

Amendment No. ____ (for drafter's use only)

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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2		.	
3		.	
4		.	

ORIGINAL STAMP BELOW

11 Representative(s) Richardson offered the following:

13 **Amendment**

14 On page 10, line 19, through page 48, line 8,
15 remove from the bill: all of said lines

17 and insert in lieu thereof:

18 Section 2. Section 229.002, Florida Statutes, is
19 amended to read:

20 229.002 Declaration of policy and guiding
21 principles.--

22 (1) It is the policy of the Legislature:

23 (a) To achieve within existing resources true systemic
24 change in education governance by establishing a seamless
25 academic educational system that fosters an integrated
26 continuum of kindergarten through graduate school education
27 for Florida's citizens.

28 (b) To promote enhanced academic success and funding
29 efficiency by centralizing the governance of educational
30 delivery systems and aligning responsibility with
31 accountability.

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1 (c) To provide consistent education policy vertically
2 and horizontally across all educational delivery systems,
3 focusing on students ~~the needs of those receiving education,~~
4 ~~not those providing education.~~

5 (d) To provide substantially improved vertical and
6 horizontal articulation across all educational delivery
7 systems ~~while ensuring that nonpublic education institutions~~
8 ~~and home education programs maintain their independence,~~
9 ~~autonomy, and nongovernmental status.~~

10 (e) To provide for devolution of authority to the
11 schools, community colleges, universities, and other education
12 institutions that are the actual deliverers of educational
13 services in order to provide student-centered education
14 services within the clear parameters of the overarching
15 education policy established by the Legislature.

16 (2) The guiding principles for Florida's new education
17 governance are:

18 (a) A coordinated, seamless system for kindergarten
19 through graduate school education.

20 (b) A system that is student-centered in every facet.

21 (c) A system that maximizes education access and
22 provides the opportunity for a high-quality education ~~academic~~
23 ~~success~~ for all Floridians.

24 (d) A system that safeguards equity and supports
25 academic excellence.

26 (e) A system that provides for local operational
27 flexibility while promoting accountability for student
28 achievement and improvement ~~refuses to compromise academic~~
29 ~~excellence.~~

30 Section 3. Section 229.003, Florida Statutes, is
31 amended to read:

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1 229.003 Florida education governance reorganization.--

2 (1) ~~Effective January 7, 2003,~~The Florida Board of
3 Education, created pursuant to s. 229.004, shall be
4 responsible for overseeing kindergarten through graduate
5 school education, in accordance with the implementation
6 process in s. 229.0072 and the policies and guiding principles
7 in s. 229.002 and the mission and goals of s. 229.007.

8 ~~(2) Effective January 7, 2003, the Florida Board of~~
9 ~~Education shall appoint the Commissioner of Education.~~

10 (2)(3) Effective January 7, 2003, There are is
11 established the following education governance officers in
12 addition to the Commissioner of Education:

13 (a) ~~A~~ Chancellor of Public Schools, K-12 Education
14 appointed by the Commissioner of Education.

15 (b) ~~A~~ Chancellor of Colleges and State Universities,
16 appointed by the Commissioner of Education.

17 (c) ~~A~~ Chancellor of Community Colleges ~~and Career~~
18 ~~Preparation~~, appointed by the Commissioner of Education.

19 (d) ~~An~~ Executive Director of Independent Nonpublic and
20 ~~Nontraditional~~ Education, appointed by the Commissioner of
21 Education.

22
23 Each chancellor and executive director shall be subject to
24 confirmation by the Florida Board of Education and shall serve
25 at the pleasure and under the authority of the Commissioner of
26 Education.

27 ~~(3)(4) Effective July 1, 2000,~~The Governor shall
28 appoint a seven-member board of trustees for the Florida
29 Virtual On-Line High School, which shall be a body corporate
30 with all the powers of a body corporate.

31 ~~(4)(5) Effective January 7, 2003,~~The Governor shall

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1 appoint for each university in the State University System, an
2 11-member ~~a nine-member~~ board of trustees, which shall be a
3 body corporate with all the powers of a body corporate. In
4 addition to the 11 members, a student body president shall
5 serve as an ex officio nonvoting member of the board of
6 trustees. There shall be no state residency requirement for
7 university board members, but the Governor shall consider
8 diversity and regional representation. Each appointee is
9 subject to confirmation by the Senate in the regular
10 legislative session immediately following his or her
11 appointment ~~All members of the board of trustees of Florida~~
12 ~~Atlantic University must reside within the service area of the~~
13 ~~university; three must be residents of Broward County, three~~
14 ~~must be residents of Palm Beach County, and three may be~~
15 ~~residents of any county within the service area.~~

16 (5) Effective July 1, 2001:

17 (a) The Board of Regents is abolished.

18 (b) All of the powers, duties, functions, records,
19 personnel, and property; unexpended balances of
20 appropriations, allocations, and other funds; administrative
21 authority; administrative rules; pending issues; and existing
22 contracts of the Board of Regents are transferred by a type
23 two transfer, pursuant to s. 20.06(2), to the Florida Board of
24 Education.

25 (c) The State Board of Community Colleges is
26 abolished.

27 (d) All of the powers, duties, functions, records,
28 personnel, and property; unexpended balances of
29 appropriations, allocations, and other funds; administrative
30 authority; administrative rules; pending issues; and existing
31 contracts of the State Board of Community Colleges are

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1 transferred by a type two transfer, pursuant to s. 20.06(2),
2 from the Department of Education to the Florida Board of
3 Education.

4 (e) The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission is
5 abolished.

6 (f) The Center for Education Policy Research and
7 Improvement is created and assigned for administrative
8 purposes to the Office of Program Policy Analysis and
9 Government Accountability (OPPAGA).

10 (g) All personnel, unexpended balances of
11 appropriations, and allocations of the Postsecondary Education
12 Planning Commission are transferred to the Center for
13 Education Policy Research and Improvement.

14 (h) The Articulation Coordinating Committee and the
15 Education Standards Commission are transferred by a type two
16 transfer, pursuant to s. 20.06(2), from the Department of
17 Education to the Florida Board of Education.

18 (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 20.15, the
19 Commissioner of Education shall commence the reorganization of
20 the Department of Education in accordance with s. 229.0073,
21 which shall include an Office of the Commissioner of Education
22 comprised of the general areas of operation that are common to
23 all delivery sectors and, in addition, shall include:

24 1. The creation of an Office of Technology and
25 Information Services, an Office of Workforce and Economic
26 Development, an Office of Educational Facilities and SMART
27 Schools Clearinghouse, and an Office of Student Financial
28 Assistance.

