

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to education; amending s.  
3           24.121, F.S.; deleting obsolete language  
4           relating to the release of lottery funds to  
5           school districts; amending s. 229.58, F.S.;  
6           revising provisions relating to membership of  
7           school advisory councils; amending s. 229.591,  
8           F.S., relating to school improvement and  
9           education accountability; including  
10          postsecondary institutions in the goal of  
11          ensuring professional teachers and staff;  
12          amending s. 231.02, F.S., relating to  
13          qualifications of district school system  
14          personnel; deleting certain provisions relating  
15          to background check; amending s. 231.096, F.S.;  
16          revising provisions relating to teaching  
17          out-of-field; amending s. 231.15, F.S.;  
18          providing State Board of Education duties  
19          relating to teacher certification; amending s.  
20          231.17, F.S.; revising provisions relating to  
21          qualification for a temporary certificate;  
22          providing certain decisionmaking authority of  
23          the Commissioner of Education; amending s.  
24          231.1725, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to  
25          employment of noncertificated teachers in  
26          critical teacher shortage areas; providing for  
27          protection of laws for students performing  
28          clinical field experience; amending s. 231.24,  
29          F.S.; providing certificate renewal  
30          requirements relating to teaching students with  
31          limited English proficiency; amending s.

1 231.261, F.S.; providing rulemaking authority  
2 of the Education Practices Commission; amending  
3 s. 231.263, F.S.; clarifying provisions  
4 relating to the recovery network program for  
5 educators; amending s. 231.29, F.S.; requiring  
6 State Board of Education rules relating to  
7 personnel assessment; amending s. 231.40, F.S.;  
8 providing that members of a school system sick  
9 leave pool may contribute additional hours to  
10 the pool above the maximum permitted when a  
11 member of the pool is suffering a medical  
12 hardship; amending s. 231.47, F.S.; correcting  
13 a cross reference; amending s. 231.546, F.S.,  
14 relating to the Education Standards Commission;  
15 deleting duties relating to teacher education  
16 centers; amending s. 231.600, F.S.; revising  
17 requirements of the school district  
18 professional development system; amending s.  
19 231.625, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to  
20 a teacher referral and recruitment center;  
21 requiring establishment of a teacher  
22 recruitment and retention services office;  
23 amending s. 231.6255, F.S.; revising provisions  
24 relating to the Christa McAuliffe Ambassador  
25 for Education Program; creating s. 231.63,  
26 F.S.; creating the Florida Educator Hall of  
27 Fame; providing for nominations,  
28 recommendations, and selection of members;  
29 repealing s. 231.613, F.S., relating to  
30 inservice training institutes; amending s.  
31 240.529, F.S.; providing that, beginning in the

1 1999-2000 academic year, State University  
2 System initial teacher preparation programs  
3 shall include an optional teacher field  
4 experience in schools located in socially and  
5 economically disadvantaged areas; providing for  
6 annual stipends for each teacher who has  
7 completed a residency program; providing an  
8 effective date.  
9

10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
11

12 Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section  
13 24.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 24.121 Allocation of revenues and expenditure of funds  
15 for public education.--

16 (5)

17 (d) ~~Beginning July 1, 1993,~~No funds shall be released  
18 for any purpose from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund to  
19 any school district in which one or more schools do not have  
20 an approved school improvement plan pursuant to s. 230.23(16).  
21

22 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
23 229.58, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

24 229.58 District and school advisory councils.--

25 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.--

26 (a) The school board shall establish an advisory  
27 council for each school in the district, and shall develop  
28 procedures for the election and appointment of advisory  
29 council members. A majority of the members of each school  
30 advisory council must be persons who are not employed by the  
31 school board. Each advisory council shall be composed of the  
principal and an appropriately balanced number of teachers,

1 education support employees, students, parents, and other  
2 business and community citizens who are representative of the  
3 ethnic, racial, and economic community served by the school.7  
4 ~~provided that~~ Vocational-technical center and high school  
5 advisory councils shall include students, and middle and  
6 junior high school advisory councils may include students.  
7 School advisory councils of vocational-technical and adult  
8 education centers are not required to include parents as  
9 members.Council members representing teachers, education  
10 support employees, students, and parents shall be elected by  
11 their respective peer groups at the school in a fair and  
12 equitable manner as follows:

- 13 1. Teachers shall be elected by teachers.
- 14 2. Education support employees shall be elected by  
15 education support employees.
- 16 3. Students shall be elected by students.
- 17 4. Parents shall be elected by parents.

