

By the Committee on Community Colleges & Career Prep and
Representatives Sindler, Fasano, Diaz de la Portilla,
Harrington, Gay, Wise, Wallace and Kelly

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to postsecondary education
3 readiness; amending s. 229.595, F.S.; requiring
4 the inclusion of student postsecondary
5 preparedness information in manuals and
6 handbooks; amending s. 229.601, F.S.; providing
7 for recommended high school coursework
8 information; creating s. 232.2466, F.S.;
9 providing requirements for a college-ready
10 diploma program; requiring a task force to
11 recommend incentives for pursuit of a
12 college-ready diploma; amending s. 239.117,
13 F.S.; requiring the payment of fees for the
14 continuous enrollment of students in
15 college-preparatory instruction; amending s.
16 239.301, F.S.; deleting conflicting language;
17 requiring the payment of fees for the
18 continuous enrollment of students in
19 college-preparatory instruction; amending s.
20 240.1161, F.S.; requiring implementation
21 strategies for reducing the incidence of
22 postsecondary remediation; requiring an
23 assessment of activities and the presentation
24 of outcomes; providing for the promotion of
25 "tech prep" activities; amending s. 240.117,
26 F.S.; requiring the administration of the
27 common placement test or an equivalent test
28 during the tenth grade; requiring the
29 administration of an institutionally developed
30 test in lieu of the common placement test as an
31 exit exam from remedial instruction; clarifying

1 language regarding the offering of
2 college-preparatory instruction; requiring
3 payment of fees for the continuous enrollment
4 of students in college-preparatory instruction;
5 creating s. 240.124, F.S.; providing for an
6 increase in fees for undergraduate students who
7 continually enroll in the same college credit
8 courses; providing for exceptions; amending s.
9 240.321, F.S.; applying entrance requirements
10 to all degree programs; permitting a
11 demonstration of competency as an alternative
12 degree program admission requirement; providing
13 an exemption from the testing requirement under
14 certain circumstances; requiring the
15 establishment of institutional policies
16 regarding alternatives to traditional
17 college-preparatory instructional methods;
18 providing an effective date.

19
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

21
22 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 229.595, Florida
23 Statutes, is amended to read:

24 229.595 Implementation of state system of education
25 accountability for school-to-work transition.--

26 (2) School accountability efforts shall include
27 information regarding the provision of accurate, timely career
28 and curricular counseling to students. Such accountability
29 shall include a delineation of the information available to
30 students regarding career opportunities, educational
31 requirements associated with each career, educational

1 institutions that prepare students to enter each career, and
2 student financial aid available to enable students to pursue
3 any postsecondary instruction required to enter that career.
4 Such accountability shall also delineate school procedures for
5 identifying individual student interests and aptitudes which
6 enable students to make informed decisions about the
7 curriculum that best addresses their individual interests and
8 aptitudes while preparing them to enroll in postsecondary
9 education and enter the workforce. Information shall include
10 recommended high school coursework that prepares students for
11 success in college-level work. Such information shall be made
12 known to parents and students annually through inclusion in
13 the institution's handbook, manual, or other similar documents
14 regularly provided to parents and students. Schools are
15 encouraged to implement innovative methods for the
16 communication of information to parents and students. School
17 districts are encouraged to work with their local community
18 colleges to ensure information regarding all state and federal
19 aid programs is provided on an accurate and timely basis.

20 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
21 229.601, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

22 229.601 Career education program.--

23 (2) There is hereby established a career education
24 program in the state educational system. The Commissioner of
25 Education and his or her designated staff shall administer
26 this program. In developing and administering the career
27 education program, the purpose of which is to promote positive
28 career opportunities for all students regardless of their
29 race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, socioeconomic
30 status, or gender, the commissioner shall:

31

1 (b) Assemble, develop, and distribute instructional
2 materials for use in career education. Such materials shall
3 include information regarding recommended high school
4 coursework that prepares students for success in college-level
5 coursework.

6 Section 3. Section 232.2466, Florida Statutes, is
7 created to read:

8 232.2466 College-ready diploma program.--

9 (1) Beginning with the 1997-1998 school year, each
10 school district shall award a differentiated college-ready
11 diploma to each student who:

12 (a) Successfully completes the requirements for a
13 standard high school diploma as prescribed by s. 232.246.

14 Among courses taken to fulfill the 24-academic-credit
15 requirement, a student must take:

16 1. Two credits in algebra and one credit in geometry,
17 or their equivalents, as determined by the state board.

18 2. One credit in biology, one credit in chemistry, and
19 one credit in physics, or their equivalents, or equivalent
20 credits in applied technology, as determined by the state
21 board.

22 3. Two credits in the same foreign language, taken for
23 elective credit. A student whose native language is not
24 English is exempt from this requirement if the student
25 demonstrates proficiency in the native language. American sign
26 language constitutes a foreign language.

