
10 individual school programs ~~which~~ are most deficient in student
11 performance. Such criteria and procedures shall take into
12 account testing results under the provisions of ss. 229.565
13 and 232.2454, and subsection (4).

14 6. Model training procedures for state-level and
15 district-level personnel assigned responsibilities for
16 evaluating and selecting instructional materials, software,
17 and norm-referenced achievement measures.

18 7. Standards for effective evaluation and comparable
19 evaluation and testing procedures among districts.

20 Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
21 240.116, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to
22 read:

23 240.116 Articulated acceleration.--

24 (2)(a)1. The dual enrollment program is ~~shall be~~ the
25 enrollment of an eligible secondary student in a postsecondary
26 course creditable toward a vocational certificate or an
27 associate or baccalaureate degree. For the purpose of this
28 subparagraph ~~paragraph~~, an eligible secondary student is
29 ~~defined as~~ a student who is enrolled in a Florida public
30 secondary school or in a Florida nonpublic secondary school
31 which is in compliance with s. 229.808 and conducts a

1 secondary curriculum pursuant to s. 232.246. Students
2 enrolled in postsecondary instruction that is not creditable
3 toward the high school diploma may ~~shall~~ not be classified as
4 dual enrollments. Students who are ~~shall be~~ permitted to
5 enroll in dual enrollment courses may take courses conducted
6 during school hours, after school hours, and during the summer
7 term. Any student so enrolled is ~~shall be~~ exempt from the
8 payment of registration, matriculation, and laboratory fees.
9 With the exception of vocational-preparatory instruction,
10 college-preparatory instruction, and other forms of
11 precollegiate instruction, as well as physical education
12 courses that focus on the physical execution of a skill rather
13 than the intellectual attributes of the activity, are ~~shall be~~
14 ineligible for inclusion in the dual enrollment program.
15 Recreation and leisure studies courses shall be evaluated
16 individually in the same manner as physical education courses
17 for potential inclusion in the program.

18 2. The Department of Education shall adopt guidelines
19 designed to achieve comparability across school districts of
20 both student qualifications and teacher qualifications for
21 dual enrollment courses. Student qualifications must
22 demonstrate readiness for college-level coursework if the
23 student is to be enrolled in college courses. Student
24 qualifications must demonstrate readiness for vocational-level
25 coursework if the student is to be enrolled in vocational
26 courses. In addition to the common placement examination,
27 student qualifications for college credit dual enrollment
28 courses must include a 3.0 unweighted grade point average, and
29 student qualifications for vocational certificate dual
30 enrollment courses must include a 2.0 unweighted grade point
31 average.

1 Section 13. Section 240.1161, Florida Statutes, is
2 amended to read:

3 240.1161 District interinstitutional articulation
4 agreements.--

5 (1) Superintendents ~~Each superintendent~~ of schools and
6 community college presidents ~~are president shall be~~
7 responsible for the development and implementation of a
8 comprehensive articulated acceleration program for the
9 students enrolled in their respective school districts and
10 service areas. Within this general responsibility, each ~~the~~
11 superintendent and president shall develop a comprehensive
12 interinstitutional articulation agreement for the school
13 district and community college that serves the school
14 district. The superintendent and president are encouraged to
15 establish an articulation committee for the purpose of
16 developing this agreement. Each state university president is
17 encouraged to designate a university representative to
18 participate in the development of the interinstitutional
19 articulation agreements for each school district within the
20 university service area.

21 (2) The district interinstitutional articulation
22 agreement for each ~~any~~ school year must ~~shall~~ be completed
23 before ~~prior to~~ high school registration for the fall term of
24 the following school year. ~~The initial agreement drafted~~
25 ~~pursuant to this section shall be completed no later than~~
26 ~~April 1, 1988.~~The initial agreement and each subsequent
27 agreement must ~~shall~~ include, but is ~~be~~ limited to, the
28 following components:

29 (a) A ratification or modification of all existing
30 articulation agreements.

