## Barcode 493828

#### CHAMBER ACTION

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1	<u>Senate</u> <u>House</u>
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11	Senator Lynn moved the following amendment:
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13	Senate Amendment (with title amendment)
14	Delete everything after the enacting clause
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16	and insert:
17	Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1001.03, Florida
18	Statutes, is amended to read:
19	1001.03 Specific powers of State Board of Education
20	(1) PUBLIC K-12 STUDENT PERFORMANCE STANDARDSThe
21	State Board of Education shall approve the student performance
22	standards known as the Sunshine State Standards in key
23	academic subject areas and grade levels. The board shall
24	periodically review the standards to ensure adequate rigor,
25	logical pupil progression, and articulation from grade to
26	grade, and shall evaluate the extent to which the standards
27	are being taught at each grade level.
28	Section 2. Section 1001.215, Florida Statutes, is
29	created to read:
30	1001.215 Just Read, Florida! OfficeThere is created
31	within the Department of Education the Just Read, Florida!
	8:39 PM 05/03/05 h600702e2c-07-j01

1	Office. The office shall:
2	(1) Train professionally certified teachers to become
3	certified reading coaches.
4	(2) Train K-12 teachers, school principals, and
5	parents on research-based strategies for reading instruction.
6	(3) Provide technical assistance to districts in the
7	development and implementation of, and annually review and
8	approve district plans for use of, the Research-based Reading
9	Instruction Allocation pursuant to s. 1011.62(9).
10	(4) Work with the Florida Center for Reading Research
11	created under s. 1004.64 to provide information on
12	research-based reading programs.
13	(5) Periodically review the Sunshine State Standards
14	for reading at all grade levels.
15	(6) Periodically review the teacher certification
16	examinations to ensure that they reflect proficiency in
17	research-based strategies for reading instruction.
18	(7) Work with teacher preparation programs approved
19	under s. 1004.04 to ensure the integration of research-based
20	strategies for reading instruction into teacher preparation
21	programs.
22	(8) Administer grants and perform other functions
23	necessary to assist with meeting the goal that all students
24	are reading on grade level.
25	Section 3. Subsection (16) of section 1001.42, Florida
26	Statutes, is amended to read:
27	1001.42 Powers and duties of district school
28	boardThe district school board, acting as a board, shall
29	exercise all powers and perform all duties listed below:
30	(16) IMPLEMENT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AND
31	ACCOUNTABILITY Maintain a system of school improvement and
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#### Barcode 493828

education accountability as provided by statute and State Board of Education rule. This system of school improvement and 2 education accountability shall be consistent with, and 3 implemented through, the district's continuing system of planning and budgeting required by this section and ss. 5 1008.385, 1010.01, and 1011.01. This system of school 6 7 improvement and education accountability shall include, but is not limited to, the following: 8 9 (a) School improvement plans. -- Annually approve and 10 require implementation of a new, amended, or continuation 11 school improvement plan for each school in the district, except that a district school board may establish a district 12 school improvement plan that includes all schools in the 13 district operating for the purpose of providing educational 14 15 services to youth in Department of Juvenile Justice programs. Such plan shall be designed to achieve the state education 16 priorities pursuant to s. 1000.03(5) and student performance 17 standards. In addition, any school required to implement a 18 19 rigorous reading requirement pursuant to s. 1003.415 must 20 include such component in its school improvement plan. Each plan shall also address issues relative to budget, training, 21 22 instructional materials, technology, staffing, student support services, specific school safety and discipline strategies, 23 24 student health and fitness, including physical fitness, parental information on student health and fitness, and indoor 25 environmental air quality, and other matters of resource 26 allocation, as determined by district school board policy, and 27 28 shall be based on an analysis of student achievement and other 29 school performance data. 30 (b) Improvement plan requirements. -- Each district

1	progression must be designed to provide frequent and accurate
2	information to the teacher and student regarding each
3	student's progress toward mastering the Sunshine State
4	Standards. The system must demonstrate the alignment of the
5	Sunshine State Standards, instructional strategies,
6	assessment, and professional development. Each school's school
7	improvement plan must identify the strategies for monitoring
8	the progress of each student. The process used by each school
9	to monitor student progression must, at a minimum, contain the
10	following components that are aimed at increasing student
11	achievement:
12	1. Disaggregated student achievement data related to
13	student performance which are used to identify each individual
14	student's strengths and weaknesses and to determine the
15	effectiveness of the teaching and learning strategies that are
16	being used in the classroom;
17	2. The Sunshine State Standards instructional calendar
18	and timeline, using disaggregated student performance data to
19	focus instruction on the Sunshine State Standards, manage
20	instructional time, and allocate resources;
21	3. Prioritized instructional focus to facilitate
22	explicit and systematic instruction using research-based
23	effective practices in the classroom;
24	4. Mini-assessments of targeted Sunshine State
25	Standards benchmarks to monitor students' progress and
26	generate data to redesign instruction, if needed;
27	5. Alternative in-school, tutorial, remediation, or
28	enrichment strategies for students which are based on each
29	student's individual academic needs as defined by the
30	mini-assessments; and
31	6. Systematic monitoring of each teacher's

Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

implementation of the comprehensive program for student progression as described in subparagraphs 1.-5.

(c)(b) Approval process.--Develop a process for approval of a school improvement plan presented by an individual school and its advisory council. In the event a district school board does not approve a school improvement plan after exhausting this process, the Department of Education shall be notified of the need for assistance.

#### (d)<del>(c)</del> Assistance and intervention.--

- 1. Develop a 2-year plan of increasing individualized assistance and intervention for each school in danger of not meeting state standards or making adequate progress, as defined pursuant to statute and State Board of Education rule, toward meeting the goals and standards of its approved school improvement plan.
- 2. Provide assistance and intervention to a school that is identified as being in performance grade category "D" pursuant to s. 1008.34 and is in danger of failing.
- 3. Develop a plan to encourage teachers with demonstrated mastery in improving student performance to remain at or transfer to a school designated as performance grade category "D" or "F" or to an alternative school that serves disruptive or violent youths. If a classroom teacher, as defined by s. 1012.01(2)(a), who meets the definition of teaching mastery developed according to the provisions of this paragraph, requests assignment to a school designated as performance grade category "D" or "F" or to an alternative school that serves disruptive or violent youths, the district school board shall make every practical effort to grant the request.
  - 4. Prioritize, to the extent possible, the

#### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

expenditures of funds received from the supplemental academic instruction categorical fund under s. 1011.62(1)(f) to improve student performance in schools that receive a performance grade category designation of "D" or "F."

