1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to education; amending s. 3 24.121, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; 4 amending s. 212.055, F.S.; eliminating 5 references to the Florida Frugal Schools 6 Program; amending s. 216.136, F.S.; eliminating 7 reference to an obsolete board; providing that the executive director of the Commission for 8 9 Independent Education is a member of the Workforce Estimating Conference; amending s. 10 316.615, F.S.; revising provisions relating to 11 12 rulemaking with respect to school bus operation; amending s. 402.305, F.S.; revising 13 14 provisions relating to rules with respect to child care facilities; amending s. 409.1451, 15 F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 16 445.0123, F.S.; eliminating a reference to 17 State Board of Independent Colleges and 18 19 Universities; prescribing duties of the 20 Commission for Independent Education with 21 respect to determining eligibility for certain 22 students; amending s. 455.2125, F.S.; 23 eliminating a reference to the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities and the 24 25 State Board of Nonpublic Career Education; 26 requiring certain entities to consult with the Commission for Independent Education; amending 27 28 s. 456.028, F.S.; eliminating a reference to 29 the State Board of Independent Colleges and 30 Universities and the State Board of Nonpublic Career Education; requiring certain entities to 31

consult with the Commission for Independent 1 2 Education; amending s. 467.009, F.S.; 3 transferring certain duties from the authority 4 of the State Board of Nonpublic Career 5 Education to the Commission for Independent 6 Education; amending s. 488.01, F.S.; 7 transferring certain duties from the State Board of Nonpublic Career Education to the 8 9 Commission for Independent Education; amending s. 489.125, F.S.; eliminating a reference to 10 the Commissioner of Education; providing 11 12 rulemaking authority of the State Board of Education; amending s. 817.566, F.S.; 13 14 correcting a cross-reference; transferring certain duties from the State Board of 15 Independent Colleges and Universities to the 16 17 Commission for Independent Education; amending s. 817.567, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; 18 19 transferring certain duties from the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities 20 21 to the Commission for Independent Education; amending s. 943.22, F.S.; replacing a reference 22 23 to the Accrediting Commission for Independent Colleges to one for the Accrediting Council for 24 Independent Colleges and Schools; amending s. 25 26 1000.04, F.S.; correcting terminology; amending s. 1001.26, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; 27 28 amending s. 1001.372, F.S.; correcting an 29 internal reference; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 30 1001.50, F.S.; eliminating age as a criterion 31

of compensation for district school 1 2 superintendents; amending s. 1001.74, F.S.; 3 correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 1002.01, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; 4 amending s. 1002.32, F.S.; redesignating a 5 6 developmental research school as a "lab" 7 school; deleting a cross-reference; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; requiring compliance with s. 8 9 1012.45, F.S., for transportation of charter school students; amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; 10 correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 11 12 1002.43, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 1003.63, F.S.; eliminating the 13 14 authority of the State Board of Education to waive law; amending s. 1004.24, F.S.; 15 eliminating an obsolete reference to postaudits 16 17 of financial accounts; providing for financial audit pursuant to s. 11.45, F.S.; amending s. 18 19 1004.26, F.S.; revising provisions relating to university oversight of student government; 20 21 amending s. 1004.445, F.S.; eliminating an obsolete reference to postaudit of financial 22 23 accounts; requiring a financial audit pursuant to s. 11.45, F.S.; amending s. 1005.04, F.S.; 24 correcting an error in punctuation; amending s. 25 26 1006.14, F.S.; correcting an error in 27 punctuation; amending s. 1006.21, F.S.; deleting references to "regulations" and 28 29 conforming references to State Board of Education; amending s. 1007.21, F.S.; deleting 30 references to guardians; amending s. 1008.37, 31

F.S.; correcting a date; amending s. 1009.29, 1 2 F.S.; correcting reference to State Board of 3 Education; correcting reference to the number 4 of state universities; amending s. 1009.531, 5 F.S.; correcting an error in grammar; amending s. 1009.534, F.S.; revising provisions relating 6 7 to rules concerning the Florida Academic Scholars award; amending s. 1009.535, F.S.; 8 9 revising provisions relating to rules concerning the Florida Medallion Scholars 10 award; amending s. 1009.539, F.S.; 11 12 redesignating the Florida Merit Scholars award as the Florida Medallion Scholars award; 13 14 transferring certain duties of the Articulation 15 Coordinating Committee to the State Board of Education; correcting a cross-reference; 16 amending s. 1009.765, F.S.; revising provisions 17 relating to rules concerning the Ethics in 18 19 Business scholarships; amending s. 1009.77, F.S.; revising provisions relating to rules 20 concerning the Florida Work Experience Program; 21 amending s. 1010.75, F.S.; providing that fees 22 be remitted for disbursement from the Teacher 23 Certification Examination Trust Fund; amending 24 s. 1011.60, F.S.; deleting a cross-reference; 25 26 amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; providing that 27 small, isolated high schools may multiply the number of full-time equivalent students if the 28 29 school has attained a state accountability grade of C or better; redesignating the 30 Accrediting Commission of the Association of 31

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Independent Colleges and Schools as the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools; amending s. 1012.21, F.S.; correcting a reference to the Department of Education; amending s. 1012.585, F.S.; correcting the name of a trust fund; correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 1012.62, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 1012.74, F.S.; correcting cross-references; amending s. 1012.79, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 1012.795, F.S.; designating the appointed representative of a district school superintendent to receive certain records concerning certain offenses; amending s. 1012.796, F.S.; correcting cross-references; amending s. 1012.98, F.S.; requiring consultation with state university faculty; amending 1013.73, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; amending s. 1013.74, F.S.; eliminating an obsolete cross-reference; amending s. 1001.74, F.S.; requiring the Department of Management Services to continue to administer the pre-tax benefit program for state university employees; amending s. 110.161, F.S.; including employees of state universities in definition for purposes of pretax benefits program; providing an effective date. 30 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section 24.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

24.121 Allocation of revenues and expenditure of funds for public education.--

(5)

(d) No funds shall be released for any purpose from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund to any school district in which one or more schools do not have an approved school improvement plan pursuant to s. 1001.42(16) or do not comply with school advisory council membership composition requirements pursuant to  $\underline{s. 1001.452(1)}\underline{s. 229.58(1)}$ . Effective July 1, 2002, the Commissioner of Education shall withhold disbursements from the trust fund to any school district that fails to adopt the performance-based salary schedule required by  $\underline{s. 1012.22(1)}$ .

Section 2. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (6) of section 212.055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

212.055 Discretionary sales surtaxes; legislative intent; authorization and use of proceeds.—It is the legislative intent that any authorization for imposition of a discretionary sales surtax shall be published in the Florida Statutes as a subsection of this section, irrespective of the duration of the levy. Each enactment shall specify the types of counties authorized to levy; the rate or rates which may be imposed; the maximum length of time the surtax may be imposed, if any; the procedure which must be followed to secure voter approval, if required; the purpose for which the proceeds may be expended; and such other requirements as the Legislature may provide. Taxable transactions and administrative procedures shall be as provided in s. 212.054.

