

By Representative Haridopolos

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to education; creating s.  
3           231.6015, F.S.; authorizing a mathematics and  
4           science teacher-education program; requiring  
5           demonstration of certain uses of funds;  
6           providing a program purpose, required  
7           components, and resource allocation; requiring  
8           collaborative planning and implementation;  
9           authorizing incentives and certification;  
10          creating s. 240.149, F.S.; creating a  
11          nongovernmental organization to plan and  
12          implement a program for mathematics and science  
13          teacher education; requiring a board of  
14          directors, a chief executive officer, other  
15          staff, and an advisory council; providing for  
16          membership, terms of office, and an  
17          appointments process; providing responsibility  
18          and authority to conduct certain activities;  
19          requiring a budget request; amending s.  
20          229.592, F.S.; requiring a report; amending s.  
21          231.600, F.S.; requiring certain additions to  
22          professional development programs; amending s.  
23          236.08106, F.S.; authorizing a salary bonus for  
24          teachers who complete certain training  
25          programs; amending s. 236.685, F.S.; requiring  
26          a report to include certain information;  
27          providing an effective date.

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29   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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1           Section 1. Section 231.6015, Florida Statutes, is  
2 created to read:

3           231.6015 Mathematics and science teacher-education  
4 program.--

5           (1) The Legislature intends to establish an inservice  
6 professional development program to improve the teaching of  
7 mathematics and science in the public schools of this state,  
8 with an initial emphasis on students in kindergarten through  
9 grade 8. The program may be conducted separately or in  
10 conjunction with other inservice professional development  
11 programs provided by a school district. The funds are to be  
12 used to supplement but not to supplant current professional  
13 development in mathematics and science education.

14           (2) As used in this section, the term "teacher" has  
15 the meaning ascribed to "instructional personnel" in s.  
16 236.685.

17           (3) The purpose of the program is to improve the  
18 ability of teachers to deliver instruction that:

19           (a) Concentrates learning on the Sunshine State  
20 Standards and the Subject Matter Content Standards for  
21 teachers adopted by the Education Standards Commission;

22           (b) Includes content in sequences designed to prepare  
23 students for the state assessments of progress;

24           (c) Demonstrates its quality by improvement in  
25 students' classroom achievement; and

26           (d) Identifies and challenges students who excel in  
27 science and mathematics as well as those whose aptitude is  
28 average or below average.

29           (4) The program must be designed to improve a  
30 teacher's command of content knowledge and teaching skills. If  
31 resources are insufficient to provide adequate instruction for

1 all teachers, the program design should allocate those  
2 resources to produce a measurable, systemic change in student  
3 learning, rather than only to reach as many teachers as  
4 possible.

5       (5) The program must:

6           (a) Employ strategies that have proved effective;  
7           (b) Exploit current knowledge and research on  
8 professional staff development and standards;

9           (c) Include components for school board members and  
10 administrators at the school level, school district  
11 administration level, and state level;

12           (d) Involve the expertise of public and independent  
13 universities, colleges, and community colleges in planning and  
14 implementation;

15           (e) Provide for an incentive plan as authorized in s.  
16 236.08106; and

17           (f) Include an evaluation of effectiveness as  
18 determined by the Florida Alliance for Improving Mathematics  
19 and Science in Education Programs. The evaluation component of  
20 the program must provide data capable of allowing an analysis  
21 of the achievement of students before and after the program is  
22 implemented and for an analysis of students whose teachers  
23 participate in the program compared to a cohort of students  
24 whose teachers do not. As much as possible, the cohort must  
25 consist of students having similar demographic characteristics  
26 and selected measures of academic achievement.