18  
19 The school board shall establish procedures for use by schools  
20 in selecting business and community members. Such procedures  
21 shall include means of ensuring wide notice of vacancies and  
22 for taking input on possible members from local business,  
23 chambers of commerce, community and civic organizations and  
24 groups, and the public at large. The school board shall review  
25 the membership composition of each advisory council. Should  
26 the school board determine that the membership elected by the  
27 school is not representative of the ethnic, racial, and  
28 economic community served by the school, the board shall  
29 appoint additional members to achieve proper representation.  
30 Although schools should be strongly encouraged to establish  
31 school advisory councils, any school district that has a

1 student population of 10,000 or fewer may establish a district  
2 advisory council which shall include at least one duly elected  
3 teacher from each school in the district. For the purposes of  
4 school advisory councils and district advisory councils, the  
5 term "teacher" shall include classroom teachers, certified  
6 student services personnel, and media specialists. For  
7 purposes of this paragraph, "education support employee" means  
8 any person employed by a school who is not defined as  
9 instructional or administrative personnel pursuant to s.  
10 228.041 and whose duties require 20 or more hours in each  
11 normal working week.

12 Section 3. Paragraph (f) of subsection (3) of section  
13 229.591, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 229.591 Comprehensive revision of Florida's system of  
15 school improvement and education accountability.--

16 (3) EDUCATION GOALS.--The state as a whole shall work  
17 toward the following goals:

18 (f) Teachers and staff.--The schools, district, all  
19 postsecondary institutions, and state ensure professional  
20 teachers and staff.

21 Section 4. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) of  
22 section 231.02, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

23 231.02 Qualifications of personnel.--

24 (2)(a) Instructional and noninstructional personnel  
25 who are hired to fill positions requiring direct contact with  
26 students in any district school system or laboratory school  
27 shall, upon employment, file a complete set of fingerprints  
28 taken by an authorized law enforcement officer or an employee  
29 of the school or district who is trained to take fingerprints.  
30 These fingerprints shall be submitted to the Department of Law  
31 Enforcement for state processing and to the Federal Bureau of

1 Investigation for federal processing. ~~School districts which~~  
2 ~~have authorized terminal access to the Florida Crimes~~  
3 ~~Information Telecommunications Network or the National Crime~~  
4 ~~Information Center may use this equipment for the background~~  
5 ~~check required by this subsection.~~ Such new employees shall be  
6 on probationary status pending fingerprint processing and  
7 determination of compliance with standards of good moral  
8 character. Employees found through fingerprint processing to  
9 have been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude shall  
10 not be employed in any position requiring direct contact with  
11 students. Probationary employees terminated because of their  
12 criminal record shall have the right to appeal such decisions.  
13 The cost of the fingerprint processing may be borne by the  
14 school board or the employee.

15 (b) ~~Any provision of law notwithstanding, by January~~  
16 ~~1, 1997, for personnel currently required to be certified~~  
17 ~~under s. 231.17, and January 1, 1998, for all other personnel~~  
18 ~~currently employed by any district school system or any other~~  
19 ~~public school who have not been fingerprinted and screened in~~  
20 ~~the same manner outlined in paragraph (a) shall submit a~~  
21 ~~complete set of fingerprints taken by an authorized law~~  
22 ~~enforcement officer or an employee of the school or district~~  
23 ~~who is trained to take fingerprints. The fingerprints shall~~  
24 ~~be submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement for state~~  
25 ~~processing and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for federal~~  
26 ~~processing. School districts which have authorized terminal~~  
27 ~~access to the Florida Crimes Telecommunications Network or the~~  
28 ~~National Crime Information Center may use that equipment for~~  
29 ~~the background check required by this paragraph. Employees~~  
30 ~~found through fingerprint processing to have been convicted of~~  
31 ~~a crime involving moral turpitude shall not be employed in any~~

1 ~~position requiring direct contact with students. The cost of~~  
2 ~~the fingerprint processing may be borne by the school district~~  
3 ~~or the individual employee at a cost not to exceed \$24.00.~~  
4 ~~Any additional cost shall be borne by the Department of~~  
5 ~~Education. Each local school board and laboratory school shall~~  
6 ~~develop policies necessary for the implementation of this~~  
7 ~~subsection. The Commissioner of Education shall provide~~  
8 ~~guidelines regarding standards of good moral character for use~~  
9 ~~in the development of these policies. Within these standards,~~  
10 ~~the lack of good moral character shall be defined as having~~  
11 ~~been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude.~~

12 Section 5. Section 231.096, Florida Statutes, is  
13 amended to read:

14 231.096 Teacher teaching out-of-field;  
15 assistance.--Each school district shall have a plan to assist  
16 any teacher teaching out-of-field, and priority consideration  
17 in professional development activities shall be given to  
18 teachers who are teaching out-of-field ~~in summer inservice~~  
19 ~~institutes. A district may include in its annual summer~~  
20 ~~inservice institute plan a section that provides for~~  
21 ~~institutes in instructional areas identified as district~~  
22 ~~critical teacher shortage areas and approved by the Department~~  
23 ~~of Education.~~