29 2. The creation of a Division of Colleges and
30 Universities.

31 3. The creation of a Division of Community Colleges.

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- 1 4. The creation of a Division of Public Schools.
- 2 5. The creation of a Division of Independent
- 3 Education.
- 4 6. The merger of the powers, duties, and staffs of the
- 5 State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities and the
- 6 State Board of Nonpublic Career Education, except as relating
- 7 to any independent nonprofit college or university whose
- 8 students are eligible to receive the William L. Boyd, IV,
- 9 Florida resident access grants pursuant to s. 240.605, into a
- 10 single Commission for Independent Education administratively
- 11 housed within the Division of Independent Education.
- 12 ~~(6) Effective January 7, 2003, the powers and duties~~
- 13 ~~of the following entities are relocated to the Florida Board~~
- 14 ~~of Education, which shall retain all related funding and~~
- 15 ~~budget authority for purposes of a single, seamless~~
- 16 ~~kindergarten through graduate school education system and~~
- 17 ~~single or coordinated budget and may retain or redistribute~~
- 18 ~~the powers and duties of each entity in accordance with the~~
- 19 ~~policies and guiding principles of s. 229.002, and the~~
- 20 ~~entities shall cease to exist:~~
- 21 ~~(a) The Board of Regents.~~
- 22 ~~(b) The State Board of Community Colleges.~~
- 23 ~~(c) The State Board of Independent Colleges and~~
- 24 ~~Universities.~~
- 25 ~~(d) The State Board of Nonpublic Career Education.~~
- 26 ~~(e) The Division of Workforce Development of the~~
- 27 ~~Department of Education.~~
- 28 ~~(f) The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission.~~
- 29 ~~(g) The Articulation Coordination Committee.~~
- 30 ~~(h) The Division of Human Resource Development of the~~
- 31 ~~Department of Education.~~

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1 ~~(i) The Division of Support Services of the Department~~
2 ~~of Education.~~

3 ~~(j) The Division of Administration of the Department~~
4 ~~of Education.~~

5 ~~(k) The Division of Financial Services of the~~
6 ~~Department of Education.~~

7 ~~(l) The Division of Technology of the Department of~~
8 ~~Education.~~

9 ~~(m) The Office of Student Financial Assistance of the~~
10 ~~Department of Education.~~

11 ~~(n) The Division of Universities of the Department of~~
12 ~~Education.~~

13 ~~(o) The Division of Community Colleges of the~~
14 ~~Department of Education.~~

15 Section 4. Section 229.0031, Florida Statutes, is
16 created to read:

17 229.0031 Center for Education Policy Research and
18 Improvement.--Effective July 1, 2001, there is created the
19 Center for Education Policy Research and Improvement to
20 conduct and review education research, provide independent
21 analysis on education progress, and provide independent
22 evaluation of education issues of statewide concern. The
23 center shall have an independent advisory council and shall be
24 housed for administrative purposes in the Office of Program
25 Policy Analysis and Government Accountability. Administrative
26 functions of the center shall be provided by the Office of
27 Legislative Services pursuant to joint policies of the
28 Legislature.

29 (1) The center shall:

30 (a) Provide state policymakers, educators, and the
31 public with objective and timely information that supports the

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1 seamless K-20 education system and the K-20 education
2 accountability process designed to provide all students an
3 opportunity for a high-quality education, in accordance with
4 the policies and guiding principles of s. 229.002 and the
5 performance accountability system in s. 229.007.

6 (b) Annually review and make recommendations to the
7 Legislature regarding the activities of research centers and
8 institutes supported with state funds in order to assess the
9 return on the state's investment in research conducted by
10 public postsecondary education institutions. Such
11 recommendations shall include the responses of the university
12 presidents.

13 (c) Explore national and state emerging educational
14 issues and examine how these issues should be addressed by
15 education institutions in Florida.

16 (d) Prepare and submit for approval by the Florida
17 Board of Education a long-range performance plan for K-20
18 education in Florida. Annually review the implementation of
19 the plan and make recommendations for improvement.

20 (e) Annually report on the progress of public schools
21 and postsecondary education institutions toward meeting
22 educational goals and standards as defined by s. 229.007.
23 Recommend to the Legislature and the Florida Board of
24 Education legislation and rules for the educational
25 accountability system that support the policies and guiding
26 principles of s. 229.002.

27 (f) Evaluate and report on issues pertaining to
28 student learning gains.

29 (g) Recommend to the Florida Board of Education
30 revisions and new initiatives to further improve the K-20
31 education accountability system.

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1 (h) Provide public education institutions and the
2 public with information on the K-20 education accountability
3 system and recommend refinements and improvements.

4 (i) Apply for and receive grants for the study of K-20
5 education system improvement consistent with its
6 responsibilities.

7 (j) Conduct annual studies upon the request of the
8 Legislature or the Florida Board of Education.

9 (2) The center shall operate under the guidance of an
10 independent nine-member advisory council and the guiding
11 principles of s. 229.002.

12 (3) The advisory council shall be composed of five
13 members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by
14 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and two members
15 appointed by the President of the Senate. Each member shall be
16 appointed for a term of 6 years. However, for purposes of
17 continuity, the Governor shall appoint two members, the
18 Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one
19 member, and the President of the Senate shall appoint one
20 member for a first term of 4 years. Members appointed for 4
21 years shall be eligible for one reappointment. Advisory
22 council members shall not include elected officials or
23 employees of public or independent education entities. Members
24 shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for
25 per diem and travel as provided in s. 112.061. Members who
26 miss two consecutive meetings shall be subject to replacement
27 by the appointing officer. The advisory council shall meet at
28 least four times per year and shall advise the center
29 executive director and staff on all matters pertaining to the
30 duties and responsibilities of the center. The advisory
31 council shall annually evaluate the performance of the center

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1 executive director and shall report such evaluations to the
2 Governor.

3 (4) The executive director of the Center for Education
4 Policy Research and Improvement shall direct the activities of
5 the center and appoint and supervise all staff. The executive
6 director shall have broad knowledge and experience in
7 educational accountability, governance, policy, research, and
8 practice. The executive director shall be appointed by the
9 Governor and confirmed by the Florida Board of Education, and
10 shall serve at the pleasure of the advisory council. The
11 executive director shall staff the meetings of the advisory
12 council and shall document and communicate the findings and
13 recommendations of the advisory council. The executive
14 director shall report to the Florida Board of Education on at
15 least a quarterly basis to inform the board of the center's
16 findings.