27       (6) The Legislature shall determine annually in the  
28 General Appropriations Act the funds to be available for this  
29 program. Under s. 240.149, the Florida Alliance for Improving  
30 Mathematics and Science in Education Programs may operate the  
31 delivery mechanisms for the program or may delegate that

1 responsibility to a school district, a consortium of school  
2 districts, an academy, an area center for educational  
3 enhancement, or a group operating under a charter arranged by  
4 a district or consortium. The delivery mechanisms may involve  
5 the expertise of science centers, and the Florida Alliance for  
6 Improving Mathematics and Science and school boards may  
7 arrange participation by science centers in the planning and  
8 delivery of the program, including participation in charter  
9 agreements, where appropriate. As used in this subsection, a  
10 science center means a nonprofit organization, recognized  
11 under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, which is  
12 a full member of the Association of Science and Technology  
13 Centers, is accredited by the American Association of Museums,  
14 and has had at least 5 years experience providing professional  
15 development and support services to teachers throughout the  
16 state. The administrators of each component of the program  
17 shall work collaboratively with the Florida Alliance for  
18 Improving Mathematics and Science in Education Programs to  
19 plan programs and activities provided by the professional  
20 development program, including follow-up support for the  
21 teachers.

22 (7) Teachers participating in the program may receive  
23 compensation from the school district for their participation  
24 and may use successful participation in the program for  
25 extension of a certificate, for adding a new certification  
26 area if the district has an approved add-on certification  
27 program as provided by the State Board of Education, or for  
28 college credit for portions of the program which are taught by  
29 full-time faculty members of postsecondary institutions. In  
30 addition to a stipend for the workdays allocated to the  
31

1 training, a teacher may be eligible for a salary bonus upon  
2 successful completion of the program, under s. 236.08106.

3 (8) Delivery sites used in the program should be  
4 joint-use facilities and may be on property belonging to a  
5 school district; a public or independent university, college,  
6 or community college; or any other group under a contract  
7 approved by the alliance.

8 (9) A community college or university may report  
9 full-time-equivalent students as a result of providing  
10 instruction for the program if the instruction is provided  
11 in-load by its own staff paid by its own resources.

12 (10) This section shall be implemented only to the  
13 extent funded by the General Appropriations Act.

14 Section 2. Section 240.149, Florida Statutes, is  
15 created to read:

16 240.149 Mathematics and science teacher-education  
17 organization; responsibility for program planning and  
18 implementation.--

19 (1) An organization is established to plan and  
20 implement the mathematics and science teacher education  
21 program created in s. 231.6015. The organization is to be  
22 named the Florida Alliance for Improving Mathematics and  
23 Science Teaching in Education Programs; must be recognized  
24 under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and  
25 registered, incorporated, organized, and operated in  
26 compliance with chapter 617; and is not to be considered to be  
27 a unit or entity of state government.

28 (a) The organization shall execute its  
29 responsibilities independently but is assigned to the Office  
30 of the Commissioner of Education for administrative purposes.  
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1           (b) In the interest of sound public policy, the  
2 Legislature determines that the organization is subject to the  
3 provisions of chapter 119 which relate to public records, and  
4 to the provisions of chapter 286 which relate to public  
5 meetings and records.

6           (2) A board of directors shall govern the  
7 organization. The members of the board shall be appointed by  
8 the Commissioner of Education from recommendations provided by  
9 the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, the Education  
10 Standards Commission, the Workforce Development Board of  
11 Enterprise Florida, or other public or private organizations  
12 with expertise in education or technology upon invitation of  
13 the commissioner.

14           (a) Four members must be employees of postsecondary  
15 education institutions and must have expertise in science and  
16 science education, mathematics and mathematics education, or a  
17 related technical field.

18           (b) Four members must be employees of Florida district  
19 school boards; at least two of these members must be teachers.

20           (c) Four members must be from the private sector.

21           (d) One member shall serve ex officio as a  
22 representative of the Department of Education. An ex officio  
23 member may participate in all deliberations of the alliance  
24 but may not vote.