24 Section 6. Section 231.15, Florida Statutes, is  
25 amended to read:

26 231.15 Positions for which certificates required.--

27 (1) The State Board of Education shall have authority  
28 to classify school services, designate the certification  
29 subject areas, establish competencies and certification  
30 requirements for all school-based personnel, and ~~to~~ prescribe  
31 rules in accordance with which the professional, temporary,

1 and part-time certificates shall be issued by the Department  
2 of Education to applicants ~~school employees~~ who meet the  
3 standards prescribed by such rules for their class of service.  
4 Each person employed or occupying a position as school  
5 supervisor, principal, teacher, library media specialist,  
6 school counselor, athletic coach, or other position in which  
7 the employee serves in an instructional capacity, in any  
8 public school of any district of this state shall hold the  
9 certificate required by law and by rules of the state board in  
10 fulfilling the requirements of the law for the type of service  
11 rendered. However, the state board shall adopt rules  
12 authorizing school boards to employ selected noncertificated  
13 personnel to provide instructional services in the  
14 individuals' fields of specialty or to assist instructional  
15 staff members as teacher aides. Each person who is employed  
16 and renders service as an athletic coach in any public school  
17 in any district of this state shall hold a valid part-time,  
18 temporary, or professional certificate. Each person employed  
19 as a school nurse shall hold a license to practice nursing in  
20 the state, and each person employed as a school physician  
21 shall hold a license to practice medicine in the state. The  
22 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any athletic  
23 coach who renders service in a voluntary capacity and who is  
24 not employed by any public school of any district in this  
25 state.

26 (2) A commissioned or noncommissioned military officer  
27 who is an instructor of junior reserve officer training shall  
28 be exempt from requirements for teacher certification, except  
29 for the filing of fingerprints pursuant to s. 231.02 ~~231.1712~~,  
30 if he or she meets the following qualifications:

31



1 (a) Is retired from active military duty with at least  
2 20 years of service and draws retirement pay or is retired, or  
3 transferred to retired reserve status, with at least 20 years  
4 of active service and draws retirement pay or retainer pay.

5 (b) Satisfies criteria established by the appropriate  
6 military service for certification by the service as a junior  
7 reserve officer training instructor.

8 (c) Has an exemplary military record.

9  
10 If such instructor is assigned instructional duties other than  
11 junior reserve officer training, he or she shall hold the  
12 certificate required by law and rules of the state board for  
13 the type of service rendered.

14 Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section  
15 231.17, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (14) is  
16 added to said section, to read:

17 231.17 Official statements of eligibility and  
18 certificates granted on application to those meeting  
19 prescribed requirements.--

20 (3) TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE.--

21 (c) To qualify for a temporary certificate, the  
22 applicant must:

23 1. File a written statement under oath that the  
24 applicant subscribes to and will uphold the principles  
25 incorporated in the Constitutions of the United States and of  
26 the State of Florida.

27 2. Be at least 18 years of age.

28 3. Document receipt of a bachelor's or higher degree  
29 from an accredited institution of higher learning, as defined  
30 by state board rule. Credits and degrees awarded by a newly  
31 created Florida state institution that is part of the State

1 University System shall be considered as granted by an  
2 accredited institution of higher learning during the first 2  
3 years of course offerings while accreditation is gained.  
4 Degrees from foreign institutions, or degrees from other  
5 institutions of higher learning that are in the accreditation  
6 process, may be validated by a process established in state  
7 board rule. Once accreditation is gained, the institution  
8 shall be considered as accredited beginning with the 2-year  
9 period prior to the date of accreditation.The bachelor's or  
10 higher degree may not be required in areas approved in rule by  
11 the State Board of Education as nondegreed areas. Each  
12 applicant seeking initial certification must have attained at  
13 least a 2.5 overall grade point average on a 4.0 scale in the  
14 applicant's major field of study. The applicant may document  
15 the required education by submitting official transcripts from  
16 institutions of higher education or by authorizing the direct  
17 submission of such official transcripts through established  
18 electronic network systems.

19 ~~4. Meet such academic and professional requirements~~  
20 ~~based on credentials certified by standard institutions of~~  
21 ~~higher learning, including any institutions of higher learning~~  
22 ~~in this state accredited by an accrediting association that is~~  
23 ~~a member of the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary~~  
24 ~~Accreditation, as prescribed by the state board.~~

25 ~~4.5.~~ Be competent and capable of performing the  
26 duties, functions, and responsibilities of a teacher.

27 ~~5.6.~~ Be of good moral character.

28  
29 Rules adopted pursuant to this section shall provide for the  
30 review and acceptance of credentials from foreign institutions  
31 of higher learning.