(6) SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY SURTAX. --

(b) The resolution shall include a statement that provides a brief and general description of the school capital outlay projects to be funded by the surtax. If applicable, the resolution must state that the district school board has been recognized by the State Board of Education as having a Florida Frugal Schools Program. The statement shall conform to the requirements of s. 101.161 and shall be placed on the ballot by the governing body of the county. The following question shall be placed on the ballot:

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(c) The resolution providing for the imposition of the surtax shall set forth a plan for use of the surtax proceeds for fixed capital expenditures or fixed capital costs associated with the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of school facilities and campuses which have a useful life expectancy of 5 or more years, and any land acquisition, land improvement, design, and engineering costs related thereto. Additionally, the plan shall include the costs of retrofitting and providing for technology implementation, including hardware and software, for the various sites within the school district. Surtax revenues may be used for the purpose of servicing bond indebtedness to finance projects authorized by this subsection, and any interest accrued thereto may be held in trust to finance such projects. Neither the proceeds of the surtax nor any interest accrued thereto shall be used for operational expenses. If the district school board has been recognized by the State Board of Education as having a Florida Frugal Schools Program, the

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district's plan for use of the surtax proceeds must be consistent with this subsection and with uses assured under the Florida Frugal Schools Program.

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of section 216.136, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.136 Consensus estimating conferences; duties and principals.--

- (9) WORKFORCE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE. --
- (b) Principals. -- The Commissioner of Education, the Executive Office of the Governor, the director of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, the director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation, the Chancellor of the State University System, the Executive Director of the State Board of Community Colleges, the Executive Director chair of the Commission for Independent Education State Board of Nonpublic Career Education, the chair of Workforce Florida, Inc., the coordinator of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, or their designees, and professional staff from the Senate and the House of Representatives who have forecasting and substantive expertise, are the principals of the Workforce Estimating Conference. In addition to the designated principals of the conference, nonprincipal participants of the conference shall include a representative of the Florida Chamber of Commerce and other interested parties. The principal representing the Executive Office of the Governor shall preside over the sessions of the conference.

Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 316.615, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.615 School buses; physical requirements of drivers.--

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(3) A person may not operate or cause to be operated a motor vehicle covered by subsection (1) or subsection (2) when transporting school children unless the operator has met the physical examination requirements established by law and by rule of the State Board of Education adopted by the Commissioner of Education. The operator of such a motor vehicle shall pass an annual physical examination and have posted in the vehicle a certificate to drive the vehicle.

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1), subsection (5), and paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 402.305, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.--

- (1) LICENSING STANDARDS. -- The department shall establish licensing standards that each licensed child care facility must meet regardless of the origin or source of the fees used to operate the facility or the type of children served by the facility.
- (b) All standards established under ss. 402.301-402.319 must be consistent with the rules adopted by the State Fire Marshal for child care facilities. However, if the facility is operated in a public school, the department shall use the public school fire code, as provided in the rules of the State Board Department of Education, as the minimum standard for firesafety.
- (5) PHYSICAL FACILITIES. -- Minimum standards shall include requirements for building conditions, indoor play space, outdoor play space, napping space, bathroom facilities, food preparation facilities, outdoor equipment, and indoor equipment. Because of the nature and duration of drop-in child care, outdoor play space and outdoor equipment shall not be required for licensure; however, if such play space and

equipment are provided, then the minimum standards shall apply to drop-in child care. With respect to minimum standards for physical facilities of a child care program for school-age children which is operated in a public school facility, the department shall adopt the State Uniform Building Code for Public Educational Facilities Construction as the minimum standards, regardless of the operator of the program. The Legislature intends that if a child care program for school-age children is operated in a public school, the program need not conform to standards for physical facilities other than the standards adopted by the <u>State Board</u> Commissioner of Education.

- (7) SANITATION AND SAFETY. --
- (b) In the case of a child care program for school-age children attending before and after school programs on the public school site, the department shall use the public school fire code, as adopted promulgated in the rules of the State Board Department of Education, as the minimum standard for firesafety. In the case of a child care program for school-age children attending before-school and after-school programs on a site operated by a municipality, the department shall adopt rules for such site and intended use.

Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 409.1451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 409.1451 Independent living transition services. --
- (5) PROGRAM COMPONENT OF SERVICES FOR YOUNG ADULTS FORMERLY IN FOSTER CARE.--Based on the availability of funds, the department shall provide or arrange for the following services to young adults formerly in foster care who meet the prescribed conditions and are determined eligible by the department. The categories of services available to assist a

young adult formerly in foster care to achieve independence are:

- (b) Road-to-Independence Scholarship Program.--
- 1. The Road-to-Independence Scholarship Program is intended to help eligible students who are former foster children in this state to receive the educational and vocational training needed to achieve independence. The amount of the award shall equal the earnings that the student would have been eligible to earn working a 40-hour-a-week federal minimum wage job, after considering other grants and scholarships that are in excess of the educational institutions' fees and costs, and contingent upon available funds. Students eligible for the Road-to-Independence Scholarship Program may also be eligible for educational fee waivers for workforce development postsecondary programs, community colleges, and universities, pursuant to s. 1009.25(2)(c).
- 2. A young adult 18 to 21 years of age is eligible for the initial award, and a young adult under 23 years of age is eligible for renewal awards, if he or she:
- a. Is a dependent child, pursuant to chapter 39, and is living in licensed foster care or in subsidized independent living at the time of his or her 18th birthday;
- b. Has spent at least 6 months living in foster care before reaching his or her 18th birthday;
- c. Is a resident of this state as defined in s. 1009.40; and
  - d. Meets one of the following qualifications:
- (I) Has earned a standard high school diploma or its equivalent as described in  $\frac{1003.425 \text{ or s.}}{1003.435}$ , and has been admitted for full-time enrollment in an

eligible postsecondary education institution as defined in s. 1009.533;

- (II) Is enrolled full time in an accredited high school, is within 2 years of graduation, and has maintained a grade point average of at least 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 for the two semesters preceding the date of his or her 18th birthday; or
- (III) Is enrolled full time in an accredited adult education program designed to provide the student with a high school diploma or its equivalent, is making satisfactory progress in that program as certified by the program, and is within 2 years of graduation.
- 3.a. The department must advertise the availability of the program and must ensure that the children and young adults leaving foster care, foster parents, or family services counselors are informed of the availability of the program and the application procedures.
- b. A young adult must apply for the initial award during the 6 months immediately preceding his or her 18th birthday. A young adult who fails to make an initial application, but who otherwise meets the criteria for an initial award, may make one application for the initial award if such application is made before the young adult's 21st birthday.
- c. If funding for the program is available, the department shall issue awards from the scholarship program for each young adult who meets all the requirements of the program.
- d. An award shall be issued at the time the eligible student reaches 18 years of age.