(e)(d) After 2 years.--Notify the Commissioner of Education and the State Board of Education in the event any school does not make adequate progress toward meeting the goals and standards of a school improvement plan by the end of 2 years of failing to make adequate progress and proceed according to guidelines developed pursuant to statute and State Board of Education rule. School districts shall provide intervention and assistance to schools in danger of being designated as performance grade category "F," failing to make adequate progress.

regarding performance of students and educational programs as required pursuant to ss. 1008.22 and 1008.385 and implement a system of school reports as required by statute and State Board of Education rule that shall include schools operating for the purpose of providing educational services to youth in Department of Juvenile Justice programs, and for those schools, report on the elements specified in s. 1003.52(19). Annual public disclosure reports shall be in an easy-to-read report card format and shall include the school's student and school performance grade category designation and performance data as specified in state board rule.

 $\underline{(g)(f)}$  School improvement funds.—Provide funds to schools for developing and implementing school improvement plans. Such funds shall include those funds appropriated for the purpose of school improvement pursuant to s. 24.121(5)(c).

Section 4. Each school district must observe November

1	11 of each year as the Veterans' Day holiday. Classes may not
2	be held on such holiday for any reason except for a declared
3	state emergency. If November 11 falls on a Saturday or Sunday,
4	a school holiday shall be observed on a weekday immediately
5	following or preceding that weekend so as to correspond with
6	the date that Veterans' Day is observed as a federal holiday.
7	Section 5. Section 1002.421, Florida Statutes, is
8	created to read:
9	1002.421 Rights and obligations of private schools
10	participating in state school choice scholarship
11	programs The requirements imposed under this section on
12	private schools that participate in state school choice
13	scholarship programs are in addition to the requirements for
14	private schools which are outlined in s. 1002.42, specific
15	requirements under laws relating to various scholarship
16	programs, and other laws of this state which apply to private
17	schools.
18	(1) A private school in this state which participates
19	in the Corporate Tax Credit Scholarship Program, as defined in
20	s. 220.187, or in an educational scholarship program
21	established under chapter 1002 must comply with all
22	requirements of this section.
23	(2) A private school participating in a scholarship
24	program in this state:
25	(a) Must be a Florida private school as defined in s.
26	1002.01(2).
27	(b) Must comply with all state laws pertaining to
28	private schools.
29	(c) Must be a registered Florida private school in
30	accordance with s. 1002.42.
31	(d) Must maintain a physical location in this state

1	where each scholarship student regularly attends classes.
2	(e) May not be a correspondence school or distance
3	learning school.
4	(f) May not direct or provide scholarship funds to a
5	parent of a scholarship student who receives instruction under
6	the program at home.
7	(g) May not be a home education program as defined in
8	s. 1002.01(1).
9	(h) May not be a private tutoring program as described
10	<u>in s. 1002.43.</u>
11	(i) Must comply with the anti-discrimination
12	provisions of 42 U.S.C. s. 2000d.
13	(j) Must notify the department of its intent to
14	participate in a scholarship program.
15	(k) Must notify the department of any change in the
16	school's name, school director, mailing address, or physical
17	location within 15 days after the change occurs.
18	(1) Must complete student-enrollment and
19	attendance-verification requirements, including an on-line
20	attendance-verification form, before a scholarship payment is
21	made.
22	(m) Must annually complete and submit to the
23	department a notarized scholarship compliance statement
24	certifying compliance with state laws relating to the
25	participation of private schools in the scholarship program.
26	(n) Must demonstrate fiscal soundness and
27	accountability by:
28	1. Having been in operation for at least 3 school
29	years or obtaining a surety bond or letter of credit for the
30	amount equal to the scholarship funds for any quarter and
31	filing the surety bond or letter of credit with the 8

#### Barcode 493828

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2. Requiring the parent of each scholarship student to personally restrictively endorse the scholarship warrant to the school. The school may not act as the attorney in fact for parents of a scholarship student under the authority of a power of attorney executed by the parents, or under any other authority, to endorse scholarship warrants on behalf of parents.

(o) Must meet applicable state and local laws, codes, and rules relating to health, safety, and welfare, including those relating to firesafety and building safety.

(p) Must employ or contract with teachers who hold baccalaureate or higher degrees, have at least 3 years of teaching experience in public or private schools, or have at least a high school diploma and special skills, knowledge, or expertise that qualifies them to provide instruction in the subjects that are being taught.

scholarship students to take one of the nationally norm-referenced tests identified by the State Board of Education under s. 1002.423. Students with disabilities for whom standardized testing is not appropriate are exempt from this requirement. However, a private school must require each student with a disability, for whom standardized testing is not appropriate, to participate at least annually in a student assessment which, as determined by the private school in consultation with the student's parent, will demonstrate the student's skill level to the student's parent. A private school must report a student's scores to the parent and to the independent private research organization selected by the Department of Education under s. 1002.423.

1	(r) Must ensure that each individual who has
2	unsupervised access to a scholarship student for whom the
3	private school is responsible, prior to employment, engagement
4	of services, or appointment, undergo background screening
5	under s. 435.04 by filing with the Department of Education a
6	complete set of fingerprints taken by an authorized law
7	enforcement agency or an employee of the private school who is
8	trained to take fingerprints. However, the complete set of
9	fingerprints for an owner of an eligible private school must
10	be taken by an authorized law enforcement agency. These
11	fingerprints must be submitted to the Department of Law
12	Enforcement for state processing, which shall in turn submit
13	the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for
14	federal processing. The Department of Education shall screen
15	the background results and report to the private school any
16	person described in this paragraph who fails to meet level 2
17	screening standards under s. 435.04. Any individual described
18	in this paragraph who fails the level 2 background screening
19	under s. 435.04 may not have unsupervised access to a
20	scholarship student. For purposes of this paragraph:
21	1. The cost of the fingerprinting and the background
22	check shall not be borne by the state.
23	2. A private school that allows an individual to have
24	unsupervised access to a scholarship student who failed the
25	level 2 background screening under s. 435.04 is ineligible to
26	participate in the scholarship program.
27	3. An individual holding a valid teaching certificate
28	in this state who has been fingerprinted pursuant to s.
29	1012.32 need not comply with this paragraph.
30	(3) The inability of a private school to meet the
31	requirements of this section constitutes a basis for the