17 (5) The center shall be staffed and funded as provided
18 for in the General Appropriations Act. The center shall have
19 access to all education performance and accountability data
20 collected or maintained by the Department of Education. During
21 the reorganization of the Department of Education as provided
22 for in this act, staff and funding may be transferred from the
23 Department of Education to the center to fulfill its statutory
24 functions.

25 Section 5. Section 229.004, Florida Statutes, is
26 amended to read:

27 229.004 Florida Board of Education.--

28 (1)(a) In accordance with the implementation process
29 in s. 229.0072 ~~Effective January 7, 2003,~~ the Florida Board of
30 Education is established as a body corporate. The board shall
31 be a ~~part-time~~ citizen board consisting of seven members

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1 appointed by the Governor to staggered 4-year terms, subject
2 to confirmation by the Senate, provided, however, that Senate
3 confirmation is not required for the members of the Florida
4 Board of Education to perform the duties as prescribed in this
5 education governance reorganization implementation act.
6 Members of the board shall serve without compensation, but
7 shall be entitled to reimbursement of travel and per diem
8 expenses in accordance with s. 112.061. Members may be
9 reappointed by the Governor for additional terms not to exceed
10 8 years of consecutive service.

11 (b) The Governor shall appoint the first chair of the
12 Florida Board of Education who shall serve for 2 years. After
13 expiration of the 2-year term and at the first regular meeting
14 of the board after July 1, the Florida Board of Education
15 shall select a chair and a vice chair from its appointed
16 members. The chair shall serve a 2-year term and may be
17 reselected for one additional consecutive term. ~~The Florida~~
18 ~~Board of Education shall have a chairperson who shall be~~
19 ~~appointed by the Governor.~~

20 (2) The primary duties of the board shall be to
21 establish education goals and objectives consistent with the
22 policies and guiding principles of s. 229.002 and the mission
23 and goals of s. 229.007 and, together with the Commissioner of
24 Education, to oversee the implementation of and enforce
25 compliance with the education policies established by the
26 Legislature. The board, and the commissioner, shall establish,
27 operate, and maintain optimal efficiency of an Office of the
28 Commissioner of Education pursuant to s. 229.0061(2)(c) in
29 accordance with the guidelines of ss. 229.0061 and 229.0073
30 ~~Board of Education.~~

31 (3) In performing its duties, the board, together with

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1 the Commissioner of Education, shall:

2 (a) Ensure accountability and responsiveness to
3 Florida's citizens, including the establishment of a Citizen
4 Information Center that utilizes quick response and
5 customer-friendly methodologies.

6 (b) Establish and aggressively enforce efficient and
7 effective performance management objectives.

8 (c) Maximize the effectiveness of local, state, and
9 federal education linkages and funds.

10 (d) Issue guidelines for the development of
11 legislative budget requests for operations and fixed capital
12 outlay for the coordinated K-20 system.

13 (e)(d) Recommend one budget or a coordinated budget
14 and long-range program plans based on consistent policies for
15 a seamless kindergarten through graduate school education.

16 (f)(e) Adopt cohesive rules, within statutory
17 authority, for education systemwide issues, including rules
18 governing systemwide access to educational opportunities, and
19 ensure that rules adopted for the various education delivery
20 systems are compatible.

21 (g)(f) Ensure articulation and coordination within and
22 across the entire education delivery system.

23 (h)(g) Provide ongoing public information regarding
24 performance results for the entire kindergarten through
25 graduate school education system and each of its components.

26 (4) The board, with the Commissioner of Education,
27 shall be responsible for:

28 (a) The work of with the Chancellor of Public Schools
29 K-12 Education to establish, and maintain optimal efficiency
30 of, a Division an Office of Public Schools, within the
31 guidelines of ss. 229.0061 and 229.0073, and to achieve the

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1 mission and goals of s. 229.007 K-12 Education.

2 (b) The work of ~~with~~ the Chancellor of Colleges and
3 ~~State~~ Universities to establish, and maintain optimal
4 efficiency of, a Division ~~an Office~~ of Colleges and State
5 Universities, within the guidelines of ss. 229.0061 and
6 229.0073, and to achieve the mission and goals of s. 229.007.

7 (c) The work of ~~with~~ the Chancellor of Community
8 ~~Colleges and Career Preparation~~ to establish, and maintain
9 optimal efficiency of, a Division ~~an Office~~ of Community
10 Colleges, within the guidelines of ss. 229.0061 and 229.0073,
11 and to achieve the mission and goals of s. 229.007 ~~and Career~~
12 ~~Preparation.~~

13 (d) The work of ~~with~~ the Executive Director of
14 Independent Nonpublic and Nontraditional Education to
15 establish, and maintain optimal efficiency of, a Division ~~an~~
16 ~~Office~~ of Independent Nonpublic and Nontraditional Education,
17 within the guidelines of ss. 229.0061 and 229.0073 Services.

18 Section 6. Section 229.005, Florida Statutes, is
19 amended to read:

20 229.005 Florida education governance officers.--

21 (1) COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION.--The Commissioner of
22 Education shall work with the Florida Board of Education and
23 oversee the other education governance officers to focus ~~be~~
24 ~~appointed by the Board of Education from candidates of~~
25 ~~national caliber and respected and proven organizational~~
26 ~~leadership with established experience in administering~~
27 ~~broad-based policy. The commissioner shall be a person who is~~
28 ~~eminently capable of focusing~~ the entire kindergarten through
29 graduate school education system on accomplishing ~~to~~
30 ~~accomplish~~ the policies and guiding principles of s. 229.002
31 and achieving the mission and goals of s. 229.007. The

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1 commissioner shall ~~have the ability to successfully~~ provide
2 education policy and planning direction, program development,
3 performance management, and funding allocation recommendations
4 across the spectrum of kindergarten through graduate school
5 education, ~~and the ability to achieve and safeguard the will~~
6 ~~of the people of Florida as expressed in s. 1, Art. IX of the~~
7 ~~Florida Constitution, that "adequate provision shall be made~~
8 ~~by law for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high~~
9 ~~quality system of free public schools that allows students to~~
10 ~~obtain a high quality education and for the establishment,~~
11 ~~maintenance, and operation of institutions of higher learning~~
12 ~~and other public education programs that the needs of the~~
13 ~~people may require."~~