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- If the award recipient transfers from one eligible institution to another and continues to meet eligibility requirements, the award must be transferred with the recipient.
- f. Scholarship funds awarded to any eligible young adult under this program are in addition to any other services provided to the young adult by the department through its independent living transition services.
- The department shall provide information concerning young adults receiving the Road-to-Independence Scholarship to the Department of Education for inclusion in the student financial assistance database, as provided in s. 1009.94.
- Scholarship funds shall be terminated when the young adult has attained a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree, or equivalent undergraduate degree, or reaches 23 years of age, whichever occurs earlier.
- The department shall evaluate and renew each award annually during the 90-day period before the young adult's birthday. In order to be eligible for a renewal award for the subsequent year, the young adult must:
- (I) Complete at least 12 semester hours or the equivalent in the last academic year in which the young adult earned a scholarship, except for a young adult who meets the requirements of s. 1009.41.
- (II) Maintain the cumulative grade point average required by the scholarship program, except that, if the young adult's grades are insufficient to renew the scholarship at any time during the eligibility period, the young adult may restore eligibility by improving the grade point average to the required level.

j. Scholarship funds may be terminated during the interim between an award and the evaluation for a renewal award if the department determines that the award recipient is no longer enrolled in an educational institution as defined in sub-subparagraph 2.d., or is no longer a state resident. The department shall notify a student who is terminated and inform the student of his or her right to appeal.

k. An award recipient who does not qualify for a renewal award or who chooses not to renew the award may subsequently apply for reinstatement. An application for reinstatement must be made before the young adult reaches 23 years of age, and a student may not apply for reinstatement more than once. In order to be eligible for reinstatement, the young adult must meet the eligibility criteria and the criteria for award renewal for the scholarship program.

1. A young adult receiving continued services of the foster care program under former s. 409.145(3) must transfer to the scholarship program by July 1, 2003.

Section 7. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 445.0123, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

445.0123 Eligible postsecondary education institutions.—A student is eligible for an award or the renewal of an award from the Careers for Florida's Future Incentive Grant Program if the student meets the requirements for the program as described in ss. 445.012-445.0125 and is enrolled in a postsecondary education institution that meets the description of any one of the following:

(4) An independent postsecondary education institution in this state which is licensed by the <u>Commission for</u>

<u>Independent Education</u> <u>State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities</u> and which:

- (a) Shows evidence of sound financial condition; and
- (b) Has operated in this state for at least 3 years without having its approval, accreditation, or license placed on probation.
- (5) An independent postsecondary education institution in this state which is licensed by the <u>Commission for</u>

  <u>Independent Education</u> <u>State Board of Nonpublic Career</u>

  <u>Education</u> and which:
- (a) Has a program-completion and placement rate of at least the rate required by current state law, the Florida Administrative Code, or the Department of Education for an institution at its level;
  - (b) Shows evidence of sound financial condition; and
- (c)1. Is accredited at the institutional level by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education and has operated in this state for at least 3 years during which there has been no complaint for which probable cause has been found; or
- 2. Has operated in this state for 5 years during which there has been no complaint for which probable cause has been found.
- Section 8. Section 455.2125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 455.2125 Consultation with postsecondary education boards prior to adoption of changes to training requirements.—Any state agency or board that has jurisdiction over the regulation of a profession or occupation shall consult with the Commission for Independent Education State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities, the State Board of Nonpublic Career Education, the Board of Regents, and the State Board of Community Colleges prior to adopting any

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changes to training requirements relating to entry into the profession or occupation. This consultation must allow the educational board to provide advice regarding the impact of the proposed changes in terms of the length of time necessary to complete the training program and the fiscal impact of the changes. The educational board must be consulted only when an institution offering the training program falls under its jurisdiction.

Section 9. Section 456.028, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

456.028 Consultation with postsecondary education boards prior to adoption of changes to training requirements. -- Any state agency or board that has jurisdiction over the regulation of a profession or occupation shall consult with the Commission for Independent Education State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities, the State Board of Nonpublic Career Education, the Board of Regents, and the State Board of Community Colleges prior to adopting any changes to training requirements relating to entry into the profession or occupation. This consultation must allow the educational board to provide advice regarding the impact of the proposed changes in terms of the length of time necessary to complete the training program and the fiscal impact of the changes. The educational board must be consulted only when an institution offering the training program falls under its jurisdiction.

Section 10. Subsection (8) of section 467.009, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

467.009 Midwifery programs; education and training requirements.--

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(8) Nonpublic educational institutions that conduct approved midwifery programs shall be accredited by a member of the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation and shall be licensed by the <u>Commission for Independent</u>

<u>Education</u> State Board of Nonpublic Career Education.

Section 11. Section 488.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

488.01 License to engage in business of operating a driver's school required.—The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall oversee and license all commercial driver's schools except truck driving schools. All commercial truck driving schools shall be required to be licensed pursuant to chapter 1005, and additionally shall be subject to the provisions of ss. 488.04 and 488.05. No person, group, organization, institution, business entity, or corporate entity may engage in the business of operating a driver's school without first obtaining a license therefor from the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles pursuant to this chapter or from the Commission for Independent Education State Board of Nonpublic Career Education pursuant to chapter 1005.

Section 12. Section 489.125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.125 Prequalification of certificateholders.--Any person holding a certificate shall be prequalified to bid by a district school board pursuant to uniform prequalification of contractors criteria adopted by rule of the <u>State Board</u> Commissioner of Education. This section does not supersede any small, woman-owned or minority-owned business enterprise preference program adopted by a district school board. A district school board may not modify or supplement the uniform

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prequalification criteria adopted by rule. A person holding a certificate must apply to each board for prequalification consideration.

Section 13. Section 817.566, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

817.566 Misrepresentation of association with, or academic standing at, postsecondary educational institution. -- Any person who, with intent to defraud, misrepresents his or her association with, or academic standing or other progress at, any postsecondary educational institution by falsely making, altering, simulating, or forging a document, degree, certificate, diploma, award, record, letter, transcript, form, or other paper; or any person who causes or procures such a misrepresentation; or any person who utters and publishes or otherwise represents such a document, degree, certificate, diploma, award, record, letter, transcript, form, or other paper as true, knowing it to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Individuals who present a religious academic degree from any college, university, seminary, or institution that which is not licensed by the Commission for Independent Education State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities or that which is not exempt pursuant to the provisions of s. 1005.06(1)(e) s. 246.085 shall disclose the religious nature of the degree upon presentation.

Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 817.567, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

817.567 Making false claims of academic degree or title.--

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(1) No person in the state may claim, either orally or in writing, to possess an academic degree, as defined in s. 1005.02, or the title associated with said degree, unless the person has, in fact, been awarded said degree from an institution that is:

- (a) Accredited by a regional or professional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation;
- (b) Provided, operated, and supported by a state government or any of its political subdivisions or by the Federal Government;
- (c) A school, institute, college, or university chartered outside the United States, the academic degree from which has been validated by an accrediting agency approved by the United States Department of Education as equivalent to the baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate degree conferred by a regionally accredited college or university in the United States;
- (d) Licensed by the <u>Commission for Independent</u>

  <u>Education</u> State Board of <u>Independent Colleges and Universities</u>

  <u>pursuant to ss. 1005.01-1005.38</u> or exempt from licensure

  pursuant to s. 1005.06(1)(e)<del>s. 246.085</del>; or
- (e) A religious seminary, institute, college, or university which offers only educational programs that prepare students for a religious vocation, career, occupation, profession, or lifework, and the nomenclature of whose certificates, diplomas, or degrees clearly identifies the religious character of the educational program.
- Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 943.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

943.22 Salary incentive program for full-time officers.--

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(1) For the purpose of this section, the term:

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"Accredited college, university, or community college" means a college, university, or community college which has been accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, another regional accrediting agency, or the Accrediting Council Commission for Independent Colleges and Schools.

