A bill to be entitled
An act relating to high school graduation options; amending s. 1003.429, F.S.; revising credit requirements for the accelerated high school graduation career preparatory program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1003.429, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1003.429 Accelerated high school graduation options.--
(1) Beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, all students scheduled to graduate in 2004 and thereafter may select one of the following three high school graduation options:
(a) Completion of the general requirements for high school graduation pursuant to s. 1003.43;
(b) Completion of a 3-year standard college preparatory program requiring successful completion of a minimum of 18 academic credits in grades 9 through 12. The 18 credits shall be primary requirements and shall be distributed as follows:

1. Four credits in English, with major concentration in composition and literature;
2. Three credits in mathematics at the Algebra I level or higher from the list of courses that qualify for state university admission;
3. Three credits in natural science, two of which must have a laboratory component;
4. Three credits in social sciences;
5. Two credits in the same second language unless the student is a native speaker of or can otherwise demonstrate

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competency in a language other than English. If the student demonstrates competency in another language, the student may replace the language requirement with two credits in other academic courses; and
6. Three credits in electives; or
(c) Completion of a 3-year career preparatory program requiring successful completion of a minimum of 18 academic credits in grades 9 through 12. The 18 credits shall be primary requirements and shall be distributed as follows:

1. Four credits in English, with major concentration in composition and literature;
2. Three credits in mathematics, one of which must be Algebra I;
3. Three credits in natural science, two of which must have a laboratory component;
4. Three credits in social sciences;
5. Two credits in the same second language unless the student is a native speaker of or can otherwise demonstrate competency in a language other than English. If the student demonstrates competency in another language, the student may replace the language requirement with two credits in other academic courses. For students scheduled to graduate in 2007 and thereafter, two credits in the same second language or two credits in vocational education, one credit of which may be a career class, shall be required; and
6. Three credits in electives. For students scheduled to graduate in 2007 and thereafter, three elective credits in a vocational program of study shall be required.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

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