14 (2) CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS K-12 EDUCATION.--The
15 Chancellor of Public Schools K-12 Education shall be appointed
16 by the Commissioner of Education based on his or her ability
17 to work as a division vice president of the seamless K-20
18 education system with the Florida Board of Education and the
19 other education governance officers to comply with the
20 policies and guiding principles of s. 229.002, to achieve the
21 mission and goals of s. 229.007, to enhance the quality of
22 public K-12 education in Florida, and to maximize the equity
23 of public K-12 education in Florida by moving the focus to the
24 school site and the individual student, ~~and to achieve and~~
25 ~~safeguard the will of the people of Florida as expressed in s.~~
26 ~~1, Art. IX of the Florida Constitution, that "adequate~~
27 ~~provision shall be made by law for a uniform, efficient, safe,~~
28 ~~secure, and high quality system of free public schools that~~
29 ~~allows students to obtain a high quality education. . . ."~~

30 (3) CHANCELLOR OF COLLEGES AND STATE
31 UNIVERSITIES.--The Chancellor of Colleges and State

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1 Universities shall be appointed by the Commissioner of
2 Education based on his or her ability to work as a division
3 vice president of the seamless K-20 education system with the
4 Florida Board of Education and the other education governance
5 officers to comply with the policies and guiding principles of
6 s. 229.002, to achieve the mission and goals of s. 229.007, to
7 enhance the national reputation and quality of education and
8 ~~educational~~ research in Florida's colleges and state
9 universities, and to work directly with each of the college
10 and state university presidents and boards of trustees in
11 focusing on the education and ~~educational~~ research needs of
12 the individual college or university and its students.

13 (4) CHANCELLOR OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES ~~AND CAREER~~
14 ~~PREPARATION~~.--The Chancellor of Community Colleges ~~and Career~~
15 ~~Preparation~~ shall be appointed by the Commissioner of
16 Education based on his or her ability to work as a division
17 vice president of the seamless K-20 education system with the
18 Florida Board of Education and the other education governance
19 officers to comply with the policies and guiding principles of
20 s. 229.002, to achieve the mission and goals of s. 229.007, to
21 enhance the quality of education in Florida's community
22 colleges, and to work directly with each of the community
23 college presidents and boards of trustees in focusing on the
24 education needs of the communities and students they serve.

25 (5) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF INDEPENDENT ~~NONPUBLIC AND~~
26 ~~NONTRADITIONAL~~ EDUCATION.--The Executive Director of
27 Independent ~~Nonpublic and Nontraditional~~ Education shall be
28 appointed by the Commissioner of Education based on his or her
29 ability to work as a division vice president of the seamless
30 K-20 education system with the Florida Board of Education and
31 the other education governance officers to comply with the

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1 policies and guiding principles of s. 229.002, ~~to enhance the~~
2 ~~quality and expand the offerings and innovations of nonpublic~~
3 ~~and nontraditional education in Florida, to establish~~
4 ~~partnerships with nonpublic education providers at all levels~~
5 ~~to achieve these goals, and to work directly with the Board of~~
6 Trustees of the Florida Virtual ~~On-Line~~ High School and with
7 Florida's private school associations, home education
8 associations, independent nonpublic career education
9 institutions, and independent colleges and universities to
10 ~~maximize educational choice and enhance the options,~~
11 ~~educational alternatives, and student focused delivery for~~
12 ~~their students~~ in focusing on quality educational services.

13 Section 7. Subsections (1), (4), (5), (6), and (7) of
14 section 229.006, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

15 229.006 Education Governance Reorganization Transition
16 Task Force.--

17 (1) In order to accomplish a smooth transition ~~on~~
18 ~~January 7, 2003,~~from the elected State Board of Education to
19 the appointed Florida Board of Education, there shall be
20 established the Education Governance Reorganization Transition
21 Task Force. ~~All members of the task force shall be appointed~~
22 ~~as soon as feasible but not later than October 1, 2000.~~The
23 task force shall be comprised of:

24 (a) Five members appointed by the Governor;
25 (b) Three members appointed by the President of the
26 Senate; and

27 (c) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the
28 House of Representatives.

29
30 The transition task force shall ~~be charged with the duty to~~
31 ~~identify issues, conduct research, develop the necessary~~

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1 ~~procedural and substantive framework, and make recommendations~~
2 ~~to the Legislature for an orderly 3-year phase-in for a~~
3 ~~seamless education continuum and a single or coordinated~~
4 ~~kindergarten through graduate school budget in accordance with~~
5 ~~the policies and guiding principles of s. 229.002, so that the~~
6 ~~Florida Board of Education may immediately begin its work on~~
7 ~~January 7, 2003, with maximum effectiveness.~~

8 (4) Having completed its recommendations to the
9 Legislature by March 1, 2001, the transition task force shall
10 redirect its focus to provide guidance and monitoring of the
11 implementation process pursuant to s. 229.0072 and to
12 regularly report to the Governor, the Legislature, the chief
13 transition officer, and the public on the progress of the
14 reorganization implementation process. If any implementation
15 activity is determined by a majority vote of the task force to
16 be inconsistent with the intent of this act, the chair of the
17 task force shall report such activity directly to the State
18 Board of Education, and the State Board of Education shall act
19 immediately to resolve the dispute.~~recommend to the~~
20 ~~Legislature:~~

21 (a) ~~How best to achieve education system integration~~
22 ~~by:~~

23 1. ~~Combining appropriate education functions and~~
24 ~~policies into or under the new Florida Board of Education.~~

25 2. ~~Devolving the education delivery services and~~
26 ~~operational decisions to the appropriate location of delivery~~
27 ~~to students, specifically the schools, community colleges,~~
28 ~~colleges, universities, area technical centers, and other~~
29 ~~education institutions or places where the students receive~~
30 ~~their education.~~