Section 16. Subsection (1) of section 1000.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1000.04 Components for the delivery of public education within the Florida K-20 education system.--Florida's K-20 education system provides for the delivery of public education through publicly supported and controlled K-12 schools, community colleges, state universities and other postsecondary educational institutions, other educational institutions, and other educational services as provided or authorized by the Constitution and laws of the state.

(1) PUBLIC K-12 SCHOOLS.--The public K-12 schools include charter schools and consist of kindergarten classes; elementary, middle, and high school grades and special classes; workforce development education; area technical centers; adult, part-time, career and technical, and evening schools, courses, or classes, as authorized by law to be operated under the control of district school boards; and lab schools operated under the control of state universities.

Section 17. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1001.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.26 Public broadcasting program system.--

(2)(a) The Department of Education is responsible for implementing the provisions of this section pursuant to <u>s.</u> 282.102 part III of chapter 287 and may employ personnel, acquire equipment and facilities, and perform all duties necessary for carrying out the purposes and objectives of this section.

Section 18. Subsection (3) of section 1001.372, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.372 District school board meetings.--

(3) REMOVAL OF PERSONS INTERFERING WITH MEETINGS.--The presiding officer of any district school board may order the removal, from a public meeting held by the district school board, of any person interfering with the expeditious or orderly process of such meeting, provided such officer has first issued a warning that continued interference with the orderly processes of the meeting will result in removal. Any law enforcement authority or a sergeant-at-arms designated by the officer shall remove any person ordered removed pursuant to this subsection section.

Section 19. Paragraph (m) of subsection (4) of section 1001.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.--The district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all powers and perform all duties listed below:
- (4) ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANIZATION, AND OPERATION OF SCHOOLS.—Adopt and provide for the execution of plans for the establishment, organization, and operation of the schools of the district, including, but not limited to, the following:
- (m) Alternative education programs for students in residential care facilities.--Provide, in accordance with the provisions of s. 1003.58 chapter 1006, educational programs

according to rules of the State Board of Education to students who reside in residential care facilities operated by the Department of Children and Family Services.

Section 20. Paragraph (f) of subsection (3) of section 1001.50, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.50 Superintendents employed under Art. IX of the State Constitution.--

- (3) The district school board of each such district shall pay to the district school superintendent a reasonable annual salary. In determining the amount of compensation to be paid, the board shall take into account such factors as:
- (f) The educational qualifications <u>and</u>,professional experience, and age of the candidate for the position of district school superintendent.

Section 21. Subsection (8) of section 1001.74, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.74 Powers and duties of university boards of trustees.--

(8) Each board of trustees is authorized to create divisions of sponsored research pursuant to the provisions of s. 1004.22 s. 1011.411 to serve the function of administration and promotion of the programs of research.

Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 1002.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.01 Definitions.--

(2) A "private school" is a nonpublic school defined as an individual, association, copartnership, or corporation, or department, division, or section of such organizations, that designates itself as an educational center that includes kindergarten or a higher grade or as an elementary, secondary, business, technical, or trade school below college level or

any organization that provides instructional services that meet the intent of  $\underline{s.\ 1003.01(13)}\underline{s.\ 1003.01(14)}$  or that gives preemployment or supplementary training in technology or in fields of trade or industry or that offers academic, literary, or career and technical training below college level, or any combination of the above, including an institution that performs the functions of the above schools through correspondence or extension, except those licensed under the provisions of chapter 1005. A private school may be a parochial, religious, denominational, for-profit, or nonprofit school. This definition does not include home education programs conducted in accordance with s. 1002.41.

Section 23. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) and paragraph (a) of subsection (11) of section 1002.32, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.32 Developmental research (laboratory) schools.--

- (3) MISSION.--The mission of a lab school shall be the provision of a vehicle for the conduct of research, demonstration, and evaluation regarding management, teaching, and learning. Programs to achieve the mission of a lab school shall embody the goals and standards established pursuant to ss. 1000.03(5) and 1001.23(2) and shall ensure an appropriate education for its students.
- (a) Each lab school shall emphasize mathematics, science, computer science, and foreign languages. The primary goal of a lab school is to enhance instruction and research in such specialized subjects by using the resources available on a state university campus, while also providing an education in nonspecialized subjects. Each lab school shall provide sequential elementary and secondary instruction where appropriate. A lab school may not provide instruction at grade

levels higher than grade 12 without authorization from the State Board of Education. Each lab developmental research 2 3 school shall develop and implement a school improvement plan 4 pursuant to s. 1003.02(3). 5 (11) EXCEPTIONS TO LAW. -- To encourage innovative 6 practices and facilitate the mission of the lab schools, in 7 addition to the exceptions to law specified in s. 1001.23(2), 8 the following exceptions shall be permitted for lab schools: 9 (a) The methods and requirements of the following statutes shall be held in abeyance: ss. 316.75; 1001.30; 10 1001.31; 1001.32; 1001.33; 1001.34; 1001.35; 1001.36; 11 1001.361; 1001.362; 1001.363; 1001.37; 1001.371; 1001.372; 12 1001.38; 1001.39; 1001.395; 1001.40; 1001.41; 1001.44; 13 1001.453; 1001.46; 1001.461; 1001.462; 1001.463; 1001.464; 14 1001.47; 1001.48; 1001.49; 1001.50; 1001.51; 1006.12(1); 15 1006.21(3), (4); 1006.23; 1010.07(2); 1010.40; 1010.41; 16 1010.42; 1010.43; 1010.44; 1010.45; 1010.46; 1010.47; 1010.48; 17 1010.49; 1010.50; 1010.51; 1010.52; 1010.53; 1010.54; 1010.55; 18 19 1011.02(1)-(3), (5); 1011.04; 1011.20; 1011.21; 1011.22; 1011.23; 1011.71; 1011.72; 1011.73; and 1011.74; and 1013.77. 20 21 Section 24. Paragraph (c) of subsection (21) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 22 23 1002.33 Charter schools.--(21) SERVICES.--24 (c) Transportation of charter school students shall be 25 26 provided by the charter school consistent with the 27 requirements of subpart I.e. of chapter 1006 and s. 1012.45. The governing body of the charter school may provide 28 29 transportation through an agreement or contract with the district school board, a private provider, or parents. The 30 charter school and the sponsor shall cooperate in making 31

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arrangements that ensure that transportation is not a barrier to equal access for all students residing within a reasonable distance of the charter school as determined in its charter.

Section 25. Subsection (14) of section 1002.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.42 Private schools.--

(14) BUS DRIVER TRAINING.--Private school bus drivers may participate in a district school board's bus driver training program, if the district school board makes the program available pursuant to s. 1012.45(4)s. 1006.26.

Section 26. Subsection (1) of section 1002.43, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.43 Private tutoring programs.--

- (1) Regular attendance as defined in  $\underline{s.\ 1003.01(13)}$   $\underline{s.\ 1003.01(14)}$ may be achieved by attendance in a private tutoring program if the person tutoring the student meets the following requirements:
- (a) Holds a valid Florida certificate to teach the subjects or grades in which instruction is given.
- (b) Keeps all records and makes all reports required by the state and district school board and makes regular reports on the attendance of students in accordance with the provisions of s. 1003.23(2).
- (c) Requires students to be in actual attendance for the minimum length of time prescribed by  $s.\ 1011.60(2)$ .

