HB 1867

A bill to be entitled

27

28 29

An act relating to education funding; amending s. 24.121, F.S.; requiring school districts to establish certain policies and procedures relating to lottery fund enhancements; amending s. 1002.32, F.S.; prohibiting use of funds for lab schools for certain overhead or indirect costs; amending s. 1008.22, F.S.; authorizing outsourcing of statewide assessment program activities; allowing for contracts extending into two fiscal years; amending s. 1009.23, F.S.; requiring identical fees for all community college students taking a specific course; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; specifying the maximum fee waiver percentage for school districts and community colleges; amending s. 1011.57, F.S.; prohibiting out-of-state fee waivers by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising eligibility requirement for use of the small, isolated high school multiplier; creating s. 1011.63, F.S.; prohibiting reporting for state funding for purposes of the Florida Education Finance Program of courses or programs fully funded externally; amending s. 1011.66, F.S.; setting forth the method and timing of distributing Florida Education Finance Program funds; amending s. 1011.67, F.S.; setting forth the method and timing of distributing funds for instructional materials; amending s. 1011.765, F.S.; modifying the Florida Academic Improvement Trust Fund matching grant program to serve low-performing students; providing for matching grants to public school district education foundations; amending s. 1011.80, F.S.;

Page 1 of 20

prohibiting reporting for state funding of courses or programs fully funded externally; amending s. 1011.84, F.S.; providing reporting requirements with respect to inmate education provided by community colleges; directing that inmates not be included in FTE student enrollment for funding through the Community College Program Fund; prohibiting reporting for state funding of courses or programs fully funded externally; amending s. 1012.05, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Education to collect registration and booth fees for a job fair; authorizing certain uses for such funds; amending s. 1012.72, F.S.; authorizing the use of Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program funds for certain purposes; providing an effective date.

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

- Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (5) of section 24.121, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 24.121 Allocation of revenues and expenditure of funds for public education.--
- (5)(a) Public educational programs and purposes funded by the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund may include, but are not limited to, endowment, scholarship, matching funds, direct grants, research and economic development related to education, salary enhancement, contracts with independent institutions to conduct programs consistent with the state master plan for postsecondary education, or any other educational program or purpose deemed desirable by the Legislature. Prior to the

expenditure of these funds, each school district shall establish policies and procedures that define enhancement and the types of expenditures consistent with that definition.

59

60

61 62

63

64

65

66

67

68 69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

A portion of such net revenues, as determined annually by the Legislature, shall be distributed to each school district and shall be made available to each public school in the district for enhancing school performance through development and implementation of a school improvement plan pursuant to s. 1001.42(16). A portion of these moneys, as determined annually in the General Appropriations Act, must be allocated to each school in an equal amount for each student enrolled. These moneys may be expended only on programs or projects selected by the school advisory council or by a parent advisory committee created pursuant to this paragraph. If a school does not have a school advisory council, the district advisory council must appoint a parent advisory committee composed of parents of students enrolled in that school, which committee is representative of the ethnic, racial, and economic community served by the school, to advise the school's principal on the programs or projects to be funded. Neither school district staff nor principals A principal may not override the recommendations of the school advisory council or the parent advisory committee. These moneys may not be used for capital improvements, nor may they be used for any project or program that has a duration of more than 1 year; however, a school advisory council or parent advisory committee may independently determine that a program or project formerly funded under this paragraph should receive funds in a subsequent year.

Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (9) of section 1002.32, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96 97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111112

113

114

115

- 1002.32 Developmental research (laboratory) schools. --
- (9) FUNDING.--Funding for a lab school, including a charter lab school, shall be provided as follows:
- (c) All operating funds provided under this section shall be deposited in a Lab School Trust Fund and shall be expended for the purposes of this section. The university assigned a lab school shall be the fiscal agent for these funds, and all rules of the university governing the budgeting and expenditure of state funds shall apply to these funds unless otherwise provided by law or rule of the State Board of Education. The university board of trustees shall be the public employer of lab school personnel for collective bargaining purposes for lab schools in operation prior to the 2002-2003 fiscal year. Employees of charter lab schools authorized prior to June 1, 2003, but not in operation prior to the 2002-2003 fiscal year shall be employees of the entity holding the charter and must comply with the provisions of s. 1002.33(12). None of the funds appropriated for lab schools shall be used to pay overhead or indirect costs described in s. 216.346.
- Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.--
- (3) STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.--The commissioner shall design and implement a statewide program of educational assessment that provides information for the improvement of the operation and management of the public schools, including schools operating for the purpose of providing educational

Page 4 of 20

116 services to youth in Department of Juvenile Justice programs.