31 3. ~~Providing for a single or coordinated kindergarten~~

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1 ~~through graduate school education budget.~~
2 ~~(b) How best to achieve economies in education~~
3 ~~services, including recommendations concerning consolidation~~
4 ~~of information systems and integrated performance and~~
5 ~~financial accounting systems, while maximizing effectiveness~~
6 ~~within existing resources and staff.~~
7 ~~(c)1. Which, if any, current education staff functions~~
8 ~~and resources should be eliminated, transferred, or realigned~~
9 ~~within the proposed new education organizational structure.~~
10 ~~2. A recommended salary structure for the Commissioner~~
11 ~~of Education and for the chancellors.~~
12 ~~(d) Whether an Office of Policy Research should be~~
13 ~~established to explore emerging issues, locate successful and~~
14 ~~innovative educational programs, and make recommendations to~~
15 ~~the Governor, the Florida Board of Education, and the~~
16 ~~Legislature and, if so, its mission, staffing, and location.~~
17 ~~(e) The optimal mission of the Florida On-Line High~~
18 ~~School and a methodology for the operation and funding of the~~
19 ~~school to achieve that mission.~~
20 ~~(f) The optimal location and structure of the Florida~~
21 ~~Partnership for School Readiness.~~
22 ~~(5) By March 1, 2002, the transition task force shall~~
23 ~~recommend to the Legislature:~~
24 ~~(a) Standards, definitions, and guidelines for~~
25 ~~universities, colleges, community colleges, schools, and other~~
26 ~~education institutions to ensure the quality of education,~~
27 ~~systemwide coordination, and efficient progress toward~~
28 ~~attainment of their appropriate missions.~~
29 ~~(b) Rules and procedures as necessary to be followed~~
30 ~~by university boards of trustees, community college boards of~~
31 ~~trustees, and other boards of trustees, as determined~~

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1 ~~appropriate, for recruitment and selection of presidents,~~
2 ~~procedures for annual evaluations of presidents, and~~
3 ~~procedures for interaction between presidents, the boards of~~
4 ~~trustees, and the new Florida Board of Education.~~

5 ~~(c) A systemwide strategic plan for postsecondary~~
6 ~~institutions that considers the role, in their respective~~
7 ~~communities, of each of the institutions.~~

8 ~~(d) Methodologies for degree program approval,~~
9 ~~establishment of matriculation and tuition fees, and~~
10 ~~coordination of colleges' and universities' budget requests.~~

11 ~~(e) Any additional statutory changes needed during the~~
12 ~~2002 legislative session to complete the education governance~~
13 ~~reorganization transition.~~

14 ~~(6) By March 1, 2003, the transition task force shall~~
15 ~~recommend to the Legislature:~~

16 ~~(a) Statutory changes necessary to accomplish the~~
17 ~~policies and guiding principles of s. 229.002, including, but~~
18 ~~not limited to, statutory changes necessitated by the repeal~~
19 ~~and review provisions of subsection 3(8) of this act.~~

20 ~~(b) Rulemaking authority for the new Florida Board of~~
21 ~~Education and a plan and timetable for transition or~~
22 ~~coordination of existing education sector agency rules and~~
23 ~~rulemaking authority recommendations, if any, for education~~
24 ~~agencies.~~

25 ~~(c) Waiver authority, if any, for the Commissioner of~~
26 ~~Education or the Florida Board of Education.~~

27 ~~(5)(7)~~ By March ~~May~~ 1, 2003, the transition task force
28 shall have completed its duties and shall make its final
29 report to the Governor, the Florida Board of Education, the
30 Commissioner of Education, the President of the Senate, the
31 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the minority

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1 leaders of each chamber. The final report shall include, but
2 is not limited to:

3 (a) A summary of the work and recommendations of the
4 task force and the status of full implementation of the K-20
5 education system.

6 (b) The status of all pending and completed actions on
7 orders and rules, all enforcement matters, and all
8 delegations, interagency agreements, and contracts with
9 federal, state, regional, and local governments and private
10 entities.

11 (c) Identification of any remaining or potential
12 duplication in the administration of state education laws and
13 rules, with specific recommendations to eliminate such
14 duplication and promote more efficient administration.

15 Section 8. Section 229.0061, Florida Statutes, is
16 created to read:

17 229.0061 Florida's K-20 education system; guidelines
18 for implementation; guidelines for structure, functions, and
19 organization.--

20 (1) GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION.--

21 (a) Florida's seamless K-20 education system shall be
22 a decentralized system in which as many commissions, boards,
23 councils, and other excess layers of bureaucracy as possible
24 are eliminated.

25 (b) Florida's K-20 education system shall rely on a
26 single entity, the Florida Board of Education, as its single
27 strategic voice. If the board desires assistance on matters of
28 policy research or other issues, the board shall be authorized
29 to appoint a committee or committees to assist it on any and
30 all issues within the K-20 education system on an ad hoc
31 basis.

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1 (c) Members of the Florida Board of Education shall
2 focus on high-level policy decisions.

3 (d) It is essential to the success of Florida's
4 seamless K-20 education system to have a fully operational
5 systemwide technology plan based on a common set of data
6 definitions.

7 (2) GUIDELINES FOR STRUCTURE, FUNCTIONS, AND
8 ORGANIZATION.--

9 (a) Roles of the Legislature, the Florida Board of
10 Education, the education governance officers, and the
11 institutional boards of trustees and school boards.--The
12 Legislature shall establish education policy, enact education
13 laws, and appropriate and allocate education resources. The
14 Florida Board of Education shall enforce all laws, rules, and
15 guidelines and shall timely provide direction, resources,
16 assistance, intervention when needed, and strong incentives
17 and disincentives to force accountability for results. In
18 terms of major areas of responsibility, the Legislature, the
19 Florida Board of Education, the education governance officers,
20 and the institutional boards of trustees and school boards
21 shall each perform essential constituent roles.

22 (b) Florida Board of Education.--The Florida Board of
23 Education shall serve as the body corporate for Florida's
24 seamless K-20 education system; implement the coordinated
25 education vision; and, together with the commissioner,
26 chancellors, and executive director, oversee the success of
27 that vision. The Florida Board of Education shall:

- 28 1. Enforce systemwide education policies and goals.
29 2. Recommend annually the coordinated education budget
30 and authorize the allocation of resources in accordance with
31 law and rule. Any program recommended by the Florida Board of

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1 Education which requires state funding for more than 1 year
2 must be presented in a multiyear budget plan.

3 3. Adopt long-term and short-term education plans.

4 4. Enforce education accountability standards and
5 measures of all components of the K-20 education system.

6 5. Accurately and continuously assess data and monitor
7 and report performance.

8 6. Provide high-quality assistance and intervention
9 when and where needed.

10 7. Provide timely and accurate information on all
11 public and independent education services.

12 8. Recommend to the Legislature the missions of the
13 public colleges and universities and community colleges.

14 (c) Commissioner of Education.--The Commissioner of
15 Education shall serve as secretary and executive director of
16 the State Board of Education. The commissioner shall propose
17 action on all issues that come before the state board and be
18 responsible for enforcing compliance with the mission and
19 goals of the seamless K-20 education system by all education
20 delivery sectors. The commissioner's office shall operate all
21 statewide functions necessary to support the Florida Board of
22 Education and the seamless K-20 education system, including
23 the following areas:

24 1. Legal.