1           (14) AUTHORITY OF COMMISSIONER.--The Commissioner of  
2 Education is authorized to make decisions regarding an  
3 applicant's certification under extenuating circumstances not  
4 otherwise provided for in statute or rule.

5           Section 8. Section 231.1725, Florida Statutes, is  
6 amended to read:

7           231.1725 Employment of substitute teachers, teachers  
8 of adult education, and nondegreed teachers of career  
9 education; students performing clinical field experience, ~~and~~  
10 ~~noncertificated teachers in critical teacher shortage areas.--~~

11           (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 231.02,  
12 231.15, and 231.17, ~~and 231.172~~ or any other provision of law  
13 or rule to the contrary, each school board shall establish the  
14 minimal qualifications for:

15           (a) Substitute teachers to be employed pursuant to s.  
16 231.47. The qualifications shall require the filing of a  
17 complete set of fingerprints in the same manner as required by  
18 s. 231.02.

19           (b) Part-time and full-time teachers in adult  
20 education programs. The qualifications shall require the  
21 filing of a complete set of fingerprints in the same manner as  
22 required by s. 231.02. Faculty employed solely to conduct  
23 postsecondary instruction may be exempted from this  
24 requirement.

25           (c) Part-time and full-time nondegreed teachers of  
26 vocational programs. Qualifications shall be established for  
27 agriculture, business, health occupations, family and consumer  
28 sciences, industrial, marketing, and public service education  
29 teachers, based primarily on successful occupational  
30 experience rather than academic training. The qualifications  
31 for such teachers shall require:

1           1. The filing of a complete set of fingerprints in the  
2 same manner as required by s. 231.02. Faculty employed solely  
3 to conduct postsecondary instruction may be exempted from this  
4 requirement.

5           2. Documentation of education and successful  
6 occupational experience including documentation of:

7           a. A high school diploma or the equivalent.

8           b. Completion of 6 years of full-time successful  
9 occupational experience or the equivalent of part-time  
10 experience in the teaching specialization area. Alternate  
11 means of determining successful occupational experience may be  
12 established by the school board.

13           c. Completion of career education training conducted  
14 through the local school district inservice master plan.

15           d. For full-time teachers, completion of professional  
16 education training in teaching methods, course construction,  
17 lesson planning and evaluation, and teaching special needs  
18 students. This training may be completed through coursework  
19 from a standard institution or an approved district teacher  
20 education program.

21           e. Demonstration of successful teaching performance.

22           ~~(d) Part-time and full-time noncertificated teachers~~  
23 ~~in critical teacher shortage areas. The qualifications shall~~  
24 ~~require the filing of fingerprints in the same manner as~~  
25 ~~required by s. 231.02 and shall be based on academic training~~  
26 ~~in the essential generic and specialization competencies of~~  
27 ~~the instructional assignment. The school board shall be~~  
28 ~~responsible for determining critical teacher shortage areas~~  
29 ~~within the school district. Each school board shall annually~~  
30 ~~report the number, qualifications, and areas of assignment of~~

31

1 ~~all noncertificated teachers employed pursuant to this~~  
2 ~~paragraph during each school year.~~

3 (2) Substitute, adult education, and nondegreed career  
4 education teachers ~~and noncertificated teachers in critical~~  
5 ~~teacher shortage areas~~ who are employed pursuant to this  
6 section shall have the same rights and protection of laws as  
7 certified teachers.

8 (3) A student who is enrolled in a state-approved  
9 teacher preparation program in an institution of higher  
10 education approved by rules of the State Board of Education  
11 and who is jointly assigned by such institution of higher  
12 education and a school board to perform a clinical field  
13 experience under the direction of a regularly employed and  
14 certified educator shall be accorded the same protection of  
15 laws as that accorded the certified educator while serving  
16 such supervised clinical field experience, except for the  
17 right to bargain collectively with employees of the school  
18 board.

19 Section 9. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (3) of  
20 section 231.24, Florida Statutes, to read:

21 231.24 Process for renewal of professional  
22 certificates.--

23 (3) For the renewal of a professional certificate, the  
24 following requirements must be met:

25 (d) For an educator who is required to complete  
26 training in teaching students with limited English  
27 proficiency, state board of education rules for the expanded  
28 use of such training shall apply as follows:

29 1. A teacher who holds a professional certificate may  
30 use college credits or inservice points completed in English  
31 for Speakers of Other Languages training in excess of 6

1 semester hours during one certificate validity period toward  
2 renewal of the professional certificate during subsequent  
3 validity periods.

4 2. A teacher who holds a temporary certificate may use  
5 college credits or inservice points completed in English for  
6 Speakers of Other Languages training toward renewal of the  
7 first professional certificate. Such training shall not have  
8 been included within the degree program. The temporary and  
9 professional certificates shall be issued for consecutive  
10 school years.