- 117 The commissioner may enter into contracts for the continued
- 118 administration of the assessment, testing, and evaluation
- 119 programs. Contracts may be initiated in one fiscal year and
- 120 continue into the next and may be paid from the appropriations
- of either or both fiscal years. The commissioner is authorized
- 122 to negotiate for the sale or lease of tests, scoring protocols,
- 123 <u>test scoring services</u>, and related materials. Pursuant to the
- 124 statewide assessment program, the commissioner shall:

125

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

133

134

135

136

137

138

139

140

141

142

143

144

- (a) Submit to the State Board of Education a list that specifies student skills and competencies to which the goals for education specified in the state plan apply, including, but not limited to, reading, writing, science, and mathematics. The skills and competencies must include problem-solving and higher-order skills as appropriate and shall be known as the Sunshine State Standards as defined in s. 1000.21. The commissioner shall select such skills and competencies after receiving recommendations from educators, citizens, and members of the business community. The commissioner shall submit to the State Board of Education revisions to the list of student skills and competencies in order to maintain continuous progress toward
- (b) Develop and implement a uniform system of indicators to describe the performance of public school students and the characteristics of the public school districts and the public schools. These indicators must include, without limitation, information gathered by the comprehensive management information system created pursuant to s. 1008.385 and student achievement information obtained pursuant to this section.

improvements in student proficiency.

(c) Develop and implement a student achievement testing program known as the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) as part of the statewide assessment program, to be administered annually in grades 3 through 10 to measure reading, writing, science, and mathematics. Other content areas may be included as directed by the commissioner. The testing program must be designed so that:

- 1. The tests measure student skills and competencies adopted by the State Board of Education as specified in paragraph (a). The tests must measure and report student proficiency levels in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. The commissioner shall provide for the tests to be developed or obtained, as appropriate, through contracts and project agreements with private vendors, public vendors, public agencies, postsecondary educational institutions, or school districts. The commissioner shall obtain input with respect to the design and implementation of the testing program from state educators and the public.
- 2. The testing program will include a combination of norm-referenced and criterion-referenced tests and include, to the extent determined by the commissioner, questions that require the student to produce information or perform tasks in such a way that the skills and competencies he or she uses can be measured.
- 3. Each testing program, whether at the elementary, middle, or high school level, includes a test of writing in which students are required to produce writings that are then scored by appropriate methods.

4. A score is designated for each subject area tested, below which score a student's performance is deemed inadequate. The school districts shall provide appropriate remedial instruction to students who score below these levels.

173

174

175

176

177

178

179

180

181

182

183

184

185

186

187

188

189

190

191

192

193

194

195

196

197

198

199

200

Except as provided in s. 1003.43(11)(b), students must earn a passing score on the grade 10 assessment test described in this paragraph or on an alternate assessment as described in subsection (9) in reading, writing, and mathematics to qualify for a regular high school diploma. The State Board of Education shall designate a passing score for each part of the grade 10 assessment test. In establishing passing scores, the state board shall consider any possible negative impact of the test on minority students. All students who took the grade 10 FCAT during the 2000-2001 school year shall be required to earn the passing scores in reading and mathematics established by the State Board of Education for the March 2001 test administration. Such students who did not earn the established passing scores and must repeat the grade 10 FCAT are required to earn the passing scores established for the March 2001 test administration. All students who take the grade 10 FCAT for the first time in March 2002 and thereafter shall be required to earn the passing scores in reading and mathematics established by the State Board of Education for the March 2002 test administration. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules which specify the passing scores for the grade 10 FCAT. Any such rules, which have the effect of raising the required passing scores, shall only apply to students taking the grade 10 FCAT after such rules are adopted by the State Board of Education.