25 2. Communications, including a Citizen Information
26 Center that provides quick response and uses customer-friendly
27 methods.

28 3. Strategic planning and budget development.

29 4. General administration.

30 5. Assessment and accountability.

31 6. Data management, education technology, and an

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- 1 education data warehouse.
- 2 7. Access and opportunity, including student financial
- 3 assistance.
- 4 8. Policy research and development, except the Center
- 5 for Education Policy Research and Improvement.
- 6 9. Florida Board of Education personnel.
- 7 10. Workforce and economic development.
- 8 11. Educational facilities.
- 9 12. Technology and information services.
- 10 13. Student financial assistance.
- 11 14. Inspector General.
- 12 (d) Chancellors and executive director.--The
- 13 chancellors of the public schools, community colleges, and
- 14 colleges and universities divisions and the Executive Director
- 15 of the Division of Independent Education shall serve the
- 16 Florida Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education
- 17 in the role of division vice presidents of the K-20 education
- 18 system and as governance officers and critical members of the
- 19 state-level education leadership team. They shall each be held
- 20 responsible for providing leadership, administering programs,
- 21 resolving disputes, providing technical assistance, and timely
- 22 recommending action plans to the commissioner for sanctions or
- 23 intervention when needed, as well as making recommendations to
- 24 the board and the commissioner for strategic planning and
- 25 budget development for their respective education delivery
- 26 sectors. They shall support the governing policies and
- 27 responsibilities of the board and the commissioner and bear
- 28 primary responsibility for the achievement of the mission and
- 29 goals of the K-20 education system by their education delivery
- 30 sectors, as applicable to their sectors. They shall reinforce
- 31 the policies and principles of the seamless K-20 education

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1 system in every venue and at every opportunity, and work
2 together to facilitate horizontal communications and
3 interactions between the education delivery sectors.
4 Specifically, as applicable, each education governance officer
5 shall:
6 1. Serve as the head of the division.
7 2. Supervise all employees and work of the division.
8 3. Properly and timely inform education institutions
9 and the public as to legislative action, including funding,
10 grant opportunities, and substantive policy changes affecting
11 the division.
12 4. Direct the review of expenditures of public funds
13 in accordance with legislative intent.
14 5. Evaluate the performance of each education
15 institution under the division and report performance results
16 to the public, the Legislature, the Commissioner of Education,
17 the Florida Board of Education, and the institution and its
18 governing board.
19 6. Direct institutional governing boards to take
20 corrective action to improve unsatisfactory performance
21 pursuant to law and rules of the Florida Board of Education.
22 7. Direct and oversee the development of the
23 division's accountability system and recommend changes to the
24 Commissioner of Education and the Florida Board of Education.
25 8. Direct the division's activities in order to
26 coordinate with other divisions to provide a seamless
27 education system.
28 9. Direct the provision of state services to
29 institutions under the division.
30 10. Direct the development of the division's
31 legislative budget request and work cooperatively with the

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1 commissioner and other governance officers to develop a
2 coordinated budget request.
3 11. Serve as the primary point of contact and
4 communication for the division.
5 (e) Institutional boards of trustees and school
6 boards.--Each institutional board of trustees and school board
7 shall:
8 1. Provide strategic planning and budget development
9 for their institution or school district.
10 2. Implement and maintain high-quality education
11 programs within law and rules of the Florida Board of
12 Education.
13 3. Measure and enforce performance.
14 4. Provide timely and accurate reporting of
15 information.
16 5. Provide direct input on education issues to the
17 education governance officers.
18 6. Have broad latitude within law and rules of the
19 Florida Board of Education in developing local policies and
20 local programs to meet the needs of their students, their
21 communities, and area employers.
22 7. Hold presidents and appointed superintendents
23 responsible for institution and school performance.
24 8. Be responsible for the fiscal accountability of
25 their institution or school district.
26 9. Be responsible for compliance with all laws, rules
27 of the Florida Board of Education, and performance
28 accountability requirements.
29 (f) Presidents and superintendents.--Each
30 institutional president and school district superintendent
31 shall:

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1 1. Be responsible for efficient and effective budget
2 and program administration.

3 2. Provide strong leadership to accomplish their
4 education missions and goals.

5 3. Closely monitor education performance.

6 4. Provide timely and accurate financial and
7 performance data.

8 5. Link instructional staff evaluations to student
9 performance.

10 (g) Ad hoc advisory committees.--Advisory bodies shall
11 be appointed on an ad hoc basis by the Florida Board of
12 Education to serve the board, commissioner, and chancellors
13 when and as needed by studying and recommending action on
14 major issues that affect the direction and quality of
15 education, providing public forums for debate, and
16 safeguarding a coordinated systemwide approach to education
17 policy decisions.

18 Section 9. Section 229.007, Florida Statutes, is
19 created to read:

20 229.007 Florida's K-20 education performance
21 accountability system; legislative intent; mission, goals, and
22 systemwide measures.--

23 (1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.--It is the intent of the
24 Legislature that:

25 (a) The performance accountability system implemented
26 to assess the effectiveness of Florida's seamless K-20
27 education delivery system provide answers to the following
28 questions in relation to its mission and goals:

29 1. What is the public getting in return for funds it
30 invests in education?

31 2. How is Florida's K-20 education system performing

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1 in terms of educating its students?

2 3. How are the major delivery sectors performing to
3 promote student achievement?

4 4. How are individual schools and postsecondary
5 education institutions performing their responsibility to
6 educate their students as measured by how students are
7 performing and how much they are learning?

8 (b) The Florida Board of Education recommend to the
9 Legislature systemwide performance standards; the Legislature
10 establish systemwide performance measures and standards; and
11 the systemwide measures and standards provide Floridians with
12 information on what the public is getting in return for the
13 funds it invests in education and how well the K-20 system
14 educates its students.

15 (c) The Florida Board of Education establish
16 performance measures and set performance standards for
17 individual components of the public education system,
18 including individual schools and postsecondary education
19 institutions, which measures and standards are based primarily
20 on student achievement.

21 (2) MISSION, GOALS, AND SYSTEMWIDE MEASURES.--The
22 mission of Florida's K-20 education system, when it becomes
23 fully operational, shall be to increase the proficiency of all
24 students within one seamless, efficient system, by providing
25 them with the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills
26 through learning opportunities and research valued by
27 students, parents, and communities, and to maintain an
28 accountability system that measures student progress toward
29 the following goals:

30 (a) Highest student achievement, as measured by:
31 student FCAT performance and annual learning gains; the number

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1 and percentage of schools that improve at least one school
2 performance grade designation or maintain a school performance
3 grade designation of "A" pursuant to s. 229.57; graduation or
4 completion rates at all learning levels; and other measures
5 identified in law or rule.