1	ineligibility of the private school to participate in a
2	scholarship program as determined by the department.
3	(4)(a) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules
4	under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this section.
5	(b) The inclusion of eligible private schools in the
6	options available to public school students in this state does
7	not expand the regulatory authority of the state, its
8	officers, or any school district to impose any additional
9	regulations upon private schools beyond those reasonably
10	necessary to enforce requirements expressly set forth in this
11	section.
12	Section 6. Section 1002.423, Florida Statutes, is
13	created to read:
14	1002.423 Department of Education; obligations for
15	state school choice scholarship programs The requirements
16	imposed under this section apply to all state choice
17	scholarship programs, including the Corporate Tax Credit
18	Scholarship Program, as defined in s. 220.187, or an
19	educational scholarship program established under this
20	chapter.
21	(a) The Department of Education must identify all
22	nationally norm-referenced tests that are comparable to the
23	norm-referenced test portions of the Florida Comprehensive
24	Assessment Test (FCAT).
25	(b) The Department of Education must select an
26	independent private research organization to which each
27	participating private school must report the scores of
28	participating students on the nationally norm-referenced tests
29	administered by the private school. The independent private
30	research organization must annually report to the Department
31	of Education on the year-to-year improvements of the

1	participating students. The independent private research
2	organization must analyze and report student performance data
3	in a manner that protects the rights of students and parents
4	as mandated in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
5	requirements of 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g and must not disaggregate
6	data to a level that will disclose the academic level of
7	students. To the maximum extent possible, the independent
8	private research organization must accumulate historical
9	performance data for students from the Department of Education
10	and private schools to describe baseline performance and to
11	conduct longitudinal studies. To minimize costs and reduce the
12	time required for third-party analysis and evaluation, the
13	Department of Education shall conduct analyses of matched
14	students from public school assessment data and calculate
15	control group learning gains using an agreed-upon methodology
16	outlined in the contract with the third-party evaluator. The
17	sharing of student data must be in accordance with the Family
18	Educational Rights and Privacy Act requirements of 20 U.S.C.
19	s. 1232g and must be for the sole purpose of conducting the
20	evaluation. All parties must preserve the confidentiality of
21	such information as otherwise required under state and federal
22	law.
23	Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
24	1003.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
25	1003.03 Maximum class size
26	(2) IMPLEMENTATION
27	(b) Determination of the number of students per
28	classroom in paragraph (a) shall be calculated as follows:
29	1. For fiscal years 2003-2004 through $2006-2007$
30	$\frac{2005-2006}{2005}$ , the calculation for compliance for each of the 3
31	grade groupings shall be the average at the district level.

1	2. For fiscal <u>year</u> <del>years 2006-2007 through</del> 2007-2008,
2	the calculation for compliance for each of the 3 grade
3	groupings shall be the average at the school level.
4	3. For fiscal years 2008-2009, 2009-2010, and
5	thereafter, the calculation for compliance shall be at the
6	individual classroom level.
7	Section 8. Section 1003.035, Florida Statutes, is
8	created to read:
9	1003.035 District average class size requirements
10	(1) CONSTITUTIONAL CLASS SIZE REQUIREMENTSPursuant
11	to s. 1, Art. IX of the State Constitution, beginning in the
12	2007-2008 school year:
13	(a) The district average number of students assigned
14	to each teacher who is teaching core-curricula courses in
15	public school classrooms for prekindergarten through grade 3
16	may not exceed 18 students.
17	(b) The district average number of students assigned
18	to each teacher who is teaching core-curricula courses in
19	public school classrooms for grades 4 through 8 may not exceed
20	22 students.
21	(c) The district average number of students assigned
22	to each teacher who is teaching core-curricula courses in
23	public school classrooms for grades 9 through 12 may not
24	exceed 25 students.
25	
26	However, in no event shall any such classroom exceed five
27	students over the district average allowable maximum.
28	(2) IMPLEMENTATION
29	(a) Beginning with the 2006-2007 fiscal year, each
30	school district that is not in compliance with the
31	requirements in subsection (1) shall reduce the district

1	average class size in each of the following grade groupings:
2	prekindergarten through grade 3, grade 4 through grade 8, and
3	grade 9 through grade 12, by at least two students each year
4	until the district average class size does not exceed the
5	requirements in subsection (1).
6	(b) The Department of Education shall annually
7	calculate each school district's average class size for each
8	of the grade groupings specified in paragraph (a) based upon
9	the October student membership survey.
10	(3) IMPLEMENTATION OPTIONS District school boards
11	must consider, but are not limited to, implementing the
12	following items in order to meet the constitutional district
13	average class size requirements described in subsection (1)
14	and the two-student-per-year reduction required in subsection
15	<u>(2):</u>
16	(a) Adopt policies to encourage qualified students to
17	take dual enrollment courses.
18	(b) Adopt policies to encourage students to take
19	courses from the Florida Virtual School.
20	(c)1. Repeal district school board policies that
21	require students to have more than 24 credits to graduate from
22	high school.
23	2. Adopt policies to allow students to graduate from
24	high school as soon as they pass the grade 10 FCAT and
25	complete the courses required for high school graduation.
26	(d) Use methods to maximize use of instructional
27	staff, such as changing required teaching loads and scheduling
28	of planning periods, deploying district employees that have
29	professional certification to the classroom, using adjunct
30	educators, or any other method not prohibited by law.
31	(e) Use innovative methods to reduce the cost of