27 (b) Takes the postsecondary education common placement
28 test prescribed in s. 240.117, or an equivalent test
29 identified by the State Board of Education, before graduation
30 and scores at or above the established statewide passing score
31 in each test area.

1 (2) A college-ready diploma entitles a student to
2 admission without placement testing to a public postsecondary
3 education program that terminates in a technical certificate,
4 an associate in science degree, or an associate in arts
5 degree, if the student enters postsecondary education within 2
6 years after earning the college-ready diploma.

7 (3) The Department of Education shall convene a task
8 force of educators and employers to recommend additional
9 incentives for students to pursue a college-ready diploma.
10 The incentives may include awards and recognition, preference
11 for positions in firms, and early registration privileges in
12 postsecondary education institutions.

13 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section
14 239.117, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to
15 read:

16 239.117 Postsecondary student fees.--

17 (5)

18 (b) Students enrolled in college-preparatory
19 instruction shall pay fees equal to the fees charged for
20 college credit courses. Students enrolled in the same
21 college-preparatory class within a skill area more than one
22 time ~~two times~~ shall pay fees at 100 percent of the full cost
23 of instruction and shall not be included in calculations of
24 full-time equivalent enrollments for state funding purposes
25 ~~direct instructional cost~~; however, each community college
26 shall have the authority to review and reduce such payment on
27 an individual basis, contingent upon a student's financial
28 hardship, pursuant to definitions and fee levels established
29 by the State Board of Community Colleges. Fee-nonexempt
30 students enrolled in vocational preparatory instruction shall
31 be charged fees equal to the fees charged for certificate

1 career education instruction. Each community college that
2 conducts college-preparatory and vocational-preparatory
3 instruction in the same class section may charge a single fee
4 for both types of instruction.

5 Section 5. Subsection (4) and paragraph (d) of
6 subsection (5) of section 239.301, Florida Statutes, 1996
7 Supplement, are amended to read:

8 239.301 Adult general education.--

9 (4) Both community colleges and school districts may
10 conduct adult basic and secondary and vocational-preparatory
11 courses within the same service area. ~~Any state university in~~
12 ~~which the percentage of incoming students who require~~
13 ~~college-preparatory instruction equals or exceeds 25 percent~~
14 ~~may conduct college-preparatory instruction.~~ Area technical
15 centers and community colleges may contract with each other
16 for the provision of vocational-preparatory instruction.

17 (5)

18 (d) Expenditures for college-preparatory and lifelong
19 learning students shall be reported separately. Allocations
20 for college-preparatory courses shall be based on proportional
21 full-time equivalent enrollment. Program review results shall
22 be included in the determination of subsequent allocations. A
23 student shall be funded to enroll in the same
24 college-preparatory class within a skill area only once ~~twice~~,
25 after which time the student shall pay 100 percent of the full
26 cost of instruction ~~no state funds shall be used~~ to support
27 the continuous enrollment of that student in the same class;
28 however, each community college shall have the authority to
29 review and reduce fees paid by students on an individual basis
30 contingent upon the student's financial hardship, pursuant to
31 definitions and fee levels established by the State Board of

1 Community Colleges. College-preparatory and lifelong learning
2 courses do not generate credit toward an associate or
3 baccalaureate degree.

4 Section 6. Subsections (1) and (2) of section
5 240.1161, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

6 240.1161 District interinstitutional articulation
7 agreements.--

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

23 (2) The district interinstitutional articulation
24 agreement for any school year shall be completed by April 1
25 and prior to high school registration for the fall term of the
26 following school year. ~~The initial agreement drafted pursuant~~
27 ~~to this section shall be completed no later than April 1,~~
28 ~~1988. The initial agreement and each subsequent agreement~~
29 shall include, but not be limited to, the following
30 components:

31

1 (a) A ratification or modification of all existing
2 articulation agreements.

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

5 2.~~(e)~~ An identification of eligibility criteria for
6 student participation in dual enrollment courses and programs.

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

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

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

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

23 (c) Mechanisms and strategies for reducing the
24 incidence of postsecondary remediation in math, reading, and
25 writing for first-time-enrolled recent high school graduates,
26 based upon the findings in the postsecondary readiness for
27 college report produced pursuant to s. 240.118. Each
28 articulation committee shall annually analyze and assess the
29 effectiveness of the mechanisms toward meeting the goal of
30 reducing postsecondary remediation needs. Results of the
31 assessment shall be annually presented to participating

1 district school boards and community college boards of
2 trustees and shall include, but not be limited to:

3 1. Mechanisms currently being initiated.

4 2. An analysis of problems and corrective actions.

5 3. Anticipated outcomes.

6 4. Strategies for the better preparation of students
7 upon graduation from high school.