6 (b) Seamless articulation and maximum access, as
7 measured by: the percentage of students who demonstrate
8 readiness for the educational level they are entering, from
9 kindergarten through postsecondary education and into the
10 workforce; the number and percentage of students needing
11 remediation; the percentage of Floridians who complete
12 associate, baccalaureate, professional, and postgraduate
13 degrees; the number and percentage of credits that articulate;
14 the extent to which each set of exit-point requirements
15 matches the next set of entrance-point requirements; and other
16 measures identified in law or rule.

17 (c) Skilled workforce and economic development, as
18 measured by: the number and percentage of graduates employed
19 in their areas of preparation; the percentage of Floridians
20 with high school diplomas and postsecondary education
21 credentials; the percentage of business and community members
22 who find that Florida's graduates possess the skills they
23 need; and other measures identified in law or rule.

24 (d) Quality efficient services, as measured by: cost
25 per completer or graduate; average cost per noncompleter at
26 each educational level; cost disparity across institutions
27 offering the same degrees; the percentage of education
28 customers at each educational level who are satisfied with the
29 education provided; and other measures identified in law or
30 rule.

31 Section 10. Section 229.0072, Florida Statutes, is

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1 created to read:

2 229.0072 Reorganization implementation process.--In
3 order to best achieve the legislative purpose of the Florida
4 Education Governance Reorganization Implementation Act:

5 (1) The Governor shall appoint the members of the
6 boards of trustees of the state universities in accordance
7 with s. 229.008.

8 (2) Effective July 1, 2001, the Governor shall appoint
9 a seven-member Florida Board of Education. The Florida Board
10 of Education shall be housed within, and operate under the
11 direction of, the State Board of Education. The Florida Board
12 of Education shall appoint a chief transition officer who
13 shall serve as the board's primary liaison with all entities
14 involved in the reorganization of education. The chief
15 transition officer shall be responsible directly to the
16 Florida Board of Education and shall serve as staff to the
17 board on all action items relating to the reorganization.
18 During the reorganization implementation period, the chief
19 transition officer shall:

20 (a) Be responsible for proposing actions regarding all
21 education governance reorganization implementation issues.

22 (b) Be responsible for integration of the Department
23 of Education as it is reorganized into an agency of the
24 Governor.

25 (c) Serve as secretary of the Florida Board of
26 Education.

27 (d) Serve as the head of the Education Reorganization
28 Workgroup.

29 (e) Serve as the head of the K-20 education leadership
30 team.

31 (3) The Florida Board of Education shall establish a

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1 detailed procedure for the implementation of a systemwide K-20
2 technology plan which includes a month-by-month timeline with
3 monthly progress reports to the board.

4 (4) Subject to review and approval of the State Board
5 of Education, the Florida Board of Education shall:

6 (a) Adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54
7 to implement provisions of law conferring duties upon it. The
8 rules shall be submitted to the State Board of Education. If
9 any rule is not disapproved by the State Board of Education
10 within 45 days after its receipt, the rule shall be filed
11 immediately with the Department of State.

12 (b) Prepare and submit a coordinated K-20 education
13 budget to the Governor and Legislature that clearly defines
14 the individual needs of the divisions within the Department of
15 Education. No school district shall use public funds to
16 support activities of an employee organization. The Florida
17 Board of Education shall adopt rules implementing this
18 restriction on the use of public funds and shall not allow
19 such use of public funds to be included in its recommended
20 budget, except for collective bargaining negotiations.

21 (c) Establish a work plan and timeline for the orderly
22 implementation of the transition, including a fully detailed
23 plan and timeline for the devolution of duties, as
24 appropriate, to the university boards of trustees.

25 (d) Establish accountability standards for existing
26 legislative performance goals, standards, and measures, and
27 order the development of mechanisms to implement new
28 legislative goals, standards, and measures.

29 (e) Supervise the coordination of institutions and
30 delivery sectors.

31 (f) Establish policies for university and community

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1 college boards of trustees to follow in selecting presidents.

2 (g) Approve plans and reports, and take other
3 necessary actions pertaining to the supervision of education.

4 (h) Effectuate the timely implementation of the
5 seamless K-20 education system.

6 (i) Establish advisory boards to provide the support
7 needed to address issues such as public education facilities
8 planning; student issues; instructional issues; distance
9 learning and technology; academic quality, freedom, and
10 responsibility; and research.

11 (j) Develop and review recommendations on issues of
12 statewide importance, such as technology systems and
13 facilities.

14 (k) Adopt criteria and implementation plans for future
15 growth issues, such as new colleges and universities and
16 campus mergers; and provide for cooperative agreements between
17 and within public and private education sectors.

18 (l) Advise the State Board of Education regarding the
19 issuance of bonds.

20 (m) Appoint advisory bodies, as necessary, on an ad
21 hoc basis.

22 (n) Develop and recommend to the Education Governance
23 Reorganization Transition Task Force, the Governor, the chief
24 transition officer, the Commissioner of Education, and the
25 Legislature, no later than January 1, 2002, for adoption
26 during 2002, a clear, concise new School Code, comprised of
27 the revision of chapters 228-246, to accomplish the
28 implementation, administration, and operation of Florida's
29 seamless K-20 education system in accordance with the
30 guidelines included in s. 229.0061.

31 (o) Receive, review, and make decisions regarding

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1 charter school appeals, which decisions shall be binding
2 notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary.

3 (5) Effective July 1, 2001, the Commissioner of
4 Education shall:

5 (a) Work with the Florida Board of Education to
6 achieve full implementation of the seamless K-20 education
7 system.

8 (b) Commence reorganization of the Department of
9 Education as a state agency of the Governor in accordance with
10 legislative guidelines pursuant to s. 229.0073, the
11 requirements of s. 229.003(5), and requests of the Florida
12 Board of Education as approved by the State Board of
13 Education.

14 (c) As secretary of the State Board of Education,
15 assist the chief transition officer in determining the agenda
16 for the Florida Board of Education and provide the Florida
17 Board of Education and the State Board of Education the full
18 support of the reorganized Department of Education.