201

202

203

204205

206

207

208

209

210

211

212

213

214

215

216

217

218

219

220

221

222

223

224225

226

227

228

229

Participation in the testing program is mandatory for all students attending public school, including students served in Department of Juvenile Justice programs, except as otherwise prescribed by the commissioner. If a student does not participate in the statewide assessment, the district must notify the student's parent and provide the parent with information regarding the implications of such nonparticipation. If modifications are made in the student's instruction to provide accommodations that would not be permitted on the statewide assessment tests, the district must notify the student's parent of the implications of such instructional modifications. A parent must provide signed consent for a student to receive instructional modifications that would not be permitted on the statewide assessments and must acknowledge in writing that he or she understands the implications of such accommodations. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules, based upon recommendations of the commissioner, for the provision of test accommodations and modifications of procedures as necessary for students in exceptional education programs and for students who have limited English proficiency. Accommodations that negate the validity of a statewide assessment are not allowable.

- 7. A student seeking an adult high school diploma must meet the same testing requirements that a regular high school student must meet.
- 8. District school boards must provide instruction to prepare students to demonstrate proficiency in the skills and competencies necessary for successful grade-to-grade progression and high school graduation. If a student is provided with

accommodations or modifications that are not allowable in the statewide assessment program, as described in the test manuals, the district must inform the parent in writing and must provide the parent with information regarding the impact on the student's ability to meet expected proficiency levels in reading, writing, and math. The commissioner shall conduct studies as necessary to verify that the required skills and competencies are part of the district instructional programs.

- 9. The Department of Education must develop, or select, and implement a common battery of assessment tools that will be used in all juvenile justice programs in the state. These tools must accurately measure the skills and competencies established in the Florida Sunshine State Standards.
- The commissioner may design and implement student testing programs, for any grade level and subject area, necessary to effectively monitor educational achievement in the state.
- (d) Conduct ongoing research to develop improved methods of assessing student performance, including, without limitation, the use of technology to administer tests, score, or report the results of, the use of electronic transfer of data, the development of work-product assessments, and the development of process assessments.
- (e) Conduct ongoing research and analysis of student achievement data, including, without limitation, monitoring trends in student achievement, identifying school programs that are successful, and analyzing correlates of school achievement.

(f) Provide technical assistance to school districts in the implementation of state and district testing programs and the use of the data produced pursuant to such programs.

Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 1009.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.23 Community college student fees.--

- (2) All students shall be charged fees except students who are exempt from fees or students whose fees are waived.

 Identical fees shall be required for all community college students who take a specific course, regardless of the program in which they are enrolled.
- Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1009.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.26 Fee waivers.--

(1) School districts and community colleges may waive fees for any fee-nonexempt student. The total value of fee waivers granted by the school district or community college may not exceed 8 percent of the fee revenues that would otherwise be collected the amount established annually in the General Appropriations Act. Any student whose fees are waived in excess of the authorized amount may not be reported for state funding purposes. Any school district or community college that waives fees and requests state funding for a student in violation of the provisions of this section shall be penalized at a rate equal to 2 times the value of the full-time student enrollment reported.

Section 6. Subsection (5) is added to section 1011.57, Florida Statutes, to read:

1011.57 Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind; board of trustees; management flexibility.--

- (5) The board of trustees and administration of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind shall not authorize fee waivers for out-of-state students.
- Section 7. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is 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:
- 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; provided the school attained a state accountability performance grade of "C" or better for the previous school year 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

2004

HB 1867

314 school" means any high school which is located no less than 28 315 miles by the shortest route from another high school; which has been serving students primarily in basic studies provided by 316 sub-subparagraphs (c)1.b. and c. and may include subparagraph 317 (c)4.; and which has a membership of no more than 100 students, 318 but no fewer than 28 students, in grades 9 through 12. 319 320 Section 8. Section 1011.63, Florida Statutes, is created 321 to read: 322 1011.63 Reporting for state funding; prohibition. -- When a public educational institution has been fully funded by an 323 324 external agency for direct instructional costs of any course or 325 program, the FTE generated shall not be reported for state 326 funding for purposes of the Florida Education Finance Program. 327 Section 9. Section 1011.66, Florida Statutes, is amended 328 to read: 1011.66 Distribution of FEFP funds in first quarter.--The 329 330 distribution of FEFP funds shall be made in equal payments on or about the 10th and 26th of each month. Upon the request of any 331 332 school district whose net state FEFP funding is less than 60 333 percent of its gross state and local FEFP funding, the Department of Education shall distribute to that school district 334 335 in the first quarter of the fiscal year an amount from the funds 336 appropriated for the FEFP in the General Appropriations Act up to a maximum of 15 percent of that school district's gross state 337 and local FEFP funding or that school district's net state FEFP 338 funding, whichever is less. 339 340 Section 10. Section 1011.67, Florida Statutes, is amended 341 to read:

342

343

344345

346

347

348

349

350

351

352

353

354

355

356

357

358

359

360

361

362363

364

365

366

367

368

369

370

1011.67 Funds for instructional materials.--The department is authorized to allocate and distribute to each district an amount as prescribed annually by the Legislature for instructional materials for student membership in basic and special programs in grades K-12, which will provide for growth and maintenance needs. For purposes of this section, unweighted full-time equivalent students enrolled in the lab schools in state universities are to be included as school district students and reported as such to the department. These funds shall be distributed to school districts as follows: 50 percent on or about July 10; 35 percent on or about October 10; 10 percent on or about January 10; and 5 percent on or about June 10. School districts shall pay for instructional materials used for the instruction of public high school students who are earning credit toward high school graduation under the dual enrollment program as provided in s. 1011.62(1)(i). The annual allocation shall be determined as follows:

- (1) The growth allocation for each school district shall be calculated as follows:
- (a) Subtract from that district's projected full-time equivalent membership of students in basic and special programs in grades K-12 used in determining the initial allocation of the Florida Education Finance Program, the prior year's full-time equivalent membership of students in basic and special programs in grades K-12 for that district.
- (b) Multiply any such increase in full-time equivalent student membership by the allocation for a set of instructional materials, as determined by the department, or as provided for in the General Appropriations Act.

(c) The amount thus determined shall be that district's initial allocation for growth for the school year. However, the department shall recompute and adjust the initial allocation based on actual full-time equivalent student membership data for that year.

- (2) The maintenance of the instructional materials allocation for each school district shall be calculated by multiplying each district's prior year full-time equivalent membership of students in basic and special programs in grades K-12 by the allocation for maintenance of a set of instructional materials as provided for in the General Appropriations Act. The amount thus determined shall be that district's initial allocation for maintenance for the school year; however, the department shall recompute and adjust the initial allocation based on such actual full-time equivalent student membership data for that year.
- (3) In the event the funds appropriated are not sufficient for the purpose of implementing this section in full, the department shall prorate the funds available for instructional materials after first funding in full each district's growth allocation.
- Section 11. Section 1011.765, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1011.765 School district Florida Academic Improvement

 Trust Fund matching grants.--School district matching grants are provided to public school district education foundations for programs that serve low-performing students. The amount of each grant shall be equal to the private contribution made to a qualifying public school district education foundation. In-kind

Contributions shall not be considered for matching purposes.

Before any funds are released to any public school district

education foundation, the public school district education

foundation must certify to the Commissioner of Education that

private cash has actually been received by the public school

district education foundation seeking state matching funds. The

Consortium of Florida Education Foundations shall be the fiscal

agent for this program. Administrative costs for the program

must not exceed 5 percent.

- (1) MATCHING GRANTS.--The Florida Academic Improvement
 Trust Fund shall be utilized to provide matching grants to the
 Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Endowment Fund and to
 any public school district education foundation that meets the
 requirements of this section and is recognized by the local
 school district as its designated K-12 education foundation.
- (a) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the administration, submission, documentation, evaluation, and approval of requests for matching funds and for maintaining accountability for matching funds.
- (b) Donations, state matching funds, or proceeds from endowments established pursuant to this section shall be used at the discretion of the public school district education foundation or the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind for academic achievement within the school district or school, and shall not be expended for the construction of facilities or for the support of interscholastic athletics. No public school district education foundation or the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind shall accept or purchase facilities for which the

state will be asked for operating funds unless the Legislature
has granted prior approval for such acquisition.

- (2) ALLOCATION OF THE TRUST FUND. -- Funds appropriated to the Florida Academic Improvement Trust Fund shall be allocated by the Department of Education in the following manner:
- (a) For every year in which there is a legislative appropriation to the trust fund, an equal amount of the annual appropriation, to be determined by dividing the total legislative appropriation by the number of local education foundations as well as the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, must be reserved for each public school district education foundation and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Endowment Fund to provide each foundation and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind with an opportunity to receive and match appropriated funds. Trust funds that remain unmatched by contribution on April 1 of any year shall be made available for matching by any public school district education foundation and by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind which shall have an opportunity to apply for excess trust funds prior to the award of such funds.
- (b) Matching grants shall be proportionately allocated from the trust fund on the basis of matching each \$4 of state funds with \$6 of private funds. To be eligible for matching, a minimum of \$4,500 must be raised from private sources.
- (c) Funds sufficient to provide the match shall be transferred from the state trust fund to the public school education foundation or to the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Endowment Fund upon notification that a proportionate

amount has been received and deposited by the foundation or school into its own trust fund.