8 5. An analysis of costs associated with the
9 implementation of postsecondary remedial education and
10 secondary-level corrective actions.

11 6. The identification of strategies for reducing costs
12 of the delivery of postsecondary remediation for recent high
13 school graduates, including the consideration and assessment
14 of alternative instructional methods and services such as
15 those produced by private providers.

16
17 Wherever possible, public schools and community colleges are
18 encouraged to share resources, form partnerships with private
19 industries, and implement innovative strategies and mechanisms
20 such as distance learning, summer student and faculty
21 workshops, parental involvement activities, and the
22 distribution of information over the Internet.

23 (d) Mechanisms and strategies for promoting "tech
24 prep" programs of study. Such mechanisms should raise
25 awareness about the programs, promote enrollment in the
26 programs, and articulate students from a secondary portion
27 into a planned, related postsecondary portion of a sequential
28 program of study that leads to a terminal postsecondary
29 vocational or technical education degree or certificate.

30 Section 7. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 240.117,
31 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1 240.117 Common placement testing for public
2 postsecondary education.--

3 (3) ~~By January 15, 1996,~~The Articulation Coordinating
4 Committee shall recommend and the State Board of Education
5 shall adopt rules which would require high schools to give
6 ~~offer students the opportunity to take~~ the common placement
7 test prescribed in this section, or an equivalent test
8 identified by the State Board of Education,at the beginning
9 of the tenth grade year before enrollment in the eleventh
10 grade year in public high school for the purpose of obtaining
11 remedial instruction prior to entering public postsecondary
12 education.

13 (4)(a) Community college or state university students
14 who have been identified as requiring additional preparation
15 pursuant to subsection (1) shall enroll in college-preparatory
16 adult education pursuant to s. 239.301 in community colleges
17 to develop needed college-entry skills. These students shall
18 be permitted to take courses within their degree program
19 concurrently in other curriculum areas for which they are
20 qualified while enrolled in college-preparatory instruction
21 courses. A student enrolled in a college-preparatory course
22 may concurrently enroll only in college credit courses that do
23 not require the skills addressed in the college-preparatory
24 course. The State Board of Community Colleges shall specify
25 the college credit courses that are acceptable for students
26 enrolled in each college-preparatory skill area, pursuant to
27 s. 240.311(3)(q). A student who wishes to earn an associate
28 in arts or a baccalaureate degree, but who is required to
29 complete a college-preparatory course, must successfully
30 complete the required college-preparatory studies by the time
31 the student has accumulated 12 hours of lower-division college

1 credit degree coursework; however, a student may continue
2 enrollment in degree-earning coursework provided the student
3 maintains enrollment in college-preparatory coursework for
4 each subsequent semester until college-preparatory coursework
5 requirements are completed, and the student demonstrates
6 satisfactory performance in degree-earning coursework. A
7 passing score on a standardized institutionally developed ~~all~~
8 ~~subtests of the common placement~~ test must be achieved before
9 a student is considered to have met basic computation and
10 communication skills requirements; however, no student shall
11 be required to retake any test or subtest which was previously
12 passed by said student. A student shall be funded to enroll
13 in the same college-preparatory class within a skill area only
14 ~~<U>once twice~~, after which time the student shall pay 100 percent
15 of the full cost of instruction ~~no state funds shall be used~~
16 to support continuous enrollment of that student in the same
17 class and such student shall not be included in calculations
18 of full-time equivalent enrollments for state funding
19 purposes; however, each community college shall have the
20 authority to review and reduce fees paid by students on an
21 individual basis contingent upon the student's financial
22 hardship, pursuant to definitions and fee levels established
23 by the State Board of Community Colleges. Credit awarded for
24 college-preparatory instruction may not be counted towards
25 fulfilling the number of credits required for a degree.

26 (b) The administrators of a state university may
27 contract with a community college board of trustees for the
28 community college to provide such instruction on the state
29 university campus. Any state university in which the
30 percentage of incoming students requiring college-preparatory
31 instruction equals or exceeds the average percentage of such

1 students for the community college system may offer
2 college-preparatory instruction without contracting with a
3 community college; however, any state university offering
4 college-preparatory instruction as of January 1, 1996, may
5 continue to provide such services.

6 Section 8. Section 240.124, Florida Statutes, is
7 created to read:

8 240.124 Funding for continuous enrollment in college
9 credit courses.--A student enrolled in the same undergraduate
10 college credit course more than two times shall pay
11 matriculation at 100 percent of the full cost of instruction
12 and shall not be included in calculations of full-time
13 equivalent enrollments for state funding purposes. For
14 purposes of this section, calculations of the full cost of
15 instruction shall be based on the systemwide average of the
16 prior year's cost of undergraduate programs for the Community
17 College System and the State University System. The Board of
18 Regents and the State Board of Community Colleges may make
19 exceptions to this section for individualized study, elective
20 coursework, courses that are repeated as a requirement of a
21 major, and courses that are intended as continuing over
22 multiple semesters, excluding the repeat of coursework more
23 than two times to increase grade point average or meet minimum
24 course grade requirements.