1	school construction by using prototype school designs, using
2	SMART Schools designs, participating in the School
3	Infrastructure Thrift Program, or any other method not
4	prohibited by law.
5	(f) Use joint-use facilities through partnerships with
6	community colleges, state universities, and private colleges
7	and universities. Joint-use facilities available for use as
8	K-12 classrooms that do not meet the K-12 State Regulations
9	for Educational Facilities in the Florida Building Code may be
10	used at the discretion of the district school board if such
11	facilities meet all other health, life, safety, and fire
12	codes.
13	(g) Adopt alternative methods of class scheduling,
14	such as block scheduling.
15	(h) Redraw school attendance zones to maximize use of
16	facilities while minimizing the additional use of
17	transportation.
18	(i) Operate schools beyond the normal operating hours
19	to provide classes in the evening or operate more than one
20	session of school during the day.
21	(j) Use year-round schools and other nontraditional
22	calendars that do not adversely impact annual assessment of
23	student achievement.
24	(k) Review and consider amending any collective
25	bargaining contracts that hinder the implementation of class
26	size reduction.
27	(1) Use any other approach not prohibited by law.
28	(4) ACCOUNTABILITY
29	(a) If the department determines for any year that a
30	school district has not reduced average class size as required
31	in subsection (2) at the time of the third FEFP calculation, 15

1	the department shall calculate an amount from the class size
2	reduction operating categorical which is proportionate to the
3	amount of class size reduction not accomplished. Upon
4	verification of the department's calculation by the Florida
5	Education Finance Program Appropriation Allocation Conference,
6	the Executive Office of the Governor shall transfer
7	undistributed funds equivalent to the calculated amount from
8	the district's class size reduction operating categorical to
9	an approved fixed capital outlay appropriation for class size
10	reduction in the affected district pursuant to s. 216.292(13).
11	The amount of funds transferred shall be the lesser of the
12	amount verified by the Florida Education Finance Program
13	Appropriation Allocation Conference or the undistributed
14	balance of the district's class size reduction operating
15	categorical. However, based upon a recommendation by the
16	Commissioner of Education that the State Board of Education
17	has reviewed evidence indicating that a district has been
18	unable to meet class size reduction requirements despite
19	appropriate efforts to do so, the Legislative Budget
20	Commission may approve an alternative amount of funds to be
21	transferred from the district's class size reduction operating
22	categorical to its approved fixed capital outlay account for
23	class size reduction.
24	(b) Beginning in the 2007-2008 school year, the
25	department shall determine by January 15 of each year which
26	districts do not meet the requirements of subsection (1) based
27	upon the district's October student membership survey for the
28	current school year. The department shall report such
29	districts to the Legislature. Each district that has not met
30	the requirements of subsection (1) shall be required to
31	implement one of the following policies in the subsequent
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#### Barcode 493828

school year unless the department finds that the district comes into compliance based upon the February student 2 3 membership survey: 1. Year-round schools; 4 2. Double sessions; 5 6 3. Rezoning; or 7 4. Maximizing use of instructional staff by changing required teacher loads and scheduling of planning periods, 8 9 deploying school district employees who have professional 10 certification to the classroom, using adjunct educators, 11 operating schools beyond the normal operating hours to provide classes in the evening, or operating more than one session 12 13 during the day. 14 15 A school district that is required to implement one of the policies outlined in subparagraphs 1. through 4. shall correct 16 in the year of implementation any past deficiencies and bring 17 the district into compliance with the requirements of 18 19 subsection (1). A school district may choose to implement more 20 than one of these policies. The district school superintendent 21 shall report to the Commissioner of Education the extent to 22 which the district implemented any of the policies outlined in subparagraphs 1. through 4. in a format to be specified by the 23 24 Commissioner of Education. The Department of Education shall use the enforcement authority provided in s. 1008.32 to ensure 25 that districts comply with the provisions of this paragraph. 26 (c) Beginning in the 2008-2009 school year, the 27 department shall annually determine which districts do not 28 29 meet the requirements described in subsection (1) based upon 30 the October student membership survey. In addition to enforcement authority provided in s. 1008.32, the Department

1	of Education shall develop a constitutional compliance plan
2	for each such district which includes, but is not limited to,
3	redrawing school attendance zones to maximize use of
4	facilities while minimizing the additional use of
5	transportation and the other accountability policies listed in
6	paragraph (b). Each district school board shall implement the
7	constitutional compliance plan developed by the state board in
8	the subsequent school year until the district complies with
9	the constitutional district average class size requirements.
10	Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 1003.05, Florida
11	Statutes, is amended to read:
12	1003.05 Assistance to transitioning students from
13	military families
14	(3) Dependent children of active duty military
15	personnel who otherwise meet the eligibility criteria for
16	special academic programs offered through public schools shall
17	be given first preference for admission to such programs even
18	if the program is being offered through a public school other
19	than the school to which the student would generally be
20	assigned and the school at which the program is being offered
21	has reached its maximum enrollment. If such a program is
22	offered through a public school other than the school to which
23	the student would generally be assigned, the parent <del>or</del>
24	guardian of the student must assume responsibility for
25	transporting the student to that school. For purposes of this
26	subsection, special academic programs include charter schools,
27	magnet schools, advanced studies programs, advanced placement,
28	dual enrollment, and International Baccalaureate.
29	Section 10. Section 1003.413, Florida Statutes, is
30	created to read:
31	1003.413 High school reform 18

1	(1) This section may be cited as the "High School
2	Reform Act."
3	(2) Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, each
4	school district shall establish policies to assist high school
5	students to remain in school, graduate on time, and be
6	prepared for postsecondary education and the workforce. The
7	policies must address:
8	(a) Intensive reading remediation for students in
9	grades 9 through 12 scoring below Level 3 on FCAT Reading.
10	(b) Credit recovery options and course scheduling
11	designed to allow high school students to earn credit for
12	failed courses so that they are able to graduate on time.
13	(c) Immediate and frequent notification to parents of
14	students who are in danger of not graduating from high school.
15	(d) Placement in alternative programs, such as
16	programs that emphasize applied integrated curricula, small
17	learning communities, support services, increased discipline,
18	or other strategies documented to improve student achievement.
19	(e) Summer reading institutes for rising ninth graders
20	scoring below Level 3 on FCAT Reading.
21	
22	A student's participation in an instructional or remediation
23	program prior to or immediately following entering grade 9 for
24	the first time shall not affect that student's classification
25	as a first-time ninth grader for reporting purposes, including
26	calculation of graduation and dropout rates.
27	Section 11. <u>High School Reform Task Force</u>
28	(1) There is created the High School Reform Task
29	Force. The task force shall work in conjunction with the
30	Southern Regional Education Board and shall be
31	administratively supported by the office of the Chancellor for