(d) If the total of the amounts to be distributed in any quarter pursuant to this subsection exceeds the amount of funds remaining from specific appropriations made for the implementation of this section, all grants shall be proportionately reduced so that the total of matching grants distributed does not exceed available appropriations.

(3) GRANT ADMINISTRATION. --

456

457

458

459

460

461

462

463

464

465

466

467

468

469

470

471

472

473

474

475

476

477

478

479

480

481

482

483

(a) Each public school district education foundation and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind participating in the Florida Academic Improvement Trust Fund shall separately account for all funds received pursuant to this section, and may establish its own academic improvement trust fund as a depository for the private contributions, state matching funds, and earnings on investments of such funds. State matching funds shall be transferred to the public school district education foundation or to the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Endowment Fund upon notification that the foundation or school has received and deposited private contributions that meet the criteria for matching as provided in this section. The public school district education foundations and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind are responsible for the maintenance, investment, and administration of their academic improvement trust funds.

(b) The public school district education foundations and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind shall be responsible for soliciting and receiving contributions to be

deposited and matched with grants for academic achievement
within the school district or school.

- (c) Each public school district education foundation and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind shall be responsible for proper expenditure of the funds received pursuant to this section.
- Section 12. Subsection (5) of section 1011.80, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1011.80 Funds for operation of adult technical education programs.--
- (5) State funding and student fees for workforce development instruction funded through the Workforce Development Education Fund shall be established as follows:
- (a) For a continuing workforce education course, state funding shall equal 50 percent of the cost of instruction, with student fees, business support, quick-response training funds, or other means making up the remaining 50 percent.
- (b) For all other workforce development education funded through the Workforce Development Education Fund, state funding shall equal 75 percent of the average cost of instruction with the remaining 25 percent made up from student fees. Fees for courses within a program shall not vary according to the cost of the individual program, but instead shall be based on a uniform fee calculated and set at the state level, as adopted by the State Board of Education, unless otherwise specified in the General Appropriations Act.
- (c) For fee-exempt students pursuant to s. 1009.25, unless otherwise provided for in law, state funding shall equal 100 percent of the average cost of instruction.

(d) For a public educational institution that has been fully funded by an external agency for direct instructional costs of any course or program, the FTE generated shall not be reported for state funding.

Section 13. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 1011.84, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (g) and new paragraphs (e) and (f) are added to said subsection to read:

1011.84 Procedure for determining state financial support and annual apportionment of state funds to each community college district.—The procedure for determining state financial support and the annual apportionment to each community college district authorized to operate a community college under the provisions of s. 1001.61 shall be as follows:

- (1) DETERMINING THE AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAM FUND FOR THE CURRENT OPERATING PROGRAM. --
- (e) All state inmate education provided by community colleges shall be reported by program, FTE expenditure, and revenue source. These enrollments, expenditures, and revenues shall be reported and projected separately. Instruction of state inmates shall not be included in the full-time equivalent student enrollment for funding through the Community College Program Fund. Funds in the Community College Program Fund shall not be used to offer college-level courses to inmates who do not pay their own fees.
- (f) When a public educational institution has been fully funded by an external agency for direct instructional costs of any course or program, the FTE generated shall not be reported for state funding.

HB 1867

Section 14. Subsection (3) of section 1012.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.05 Teacher recruitment and retention.--

- (3) The Department of Education, in cooperation with district personnel offices, shall sponsor a job fair in a central part of the state to match in-state educators and potential educators and out-of-state educators and potential educators with teaching opportunities in this state. The Department of Education is authorized to collect a job fair registration fee not to exceed \$20 per person and a booth fee not to exceed \$250 per school district or other interested participating organization. The revenue from the fees shall be used to promote and operate the job fair. Funds may be used to purchase promotional items such as mementos, awards, and plaques.
- Section 15. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 1012.72, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and (6), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to said section to read:
 - 1012.72 Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program.-
- (4) Funds appropriated to school districts for the Dale

 Hickam Excellent Teaching Program may be used by school

 districts for payment of the employer's share of social security

 and Medicare taxes for those teachers who qualify for NBPTS

 certification and receive bonus amounts under subsection (2).

Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.