11 Section 10. Paragraph (d) of subsection (7) of section  
12 231.261, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13 231.261 Education Practices Commission;  
14 organization.--

15 (7) The duties and responsibilities of the commission  
16 are to:

17 (d) Have rulemaking authority pursuant to chapter 120  
18 to establish procedures for operations and administration,  
19 disciplinary proceedings, indexing, implementation of orders,  
20 and retention of records, and to establish disciplinary  
21 guidelines.

22 Section 11. Subsections (9) and (12) of section  
23 231.263, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

24 231.263 Recovery network program for educators.--

25 (9) An approved treatment provider must disclose to  
26 the recovery network program all information in its possession  
27 which relates to a person's impairment and participation in  
28 the treatment program. Information obtained under this  
29 subsection is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.  
30 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This exemption is  
31 necessary to promote the rehabilitation of impaired educators

1 ~~teachers~~ and to protect the privacy of treatment program  
2 participants. The failure to provide such information to the  
3 program is grounds for withdrawal of approval of a treatment  
4 provider. Medical records provided to the program may not be  
5 disclosed to any other person, except as authorized by law.

6 (12) The State Board of Education shall include in the  
7 fees established pursuant to s. 231.30 ~~s. 231.15(3)~~ an amount  
8 sufficient to implement the provisions of this section. The  
9 state board shall by rule establish procedures and additional  
10 standards for:

11 (a) Approving treatment providers, including  
12 appropriate qualifications and experience, amount of  
13 reasonable fees and charges, and quality and effectiveness of  
14 treatment programs provided.

15 (b) Admitting eligible persons to the program.

16 (c) Evaluating impaired persons by the recovery  
17 network program.

18 Section 12. Subsection (8) is added to section 231.29,  
19 Florida Statutes, to read:

20 231.29 Assessment procedures and criteria.--

21 (8) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules  
22 pursuant to chapter 120 to review and approve each district's  
23 instructional personnel assessment system.

24 Section 13. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section  
25 231.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

26 231.40 Sick leave.--

27 (4) SICK LEAVE POOL.--Notwithstanding any other  
28 provision of this section, a school board, based upon the  
29 maintenance of reliable and accurate records by the district  
30 school system showing the amount of sick leave which has been  
31 accumulated and is unused by employees in accordance with this

1 section, may, by rule or collective bargaining agreement,  
2 establish one or more plans allowing participating full-time  
3 employees of a district school system to pool sick leave  
4 accrued and allowing any sick leave thus pooled to be  
5 disbursed to any participating employee who is in need of sick  
6 leave in excess of that amount he or she has personally  
7 accrued. Such rules or agreements shall include, but not be  
8 limited to, the following provisions:

9       (d)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2.,  
10 participating employees shall make equal contributions to the  
11 sick leave pool. There shall be established a maximum amount  
12 of sick leave which may be contributed by an employee to the  
13 pool. After the initial contribution which an employee makes  
14 upon electing to participate, no further contributions shall  
15 be required except as may be necessary to replenish the pool.  
16 Any such further contribution shall be equally required of all  
17 employees participating in the pool.

18       2. In the case where an employee is suffering a  
19 medical hardship, as defined by rule, other members of the  
20 sick leave pool may donate additional days over the maximum  
21 amount permitted to be contributed.

22       Section 14. Section 231.47, Florida Statutes, is  
23 amended to read:

24       231.47 Substitute teachers.--Each school board shall  
25 adopt rules prescribing the compensation of, and the procedure  
26 for employment of, substitute teachers. Such procedure for  
27 employment shall include, but not be limited to, the filing of  
28 a complete set of fingerprints as required in s. 231.02  
29 ~~231.1712~~.

30       Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 231.546, Florida  
31 Statutes, is amended to read:



1           231.546 Education Standards Commission; powers and  
2 duties.--

3           (1) The Education Standards Commission shall have the  
4 duty to:

5           (a) Recommend to the state board desirable standards  
6 relating to programs and policies for the development,  
7 certification and certification extension, improvement, and  
8 maintenance of competencies of educational personnel,  
9 including teacher interns.

10           (b) Recommend to the state board standards for  
11 approval of preservice teacher education programs.

12           (c) Plan and conduct an annual review of human  
13 resources studies regarding teaching personnel and report the  
14 findings to the state board.

15           (d) Recommend to the state board objective,  
16 independently verifiable standards of measurement and  
17 evaluation of teaching competence.

18           (e) Recommend to the state board alternative ways to  
19 demonstrate qualifications for certification which assure  
20 fairness and flexibility while protecting against  
21 incompetence.

