

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 1690

SPONSOR: Appropriations Subcommittee on Education and Senator Cowin

SUBJECT: Dual Enrollment

DATE: April 11, 2003                      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Woodruff</u>	<u>O'Farrell</u>	<u>ED</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	<u>Armstrong</u>	<u>Newman</u>	<u>AED</u>	<u>Favorable/CS</u>
3.	_____	_____	<u>AP</u>	<u>Withdrawn:Fav/CS</u>
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

**I. Summary:**

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Education to encourage the use of acceleration mechanisms, including dual enrollment, to assist with class size reduction. It revises current statutory provisions relating to the funding of dually enrolled public school students, establishing that funding will be provided through the public school funding formula (FEFP) to compensate the institution employing the instructor of the dual enrollment course. It establishes equivalent measurement for secondary and postsecondary courses for funding purposes. It revises compulsory attendance requirements for dually enrolled students. It requires the Commissioner of Education to perform audits to ensure eligible students are not denied access to dual enrollment courses.

This bill amends sections 1007.271 and 1011.62, Florida Statutes.

**II. Present Situation:**

Section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, establishes the dual enrollment program for the enrollment of an eligible secondary student or home education student in a postsecondary course creditable toward a career and technical certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree which is also creditable toward the high school diploma. Eligible students may enroll in dual enrollment courses conducted during school hours, after school hours, and during the summer term. Dually enrolled students are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees. Instructional materials are provided to dually enrolled students by the school district or postsecondary institution at no cost to the student. The State Board of Education is required to identify postsecondary courses which meet high school graduation requirements of s. 1003.43, F.S., and to establish the number of postsecondary hours of instruction and equivalent high school credits earned through dual enrollment. Such equivalencies are determined solely on

comparable course content and not on seat time. The majority of dually enrolled students are enrolled in community college courses.

School districts receive funding for public school students who are dually enrolled through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) which is calculated pursuant to the provisions of s. 1011.62, Florida Statutes. The FEFP is calculated on the basis of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) students, with 900 hours of instructional time equaling one FTE student. School districts may only report a student for a maximum of one FTE during a school year for FEFP funding purposes. Generally, one FTE student will earn 6 credits toward high school graduation during the school year.

State support for community colleges is provided through the Community College Program Fund (CCPF). S.1011.84, F.S., provides a methodology for calculating state support through the CCPF. Unlike the FEFP, legislative adherence to the CCPF formula is not mandated in statute. Legislative appropriations to community colleges have sometimes, but not always, considered FTE students. As a result, community colleges which have experienced changes in enrollment have not always received corresponding funding adjustments based on workload.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

Section 1. Amends s. 1007.271, F.S., to authorize the Commissioner of Education to encourage the use of accelerated education mechanisms, including dual enrollment, to assist with class size reduction. It requires the Commissioner of Education to perform compliance audits to determine each school district's compliance with the provisions of s. 1007.271 (3) and (5), F.S., relating to student access to dual enrollment courses. This section also requires the State Board of Education to reduce discretionary lottery appropriations of districts which do not allow eligible students to access dual enrollment courses.

Section 2. Section 1011.62, F.S., is amended to require school districts to report students enrolled in dual enrollment instruction at a community college or state university in full-time equivalent student membership for grades 9 through 12. Further, it provides that FEFP funding for dually enrolled public school students shall be provided to the school district or eligible postsecondary institution which employs the instructor. If an eligible postsecondary institution employs the instructor, school district membership surveys shall include dual enrollment students on the basis of 75 membership hours for each one-half high school credit earned. School districts may report dual enrollment hours for funding in excess of 900 hours or one FTE for students dually enrolled at an eligible postsecondary institution. The amount of FEFP funding disbursed to an eligible postsecondary institution for dual enrollment shall be calculated by multiplying the full-time equivalent student membership by the cost factor for grades 9 through 12, the base student allocation, and the appropriate district cost differential. Funding provided through the FEFP to a postsecondary institution shall be deducted from other postsecondary calculations that provide state support for operations based on dual enrollment FTE. If an eligible postsecondary institution is providing dual enrollment instruction, students participating in the dual enrollment instruction shall be exempt from the compulsory school attendance

requirements specified in s. 1003.21, F.S., for the portion of their educational program related to dual enrollment.

Section 3. Provides that the legislation shall take effect July 1, 2003.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

This legislation should reduce the cost of funding dual enrollment programs by eliminating overlapping funding provisions which presently allow different institutions to report the same dually enrolled student for state funding.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

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