Section 27. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 1003.63, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.63 Deregulated public schools pilot program. --

- (7) EXEMPTION FROM STATUTES.--
- (a) A deregulated public school shall operate in accordance with its proposal and shall be exempt from all

statutes of the Florida K-20 Education Code, except those pertaining to civil rights and student health, safety, and welfare, or as otherwise required by this section. A deregulated public school shall not be exempt from the following statutes: chapter 119, relating to public records, and s. 286.011, relating to public meetings and records, public inspection, and penalties. The school district, upon request of a deregulated public school, may apply to the State Board of Education for a waiver of provisions of law applicable to deregulated public schools under this section, except that the provisions of chapter 1010 or chapter 1011 shall not be eligible for waiver if the waiver would affect funding allocations or create inequity in public school funding. The State Board of Education may grant the waiver if necessary to implement the school program.

Section 28. Subsection (5) of section 1004.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.24 State Board of Education authorized to secure liability insurance.--

(5) Each self-insurance program council shall make provision for an annual financial audit pursuant to s. 11.45 postaudit of its financial accounts to be conducted by an independent certified public accountant. The annual audit report must include a management letter and shall be submitted to the State Board of Education for review. The State Board of Education shall have the authority to require and receive from the self-insurance program council or from its independent auditor any detail or supplemental data relative to the operation of the self-insurance program.

Section 29. Subsection (5) of section 1004.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.26 University student governments.--

(5) Each student government is a part of the university at which it is established. Each university board of trustees shall approve the internal procedures of student government organizations pursuant to s. 1001.74(10)(i). Each state university president shall provide purchasing, contracting, and budgetary review processes for student government organizations pursuant to s. 1001.75(15). If an internal procedure of the university student government is disapproved by the university president under s. 229.0082(15), a member of the university board of trustees may request a review of the disapproved procedure at the next meeting of the board of trustees.

Section 30. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 1004.445, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.445 Florida Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute.--

- (3) The State Board of Education shall provide in the agreement with the not-for-profit corporation for the following:
- (d) Preparation of an annual financial audit pursuant to s. 11.45 postaudit of the not-for-profit corporation's financial accounts and the financial accounts of any subsidiaries to be conducted by an independent certified public accountant. The annual audit report shall include management letters and shall be submitted to the Auditor General and the State Board of Education for review. The State Board of Education, the Auditor General, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall have the authority to require and receive from the not-for-profit corporation and any subsidiaries, or from their

independent auditor, any detail or supplemental data relative to the operation of the not-for-profit corporation or subsidiary.

Section 31. Subsection (1) of section 1005.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1005.04 Fair consumer practices.--

- (1) Every institution that is under the jurisdiction of the commission or is exempt from the jurisdiction or purview of the commission pursuant to s. 1005.06(1)(c) or (f) and that either directly or indirectly solicits for enrollment any student shall:
- (a) Disclose to each prospective student a statement of the purpose of such institution, its educational programs and curricula, a description of its physical facilities, its status regarding licensure, its fee schedule and policies regarding retaining student fees if a student withdraws, and a statement regarding the transferability of credits to and from other institutions. The institution shall make the required disclosures in writing at least 1 week prior to enrollment or collection of any tuition from the prospective student. The required disclosures may be made in the institution's current catalog:
- (b) Use a reliable method to assess, before accepting a student into a program, the student's ability to complete successfully the course of study for which he or she has applied;
- (c) Inform each student accurately about financial assistance and obligations for repayment of loans; describe any employment placement services provided and the limitations thereof; and refrain from promising or implying guaranteed placement, market availability, or salary amounts;

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- (d) Provide to prospective and enrolled students accurate information regarding the relationship of its programs to state licensure requirements for practicing related occupations and professions in Florida;
- (e) Ensure that all advertisements are accurate and not misleading;
- (f) Publish and follow an equitable prorated refund policy for all students, and follow both the federal refund guidelines for students receiving federal financial assistance and the minimum refund quidelines set by commission rule;
- (q) Follow the requirements of state and federal laws that require annual reporting with respect to crime statistics and physical plant safety and make those reports available to the public; and
- (h) Publish and follow procedures for handling student complaints, disciplinary actions, and appeals.

Section 32. Subsection (5) of section 1006.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.14 Secret societies prohibited in public K-12 schools.--

(5) It is unlawful for any student enrolled in any public K-12 school to be a member of, to join or to become a member of or to pledge himself or herself to become a member of any secret fraternity, sorority, or group wholly or partly formed from the membership of students attending public K-12 schools or to take part in the organization or formation of any such fraternity, sorority, or secret society; provided that this does not prevent any student from belonging to any organization fostered and promoted by the school authorities, + or approved and accepted by the school authorities and whose

membership is selected on the basis of good character, good scholarship, leadership ability, and achievement.

Section 33. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 1006.21, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1006.21 Duties of district school superintendent and district school board regarding transportation.--

- which students should be transported to school or to school activities, determine the most effective arrangement of transportation routes to accommodate these students; recommend such routing to the district school board; recommend plans and procedures for providing facilities for the economical and safe transportation of students; recommend such rules and regulations as may be necessary and see that all rules and regulations relating to the transportation of students approved by the district school board, as well as rules regulations of the State Board of Education, are properly carried into effect, as prescribed in this chapter.
- (2) After considering recommendations of the district school superintendent, the district school board shall make provision for the transportation of students to the public schools or school activities they are required or expected to attend; authorize transportation routes arranged efficiently and economically; provide the necessary transportation facilities, and, when authorized under rules of the State Board of Education and if more economical to do so, provide limited subsistence in lieu thereof; and adopt the necessary rules and regulations to ensure safety, economy, and efficiency in the operation of all buses, as prescribed in this chapter.

Section 34. Subsection (1) and paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) of section 1007.21, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1007.21 Readiness for postsecondary education and the workplace.--

and parents set early achievement and career goals for the student's post-high school experience. This section sets forth a model which schools, through their school advisory councils, may choose to implement to ensure that students are ready for postsecondary education and the workplace. If such a program is adopted, students and their parents shall have the option of participating in this model to plan the student's secondary level course of study. Parents and students are to become partners with school personnel in educational choice. Clear academic course expectations shall be made available to all students by allowing both student and parent or guardian choice.

(2)(a) Students entering the 9th grade and their parents shall be active participants in choosing an end-of-high-school student destination based upon both student and parent or guardian goals. Four or more destinations should be available with bridges between destinations to enable students to shift destinations should they choose to change goals. The destinations shall accommodate the needs of students served in exceptional education programs to the extent appropriate for individual students. Exceptional education students may continue to follow the courses outlined in the district school board student progression plan. Participating students and their parents shall choose among destinations, which must include:

- 1. Four-year college or university, community college plus university, or military academy.
  - 2. Two-year postsecondary degree.
  - 3. Postsecondary career and technical certificate.
  - 4. Immediate employment or entry-level military.
- (b) The student progression model toward a chosen destination shall include:
- 1. A "path" of core courses leading to each of the destinations provided in paragraph (a).
- 2. A recommended group of electives which shall help define each path.
- 3. Provisions for a teacher, school administrator, other school staff member, or community volunteer to be assigned to a student as an "academic advocate" if parental or guardian involvement is lacking.