1	K-12 Public Schools in the Department of Education and the
2	Just Read, Florida! Office. Appointments to the task force
3	shall be coordinated to ensure that the membership reflects
4	the geographic and cultural diversity of Florida's school age
5	population. The task force shall be abolished upon submission
6	of its report.
7	(2)(a) The Commissioner of Education shall appoint
8	members of the task force from the following categories and
9	shall appoint the chair of the task force from its membership.
10	1. Two district school superintendents, one who is
11	from a large urban school district and one who is from a
12	small, rural school district.
13	2. One school board member who is from a medium size
14	school district.
15	3. Three public school principals, one from a large
16	high performing high school, one from a vocational technical
17	high school, and one from a lower performing high school.
18	4. Three public high school teachers, one who is an
19	experienced reading teacher, one who is from a school graded
20	"F," and one who is from a high performing school.
21	5. Three parents of public high school students who
22	represent the demographic, racial, and ethnic diversity of the
23	state.
24	6. Three public high school students who represent the
25	demographic, racial and ethnic diversity of the state.
26	7. One representative of the business community.
27	8. One administrator from a charter high school
28	serving students who are at risk of dropping out of school.
29	9. One expert on the subject of high school reform who
30	does not otherwise fall inside one of the enumerated
31	<u>categories.</u>

1	(b) The President of the Senate shall appoint one
2	member of the Senate to serve on the task force and the
3	Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one
4	member of the House of Representatives to serve on the task
5	force.
6	(3) Not later than January 1, 2006, the task force
7	shall vote on the final report incorporating recommendations
8	and a long-term plan for high school reform.
9	(4) Not later than February 1, 2006, the task force
10	shall recommend to the Governor, the President of the Senate,
11	and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a long-term
12	plan for revisions to statutes, rules, and policies that will
13	improve Florida's grade 9 retention rate, graduation rate,
14	dropout rate, and college remediation rate, and align high
15	school requirements with the needs of Florida's employers and
16	postsecondary educational institution requirements. The plan
17	must address, but is not limited to addressing: graduation
18	requirements; course redesign; remediation strategies; credit
19	recovery; use of alternative programs including programs
20	emphasizing applied integrated curricula, small learning
21	communities, support services, or increased discipline; the
22	use of technology; adjustments to the school grading system to
23	reflect learning gains by high school students; middle school
24	systemic alignment; transition from middle school to high
25	school; alignment with postsecondary and workforce education
26	requirements; and alignment with employer expectations.
27	Section 12. Subsection (6) of section 1003.415,
28	Florida Statutes, is repealed, and subsection (2), paragraph
29	(a) of subsection (5), and paragraph (a) of present subsection
30	(7) of that section are amended, to read:
31	1003.415 The Middle Grades Reform Act

## Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

#### (2) PURPOSE AND INTENT.--

(a) The purpose of this section is to provide added focus and rigor to academics in the middle grades. Using reading as the foundation, all middle grade students should receive rigorous academic instruction through challenging curricula delivered by highly qualified teachers in schools with outstanding leadership, which schools are supported by engaged and informed parents.

- (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that students promoted from the eighth grade will be ready for success in high school and that the mission of the middle grades is to prepare students for the successful completion of rigorous courses in high school.
  - (5) RIGOROUS READING REQUIREMENT. --
- public school serving middle grade students, including charter schools, with fewer than 75 percent of its students reading at or above grade level in grade 6, grade 7, or grade 8 as measured by a student scoring at Level 3 or above on the FCAT during the prior school year, must incorporate by October 1 a rigorous reading requirement for reading and language arts programs as the primary component of its school improvement plan. The department shall annually provide to each district school board by June 30 a list of its schools that are required to incorporate a rigorous reading requirement as the primary component of the school's improvement plan. The department shall provide technical assistance to school districts and school administrators required to implement the rigorous reading requirement.
- (6) COMPREHENSIVE REFORM STUDY ON THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS.--

1	(a) The department shall conduct a study on how the
2	overall academic performance of middle grade students and
3	schools can be improved. The department must consult with the
4	Florida Center for Reading Research at Florida State
5	University, the Just Read, Florida! Office, and key education
6	stakeholders, including district school board members,
7	district school superintendents, principals, parents,
8	teachers, district supervisors of curriculum, and students
9	across the state, in the development of its findings and
10	recommendations. The department shall review, at a minimum,
11	each of the following elements:
12	1. Academic expectations, which include, but are not
13	limited to:
14	a. Alignment of middle school expectations with
15	elementary and high school graduation requirements.
16	b. Best practices to improve reading and language arts
17	courses based on research-based programs for middle school
18	students in alignment with the Sunshine State Standards.
19	c. Strategies that focus on improving academic success
20	for low-performing students.
21	d. Rigor of curricula and courses.
22	e. Instructional materials.
23	f. Course enrollment by middle school students.
24	<del>g. Student support services.</del>
25	h. Measurement and reporting of student achievement.
26	2. Attendance policies and student mobility issues.
27	3. Teacher quality, which includes, but is not limited
28	<del>to:</del>
29	a. Preparedness of teachers to teach rigorous courses
30	to middle school students.
31	<del>b. Teacher evaluations.</del>

1	<del>c. Substitute teachers.</del>
2	d. Certification and recertification requirements.
3	e. Staff development requirements.
4	f. Availability of effective staff development
5	training.
6	g. Teacher recruitment and vacancy issues.
7	h. Federal requirements for highly qualified teachers
8	pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
9	4. Identification and availability of diagnostic
10	testing.
11	5. Availability of personnel and scheduling issues.
12	6. Middle school leadership and performance.
13	7. Parental and community involvement.
14	(b) By December 1, 2004, the Commissioner of Education
15	shall submit to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of
16	the House of Representatives, the chairs of the education
17	committees in the Senate and the House of Representatives, and
18	the State Board of Education recommendations to increase the
19	academic performance of middle grade students and schools.
20	(6)(7) PERSONALIZED MIDDLE SCHOOL SUCCESS PLAN
21	(a) <del>Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year,</del> Each
22	principal of a school with a middle grade shall designate
23	certified staff members at the school to develop and
24	administer a personalized middle school success plan for each
25	entering sixth grade student who scored below Level 3 in
26	reading on the most recently administered FCAT. The purpose of
27	the success plan is to assist the student in meeting state and
28	school district expectations in academic proficiency and to
29	prepare the student for a rigorous high school curriculum. The
30	success plan shall be developed in collaboration with the
31	student and his or her parent and must be implemented until $24$

