

By Representative Bendross-Mindingall

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to general requirements for
3 high school graduation; amending s. 232.246,
4 F.S.; requiring the marriage and relationship
5 skill-based education component of the required
6 one-half credit in life management skills to
7 include responsible parenting principles and
8 skills; providing an effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section
13 232.246, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 232.246 General requirements for high school
15 graduation.--

16 (1) Graduation requires successful completion of
17 either a minimum of 24 academic credits in grades 9 through 12
18 or an International Baccalaureate curriculum. The 24 credits
19 shall be distributed as follows:

20 (i) One-half credit in life management skills to
21 include consumer education, positive emotional development,
22 marriage and relationship skill-based education including
23 responsible parenting principles and skills, nutrition,
24 prevention of human immunodeficiency virus infection and
25 acquired immune deficiency syndrome and other sexually
26 transmissible diseases, benefits of sexual abstinence and
27 consequences of teenage pregnancy, information and instruction
28 on breast cancer detection and breast self-examination,
29 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, drug education, and the hazards
30 of smoking. Such credit shall be given for a course to be
31 taken by all students in either the 9th or 10th grade.

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2 School boards may award a maximum of one-half credit in social
3 studies and one-half elective credit for student completion of
4 nonpaid voluntary community or school service work. Students
5 choosing this option must complete a minimum of 75 hours of
6 service in order to earn the one-half credit in either
7 category of instruction. Credit may not be earned for service
8 provided as a result of court action. School boards that
9 approve the award of credit for student volunteer service
10 shall develop guidelines regarding the award of the credit,
11 and school principals are responsible for approving specific
12 volunteer activities. A course designated in the Course Code
13 Directory as grade 9 through grade 12 which is taken below the
14 9th grade may be used to satisfy high school graduation
15 requirements or Florida Academic Scholars award requirements
16 as specified in a district's pupil progression plan. A student
17 shall be granted credit toward meeting the requirements of
18 this subsection for equivalent courses, as identified pursuant
19 to s. 229.551(1)(f)6., taken through dual enrollment.

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

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23 HOUSE SUMMARY

24 With respect to general requirements for high school
25 graduation, requires the marriage and relationship
26 skill-based education component of the required one-half
27 credit in life management skills to include responsible
28 parenting principles and skills.
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