31

1 (b) A delineation of courses and programs composed of
2 dual enrollment students.

3 (c) An identification of eligibility criteria for
4 student participation in dual enrollment courses and programs.

5 (d) A delineation of institutional responsibilities
6 regarding student screening prior to enrollment and monitoring
7 student performance subsequent to enrollment in dual
8 enrollment courses and programs.

9 (e) An identification of the criteria by which the
10 quality of dual enrollment courses and programs are to be
11 judged and a delineation of institutional responsibilities for
12 the maintenance of instructional quality.

13 (f) A delineation of institutional responsibilities
14 for assuming the cost of dual enrollment courses and programs
15 that includes such responsibilities for student instructional
16 materials.

17 (g) An identification of responsibility for providing
18 student transportation if the dual enrollment instruction is
19 conducted at a facility other than the high school campus.

20 (h) A delineation of the process for converting
21 college credit hours earned through dual enrollment and early
22 admission programs to high school credit based on mastery of
23 course outcomes.

24 (3) The superintendent of schools is ~~shall be~~
25 responsible for incorporating, either directly or by
26 reference, all dual enrollment courses contained within the
27 district interinstitutional articulation agreement within the
28 district pupil progression plan.

29 (4) Courses and programs may be added to or deleted
30 from the district interinstitutional articulation agreement at
31 any time. Such additions and deletions must ~~shall~~ be mutually

1 approved by the superintendent of schools and community
2 college president before ~~prior to~~ incorporation into the
3 agreement.

4 (5) School districts and community colleges may enter
5 into additional interinstitutional articulation agreements
6 with state universities for the purposes of this section.
7 School districts may also enter into interinstitutional
8 articulation agreements with eligible independent colleges and
9 universities pursuant to s. 236.081(1)(j). State universities
10 and community colleges may enter into interinstitutional
11 articulation agreements with nonpublic secondary schools,
12 pursuant to s. 240.116.

13 (6) The Department of Education shall approve any
14 course for inclusion in the dual enrollment program that is
15 contained within the common course designation and numbering
16 system. However, college-preparatory and other forms of
17 precollegiate instruction, and physical education and other
18 courses that focus on the physical execution of a skill rather
19 than the intellectual attributes of the activity, may ~~shall~~
20 not be so approved, but must. ~~Recreation and leisure studies~~
21 ~~courses shall~~ be evaluated individually ~~in the same manner as~~
22 ~~physical education courses~~ for potential inclusion in the dual
23 enrollment program.

24 Section 14. Subsection (5) of section 240.117, Florida
25 Statutes, is amended to read:

26 240.117 Common placement testing for public
27 postsecondary education.--

28 (5) A ~~No~~ student may not ~~shall~~ be enrolled in a
29 college credit ~~mathematics or English~~ course on a dual
30 enrollment basis unless the student has demonstrated adequate
31 precollegiate preparation on the ~~section of the~~ basic

1 computation and communication skills assessment required
2 pursuant to subsections subsection (1) and (2)~~that is~~
3 ~~appropriate for successful student participation in the~~
4 ~~course.~~

5 Section 15. Subsection (5) is added to section
6 240.118, Florida Statutes, to read:

7 240.118 Postsecondary feedback of information to high
8 schools.--

9 (5) The Commissioner of Education shall annually
10 recommend to the Legislature statutory changes to reduce the
11 incidence of postsecondary remediation in mathematics,
12 reading, and writing for first-time enrolled recent high
13 school graduates.