Section 35. Subsection (2) of section 1008.37, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.37 Postsecondary feedback of information to high schools.--

(2) The Commissioner of Education shall report, by high school, to the State Board of Education and the Legislature, no later than November 30 November 31 of each year, on the number of prior year Florida high school graduates who enrolled for the first time in public postsecondary education in this state during the previous summer, fall, or spring term, indicating the number of students whose scores on the common placement test indicated the need for remediation through college-preparatory or vocational-preparatory instruction pursuant to s. 1004.91 or s. 1008.30.

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Section 36. Subsection (1) of section 1009.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.29 Increased fees for funding financial aid program.--

(1) Student tuition and registration fees at each state university and community college shall include up to \$4.68 per quarter, or \$7.02 per semester, per full-time student, or the per-student credit hour equivalents of such amounts. The fees provided for by this section shall be adjusted from time to time, as necessary, to comply with the debt service coverage requirements of the student loan revenue bonds issued pursuant to s. 1009.79. If the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration Education and the Commissioner of Education determine that such fees are no longer required as security for revenue bonds issued pursuant to ss. 1009.78-1009.88, moneys previously collected pursuant to this section which are held in escrow, after administrative expenses have been met and up to \$150,000 has been used to establish a financial aid data processing system for the state universities incorporating the necessary features to meet the needs of all 11 nine universities for application through disbursement processing, shall be reallocated to the generating institutions to be used for student financial aid programs, including, but not limited to, scholarships and grants for educational purposes. Upon such determination, such fees shall no longer be assessed and collected.

Section 37. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 1009.531, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.531 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program; student eligibility requirements for initial awards.--

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(1) To be eligible for an initial award from any of the three types of scholarships under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, a student must:

(e) Not have been found guilty of, or pled plead nolo contendere to, a felony charge, unless the student has been granted clemency by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Executive Office of Clemency.

Section 38. Subsection (1) of section 1009.534, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.--

- (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars award if the student meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and the student:
- (a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or its equivalent, in high school courses that are designated by the State Board of Education as college-preparatory academic courses; and has attained at least the score identified by rules of the State Board of Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program; or
- (b) Has attended a home education program according to s. 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 or has completed the International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate Diploma, and has attained at least the score identified by rules of the State Board Department of Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or

the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program; or

- (c) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office; or
- (d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a scholar or finalist; or
- (e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Program as a scholar recipient.

A student must complete a program of community service work, as approved by the district school board or the administrators of a nonpublic school, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service work and require the student to identify a social problem that interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.

Section 39. Subsection (1) of section 1009.535, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.--

- (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Medallion Scholars award if the student meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and the student:
- (a) Has achieved a weighted grade point average of 3.0 as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or the equivalent, in high school courses that are designated by the State Board of Education as college-preparatory academic courses; and has attained at least the score identified by rules of the State

Board of Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program; or

- (b) Has attended a home education program according to s. 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 or has completed the International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate Diploma, and has attained at least the score identified by rules of the <a href="State Board">State Board</a> Department of Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program; or
- (c) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a scholar or finalist but has not completed a program of community service as provided in s. 1009.534; or
- (d) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Program as a scholar, but has not completed a program of community service as provided in s. 1009.534.

Section 40. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and subsection (5) of section 1009.539, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1009.539 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Testing Program.--

(3)

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), and for the 2002-2003 fiscal year only, initial award recipients for the 2002-2003 academic year who are eligible

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for a Florida Academic Scholars award or a Florida Medallion Merit Scholars award and who are admitted to and enroll in a 2 3 community college or state university shall, prior to 4 registering for courses that may be earned through a CLEP 5 examination and no later than the end of the 2002-2003 academic year, complete at least five examinations from those 6 7 specified in subsection (1) in the following areas: English; humanities; mathematics; natural sciences; and social sciences. Successful completion of dual enrollment courses, 9 Advanced Placement examinations, and International 10 Baccalaureate examinations taken prior to high school 11 12 graduation satisfy this requirement. The State Board of Education Articulation Coordinating Committee shall identify 13 14 the examinations that satisfy each component of this 15 requirement. This paragraph expires July 1, 2003.

(5) The credit awarded pursuant to this section shall apply toward the 120 hours of college credit required pursuant to s. 1007.25(8)s. 1007.25(7).

Section 41. Section 1009.765, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.765 Ethics in Business scholarships for community colleges and independent postsecondary educational institutions.—When the Department of Insurance receives a \$6 million settlement as specified in the Consent Order of the Treasurer and Insurance Commissioner, case number 18900-96-c, that portion of the \$6 million not used to satisfy the requirements of section 18 of the Consent Order must be transferred from the Insurance Commissioner's Regulatory Trust Fund to the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund is appropriated from the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund to provide Ethics in Business scholarships to students

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enrolled in public community colleges and independent postsecondary educational institutions eligible to participate in the William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant Program under s. 1009.89. The funds shall be allocated to institutions for scholarships in the following ratio: Two-thirds for community colleges and one-third for eligible independent institutions. The Department of Education shall administer the scholarship program for students attending community colleges and independent institutions. These funds must be allocated to institutions that provide an equal amount of matching funds generated by private donors for the purpose of providing Ethics in Business scholarships. Public funds may not be used to provide the match, nor may funds collected for other purposes. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Board of Administration shall have the authority to invest the funds appropriated under this section. The State Board Department of Education may adopt rules for administration of the program.

Section 42. Subsection (7) of section 1009.77, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.77 Florida Work Experience Program. --

(7) The <u>State Board</u> <del>Department</del> of Education shall prescribe such rules for the program as are necessary for its administration, for the determination of eligibility and selection of institutions to receive funds for students, to ensure the proper expenditure of funds, and to provide an equitable distribution of funds between students at public and independent colleges and universities.

Section 43. Section 1010.75, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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1010.75 Teacher Certification Examination Trust Fund.—The proceeds for the certification examination fee levied pursuant to s. 1012.59 shall be remitted by the Department of Education to the Treasurer for deposit into and disbursed from for the "Teacher Certification Examination Trust Fund" as re-created by chapter 99-28, Laws of Florida.

Section 44. Subsection (2) of section 1011.60, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.60 Minimum requirements of the Florida Education Finance Program.—Each district which participates in the state appropriations for the Florida Education Finance Program shall provide evidence of its effort to maintain an adequate school program throughout the district and shall meet at least the following requirements:

(2) MINIMUM TERM. -- Operate all schools for a term of at least 180 actual teaching days as prescribed in s. 1003.01(14) or the equivalent on an hourly basis as specified by rules of the State Board of Education each school year. The State Board of Education may prescribe procedures for altering, and, upon written application, may alter, this requirement during a national, state, or local emergency as it may apply to an individual school or schools in any district or districts if, in the opinion of the board, it is not feasible to make up lost days, and the apportionment may, at the discretion of the Commissioner of Education and if the board determines that the reduction of school days is caused by the existence of a bona fide emergency, be reduced for such district or districts in proportion to the decrease in the length of term in any such school or schools. A strike, as defined in s. 447.203(6), by employees of the school district may not be considered an emergency.