25           (e) Members shall serve 4-year staggered terms, with  
26 four of the members having initial terms of 2 years, 3 years,  
27 and 4 years, respectively. The commissioner shall appoint a  
28 new member to fill the remainder of a vacant, unexpired term  
29 and may reappoint a member.

30           (f) Members are entitled to reimbursement for travel  
31 and per diem expenses, as provided in s. 112.061.

1           (3) The board of directors shall employ a chief  
2 executive officer, who shall direct and supervise the  
3 administrative affairs of the board of directors. The board of  
4 directors may delegate to the chief executive officer any  
5 powers and duties it finds appropriate. The chief executive  
6 officer may contract with or employ legal and technical  
7 experts and other employees as authorized by the board of  
8 directors. The chief executive officer shall administer the  
9 professional development grant program assigned to the  
10 organization and other finances of the organization to ensure  
11 appropriate accountability and the prudent use of public and  
12 private funds.

13           (4) A council is created to assist the organization  
14 and to apprise decisionmakers of its activities.

15           (a) The council shall be composed of six members who  
16 represent the following governmental branches or sectors: one  
17 member of the Florida Senate appointed by the President of the  
18 Senate; one member of the Florida House of Representatives  
19 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; a  
20 representative of the Executive Office of the Governor  
21 appointed by the Governor; a representative of the Department  
22 of Education appointed by the Commissioner of Education; a  
23 representative of the Florida Community College System  
24 appointed by the executive director of the system; and a  
25 representative of the State University System appointed by the  
26 chancellor.

27           (b) The council shall meet at least 2 times a year,  
28 with one meeting conducted jointly with the board of  
29 directors.

30           (5) The Florida Alliance for Improving Mathematics and  
31 Science Teaching in Education Programs shall plan and oversee

1 implementation of the program created by s. 231.6015 and  
2 shall:  
3       (a) Establish and maintain a system of professional  
4 development programs in mathematics and science education, as  
5 provided in the General Appropriations Act.  
6       (b) Provide for involvement of postsecondary education  
7 in planning and implementation.  
8       (c) Produce specialized professional development  
9 program guidelines. These guidelines may include curricula and  
10 instructional methods and must assure that the programs focus  
11 on content learning, employ tested strategies, reflect the  
12 nature of science and mathematics, and base their design on  
13 current knowledge and research concerning professional  
14 development.  
15       (d) Provide for the selection and preparation of staff  
16 to implement professional development in mathematics and  
17 science.  
18       (e) Establish priorities that school districts and  
19 centers for educational enhancement must use in selecting the  
20 teachers to participate in the program. If the plan does not  
21 provide for participation by all teachers of kindergarten  
22 through grade 8 within a 4-year cycle, the selection  
23 priorities must implement a rationale for disseminating the  
24 program's benefits.  
25       (f) Design strategies for providing follow-up support  
26 for each participating teacher. The follow-up strategies must  
27 provide for integration of the principles learned in the  
28 program into the teacher's workday for at least 1 year, with  
29 continuing followup for 2 additional years or more, as  
30 provided in the General Appropriations Act.  
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1       (g) Design and oversee an incentive plan that will  
2 encourage the participation of public school teachers and  
3 administrators in the professional development program. The  
4 incentive plan must provide for access to any merit-pay plans  
5 developed by school districts and may provide for a stipend  
6 and a salary bonus for participating teachers, under s.  
7 236.08106. Such bonus must be in addition to the teacher's  
8 regular earnings from a school district and may not be awarded  
9 until a teacher has successfully completed the program and  
10 demonstrated, through prescribed follow-up activities in the  
11 classroom, an improvement in student achievement in  
12 mathematics or science.

13       (h) Measure the effectiveness of the professional  
14 development program on learning and teaching in mathematics  
15 and science. This impact assessment must assure state and  
16 local quality control of the improvement of mathematics and  
17 science teaching.

