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2 An act relating to student achievement;
3 creating s. 1007.35, F.S.; providing a popular
4 name; providing legislative intent; creating
5 the Florida Partnership for Minority and
6 Underrepresented Student Achievement; providing
7 purposes and duties of the partnership;
8 providing duties of the Department of Education
9 and the participating partner; requiring the
10 partnership to submit an annual evaluation
11 report to the department; providing for funding
12 the partnership; authorizing the State Board of
13 Education to adopt rules; providing an
14 effective date.

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

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18 Section 1. Section 1007.35, Florida Statutes, is
19 created to read:

20 1007.35 Florida Partnership for Minority and
21 Underrepresented Student Achievement.--

22 (1) This section may be referred to by the popular
23 name the "Florida Partnership for Minority and
24 Underrepresented Student Achievement Act."

25 (2)(a) The Legislature recognizes the importance of
26 not only access to college but also success in college for all
27 students. It is the intent of the Legislature that every
28 student enrolled in a public secondary school has access to
29 high-quality, rigorous academics, with a particular focus on
30 access to advanced courses.

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1 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide
2 assistance to all public secondary schools, with a primary
3 focus on low-performing middle and high schools.

4 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the
5 partnership created in this section accomplish its mission
6 primarily through strengthening the content knowledge of
7 teachers and providing instructional resources, including
8 materials and strategies, which enable teachers to provide
9 instruction to students who have diverse learning styles.

10 (3) There is created the Florida Partnership for
11 Minority and Underrepresented Student Achievement. The
12 Department of Education may contract for operation of the
13 partnership.

14 (4) The mission of the partnership is to prepare,
15 inspire, and connect students to postsecondary success and
16 opportunity, with a particular focus on minority students and
17 students who are underrepresented in postsecondary education.

18 (5) Each public high school, including, but not
19 limited to, schools and alternative sites and centers of the
20 Department of Juvenile Justice, shall provide for the
21 administration of the Preliminary SAT/National Merit
22 Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), or Preliminary ACT
23 (PLAN) to all enrolled 10th-grade students. However, a written
24 notice shall be provided to each parent that shall include the
25 opportunity to exempt his or her child from taking the
26 PSAT/NMSQT or PLAN.

27 (a) Test results will provide each high school with a
28 database of student assessment data which guidance counselors
29 will use to identify students who are prepared or who need
30 additional work to be prepared to enroll and be successful in
31 AP courses or other advanced high school courses.

1 (b) Funding for the PSAT/NMSQT or PLAN for all
2 10th-grade students shall be contingent upon annual funding in
3 the General Appropriations Act.

4 (c) Public school districts must choose either the
5 PSAT/NMSQT or PLAN for district-wide administration.

6 (6) The partnership shall:

7 (a) Provide teacher training and professional
8 development to enable teachers of AP or other advanced courses
9 to have the necessary content knowledge and instructional
10 skills to prepare students for success on AP or other advanced
11 course examinations and mastery of postsecondary course
12 content.

13 (b) Provide to middle school teachers and
14 administrators professional development that will enable them
15 to educate middle school students at the level necessary to
16 prepare the students to enter high school ready to participate
17 in advanced courses.

18 (c) Provide teacher training and materials that are
19 aligned with the Sunshine State Standards and are consistent
20 with best theory and practice regarding multiple learning
21 styles and research on learning, instructional strategies,
22 instructional design, and classroom assessment. Curriculum
23 materials must be based on current, accepted, and essential
24 academic knowledge. Materials for prerequisite courses should,
25 at a minimum, address the skills assessed on the Florida
26 Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT).

27 (d) Provide assessment of individual strengths and
28 weaknesses as related to potential success in AP or other
29 advanced courses and readiness for college.

30 (e) Provide college entrance exam preparation through
31 a variety of means that may include, but are not limited to,

1 training teachers to provide courses at schools; training
2 community organizations to provide courses at community
3 centers, faith-based organizations, and businesses; and
4 providing on-line courses.

5 (f) Consider ways to incorporate community colleges in
6 the mission of preparing all students for postsecondary
7 success.

8 (g) Provide a plan for communication and coordination
9 of efforts with the Florida Virtual School's provision of
10 on-line AP or other advanced courses.

11 (h) Provide a plan of communication which includes,
12 but need not be limited to, disseminating to parents materials
13 that emphasize the importance of AP or other advanced courses
14 to a student's ability to gain access to and to succeed in
15 postsecondary education and materials that emphasize the
16 importance of the PSAT/NMSQT or PLAN, which provide diagnostic
17 feedback on skills and relate student scores to the
18 probability of success on AP or other advanced course
19 examinations, and also the dissemination of such information
20 to students, teachers, counselors, administrators, districts,
21 community colleges, and state universities. The department
22 shall assist the partnership in communicating opportunities
23 and priorities to administrators, teachers, and counselors
24 whenever possible.

25 (7) By May 31 of each year, the Department of
26 Education shall approve a plan of delivery of services for the
27 subsequent academic year.

28 (8)(a) By September 30 of each year, the partnership
29 shall submit to the department a report that contains an
30 evaluation of the effectiveness of the delivered services and
31 activities. Activities and services must be evaluated on their

1 effectiveness at raising student achievement and increasing
2 the number of AP or other advanced course examinations in
3 low-performing middle and high schools. Other indicators that
4 must be addressed in the evaluation report include the number
5 of middle and high school teachers trained, the effectiveness
6 of the training, measures of postsecondary readiness of the
7 students affected by the program, levels of participation in
8 10th-grade PSAT/NMSQT or PLAN testing, and measures of
9 student, parent, and teacher awareness of and satisfaction
10 with the services of the partnership.

11 (b) The department shall contribute to the evaluation
12 process by providing access, consistent with s. 119.0721, to
13 student and teacher information necessary to match against
14 databases containing teacher professional development data and
15 databases containing assessment data for the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT,
16 AP, and other appropriate measures. The department shall also
17 provide student-level data on student progress from middle
18 school through high school and into college and the workforce,
19 if available, in order to support longitudinal studies. The
20 partnership shall analyze and report student performance data
21 in a manner that protects the rights of students and parents
22 as required in 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g and s. 1002.22.

23 (9)(a) Funding for the partnership shall be contingent
24 upon annual funding in the General Appropriations Act.

25 (b) The participating partner, if one is chosen, is
26 required to match at least one-third of the allocation
27 provided to the partnership in the General Appropriations Act
28 in materials and services to the program.

29 (10) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to
30 administer this section.

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(11) Nothing in this section shall prohibit any organization from partnering with the state to improve the college readiness of students.

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