22           ~~(f) Recommend to the state board the most feasible~~  
23 ~~locations for teacher education centers from proposals~~  
24 ~~submitted by school districts and universities.~~

25           ~~(g) Recommend to the state board guidelines for the~~  
26 ~~expenditure of funds for teacher education centers and~~  
27 ~~approval of teacher education center programs.~~

28           (f)(h) Recommend critical state priorities for  
29 preservice and inservice teacher training such as  
30 understanding diverse student populations, working in a  
31 changing workplace, and understanding subject matter and

1 instruction. The commission shall recommend standards for  
2 measuring evidence of training in these priorities for  
3 continuing program approval for preservice teacher education,  
4 initial teacher certification and certificate renewal, and  
5 staff development activities.

6 (g)~~(i)~~ Evaluate the progress of school community  
7 professional development systems as provided in s. 231.600.

8 (h)~~(j)~~ Perform such other duties as may be required to  
9 achieve the purposes of this section and s. 231.545.

10 Section 16. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) and  
11 subsection (6) of section 231.600, Florida Statutes, are  
12 amended to read:

13 231.600 School Community Professional Development  
14 Act.--

15 (4) The Department of Education, school districts,  
16 schools, and public colleges and universities share the  
17 responsibilities described in this section. These  
18 responsibilities include the following:

19 (b) Each district school board shall consult with  
20 teachers and representatives of college and university  
21 faculty, community agencies, and other interested citizen  
22 groups to establish policy and procedures to guide the  
23 operation of the district professional development program.  
24 The professional development system must:

25 1. Require that schools identify student needs that  
26 can be met by improved professional performance, and assist  
27 schools in making these identifications;

28 2. Provide training activities coupled with followup  
29 support that is ~~and other professional development~~ appropriate  
30 to accomplish district-level and school-level improvement  
31 goals and standards; and

1           3. Provide for systematic consultation with regional  
2 and state personnel designated to provide technical assistance  
3 and evaluation of local professional development programs.

4           (6) The Department of Education shall design methods  
5 by which the state and district school boards may evaluate and  
6 improve the professional development system. The evaluation  
7 must include an annual assessment of data that indicate  
8 progress or lack of progress of all students ~~whose needs were~~  
9 ~~identified as most critical to improved professional~~  
10 ~~development, including needs of students with disabilities,~~  
11 ~~students having limited proficiency in English, and~~  
12 ~~low-achieving student populations.~~ If the review of data  
13 indicates an achievement level that is unusual, the department  
14 may investigate the causes of the success or lack of success,  
15 may provide technical assistance, and may require the school  
16 district to employ a different approach to professional  
17 development. The department shall report annually to the  
18 State Board of Education and the Legislature any school  
19 district that, in the determination of the department, has  
20 failed to provide an adequate professional development system.  
21 This report must include the results of the department's  
22 investigation and of any intervention provided.

23           Section 17. Section 231.625, Florida Statutes, is  
24 amended to read:

25           231.625 Teacher ~~shortage~~ recruitment and retention  
26 referral.--

27           (1) The Department of Education, ~~through the Center~~  
28 ~~for Career Development Services,~~ in cooperation with teacher  
29 organizations, and district personnel offices, and colleges of  
30 education directors, shall ~~expand its career information~~

1 ~~system to~~ concentrate on the recruitment of qualified teachers  
2 ~~in teacher shortage areas.~~

3 (2) The Department of Education, ~~through the Center~~  
4 ~~for Career Development Services,~~ shall establish a teacher  
5 ~~referral and recruitment~~ and retention services office center  
6 which shall:

7 (a) Advertise teacher positions in targeted states  
8 ~~with declining student enrollments.~~

9 (b) Advertise in major newspapers, national  
10 professional publications, and other professional publications  
11 and in ~~graduate~~ schools of education.

12 (c) Utilize state and a nationwide toll-free numbers  
13 ~~number and a central post office box.~~

14 (d) Develop standardized resumes for teacher applicant  
15 data.

16 (e) Conduct periodic communications with district  
17 ~~superintendents and~~ personnel directors regarding ~~new~~  
18 applicants.

19 (f) Provide district access to the applicant database  
20 by computer or telephone.

21 (g) Develop and distribute promotional materials  
22 related to teaching as a career.

23 (h) Publish and distribute information pertaining to  
24 employment opportunities, application procedures, teacher  
25 certification, and teacher salaries ~~and benefits for beginning~~  
26 ~~and continuing teachers.~~

27 (i) Provide ~~Publish~~ information related to alternative  
28 certification procedures.

29 (j) Develop and sponsor the Florida Future Educator of  
30 America Program ~~clubs~~ throughout the state.

31

1 (k) Review and recommend to the Legislature and school  
2 districts incentives for attracting teachers to this state.

3 (3) The Office of Teacher Recruitment and Retention  
4 Services ~~teacher referral and recruitment center~~, in  
5 cooperation with ~~teacher organizations and~~ district personnel  
6 offices ~~directors~~, shall sponsor a an annual job fair in a  
7 central part of the state to match in-state educators and  
8 out-of-state educators with teaching opportunities in this  
9 state.