1	the student completes the eighth grade or achieves a score at
2	Level 3 or above in reading on the FCAT, whichever occurs
3	first. The success plan must minimize paperwork and may be
4	incorporated into a parent/teacher conference, included as
5	part of a progress report or report card, included as part of
6	a general orientation at the beginning of the school year, or
7	provided by electronic mail or other written correspondence.
8	Section 13. Section 1003.4155, Florida Statutes, is
9	created to read:
10	1003.4155 Middle school grading systemThe grading
11	system and interpretation of letter grades used in grades 6
12	through 8 shall be as follows:
13	(1) Grade "A" equals 90 percent through 100 percent,
14	has a grade point average value of 4, and is defined as
15	"outstanding progress."
16	(2) Grade "B" equals 80 percent through 89 percent,
17	has a grade point average value of 3, and is defined as "above
18	average progress."
19	(3) Grade "C" equals 70 percent through 79 percent,
20	has a grade point average value of 2, and is defined as
21	"average progress."
22	(4) Grade "D" equals 60 percent through 69 percent,
23	has a grade point average value of 1, and is defined as
24	"lowest acceptable progress."
25	(5) Grade "F" equals zero percent through 59 percent,
26	has a grade point average value of zero, and is defined as
27	"failure."
28	(6) Grade "I" equals zero percent, has a grade point
29	average value of zero, and is defined as "incomplete."
30	Section 14. Section 1003.4156, Florida Statutes, is
31	created to read:

1	1003.4156 General requirements for middle school
2	promotion
3	(1) Beginning with students entering grade 6 in the
4	2005-2006 school year, promotion from a middle school, grades
5	6 through 8, requires the successful completion of 12 academic
6	credits, including:
7	(a) Three middle school or higher credits in
8	English/language arts.
9	(b) Three middle school or higher credits in
10	mathematics.
11	(c) Three middle school or higher credits in social
12	studies.
13	(d) Three middle school or higher credits in science.
14	
15	Other courses offered in middle school, including music, band,
16	physical education, and art, shall be considered electives.
17	(2) In addition to the credits required under
18	subsection (1), for each year a student scores at Level 1 or 2
19	on the reading portion of the FCAT, the student must be
20	enrolled the following year in a full-year intensive reading
21	course for which the student may earn up to three credits. The
22	intensive reading course must be based on frameworks developed
23	by the Florida Center for Reading Research, or a comparable
24	course as identified by the Department of Education, which
25	includes an emphasis on integration of core curriculum
26	standards and incorporation of informational and expository
27	text.
28	(3) In addition to the credits required under
29	subsection (1), for each year a student scores at Level 3 on
30	the reading portion of the FCAT, the student must be enrolled
31	the following year in a one-semester intensive reading course.

1	The reading course must be based on frameworks developed by
2	the Florida Center for Reading Research, or a comparable
3	course as identified by the Department of Education, which
4	includes an emphasis on integration of core curriculum
5	standards and incorporation of informational and expository
6	text.
7	(4) One full credit must entail completing a minimum
8	of 135 hours of instruction in a designated course of study
9	which contains standards for student performance. For schools
10	authorized by the district school board to implement block
11	scheduling, one full credit must entail completing a minimum
12	of 120 hours of instruction in a designated course of study
13	which contains standards for student performance.
14	(5) District school boards shall establish policies to
15	allow alternative methods for students to earn the credits
16	required by this section. The alternative methods must
17	include, but are not limited to, opportunities for students
18	to:
19	(a) Recover credits;
20	(b) Be promoted on time to high school; and
21	(c) Be placed in programs that emphasize applied
22	integrated curricula, small learning communities, support
23	services, increased discipline, or other strategies documented
24	to improve student achievement.
25	
26	The district's policy, or amendments to the policy, shall be
27	submitted to the State Board of Education for approval. If the
28	State Board of Education does not take action within 60 days
29	following receipt of the proposed policy, the policy shall
30	stand approved.
31	(6) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules

## Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to provide for alternative middle school promotion standards for students in grade 6, grade 7, or grade 8 who are not enrolled in a school that has a grade 6 through grade 8 middle school configuration.

Section 15. Section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.42 Required instruction.--

- (1) Each district school board shall provide all courses required for high school graduation and appropriate instruction designed to ensure that students meet State Board of Education adopted standards in the following subject areas: reading and other language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, foreign languages, health and physical education, and the arts.
- (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the highest standards for professionalism and historic accuracy, following the prescribed courses of study, and employing approved methods of instruction, the following:
- (a) The <u>history and</u> content of the Declaration of Independence, including national sovereignty, natural law, self-evident truth, equality of all persons, limited government, popular sovereignty, and inalienable rights of life, liberty, and property, and how they form it forms the philosophical foundation of our government.
- (b) The history, meaning, significance, and effect of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States and amendments thereto, with emphasis on each of the 10 amendments that make up the Bill of Rights and how the constitution

Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

provides the structure of o	our	government.
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 $\underline{(c)}(b)$  The arguments in support of adopting our republican form of government, as they are embodied in the most important of the Federalist Papers.

- (c) The essentials of the United States Constitution and how it provides the structure of our government.
- $\mbox{(d) Flag education, including proper flag display and} \\ \mbox{flag salute.}$
- (e) The elements of civil government, including the primary functions of and interrelationships between the Federal Government, the state, and its counties, municipalities, school districts, and special districts.
- (f) The history of the United States, including the period of discovery, early colonies, the War for Independence, the Civil War, the expansion of the United States to its present boundaries, the world wars, and the civil rights movement to the present. American history shall be viewed as factual, not as constructed, shall be viewed as knowable, teachable, and testable, and shall be defined as the creation of a new nation based largely on the universal principles stated in the Declaration of Independence.

(g)(f) The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting democratic values and institutions.

