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1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to extracurricular student activities;
 3 amending s. 1006.15, F.S.; providing, as an additional
 4 requirement for eligibility to participate in such
 5 activities, that a student must receive a passing grade in
 6 each core course required for graduation; defining the
 7 term "core course"; applying the eligibility requirements
 8 to all extracurricular activities, rather than to
 9 interscholastic activities only; providing an exception;
 10 amending ss. 1002.33 and 1002.41, F.S.; conforming
 11 provisions; providing an effective date.

12
 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14
 15 Section 1. Section 1006.15, Florida Statutes, is amended
 16 to read:

17 1006.15 Student standards for participation in
 18 ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular student activities;
 19 regulation.--

20 (1) This section may be cited as the "Craig Dickinson
 21 Act."

22 (2) ~~Interscholastic~~ Extracurricular student activities are
 23 an important complement to the academic curriculum.
 24 Participation in a comprehensive extracurricular and academic
 25 program contributes to student development of the social and
 26 intellectual skills necessary to become a well-rounded adult. As
 27 used in this section, the term "extracurricular" means any
 28 school-authorized or education-related activity, including, but

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29 not limited to, interscholastic activities, occurring during or
 30 outside the regular instructional school day.

31 (3)(a) To be eligible to participate in ~~interscholastic~~
 32 extracurricular student activities, a student must:

33 1. Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0
 34 scale, or its equivalent, in the previous semester or a
 35 cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale,
 36 or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1003.43(1).

37 2. Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, receive a
 38 passing grade in each core course required for graduation which
 39 the student takes. As used in this section, the term "core
 40 course" includes a course taken in the area of math, science,
 41 social studies, or language arts. This requirement shall be
 42 applied at the end of each grading period. This subparagraph
 43 does not prohibit a student from participating in an
 44 extracurricular activity to the extent that such participation
 45 directly relates to the student's receiving the credit or one-
 46 half credit in physical education satisfied by participation in
 47 the extracurricular activity under s. 1003.43(1)(j).

48 ~~3.2-~~ Execute and fulfill the requirements of an academic
 49 performance contract between the student, the district school
 50 board, the appropriate governing association, and the student's
 51 parents, if the student's cumulative grade point average falls
 52 below 2.0, or its equivalent, on a 4.0 scale in the courses
 53 required by s. 1003.43(1) or, for students who entered the 9th
 54 grade prior to the 1997-1998 school year, if the student's
 55 cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 on a 4.0 scale,
 56 or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1003.43(1) that
 57 are taken after July 1, 1997. At a minimum, the contract must

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58 require that the student attend summer school, or its graded
 59 equivalent, between grades 9 and 10 or grades 10 and 11, as
 60 necessary.

61 4.3. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above
 62 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s.
 63 1003.43(1) during his or her junior or senior year.

64 5.4. Maintain satisfactory conduct and, if a student is
 65 convicted of, or is found to have committed, a felony or a
 66 delinquent act which would have been a felony if committed by an
 67 adult, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the
 68 student's participation in ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular
 69 activities is contingent upon established and published district
 70 school board policy.

71 (b) Any student who is exempt from attending a full school
 72 day based on rules adopted by the district school board for
 73 double session schools or programs, experimental schools, or
 74 schools operating under emergency conditions must maintain the
 75 grade point average required by this section and pass each class
 76 for which he or she is enrolled.

77 (c) An individual home education student is eligible to
 78 participate at the public school to which the student would be
 79 assigned according to district school board attendance area
 80 policies or which the student could choose to attend pursuant to
 81 district or interdistrict controlled open enrollment provisions,
 82 or may develop an agreement to participate at a private school,
 83 in the ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activities of that
 84 school, provided the following conditions are met:

85 1. The home education student must meet the requirements
 86 of the home education program pursuant to s. 1002.41.

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87 2. During the period of participation at a school, the
88 home education student must demonstrate educational progress as
89 required in paragraph (b) in all subjects taken in the home
90 education program by a method of evaluation agreed upon by the
91 parent and the school principal which may include: review of the
92 student's work by a certified teacher chosen by the parent;
93 grades earned through correspondence; grades earned in courses
94 taken at a community college, university, or trade school;
95 standardized test scores above the 35th percentile; or any other
96 method designated in s. 1002.41.

97 3. The home education student must meet the same residency
98 requirements as other students in the school at which he or she
99 participates.

100 4. The home education student must meet the same standards
101 of acceptance, behavior, and performance as required of other
102 students in extracurricular activities.