10 Section 18. Section 231.6255, Florida Statutes, is  
11 amended to read:

12 231.6255 Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for Education  
13 Program.--

14 (1) The Legislature recognizes that Florida continues  
15 to face teacher shortages ~~faces a severe shortage of teachers~~  
16 and that fewer young people consider teaching as a career. It  
17 is the intent of the Legislature to promote the positive and  
18 rewarding aspects of being a teacher, to encourage more  
19 individuals to become teachers, and to provide annual  
20 sabbatical support for outstanding Florida teachers to serve  
21 as goodwill ambassadors for education. The Legislature  
22 further wishes to honor the memory of Christa McAuliffe, who  
23 epitomized the challenge and inspiration that teaching can be.

24 (2) There is established the Christa McAuliffe  
25 Ambassador for Education Program to provide salary, travel,  
26 and other related expenses annually for an outstanding Florida  
27 teacher to promote the positive aspects of teaching as a  
28 career. The goals of the program are to:

29 (a) Enhance the stature of teachers and the teaching  
30 profession.

31

1 (b) Promote the importance of quality education and  
2 teaching for our future.

3 (c) Inspire and attract talented young people to  
4 become teachers.

5 (d) Provide information regarding Florida's  
6 scholarship and loan programs related to teaching.

7 (e) Promote the teaching profession within community  
8 and business groups.

9 (f) Provide information ~~regarding Florida's~~  
10 ~~alternative certification program~~ to retired military  
11 personnel and other individuals who might consider teaching as  
12 a second career.

13 (g) Work with and represent the Office of Teacher  
14 Recruitment and Retention Services ~~teacher referral and~~  
15 ~~recruitment center~~, as needed.

16 (h) Work with and encourage the efforts of school and  
17 district teachers of the year.

18 (i) Support the activities of the Florida Future  
19 Educator ~~Teacher~~ of America Program ~~clubs~~.

20 (j) Represent Florida teachers at business, trade,  
21 education, and other conferences and meetings.

22 (k) Promote the teaching profession in other ways  
23 related to the teaching responsibilities, background  
24 experiences, and aspirations of the Ambassador for Education.

25 (3) The Teacher of the Year shall serve as the  
26 Ambassador for Education, ~~except that for the first 2 years,~~  
27 ~~Florida's NASA Teachers in Space shall also serve as~~  
28 ~~Ambassadors for Education.~~ If the Teacher of the Year is  
29 unable to serve as the Ambassador for Education, the first  
30 runner-up shall serve in his or her place. The Department of  
31 Education ~~Each district school board~~ shall establish

1 application and selection procedures for determining an annual  
2 teacher of the year. Applications and selection criteria shall  
3 be developed and distributed annually by the Department of  
4 Education to all school districts.The Commissioner of  
5 Education shall establish a selection committee which assures  
6 representation from teacher organizations, administrators, and  
7 parents to select the Teacher of the Year and Ambassador for  
8 Education from among the district teachers of the year.  
9 ~~Selection criteria shall be developed and distributed annually~~  
10 ~~to all school districts.~~

11 (4)(a) The Department of Education and the Office of  
12 Teacher Recruitment and Retention Services, ~~through the Center~~  
13 ~~for Career Development Services and in conjunction with the~~  
14 ~~teacher referral and recruitment center,~~ shall administer the  
15 program.

16 (b) The Commissioner of Education shall pay an annual  
17 salary, fringe benefits, travel costs, and other costs  
18 associated with administering the program.

19 (c) The Ambassador for Education shall serve for 1  
20 year, from July 1 to June 30, and shall be assured of  
21 returning to his or her teaching position upon completion of  
22 the program. The ambassador will not have a break in  
23 creditable or continuous service or employment for the period  
24 of time in which he or she participates in the program.

25 Section 19. Section 231.63, Florida Statutes, is  
26 created to read:

27 231.63 Florida Educator Hall of Fame.--

28 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to recognize  
29 and honor those persons, living or dead, who have made  
30 significant contributions to education in this state.

31

1           (2)(a) There is hereby established the Florida  
2 Educator Hall of Fame. The Florida Educator Hall of Fame shall  
3 be located in an area on the Plaza Level of the Capitol  
4 Building.

5           (b) The Florida Education Foundation shall make a  
6 recommendation for the design and theme for the Florida  
7 Educator Hall of Fame. The Commissioner of Education, in  
8 consultation with the Secretary of Management Services, shall  
9 approve the foundation's recommendation.

10           (c) Each person who is selected as a member shall have  
11 a plaque placed in the Florida Educator Hall of Fame. The  
12 plaque shall designate the member's particular discipline or  
13 contribution and shall set forth vital information relating to  
14 the member. Each member shall also receive a standardized  
15 memento of the member's selection.