14 Section 16. Subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of
15 subsection (3) of section 240.529, Florida Statutes, are
16 amended, and paragraph (d) is added to subsection (4) of said
17 section, to read:

18 240.529 Public accountability and state approval for
19 teacher preparation programs.--

20 (2) DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS.--A
21 system ~~shall be~~ developed by the Department of Education in
22 collaboration with institutions of higher education shall to
23 assist departments and colleges of education in the
24 restructuring of their programs to meet the need for producing
25 quality teachers now and in the future. The system must be
26 designed to ~~shall~~ assist teacher educators in conceptualizing,
27 developing, implementing, and evaluating programs that meet
28 state-adopted standards. The Education Standards Commission
29 has ~~shall have~~ primary responsibility for recommending these
30 standards to the State Board of Education for adoption. These
31 standards shall emphasize quality indicators drawn from

1 research, professional literature, recognized guidelines,
2 Florida essential teaching competencies, effective classroom
3 practices, and the outcomes of the state system of school
4 improvement and education accountability and "Blueprint 2000,"
5 as well as performance measures. Departments and colleges of
6 education shall ensure that teacher preparation programs and
7 courses emphasizing "Blueprint 2000" concepts and standards
8 receive priority funding.

9 (3) INITIAL STATE PROGRAM APPROVAL.--

10 (a) A program approval process, based on standards
11 adopted pursuant to subsection (2) must, ~~shall~~ be established
12 for postsecondary teacher preparation programs, ~~. This program~~
13 ~~approval process shall be~~ phased in according to timelines
14 determined by the Department of Education, ~~and, by July 1,~~
15 ~~1995, shall be~~ fully implemented for all teacher preparation
16 programs in the state. Each program shall choose one of the
17 following options:

18 1. An approval process that incorporates those
19 provisions and requirements necessary for recognition by the
20 National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education
21 and that provides for joint accreditation and program approval
22 review by the state and the National Council for the
23 Accreditation of Teacher Education for those units seeking
24 initial or continuing accreditation. The approval process must
25 ~~shall~~ be consistent with the intent set forth in subsection
26 (1); or

27 2. An alternative program approval process developed
28 by the department. This alternative approval process must
29 ~~shall~~ be consistent with the intent set forth in subsection
30 (1) and ~~shall be~~ based primarily upon significant, objective,
31 and quantifiable graduate performance measures. This approval

1 process may ~~shall~~ not be based on National Council for the
2 Accreditation of Teacher Education provisions and
3 requirements.

4
5 For purposes of this section, the term "unit" is defined by
6 the National Association for the Accreditation of Teacher
7 Education and means the college, school, department, or other
8 administrative body within the institution that is primarily
9 responsible for the preparation of teachers and other
10 professional education personnel. The term "program" is
11 defined by the State Board of Education and means a set of
12 courses, activities, or other experiences designed to help
13 individuals develop the competencies required for a specified
14 type of certification coverage.

15 (4) CONTINUED PROGRAM APPROVAL.--Beginning July 1,
16 1995, and notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3),
17 failure by a public or nonpublic teacher preparation program
18 to meet the criteria for continued program approval shall
19 result in loss of program approval. The Department of
20 Education in collaboration with the departments and colleges
21 of education shall develop procedures for continued program
22 approval that document the continuous improvement of program
23 processes and graduates' performance.

24 (d) Beginning July 1, 1997, continued approval for a
25 teacher preparation program is contingent upon standards being
26 in place that are designed to adequately prepare elementary,
27 middle, and high school teachers to instruct their students in
28 higher-level mathematics concepts at the appropriate grade
29 level.

30 Section 17. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Revises provisions relating to educational evaluation procedures. Revises requirements of the student assessment program in the public schools. Requires intensive reading instruction for students with identified reading deficiencies. Authorizes retention under certain circumstances. Revises provisions relating to student performance standards. With respect to high school graduation requirements, revises certain credit requirements, raises the required cumulative grade point average, and restricts credit for certain courses. Provides requirements for receipt of high school credit through articulated acceleration. Revises provisions relating to the high school grading system. Raises the grade point average required for participation in interscholastic extracurricular student activities. Provides for participation based on conduct and on school board policy under certain circumstances. Requires the adoption of guidelines relating to dual enrollment. Provides requirements for district interinstitutional articulation agreements. Revises provisions relating to dual enrollment course requirements. Requires recommendation of statutory changes to reduce postsecondary remediation. Requires standards for preparation of teachers to instruct students in higher-level mathematics concepts.