103 5. The student must register with the school his or her
104 intent to participate in ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular
105 activities as a representative of the school before the
106 beginning date of the season for the activity in which he or she
107 wishes to participate. A home education student must be able to
108 participate in curricular activities if that is a requirement
109 for an extracurricular activity.

110 6. A student who transfers from a home education program
111 to a public school before or during the first grading period of
112 the school year is academically eligible to participate in
113 ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activities during the first
114 grading period provided the student has a successful evaluation
115 from the previous school year, pursuant to subparagraph 2.

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116 7. Any public school or private school student who has
 117 been unable to maintain academic eligibility for participation
 118 in ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activities is ineligible to
 119 participate in such activities as a home education student until
 120 the student has successfully completed one grading period in
 121 home education pursuant to subparagraph 2. to become eligible to
 122 participate as a home education student.

123 (d) An individual charter school student pursuant to s.
 124 1002.33 is eligible to participate at the public school to which
 125 the student would be assigned according to district school board
 126 attendance area policies or which the student could choose to
 127 attend, pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled open-
 128 enrollment provisions, in any ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular
 129 activity of that school, unless such activity is provided by the
 130 student's charter school, if the following conditions are met:

131 1. The charter school student must meet the requirements
 132 of the charter school education program as determined by the
 133 charter school governing board.

134 2. During the period of participation at a school, the
 135 charter school student must demonstrate educational progress as
 136 required in paragraph (b).

137 3. The charter school student must meet the same residency
 138 requirements as other students in the school at which he or she
 139 participates.

140 4. The charter school student must meet the same standards
 141 of acceptance, behavior, and performance that are required of
 142 other students in extracurricular activities.

143 5. The charter school student must register with the
 144 school his or her intent to participate in ~~interscholastic~~

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145 extracurricular activities as a representative of the school
 146 before the beginning date of the season for the activity in
 147 which he or she wishes to participate. A charter school student
 148 must be able to participate in curricular activities if that is
 149 a requirement for an extracurricular activity.

150 6. A student who transfers from a charter school program
 151 to a traditional public school before or during the first
 152 grading period of the school year is academically eligible to
 153 participate in ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activities during
 154 the first grading period if the student has a successful
 155 evaluation from the previous school year, pursuant to
 156 subparagraph 2.

157 7. Any public school or private school student who has
 158 been unable to maintain academic eligibility for participation
 159 in ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activities is ineligible to
 160 participate in such activities as a charter school student until
 161 the student has successfully completed one grading period in a
 162 charter school pursuant to subparagraph 2. to become eligible to
 163 participate as a charter school student.

164 (4) The student standards for participation in
 165 ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activities must be applied
 166 beginning with the student's first semester of the 9th grade.
 167 Each student must meet such other requirements for participation
 168 as may be established by the district school board; however, a
 169 district school board may not establish requirements for
 170 participation in ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activities
 171 which make participation in such activities less accessible to
 172 home education students than to other students. Except as set
 173 forth in paragraph (3)(c), evaluation processes or requirements

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174 that are placed on home education student participants may not
 175 go beyond those that apply under s. 1002.41 to home education
 176 students generally.

177 (5) Any organization or entity that regulates or governs
 178 ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activities of public schools:

179 (a) Shall permit home education associations to join as
 180 member schools.

181 (b) Shall not discriminate against any eligible student
 182 based on an educational choice of public, private, or home
 183 education.

184 (6) Public schools are prohibited from membership in any
 185 organization or entity which regulates or governs
 186 ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activities and discriminates
 187 against eligible students in public, private, or home education.

188 (7) Any insurance provided by district school boards for
 189 participants in extracurricular activities shall cover the
 190 participating home education student. If there is an additional
 191 premium for such coverage, the participating home education
 192 student shall pay the premium.

193 Section 2. Subsection (11) of section 1002.33, Florida
 194 Statutes, is amended to read:

195 1002.33 Charter schools.--

196 (11) PARTICIPATION IN ~~INTERSCHOLASTIC~~ EXTRACURRICULAR
 197 ACTIVITIES.--A charter school student is eligible to participate
 198 in an ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular activity at the public
 199 school to which the student would be otherwise assigned to
 200 attend pursuant to s. 1006.15(3)(d).

201 Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 1002.41, Florida
 202 Statutes, is amended to read:

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203 1002.41 Home education programs.--

204 (4) Home education students may participate in

205 ~~interscholastic~~ extracurricular student activities in accordance

206 with the provisions of s. 1006.15.

207 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.