19 Section 11. Section 229.0073, Florida Statutes, is
20 created to read:

21 229.0073 Reorganization of the Department of
22 Education.--Effective July 1, 2001, notwithstanding the
23 provisions of s. 20.15, the chief transition officer's
24 Education Reorganization Workgroup is established to direct
25 and provide oversight for the reorganization of Florida's K-20
26 Department of Education. The workgroup shall be comprised of
27 the Commissioner of Education, the Governor or his designee,
28 the chief transition officer, the Chancellor of Colleges and
29 Universities, the Chancellor of Community Colleges, the
30 Chancellor of Public Schools, and the Executive Director of
31 Independent Education, who shall consult with the legislative

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1 members of the Education Governance Reorganization Transition
2 Task Force. The reorganization shall:
3 (1) Eliminate duplication across divisions; achieve
4 greater efficiencies in financial and human resources and
5 education services; and identify functions, resources, and
6 services that should be eliminated, transferred, or realigned.
7 (2) Include a review and assessment of all bureaus,
8 offices, divisions, and functions of the department
9 reorganized pursuant to this section.
10 (3) Establish an Office of the Commissioner of
11 Education that includes the general areas of operation that
12 are common to all delivery sectors, such as administration,
13 communication, legal services, financial aid, and government
14 and public relations, in order to increase efficiency, improve
15 service delivery to students, and fully support the
16 operational needs of the Florida Board of Education.
17 (4) Establish the following divisions within the
18 department:
19 (a) Division of Public Schools (K-12).--The state's
20 public elementary, middle, junior high, and high schools, as
21 well as combination schools, charter schools, district magnet
22 programs, and area technical centers.
23 (b) Division of Community Colleges.--The state's 28
24 public community colleges.
25 (c) Division of Colleges and Universities.--The
26 state's public universities and colleges and the 4-year
27 independent colleges and universities whose students are
28 eligible to receive the William L. Boyd, IV, Florida resident
29 access grants pursuant to s. 240.605, to enable more effective
30 articulation between these public and private institutions.
31 The division chancellor shall administer those provisions of

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1 chapter 246 that apply to the independent colleges and
2 universities within the division and shall establish a liaison
3 responsible for partnerships that enhance articulation between
4 and communication with Florida's 4-year independent colleges
5 and universities.

6 (d) Division of Independent Education.--The
7 independent education providers within the state, including
8 home education programs that meet the requirements of s.
9 232.0201, private K-12 institutions as described in s.
10 229.808, independent colleges and universities, except those
11 identified under paragraph (c), and private postsecondary
12 career preparation and vocational training institutions.

13 1. The division shall be under an executive director
14 and shall house a new commission, appointed by the Governor,
15 to oversee licensing of independent postsecondary
16 institutions, consumer protection, and program improvement.
17 The commission shall have the powers and duties of the State
18 Board of Independent Colleges and Universities specified in
19 chapter 246, except the powers and duties relating to those
20 institutions identified under paragraph (c), and of the State
21 Board of Nonpublic Career Education.

22 2. The executive director of the division shall
23 establish a mechanism for regular interaction and input from
24 independent education providers in the development of policies
25 that provide seamless articulation for all students.

26 (5) Establish the following offices within the Office
27 of the Commissioner of Education which shall coordinate their
28 activities with all other divisions and offices:

29 (a) Office of Technology and Information Services.--In
30 conjunction with the Chancellor of Public Schools, the
31 Chancellor of Community Colleges, and the Chancellor of

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1 Colleges and Universities, the office shall be responsible for
2 developing a systemwide technology plan, making budget
3 recommendations to the commissioner, providing data collection
4 and management for the system, and coordinating services with
5 other state, local, and private agencies. The office shall
6 develop a method to address the need for a statewide approach
7 to planning and operations of library and information services
8 to achieve a single K-20 education system library information
9 portal and a unified higher education library management
10 system. The Florida Virtual High School shall be
11 administratively housed within the office.

12 (b) Office of Workforce and Economic Development.--The
13 office shall evaluate the role of each sector of education in
14 Florida's workforce and economic development, assess the
15 specific work skills and variety of careers provided, and
16 report to the Florida Board of Education the effectiveness of
17 each sector.

18 (c) Office of Educational Facilities and SMART Schools
19 Clearinghouse.--The office shall validate all educational
20 plant surveys and verify Florida Inventory of School Houses
21 (FISH) data. The office shall provide technical assistance to
22 public school districts when requested. The office, staff,
23 property, and functions of the SMART Schools Clearinghouse are
24 transferred by a type two transfer, pursuant to s. 20.06(2),
25 from the Department of Management Services to the Office of
26 Educational Facilities and SMART Schools Clearinghouse within
27 the Office of the Commissioner of Education.

28 (d) Office of Student Financial Assistance.--The
29 office shall provide access to and administer state and
30 federal grants, scholarships, and loans to those students
31 seeking financial assistance for postsecondary study pursuant

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1 to program criteria and eligibility requirements.

2 (6) Establish a K-20 education leadership team,
3 including, but not limited to, the chief transition officer
4 and the education governance officers. The leadership team
5 shall be responsible for systemwide horizontal and vertical
6 communication, and assisting the achievement of the seamless
7 K-20 education system.

8 Section 12. Section 229.0074, Florida Statutes, is
9 created to read:

10 229.0074 Division of Independent Education.--

11 (1) The mission of the Division of Independent
12 Education is to aid in protecting the health, education, and
13 welfare of persons who receive educational services and
14 degrees from the independent education sector; to protect the
15 integrity of certificates, diplomas and degrees conferred by
16 the independent education sector; to aid in protecting
17 employers and others who depend upon people whose educational
18 credentials are from the independent education sector in this
19 state; and to aid in protecting independent educational
20 institutions that currently operate or intend to begin
21 operating in this state. The Commission for Independent
22 Education, administratively housed within the division, shall
23 have such authority as specified in chapter 246 relating to
24 independent postsecondary education, except regarding those
25 institutions described in s. 229.0073 (4)(c). The division
26 shall serve as the state education liaison to independent
27 education providers and institutions, including home education
28 programs that meet the requirements of s. 232.0201, private
29 K-12 institutions as described in s. 229.808, independent
30 colleges and universities except as otherwise provided in s.
31 229.0073 (4)(c), and private postsecondary career

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- 1 preparation/vocational training institutions.
2 (2) The executive director of the division shall:
3 (a) Participate with the other division heads in
4 education decision making processes.
5 (b) Establish a clearing house of information on
6 independent education institutions.
7 (c) Foster a collaborative spirit and working
8 relations among the institutions of the private and public
9 sectors.
10 (d) Identify and convey best practices.
11 (e) Oversee the division's functions in the most
12 economical and effective manner.

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