18       (6) By December 1, 2001, the board must submit to the  
19 office of the Commissioner of Education a proposed budget for  
20 implementing the program in 2002-2005. The budget must contain  
21 alternative plans for the participation of 50 percent, 33  
22 percent, and 25 percent of the state's teachers at the  
23 elementary and middle-school levels by 2005.

24       Section 3. Subsection (8) of section 229.592, Florida  
25 Statutes, is amended to read:

26       229.592 Implementation of state system of school  
27 improvement and education accountability.--

28       (8) STATE BOARD.--The State Board of Education shall  
29 adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement  
30 a state system of school improvement and education  
31 accountability and shall specify required annual reports by

1 schools and school districts. The rules must also require each  
2 school to report the number and percentage of teachers who  
3 have achieved certification by the National Board of  
4 Professional Teaching Standards and, for schools that contain  
5 a kindergarten or grade 1 through grade 8, the number and  
6 proportion of teachers who have successfully completed the  
7 program to improve mathematics and science teaching under s.  
8 236.08106.

9           Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 231.600, Florida  
10 Statutes, is amended to read:

11           231.600 School Community Professional Development  
12 Act.--

13           (3) The activities designed to implement this section  
14 must:

15           (a) Increase the success of educators in guiding  
16 student learning and development so as to implement state and  
17 local educational standards, goals, and initiatives;

18           (b) Assist the school community in providing  
19 stimulating educational activities that encourage and motivate  
20 students to achieve at the highest levels and to become active  
21 learners; ~~and~~

22           (c) Provide continuous support for all education  
23 professionals as well as temporary intervention for education  
24 professionals who need improvement in knowledge, skills, and  
25 performance; ~~and-~~

26           (d) Assure that teacher education programs in science,  
27 mathematics, and technology education will be fully aligned  
28 with the content of science tasks included in statewide  
29 testing scheduled for 2004. These education programs must  
30 assure that all teachers, especially teachers of kindergarten  
31 through grade 8, know and understand the science and

1 mathematics standards included in the Sunshine State Standards  
2 and the Subject Matter Content Standards for teachers adopted  
3 by the Education Standards Commission.

4 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 236.08106,  
5 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

6 236.08106 Excellent Teaching Program.--

7 (2) The Excellent Teaching Program is created to  
8 provide categorical funding for monetary incentives and  
9 bonuses for teaching excellence. The Department of Education  
10 shall distribute to each school district or to the NBPTS an  
11 amount as prescribed annually by the Legislature for the  
12 Excellent Teaching Program. For purposes of this section, the  
13 Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind shall be considered  
14 a school district. Unless otherwise provided in the General  
15 Appropriations Act, each distribution shall be the sum of the  
16 amounts earned for the following incentives and bonuses:

17 (a) A salary bonus or increased stipend for teachers  
18 who successfully complete the program to improve the teaching  
19 of mathematics and science in Florida under s. 231.6015. The  
20 criteria for successful completion of the program must be  
21 established by the Florida Alliance for Improving Mathematics  
22 and Science Teaching in Education Programs and must include a  
23 demonstration through prescribed followup activities in the  
24 classroom of an improvement in student achievement in  
25 mathematics or science.

26 ~~(b)~~~~(a)~~ A fee subsidy to be paid by the Department of  
27 Education to the NBPTS on behalf of each individual who is an  
28 employee of a district school board or a public school within  
29 the school district, who is certified by the district to have  
30 demonstrated satisfactory teaching performance pursuant to s.  
31 231.29 and who satisfies the prerequisites for participating

1 in the NBPTS certification program, and who agrees, in  
2 writing, to pay 10 percent of the NBPTS participation fee and  
3 to participate in the NBPTS certification program during the  
4 school year for which the fee subsidy is provided. The fee  
5 subsidy for each eligible participant shall be an amount equal  
6 to 90 percent of the fee charged for participating in the  
7 NBPTS certification program. The fee subsidy is a one-time  
8 award and may not be duplicated for any individual.