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Section 45. Paragraphs (h) and (i) of subsection (1) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each district for operation of schools is not determined in the annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as follows:

- (1) COMPUTATION OF THE BASIC AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED FOR OPERATION. -- The following procedure shall be followed in determining the annual allocation to each district for operation:
- Small, isolated high schools. -- Districts that which levy the maximum nonvoted discretionary millage, exclusive of millage for capital outlay purposes levied pursuant to s. 1011.71(2), may calculate full-time equivalent students for small, isolated high schools by multiplying the number of unweighted full-time equivalent students times 2.75, if the school has attained a state accountability grade of C or better for the previous year; provided the percentage of students at such school passing both parts of the high school competency test, as defined by law and rule, has been equal to or higher than such percentage for the state or district, whichever is greater. For the purpose of this section, the term "small, isolated high school" means any high school which is located no less than 28 miles by the shortest route from another high school; which has been serving students primarily in basic studies provided by sub-subparagraphs (c)1.b. and c. and may include subparagraph (c)4.; and which has a membership of no more than 100 students, but no fewer than 28 students, in grades 9 through 12.

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(i) Calculation of full-time equivalent membership with respect to instruction from community colleges or state universities .-- Students enrolled in community college or university dual enrollment instruction pursuant to s. 1007.271 may be included in calculations of full-time equivalent student memberships for basic programs for grades 9 through 12 by a district school board. Such students may also be calculated as the proportional shares of full-time equivalent enrollments they generate for the community college or university conducting the dual enrollment instruction. Early admission students shall be considered dual enrollments for funding purposes. Students may be enrolled in dual enrollment instruction provided by an eligible independent college or university and may be included in calculations of full-time equivalent student memberships for basic programs for grades 9 through 12 by a district school board. However, those provisions of law which exempt dual enrolled and early admission students from payment of instructional materials and tuition and fees, including laboratory fees, shall not apply to students who select the option of enrolling in an eligible independent institution. An independent college or university which is located and chartered in Florida, is not for profit, is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or the Accrediting Council for Commission of the Association of Independent Colleges and Schools, and which confers degrees as defined in s. 1005.02 shall be eligible for inclusion in the dual enrollment or early admission program. Students enrolled in dual enrollment instruction shall be exempt from the payment of tuition and fees, including laboratory fees. No student enrolled in college credit mathematics or English dual enrollment

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instruction shall be funded as a dual enrollment unless the student has successfully completed the relevant section of the entry-level examination required pursuant to s. 1008.30.

Section 46. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 1012.21, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.21 Department of Education duties; K-12 personnel.--

- (1) PERIODIC CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS.--In cooperation with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the department of Education may periodically perform criminal history record checks on individuals who hold a certificate pursuant to s. 1012.56 or s. 1012.57.
- (3) SUSPENSION OR DENIAL OF TEACHING CERTIFICATE DUE TO CHILD SUPPORT DELINQUENCY .-- The department of Education shall allow applicants for new or renewal certificates and renewal certificateholders to be screened by the Title IV-D child support agency pursuant to s. 409.2598 to assure compliance with an obligation for support, as defined in s. The purpose of this section is to promote the public policy of this state as established in s. 409.2551. The department shall, when directed by the court, deny the application of any applicant found to have a delinquent support obligation. The department shall issue or reinstate the certificate without additional charge to the certificateholder when notified by the court that the certificateholder has complied with the terms of the court order. The department shall not be held liable for any certificate denial or suspension resulting from the discharge of its duties under this section.

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Section 47. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1012.585, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.585 Process for renewal of professional certificates.--

- (1)(a) District school boards in this state shall renew state-issued professional certificates as follows:
- 1. Each district school board shall renew state-issued professional certificates for individuals who hold a professional certificate by this state and are employed by that district pursuant to criteria established in subsections (2), (3), and (4) and rules of the State Board of Education.
- 2. The employing school district may charge the individual an application fee not to exceed the amount charged by the Department of Education for such services, including associated late renewal fees. Each district school board shall transmit monthly to the department a fee in an amount established by the State Board of Education for each renewed certificate. The fee shall not exceed the actual cost for maintenance and operation of the statewide certification database and for the actual costs incurred in printing and mailing such renewed certificates. As defined in current rules of the state board, the department shall contribute a portion of such fee for purposes of funding the Educator Recovery Network established in s. 1012.798. The department shall deposit all funds into the Educational Certification and Service Trust Fund for use as specified in s. 1012.59.
- (3) For the renewal of a professional certificate, the following requirements must be met:
- (a) The applicant must earn a minimum of 6 college credits or 120 inservice points or a combination thereof. For

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each area of specialization to be retained on a certificate, the applicant must earn at least 3 of the required credit 2 3 hours or equivalent inservice points in the specialization area. Education in "clinical educator" training pursuant to s. 4 1004.04(5)(b) and credits or points that provide training in 5 the area of exceptional student education, normal child 6 7 development, and the disorders of development may be applied 8 toward any specialization area. Credits or points that provide 9 training in the areas of drug abuse, child abuse and neglect, strategies in teaching students having limited proficiency in 10 English, or dropout prevention, or training in areas 11 12 identified in the educational goals and performance standards 13 adopted pursuant to ss. 1000.03(5) and 1008.345 1001.23 may be 14 applied toward any specialization area. Credits or points 15 earned through approved summer institutes may be applied toward the fulfillment of these requirements. Inservice points 16 17 may also be earned by participation in professional growth components approved by the State Board of Education and 18 19 specified pursuant to s. 1012.98 in the district's approved master plan for inservice educational training, including, but 20 not limited to, serving as a trainer in an approved teacher 21 22 training activity, serving on an instructional materials committee or a state board or commission that deals with 23 educational issues, or serving on an advisory council created 24 25 pursuant to s. 1001.452. 26 Section 48. Section 1012.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 27

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1012.62 Transfer of sick leave and annual leave.--In

Department of Children and Family Services residential care

implementing the provisions of ss. 402.22(1)(d) and  $1001.42(4)(m)\frac{1001.42(4)(n)}{2001.42(4)(m)}$ , educational personnel in

facilities who are employed by a district school board may request, and the district school board shall accept, a lump-sum transfer of accumulated sick leave for such personnel to the maximum allowed by policies of the district school board, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 110.122.

Educational personnel in Department of Children and Family Services residential care facilities who are employed by a district school board under the provisions of s. 402.22(1)(d) may request, and the district school board shall accept, a lump-sum transfer of accumulated annual leave for each person employed by the district school board in a position in the district eligible to accrue vacation leave under policies of the district school board.

Section 49. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2) of section 1012.74, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.74 Florida educators professional liability insurance protection.--

(2)

- (b) Educator professional liability coverage shall be extended at cost to all instructional personnel, as defined by  $\underline{s.\ 1012.01(2)}\underline{s.\ 1012.01(3)}$ , who are part-time personnel, as defined by the district school board policy, and choose to participate in the state-provided program.
- (c) Educator professional liability coverage shall be extended at cost to all administrative personnel, as defined by  $\underline{s.\ 1012.01(3)}\underline{s.\ 1012.01(2)}$ , who choose to participate in the state-provided program.

Section 50. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 1012.79, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.79 Education Practices Commission; organization.--

 $\ \ \,$  (7) The duties and responsibilities of the commission are to:

(b) Revoke or suspend a certificate or take other appropriate action as provided in  $\underline{ss.\ 1012.795}\ \underline{ss.\ 1012.56}$  and 1012.796.