1	$\frac{(h)}{(g)}$ The history of African Americans, including the
2	history of African peoples before the political conflicts that
3	led to the development of slavery, the passage to America, the
4	enslavement experience, abolition, and the contributions of
5	African Americans to society.
6	$\frac{(i)}{(h)}$ The elementary principles of agriculture.
7	$\frac{(j)}{(i)}$ The true effects of all alcoholic and
8	intoxicating liquors and beverages and narcotics upon the
9	human body and mind.
10	$\frac{(k)}{(j)}$ Kindness to animals.
11	$\frac{(1)}{(k)}$ The history of the state.
12	$\frac{(m)(1)}{(1)}$ The conservation of natural resources.
13	$\underline{\text{(n)}}$ Comprehensive health education that addresses
14	concepts of community health; consumer health; environmental
15	health; family life, including an awareness of the benefits of
16	sexual abstinence as the expected standard and the
17	consequences of teenage pregnancy; mental and emotional
18	health; injury prevention and safety; nutrition; personal
19	health; prevention and control of disease; and substance use
20	and abuse.
21	$\frac{(o)}{(n)}$ Such additional materials, subjects, courses,
22	or fields in such grades as are prescribed by law or by rules
23	of the State Board of Education and the district school board
24	in fulfilling the requirements of law.
25	$\frac{(p)}{(o)}$ The study of Hispanic contributions to the
26	United States.
27	$\frac{(q)}{(p)}$ The study of women's contributions to the
28	United States.
29	(r) The nature and importance of free enterprise to
30	the United States economy.
31	$\frac{(s)}{(q)}$ A character-development program in the

#### Barcode 493828

elementary schools, similar to Character First or Character Counts, which is secular in nature and stresses such character 2 qualities as attentiveness, patience, and initiative. 3 Beginning in school year 2004-2005, the character-development program shall be required in kindergarten through grade 12. 5 Each district school board shall develop or adopt a curriculum 7 for the character-development program that shall be submitted to the department for approval. The character-development 8 curriculum shall stress the qualities of patriotism; 9 10 responsibility: citizenship: kindness: respect for 11 authority, life, liberty, and personal property; honesty; charity; relf-control; racial, ethnic, and religious 12 tolerance; and cooperation. 13 (t)(r) In order to encourage patriotism, the 14 15 sacrifices that veterans have made in serving our country and protecting democratic values worldwide. Such instruction must 16

(t)(r) In order to encourage patriotism, the sacrifices that veterans have made in serving our country and protecting democratic values worldwide. Such instruction must occur on or before Veterans' Day and Memorial Day. Members of the instructional staff are encouraged to use the assistance of local veterans when practicable.

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# The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.

(3) Any student whose parent makes written request to the school principal shall be exempted from the teaching of reproductive health or any disease, including HIV/AIDS, its symptoms, development, and treatment. A student so exempted may not be penalized by reason of that exemption. Course descriptions for comprehensive health education shall not interfere with the local determination of appropriate curriculum which reflects local values and concerns.

Section 16. Subsection (15) of section 1003.52,

Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

| Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.52 Educational services in Department of Juvenile Justice programs.--

students in juvenile justice education programs, develop procedures to accurately report student academic performance data and the assessment participation rates that are used to determine adequate yearly progress under Pub. L. No. 107-110. The procedures must include an opportunity for validation of the data by schools that provide educational services to students in programs of the Department of Juvenile Justice.

(b) The Department of Education in consultation with the Department of Juvenile Justice, district school boards, and providers shall establish objective and measurable quality assurance standards for the educational component of residential and nonresidential juvenile justice facilities. These standards shall rate the district school board's performance both as a provider and contractor. The quality assurance rating for the educational component shall be disaggregated from the overall quality assurance score and reported separately.

(c)(b) The Department of Education shall develop a comprehensive quality assurance review process and schedule for the evaluation of the educational component in juvenile justice programs. The Department of Juvenile Justice quality assurance site visit and the education quality assurance site visit shall be conducted during the same visit.

 $\underline{(d)(c)}$  The Department of Education, in consultation with district school boards and providers, shall establish minimum thresholds for the standards and key indicators for educational programs in juvenile justice facilities. If a

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#### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

district school board fails to meet the established minimum standards, it will be given 6 months to achieve compliance 2 with the standards. If after 6 months, the district school 3 board's performance is still below minimum standards, the Department of Education shall exercise sanctions as prescribed 5 by rules adopted by the State Board of Education. If a 6 7 provider, under contract with the district school board, fails to meet minimum standards, such failure shall cause the 8 district school board to cancel the provider's contract unless 10 the provider achieves compliance within 6 months or unless 11 there are documented extenuating circumstances.

Section 17. Section 1003.57, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.57 Exceptional students instruction.--

(1) Each district school board shall provide for an appropriate program of special instruction, facilities, and services for exceptional students as prescribed by the State Board of Education as acceptable, including provisions that:

 $\underline{(a)(1)}$  The district school board provide the necessary professional services for diagnosis and evaluation of exceptional students.

(b)(2) The district school board provide the special instruction, classes, and services, either within the district school system, in cooperation with other district school systems, or through contractual arrangements with approved private schools or community facilities that meet standards established by the commissioner.

 $\underline{(c)(3)}$  The district school board annually provide information describing the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind and all other programs and methods of instruction available to the parent of a sensory-impaired student.

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## Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

 $\underline{(d)}(4)$  The district school board, once every 3 years, submit to the department its proposed procedures for the provision of special instruction and services for exceptional students.

(e) (5) A No student may not be given special instruction or services as an exceptional student until after he or she has been properly evaluated, classified, and placed in the manner prescribed by rules of the State Board of Education. The parent of an exceptional student evaluated and placed or denied placement in a program of special education shall be notified of each such evaluation and placement or denial. Such notice shall contain a statement informing the parent that he or she is entitled to a due process hearing on the identification, evaluation, and placement, or lack thereof. Such hearings shall be exempt from the provisions of ss. 120.569, 120.57, and 286.011, except to the extent that the State Board of Education adopts rules establishing other procedures and any records created as a result of such hearings shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1). The hearing must be conducted by an administrative law judge from the Division of Administrative Hearings of the Department of Management Services. The decision of the administrative law judge shall be final, except that any party aggrieved by the finding and decision rendered by the administrative law judge shall have the right to bring a civil action in the circuit court. In such an action, the court shall receive the records of the administrative hearing and shall hear additional evidence at the request of either party. In the alternative, any party aggrieved by the finding and decision rendered by the administrative law judge shall have the right to request an

#### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

impartial review of the administrative law judge's order by the district court of appeal as provided by s. 120.68.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, during the pendency of any proceeding conducted pursuant to this section, unless the district school board and the parents otherwise agree, the student shall remain in his or her then-current educational assignment or, if applying for initial admission to a public school, shall be assigned, with the consent of the parents, in the public school program until all such proceedings have been completed.

