

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to requirements for high school
3 graduation; amending s. 1003.43, F.S.;
4 requiring that instruction in parenting skills
5 be included within the one-half credit in life
6 management skills required for graduation from
7 high school; eliminating requirement that life
8 management skills course be taken in the 9th or
9 10th grade; providing that participation in
10 R.O.T.C. class satisfies a portion of the
11 physical education requirement; providing an
12 effective date.

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

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16 Section 1. Paragraphs (i) and (j) of subsection (1) of
17 section 1003.43, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

18 1003.43 General requirements for high school
19 graduation.--

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

24 (i) One-half credit in life management skills to
25 include consumer education, positive emotional development,
26 marriage and relationship skill-based education, nutrition,
27 parenting skills, prevention of human immunodeficiency virus
28 infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome and other
29 sexually transmissible diseases, benefits of sexual abstinence
30 and consequences of teenage pregnancy, information and
31 instruction on breast cancer detection and breast

1 self-examination, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, drug
2 education, and the hazards of smoking. ~~Such credit shall be~~
3 ~~given for a course to be taken by all students in either the~~
4 ~~9th or 10th grade.~~

5 (j) One credit in physical education to include
6 assessment, improvement, and maintenance of personal fitness.
7 Participation in an interscholastic sport at the junior
8 varsity or varsity level, for two full seasons, shall satisfy
9 the one-credit requirement in physical education if the
10 student passes a competency test on personal fitness with a
11 score of "C" or better. The competency test on personal
12 fitness must be developed by the Department of Education. A
13 district school board may not require that the one credit in
14 physical education be taken during the 9th grade year.
15 Completion of one semester with a grade of "C" or better in a
16 marching band class, or in a physical activity class that
17 requires participation in marching band activities as an
18 extracurricular activity, or in a Reserve Officer Training
19 Corps (R.O.T.C.) class a significant component of which is
20 drills shall satisfy a one-half credit requirement in physical
21 education. This one-half credit may not be used to satisfy
22 the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for
23 adaptive physical education under an individual educational
24 plan (IEP) or 504 plan.

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26 District school boards may award a maximum of one-half credit
27 in social studies and one-half elective credit for student
28 completion of nonpaid voluntary community or school service
29 work. Students choosing this option must complete a minimum
30 of 75 hours of service in order to earn the one-half credit in
31 either category of instruction. Credit may not be earned for

1 service provided as a result of court action. District school
2 boards that approve the award of credit for student volunteer
3 service shall develop guidelines regarding the award of the
4 credit, and school principals are responsible for approving
5 specific volunteer activities. A course designated in the
6 Course Code Directory as grade 9 through grade 12 that is
7 taken below the 9th grade may be used to satisfy high school
8 graduation requirements or Florida Academic Scholars award
9 requirements as specified in a district school board's student
10 progression plan. A student shall be granted credit toward
11 meeting the requirements of this subsection for equivalent
12 courses, as identified pursuant to s. 1007.271(6), taken
13 through dual enrollment.

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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