

By Senator Villalobos

37-847A-02

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to reorganization within the
3 Department of Education; reenacting and
4 amending s. 20.15, F.S., which creates the
5 Department of Education; providing for the head
6 of the department and for its executive
7 director; prescribing powers and duties of the
8 State Board of Education; prescribing powers
9 and duties of the Commissioner of Education;
10 renaming the Divisions of Public Schools and
11 Universities, creating the Division of
12 Vocational Rehabilitation, and abolishing the
13 Divisions of Workforce Development,
14 Professional Educators, Administration,
15 Financial Services, Support Services, and
16 Technology; providing for appointment of
17 division directors, councils, committees, and
18 boards; providing an effective date.

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

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22 Section 1. Notwithstanding subsection (7) of section 3
23 of chapter 2000-321, Laws of Florida, section 20.15, Florida
24 Statutes, shall not stand repealed on January 7, 2003, as
25 scheduled by that act, but is reenacted and amended to read:

26 20.15 Department of Education.--There is created a
27 Department of Education.

28 (1) STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.--In accordance with s.
29 2, Art. IX of the State Constitution, the State Board of
30 Education is a body corporate and must supervise the system of
31 free public education as is provided by law. The State Board

1 ~~of Education is the head of the Department of Education the~~
2 ~~chief policymaking body of public education in the state as~~
3 ~~specified in chapter 229. The Governor is chair of the board,~~
4 ~~and the Commissioner of Education is the secretary and~~
5 ~~executive officer and in the absence of the Governor shall~~
6 ~~serve as chair.~~

7 (2) COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION.--The Commissioner of
8 Education is appointed by the State Board of Education and
9 serves as the Executive Director of the Department of
10 Education ~~head of the Department of Education is the~~
11 ~~Commissioner of Education who shall be elected by vote of the~~
12 ~~qualified electors of the state pursuant to s. 5, Art. IV of~~
13 ~~the State Constitution.~~

14 (a) ~~The Commissioner of Education shall appoint a~~
15 ~~Deputy Commissioner for Educational Programs who has such~~
16 ~~powers, duties, responsibilities, and functions as are~~
17 ~~necessary to ensure the greatest possible coordination,~~
18 ~~efficiency, and effectiveness of kindergarten through~~
19 ~~12th-grade education and vocational and continuing education~~
20 ~~programs, including workforce development.~~

21 (b) ~~The Commissioner of Education shall appoint a~~
22 ~~Deputy Commissioner for Planning, Budgeting, and Management~~
23 ~~who has such powers, duties, responsibilities, and functions~~
24 ~~as are necessary to ensure the greatest possible coordination~~
25 ~~of policies, programs, and procedures for the statewide system~~
26 ~~of education and the department.~~

27 (c) ~~The Commissioner of Education shall appoint a~~
28 ~~Deputy Commissioner for Technology and Administration who has~~
29 ~~such powers, duties, responsibilities, and functions as are~~
30 ~~necessary to ensure the greatest possible coordination and~~
31

1 ~~development of technological supports for the education system~~
2 ~~and efficient administration of the department.~~

3 (3) DIVISIONS.--The following divisions of the
4 Department of Education are established:

5 (a) Division of Community Colleges.

6 (b) Division of Public Schools ~~and Community~~
7 ~~Education.~~

8 (c) Division of Colleges and Universities.

9 (d) Division of Vocational Rehabilitation ~~Workforce~~
10 ~~Development.~~

11 ~~(e) Division of Professional Educators.~~

12 ~~(f) Division of Administration.~~

13 ~~(g) Division of Financial Services.~~

14 ~~(h) Division of Support Services.~~

15 ~~(i) Division of Technology.~~

16 ~~(e)(j)~~ (j) Division of Blind Services.

17 (4) DIRECTORS.--~~The Board of Regents is the director~~
18 ~~of the Division of Universities, and the State Board of~~
19 ~~Community Colleges is the director of the Division of~~
20 ~~Community Colleges, pursuant to chapter 240.~~The directors of
21 all ~~other~~ divisions shall be appointed by the commissioner
22 subject to approval by the state board.

23 (5) POWERS AND DUTIES.--The State Board of Education
24 and the Commissioner of Education~~+~~

25 ~~(a)~~ shall assign to the divisions ~~Division of Public~~
26 ~~Schools and Community Education~~ such powers, duties,
27 responsibilities, and functions as are necessary to ensure the
28 greatest possible coordination, efficiency, and effectiveness
29 of education for students in K through 20 ~~education.~~
30 ~~prekindergarten through 12th grade, for secondary school~~
31 ~~vocational education, and for community education.~~

1 ~~(b) Shall assign to the Division of Workforce~~
2 ~~Development such powers, duties, responsibilities, and~~
3 ~~functions as are necessary to ensure the greatest possible~~
4 ~~coordination, efficiency, and effectiveness of workforce~~
5 ~~development education.~~

6 ~~(c) Shall assign to the State Board of Community~~
7 ~~Colleges such powers, duties, responsibilities, and functions~~
8 ~~as are necessary to ensure the coordination, efficiency, and~~
9 ~~effectiveness of community colleges, except those duties~~
10 ~~specifically assigned to the Commissioner of Education in ss.~~
11 ~~229.512 and 229.551, the duties concerning physical facilities~~
12 ~~in chapter 235, and the duties assigned to the Division of~~
13 ~~Workforce Development in chapter 239.~~

14 (6) COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES.--Notwithstanding anything
15 contained in law to the contrary, the commissioner of
16 ~~Education~~ shall appoint all members of all councils and
17 committees of the Department of Education, except the
18 Commission for Independent Education, Board of Regents, the
19 ~~State Board of Community Colleges, the community college~~
20 ~~district boards of trustees, the Postsecondary Education~~
21 ~~Planning Commission, the Education Practices Commission, and~~
22 ~~the Education Standards Commission, the State Board of~~
23 ~~Independent Colleges and Universities, and the State Board of~~
24 ~~Nonpublic Career Education.~~

25 (7) BOARDS.--Notwithstanding anything contained in law
26 to the contrary, all members of the university, college, Board
27 ~~of Regents, the State Board of Community Colleges, and the~~
28 community college district boards of trustees must be
29 appointed according to chapter 240.

30 Section 2. This act shall take effect January 7, 2003.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Revives and readopts section 20.15, Florida Statutes, creating the Department of Education, which was scheduled for repeal on January 7, 2003. Provides that the State Board of Education is head of the department and that the Commissioner of Education is the department's executive director. Renames the Division of Public Schools and Community Education as the Division of Public Schools. Renames the Division of Universities as the Division of Colleges and Universities. Creates the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Abolishes the Divisions of Workforce Development, Professional Educators, Administration, Financial Services, Support Services, and Technology. Prescribes powers of the board to assign responsibilities to the respective divisions.