25 Section 9. Section 240.321, Florida Statutes, is
26 amended to read:

27 240.321 Community college district board of trustees;
28 rules for admissions of students.--

29 ~~(1)~~ The board of trustees shall make rules governing
30 admissions of students. These rules shall include the
31 following:

1 (1)~~(a)~~ Admissions counseling shall be provided to all
2 students entering college credit programs, which counseling
3 shall utilize tests to measure achievement of college-level
4 communication and computation competencies by all students
5 entering college credit programs.

6 (2)~~(b)~~ Admission to ~~the~~ associate ~~in arts~~ degree
7 programs ~~program~~ is subject to minimum standards adopted by
8 the State Board of Education and shall require:

9 (a)~~1~~. A high school diploma, a high school equivalency
10 diploma as prescribed in s. 229.814, previously demonstrated
11 competency in college-credit postsecondary coursework, or, in
12 the case of a student who is home educated, a signed affidavit
13 submitted by the student's parent or legal guardian attesting
14 that the student has completed a home education program
15 pursuant to the requirements of s. 232.02(4) or its
16 equivalent. Students who are enrolled in a dual enrollment or
17 early admission program pursuant to s. 240.116 and secondary
18 students enrolled in college-level instruction creditable
19 toward the associate degree, but not toward the high school
20 diploma, shall be exempt from this requirement.

21 (b)~~2~~. A demonstrated level of achievement of
22 college-level communication and computation skills. Students
23 entering a postsecondary education program within 2 years of
24 graduation from high school with an earned college-ready
25 diploma issued pursuant to s. 232.2466 shall be exempt from
26 this testing requirement.

27 (c)~~3~~. Any other requirements established by the board
28 of trustees.

29 (3)~~(c)~~ Admission to other programs within the
30 community college shall include education requirements as
31 established by the board of trustees.

1
2 Each board of trustees shall establish policies that ensure
3 the rapid progression of students through college-preparatory
4 instructional courses that are appropriate for the skill level
5 of each student. Institutional policies shall also provide
6 for the timely notification of students about available
7 alternatives to traditional college-preparatory instruction,
8 including private provider instruction. Such notification
9 shall include an analysis of cost comparisons, including
10 consideration of the state's contribution to the total cost of
11 the instruction.

12 ~~(d) Nonresident students may be admitted to the~~
13 ~~community college upon such terms as the board may establish.~~

14 ~~(2) For students who are awarded a high school diploma~~
15 ~~after August 1, 1987:~~

16 ~~(a) No Florida high school graduate shall be admitted~~
17 ~~to the associate in arts degree program if he or she has not~~
18 ~~successfully completed the requirements set forth in s.~~
19 ~~232.246 or unless he or she has been awarded a general~~
20 ~~education development diploma, provided the examination~~
21 ~~completed for such diploma was in the English language.~~

22 ~~(b) Nonresident students may be admitted to the~~
23 ~~community college upon such terms as the college may~~
24 ~~establish. However, effective August 1, 1987, such terms for~~
25 ~~nonresidents admitted to the associate in arts degree program~~
26 ~~shall include, but shall not be limited to:~~

27 ~~1. Completion of a secondary school curriculum which~~
28 ~~includes 4 years of English and 3 years each of mathematics,~~
29 ~~science, and social studies; however, in lieu of the English~~
30 ~~requirement, a foreign student may use 4 years of instruction~~
31 ~~in his or her native language or another language which was~~

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1 ~~the language of instruction in the secondary school attended,~~
 2 ~~or~~
 3 ~~2. Achievement of the minimum scores on the test~~
 4 ~~required in s. 240.117(1).~~

5 Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

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10 Provides for the distribution of recommended high school
 11 coursework information. Provides requirements for a
 12 college-ready diploma program. Requires the payment of
 13 fees for the continuous enrollment of students in
 14 college-preparatory instruction. Requires strategies for
 15 reducing the incidence of postsecondary remediation and
 16 assessment of activities. Provides for the promotion of
 17 "tech prep" programs of study. Requires administration of
 18 the common placement test or an equivalent test in the
 19 tenth grade. Requires administration of an
 20 institutionally developed test as a remedial instruction
 21 exit exam. Clarifies provisions relating to the offering
 22 of college-preparatory instruction. Provides for an
 23 increase in fees for undergraduate students who
 24 continually enroll in the same college credit courses.
 25 Revises entrance requirements for community college
 26 degree programs. Requires policies regarding alternatives
 27 to college-preparatory instructional methods.

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