

By Senator Diaz de la Portilla

34-1623-02

See HB

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to basic skills mastery for certificate career education programs; amending s. 239.213, F.S.; providing students, including limited English proficient students, with alternative methods for demonstrating mastery of basic skills; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 239.213, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

239.213 Vocational-preparatory instruction.--

(2)(a) Students who enroll in a certificate career education program shall complete an entry-level examination within the first 6 weeks of admission into the program. The state board shall designate examinations that are currently in existence, the results of which are comparable across institutions, to assess student mastery of basic skills. Any student deemed to lack a minimal level of basic skills for such program shall be referred to vocational-preparatory instruction or adult basic education for a structured program of basic skills instruction. Such instruction may include English for speakers of other languages. A student may not receive a certificate of vocational program completion prior to demonstrating the basic skills required in the state curriculum frameworks for the vocational program.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), a student who successfully completes a required state, federal, or industry licensure examination as part of the certificate

1 career education program shall be considered to have
2 demonstrated mastery of basic skills.
3 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), a
4 limited English proficient student may demonstrate mastery of
5 basic skills by successful completion of:
6 1. A required state, federal, or industry licensure
7 examination as part of the certificate career education
8 program; or
9 2. An examination in the student's home language where
10 such examination is available and is approved by the State
11 Board of Education.

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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15 HOUSE SUMMARY

16 Provides alternative methods for students, including
17 limited English proficient students, to demonstrate
18 mastery of basic skills, which is required for
19 certificate career education programs.

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