Section 51. Subsection (2) of section 1012.795, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.795 Education Practices Commission; authority to discipline.--

(2) The plea of guilty in any court, the decision of guilty by any court, the forfeiture by the teaching certificateholder of a bond in any court of law, or the written acknowledgment, duly witnessed, of offenses listed in subsection (1) to the district school superintendent or a duly appointed representative of such superintendent or to the district school board shall be prima facie proof of grounds for revocation of the certificate as listed in subsection (1) in the absence of proof by the certificateholder that the plea of guilty, forfeiture of bond, or admission of guilt was caused by threats, coercion, or fraudulent means.

Section 52. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and subsection (4) of section 1012.796, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.796 Complaints against teachers and administrators; procedure; penalties.--

(1)

(c) Each school district shall file in writing with the department all legally sufficient complaints within 30 days after the date on which subject matter of the complaint comes to the attention of the school district. The school district shall include all information relating to the

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complaint which is known to the school district at the time of filing. Each district school board shall develop policies and procedures to comply with this reporting requirement. The district school board policies and procedures shall include appropriate penalties for all personnel of the district school board for nonreporting and procedures for promptly informing the district school superintendent of each legally sufficient complaint. The district school superintendent is charged with knowledge of these policies and procedures. If the district school superintendent has knowledge of a legally sufficient complaint and does not report the complaint, or fails to enforce the policies and procedures of the district school board, and fails to comply with the requirements of this subsection, in addition to other actions against certificateholders authorized by law, the district school superintendent shall be subject to penalties as specified in s. 1001.51(12)s. 1001.51(13). This paragraph does not limit or restrict the power and duty of the department to investigate complaints as provided in paragraphs (a) and (b), regardless of the school district's untimely filing, or failure to file, complaints and followup reports.

(4) The complaint and all information obtained pursuant to the investigation by the department shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) until the conclusion of the preliminary investigation of the complaint, until such time as the preliminary investigation ceases to be active, or until such time as otherwise provided by  $\underline{s.\ 1012.798}\ \underline{s.\ 1012.798(6)}$ . However, the complaint and all material assembled during the investigation may be inspected and copied by the certificateholder under investigation, or the certificateholder's designee, after the investigation is

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concluded, but prior to the determination of probable cause by the commissioner. If the preliminary investigation is 2 3 concluded with the finding that there is no probable cause to 4 proceed, the complaint and information shall be open 5 thereafter to inspection pursuant to s. 119.07(1). If the preliminary investigation is concluded with the finding that 6 7 there is probable cause to proceed and a complaint is filed pursuant to subsection (6), the complaint and information 8 9 shall be open thereafter to inspection pursuant to s. 10 119.07(1). If the preliminary investigation ceases to be active, the complaint and all such material shall be open 11 12 thereafter to inspection pursuant to s. 119.07(1), except as 13 otherwise provided pursuant to s. 1012.798 s. 1012.798(6). For 14 the purpose of this subsection, a preliminary investigation 15 shall be considered active as long as it is continuing with a 16 reasonable, good faith anticipation that an administrative 17 finding will be made in the foreseeable future. Section 53. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 18

Section 53. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 1012.98, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.98 School Community Professional Development Act.--

- (4) The Department of Education, school districts, schools, community colleges, and state universities share the responsibilities described in this section. These responsibilities include the following:
- (b) Each school district shall develop a professional development system. The system shall be developed in consultation with teachers and representatives of community college and <a href="state">state</a> university faculty, community agencies, and other interested citizen groups to establish policy and procedures to guide the operation of the district professional

development program. The professional development system must:

- 1. Be approved by the department. All substantial revisions to the system shall be submitted to the department for review for continued approval.
- 2. Require the use of student achievement data; school discipline data; school environment surveys; assessments of parental satisfaction; performance appraisal data of teachers, managers, and administrative personnel; and other performance indicators to identify school and student needs that can be met by improved professional performance.
- 3. Provide inservice activities coupled with followup support that are appropriate to accomplish district-level and school-level improvement goals and standards. The inservice activities for instructional personnel shall primarily focus on subject content and teaching methods, including technology, as related to the Sunshine State Standards, assessment and data analysis, classroom management, and school safety.
- 4. Include a master plan for inservice activities, pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education, for all district employees from all fund sources. The master plan shall be updated annually by September 1 using criteria for continued approval as specified by rules of the State Board of Education. Written verification that the inservice plan meets all requirements of this section must be submitted annually to the commissioner by October 1.
- 5. Require each school principal to establish and maintain an individual professional development plan for each instructional employee assigned to the school. The individual professional development plan must:

- a. Be related to specific performance data for the students to whom the teacher is assigned.
- b. Define the inservice objectives and specific measurable improvements expected in student performance as a result of the inservice activity.
- c. Include an evaluation component that determines the effectiveness of the professional development plan.
- 6. Include inservice activities for school administrative personnel that address updated skills necessary for effective school management and instructional leadership.
- 7. Provide for systematic consultation with regional and state personnel designated to provide technical assistance and evaluation of local professional development programs.
- 8. Provide for delivery of professional development by distance learning and other technology-based delivery systems to reach more educators at lower costs.
- 9. Provide for the continuous evaluation of the quality and effectiveness of professional development programs in order to eliminate ineffective programs and strategies and to expand effective ones. Evaluations must consider the impact of such activities on the performance of participating educators and their students' achievement and behavior.
- Section 54. Subsection (6) of section 1013.73, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1013.73 Effort index grants for school district facilities.--
- (6) A school district may receive a distribution for use pursuant to paragraph (3)(a) only if the district school board certifies to the Commissioner of Education that the district has no unmet need for permanent classroom facilities in its 5-year capital outlay work plan. If the work plan

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contains such unmet needs, the district must use its distribution for the payment of bonds under paragraph (3)(b)  $3 \frac{(2)(b)}{(2)(b)}$ . If the district does not require its full bonded distribution to eliminate such unmet needs, it may bond only that portion of its allocation necessary to meet the needs.

Section 55. Subsection (1) of section 1013.74, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.74 University authorization for fixed capital outlay projects. --

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 216, including s. 216.351, a university may accomplish fixed capital outlay projects consistent with the provisions of this section. Projects authorized by this section shall not require educational plant survey approval as prescribed in this chapter 235.

Section 56. Subsection (19) of section 1001.74, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.74 Powers and duties of university boards of trustees.--

(19) Each board of trustees shall establish the personnel program for all employees of the university, including the president, pursuant to the provisions of chapter 1012 and, in accordance with rules and guidelines of the State Board of Education, including: compensation and other conditions of employment, recruitment and selection, nonreappointment, standards for performance and conduct, evaluation, benefits and hours of work, leave policies, recognition and awards, inventions and works, travel, learning opportunities, exchange programs, academic freedom and responsibility, promotion, assignment, demotion, transfer, tenure and permanent status, ethical obligations and conflicts of interest, restrictive covenants, disciplinary actions, complaints, appeals and grievance procedures, and separation and termination from employment. The Department of Management Services shall retain authority over state university employees for programs established in ss. 110.123, 110.161, 110.1232, 110.1234, and 110.1238 and in chapters 121, 122, and 238.

Section 57. Subsection (2) of section 110.161, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

110.161 State employees; pretax benefits program.--

(2) As used in this section, "employee" means any individual filling an authorized and established position in the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the state, including the employees of the State Board of Administration and the state universities.

Section 58. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.