16           (3) The Florida Education Foundation shall accept  
17 nominations annually for persons to be recommended as members  
18 of the Florida Educator Hall of Fame. Floridians who have made  
19 a significant contribution to education in this state, as  
20 determined and documented by the Florida Education Foundation,  
21 shall be eligible for membership. The foundation shall  
22 recommend to the Commissioner of Education persons to be named  
23 as members of the Florida Educator Hall of Fame.

24           (4) In the first year, the Commissioner of Education  
25 shall name no more than 10 members to the Florida Educator  
26 Hall of Fame. Thereafter, the commissioner shall name no more  
27 than four members to the Florida Educator Hall of Fame in any  
28 1 year.

29           (5) The Commissioner of Education and the Florida  
30 Education Foundation shall develop and adopt written policies  
31 to carry out the purposes of this section, including



1 procedures to accept nominations, make recommendations for  
2 selection of members, provide recipient's travel expenses, and  
3 provide funding for the Florida Educator Hall of Fame.

4 (6) The Commissioner of Education may annually request  
5 an appropriation from the Legislature sufficient to carry out  
6 the purposes of this section. The Florida Education Foundation  
7 may also provide funds to cover any or all expenses related to  
8 the Florida Educator Hall of Fame.

9 Section 20. Section 231.613, Florida Statutes, is  
10 repealed.

11 Section 21. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (5)  
12 of section 240.529, Florida Statutes, and subsection 11 is  
13 added to said section to read:

14 240.529 Public accountability and state approval for  
15 teacher preparation programs.--

16 (5) PRESERVICE FIELD EXPERIENCE.--All postsecondary  
17 instructors, school district personnel and instructional  
18 personnel, and school sites preparing instructional personnel  
19 through preservice field experience courses and internships  
20 shall meet special requirements.

21 (d) Beginning with the 1999-2000 academic year,  
22 State University System initial teacher preparation programs  
23 shall provide all students with the option of multiple field  
24 experiences in schools located in socially and economically  
25 disadvantaged urban or rural areas. The field experiences  
26 must provide interns with classroom experiences throughout the  
27 academic year. The field experiences must be designed to  
28 provide the intern with the necessary supervision and teaching  
29 methodology to become an effective teacher of students who  
30 live in a disadvantaged area.

31

1           (11) URBAN AND RURAL TEACHING RESIDENCY  
2 PROGRAM.--Beginning with the 2000-2001 academic year and  
3 contingent upon legislative funding, teacher preparation  
4 programs at State University System institutions shall  
5 establish teaching residencies in partnership with public  
6 school districts. Each university, in conjunction with its  
7 partners, shall recruit no more than 20 teaching residents per  
8 year. The total number of teaching residencies in the state is  
9 not to exceed 200 in any given year at the rate of 20 per  
10 university. Persons eligible to be hired as teaching residents  
11 must have completed teaching internships as specified in  
12 paragraph (5)(d). To be eligible to be hired as a teaching  
13 resident, a person must have received his or her initial  
14 license no more than 2 years before applying for a residency  
15 and must have less than 5 months of full-time equivalency  
16 teaching experience as a licensed teacher. The residency  
17 program must include:

18           (a) A guarantee from participating universities that  
19 those who complete initial teacher preparation programs have  
20 the knowledge and experience necessary to succeed in  
21 residencies in urban or rural settings and that they are  
22 prepared to teach in compliance with the Sunshine State  
23 Standards and demonstrate skills at the beginning level of the  
24 Florida Accomplished Teaching Practices;

25           (b) A mentoring team consisting of no fewer than one  
26 university faculty member and one school district clinical  
27 educator for each participating school to provide supervision  
28 of the teaching residents;

29           (c) One full-time-equivalent experienced classroom  
30 teacher assigned for each cluster of four teaching residents  
31

1 in order to provide alternative assignments for the resident  
2 teachers;

3 (d) Residencies lasting for a full academic year; and

4 (e) Teaching assignments for resident teachers of no  
5 more than 80 percent of the instructional time required of a  
6 full-time-equivalent teacher in the district. During the  
7 remaining time, a teaching resident shall participate in  
8 professional development activities as identified in  
9 conjunction with the school's mentoring team.

10  
11 The resident teacher will be a member of the local bargaining  
12 unit and shall be covered under the terms of the contract.

13 Upon successful completion of the teaching residency, each  
14 individual who teaches in a school located in a socially and  
15 economically disadvantaged urban or rural area in this state,  
16 and as funded by the Legislature in the Division of Human  
17 Resources within the Department of Education, will receive a  
18 supplemental stipend from the state of \$3,000 in each year he  
19 or she teaches for the duration of legislative funding for the  
20 residency program.

21 Section 22. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
22 law.