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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to career education; amending s. 1003.491,
 F.S.; providing for accountability for career education in
 middle schools in the school districts; requiring school
 district plans for providing career education courses;
 amending s. 1006.02, F.S.; requiring documentation of
 career counseling to middle and high school students;
 amending s. 1006.025, F.S.; requiring training of guidance
 counselors and career specialists relating to career
 education; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1003.491, Florida
 Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.491 Career education.--

(1) School board, superintendent, and school
 accountability for career education within elementary, middle,
 and secondary schools includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Student exposure to a variety of careers and provision
 of instruction to explore specific careers in greater depth.

(b) Student awareness of available career programs and the
 corresponding occupations into which such programs lead through
advisement by guidance counselors and career specialists.

(c) Student development of individual career plans.

(d) Integration of academic and career skills in the
middle school and high school ~~secondary~~ curriculum.

28 (e) Student preparation to enter the workforce and enroll
 29 in postsecondary education without being required to complete
 30 college preparatory or career preparatory instruction.

31 (f) Student retention in school through high school
 32 graduation.

33 (g) Career education curriculum articulation with
 34 corresponding postsecondary programs in the career center or
 35 community college, or both.

36
 37 Each district school board shall develop a plan for providing
 38 career education courses in the middle schools and high schools
 39 of the school district.

40 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 1006.02, Florida
 41 Statutes, is amended to read:

42 1006.02 Provision of information to students and parents
 43 regarding school-to-work transition.--

44 (1) All public K-12 schools shall document the manner in
 45 which they have prepared students to enter the workforce,
 46 including information regarding the provision of accurate,
 47 timely career and curricular counseling to middle and high
 48 school students. This information shall include a delineation of
 49 available career opportunities, educational requirements
 50 associated with each career, educational institutions that
 51 prepare students to enter each career, and student financial aid
 52 available to enable students to pursue any postsecondary
 53 instruction required to enter that career. This information
 54 shall also delineate school procedures for identifying
 55 individual student interests and aptitudes which enable students

56 | to make informed decisions about the curriculum that best
57 | addresses their individual interests and aptitudes while
58 | preparing them to enroll in postsecondary education and enter
59 | the workforce. This information shall include recommended high
60 | school coursework that prepares students for success in college-
61 | level work. The information shall be made known to parents and
62 | students annually through inclusion in the school's handbook,
63 | manual, or similar documents or other communications regularly
64 | provided to parents and students.

65 | Section 3. Section 1006.025, Florida Statutes, is amended
66 | to read:

67 | 1006.025 Guidance services.--

68 | (1)(a) Each district school board shall annually submit a
69 | district guidance report to the Commissioner of Education by
70 | June 30.

71 | (b)(2) The guidance report shall include, but not be
72 | limited to, the following:

73 | 1.(a) Examination of student access to guidance
74 | counselors.

75 | 2.(b) Degree to which a district has adopted or
76 | implemented a guidance model program.

77 | 3.(e) Evaluation of the information and training available
78 | to guidance counselors and career specialists to advise students
79 | on areas of critical need, labor market trends, and technical
80 | training requirements.

81 | 4.(d) Progress toward incorporation of best practices for
82 | advisement as identified by the department.

83 ~~5.(e)~~ Consideration of alternative guidance systems or
84 ideas, including, but not limited to, a teacher-advisor model,
85 mentoring, partnerships with the business community, web-based
86 delivery, and parental involvement.

87 ~~6.(f)~~ Actions taken to provide information to students for
88 the school-to-work transition pursuant to s. 1006.02.

89 ~~7.(g)~~ A guidance plan for the district.

90 ~~(c)(3)~~ The department shall provide resources to district
91 school boards that may assist districts in preparing the annual
92 guidance report. The resources shall include, but are not
93 limited to, materials relating to guidance model programs,
94 training available through the department for career guidance,
95 adopted best practices, alternative guidance systems or ideas,
96 and a model district guidance plan.

97 (2) Each district school board shall provide for training
98 of guidance counselors and career specialists to advise students
99 in the area of career education choices in order to develop
100 individual career education plans for middle school, high
101 school, and postsecondary education or employment.

102 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.