9 (c)~~(b)~~ A portfolio-preparation incentive of \$150 paid  
10 by the Department of Education to each teacher employed by a  
11 district school board or a public school within a school  
12 district who is participating in the NBPTS certification  
13 program. The portfolio-preparation incentive is a one-time  
14 award paid during the school year for which the NBPTS fee  
15 subsidy is provided.

16 (d)~~(c)~~ An annual bonus equal to 10 percent of the  
17 prior fiscal year's statewide average salary for classroom  
18 teachers to be distributed to the school district to be paid  
19 to each individual who holds NBPTS certification and is  
20 employed by the district school board or by a public school  
21 within the school district. The district school board shall  
22 distribute the annual bonus to each individual who meets the  
23 requirements of this paragraph and who is certified annually  
24 by the district to have demonstrated satisfactory teaching  
25 performance pursuant to s. 231.29. The annual bonus may be  
26 paid as a single payment or divided into not more than three  
27 payments.

28 (e)~~(d)~~ An annual bonus equal to 10 percent of the  
29 prior fiscal year's statewide average salary for classroom  
30 teachers to be distributed to the school district to be paid  
31 to each individual who meets the requirements of paragraph (d)

1 ~~(c)~~and agrees, in writing, to provide the equivalent of 12  
2 workdays of mentoring and related services to public school  
3 teachers within the state who do not hold NBPTS certification.  
4 The district school board shall distribute the annual bonus in  
5 a single payment following the completion of all required  
6 mentoring and related services for the year. It is not the  
7 intent of the Legislature to remove excellent teachers from  
8 their assigned classrooms; therefore, credit may not be  
9 granted by a school district or public school for mentoring or  
10 related services provided during the regular school day or  
11 during the 196 days of required service for the school year.

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13 A teacher for whom the state pays the certification fee and  
14 who does not complete the certification program or does not  
15 teach in a public school of this state for at least 1 year  
16 after completing the certification program must repay the  
17 amount of the certification fee to the state. However, a  
18 teacher who completes the certification program but fails to  
19 be awarded NBPTS certification is not required to repay the  
20 amount of the certification fee if the teacher meets the  
21 1-year teaching requirement. Repayment is not required of a  
22 teacher who does not complete the certification program or  
23 fails to fulfill the teaching requirement because of the  
24 teacher's death or disability or because of other extenuating  
25 circumstances as determined by the State Board of Education.

26 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
27 236.685, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

28 236.685 Educational funding accountability.--

29 (4)(a) The school public accountability report to  
30 parents must include the number of employees in each of the  
31 categories listed in subsection (3), by work location.

1 However, this does not include the number of temporary  
2 substitute employees. The report must also include the number  
3 and proportion of instructional personnel in kindergarten  
4 through grade 8 who have achieved certification by the  
5 National Board of Professional Teaching Standards or have  
6 completed the program to improve mathematics and science  
7 teaching in Florida under s. 236.08106.

8 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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11 SENATE SUMMARY

12 Creates a mathematics and science teacher-education  
13 program and establishes program guidelines and required  
14 components. Provides for annual funding and delivery  
15 mechanisms. Provides for compensation to participating  
16 teachers. Creates a nongovernmental organization, the  
17 Florida Alliance for Improving Mathematics and Science  
18 Teaching in Education Programs, to plan and implement the  
19 program. Provides for composition and staffing of the  
20 organization, including the board of directors, and for a  
21 council to assist and advise the board, and places the  
22 alliance in the office of the Commissioner of Education  
23 for administrative purposes. Provides powers and duties  
24 of the alliance. Requires the board to submit a budget.  
25 Requires a report and provides for the adoption of rules.  
26 Requires the implementation of the education programs for  
27 teachers. Authorizes a salary bonus for teachers who  
28 complete the programs. Requires a school public  
29 accountability report to include certain information  
30 regarding instructional personnel who are certified under  
31 the program.