(f)(6) In providing for the education of exceptional students, the district school superintendent, principals, and teachers shall utilize the regular school facilities and adapt them to the needs of exceptional students to the maximum extent appropriate. Segregation of exceptional students shall occur only if the nature or severity of the exceptionality is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

(g)(7) In addition to the services agreed to in a student's individual education plan, the district school superintendent shall fully inform the parent of a student having a physical or developmental disability of all available services that are appropriate for the student's disability. The superintendent shall provide the student's parent with a summary of the student's rights.

(2)(a) An exceptional student with a disability who resides in a residential facility and receives special instruction or services is considered a resident of the state in which the student's parent or guardian is a resident. The cost of such instruction, facilities, and services for a

1	nonresident student with a disability shall be provided by the
2	placing authority in the student's state of residence, such as
3	a public school entity, other placing authority, or parent. A
4	nonresident student with a disability may not be reported by
5	any school district for FTE funding in the Florida Education
6	Finance Program.
7	(b) The Department of Education shall provide to each
8	school district a statement of the specific limitations of the
9	district's financial obligation for exceptional students with
10	disabilities under federal and state law. The department shall
11	also provide to each school district technical assistance as
12	necessary for developing a local plan to impose on a student's
13	home state the fiscal responsibility for educating a
14	nonresident exceptional student with a disability.
15	(c) The Department of Education shall develop a
16	process by which a school district must, before providing
17	services to an exceptional student with a disability who
18	resides in a residential facility in this state, review the
19	residency of the student. The residential facility, not the
20	district, is responsible for billing and collecting from a
21	nonresidential student's home state payment for the student's
22	educational and related services.
23	(d) This subsection applies to any nonresident student
24	with a disability who resides in a residential facility and
25	who receives instruction as an exceptional student with a
26	disability in any type of residential facility in this state,
27	including, but not limited to, a public school, a private
28	school, a group home facility as defined in s. 393.063, an
29	intensive residential treatment program for children and
30	adolescents as defined in s. 395.002, a facility as defined in
31	s. 394.455, an intermediate care facility for the

#### Barcode 493828

developmentally disabled or ICF/DD as defined in s. 393.063 or s. 400.960, or a community residential home as defined in s. 2 419.001. 3 Section 18. Section 1003.575, Florida Statutes, is 4 created to read: 5 6 1003.575 Individual education plans for exceptional 7 students. -- The Department of Education shall devise an individual education plan (IEP) form for use in developing and 8 implementing individual education plans for exceptional students. The IEP form must have a streamlined format; and, to 10 11 provide for the use of an existing IEP form when a student transfers from one school district to another, the IEP form 12 13 developed by the department shall be used in each school district in the state. 14 15 Section 19. Section 1003.58, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 16 1003.58 Students in residential care facilities.--Each 17 district school board shall provide educational programs 18 according to rules of the State Board of Education to students 19 who reside in residential care facilities operated by the 20 Department of Children and Family Services. 21 22 (1) The district school board shall not be charged any rent, maintenance, utilities, or overhead on such facilities. 23 24 Maintenance, repairs, and remodeling of existing facilities shall be provided by the Department of Children and Family 25 Services. 26 (2) If additional facilities are required, the 27 district school board and the Department of Children and 28 29 Family Services shall agree on the appropriate site based on the instructional needs of the students. When the most 30 appropriate site for instruction is on district school board 37

#### Barcode 493828

property, a special capital outlay request shall be made by the commissioner in accordance with s. 1013.60. When the most 2 appropriate site is on state property, state capital outlay 3 funds shall be requested by the Department of Children and Family Services as provided by s. 216.043 and shall be 5 submitted as specified by s. 216.023. Any instructional 7 facility to be built on state property shall have educational specifications jointly developed by the school district and 8 the Department of Children and Family Services and approved by 9 the Department of Education. The size of space and occupant 10 11 design capacity criteria as provided by state board rules shall be used for remodeling or new construction whether 12 13 facilities are provided on state property or district school board property. The planning of such additional facilities 14 15 shall incorporate current Department of Children and Family 16 Services deinstitutionalization plans.

- (3) The district school board shall have full and complete authority in the matter of the assignment and placement of such students in educational programs. The parent of an exceptional student shall have the same due process rights as are provided under  $\underline{s.\ 1003.57(1)(e)}$   $\underline{s.\ 1003.57(5)}$ .
- (4) The district school board shall have a written agreement with the Department of Children and Family Services outlining the respective duties and responsibilities of each party.

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Notwithstanding the provisions herein, the educational program at the Marianna Sunland Center in Jackson County shall be operated by the Department of Education, either directly or through grants or contractual agreements with other public or duly accredited educational agencies approved by the

1	Department of Education.
2	Section 20. Present subsection (13) of section
3	1004.04, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (14),
4	and a new subsection (13) is added to that section, to read:
5	1004.04 Public accountability and state approval for
6	teacher preparation programs
7	(13) RESEARCH The Council for Education Policy
8	Research and Improvement shall review and report on the
9	effectiveness of the graduates of state-approved teacher
10	preparation programs and state-approved alternative
11	certification programs as demonstrated by the progress of
12	their students on statewide assessments.
13	Section 21. Section 1004.64, Florida Statutes, is
14	created to read:
15	1004.64 Florida Center for Reading Research There is
16	created, as a joint project between the College of Arts and
17	Sciences and the Learning Systems Institute (LSI) at the
18	Florida State University, the Florida Center for Reading
19	Research (FCRR). The center is administratively housed within
20	the LSI and shall:
21	(1) Provide technical assistance and support to all
22	school districts and schools in this state in the
23	implementation of evidence-based literacy instruction,
24	assessments, and programs.
25	(2) Conduct applied research that will have an
26	immediate impact on policy and practices related to literacy
27	instruction and assessment in this state.
28	(3) Conduct basic research on reading, reading growth,
29	reading assessment, and reading instruction which will
30	contribute to scientific knowledge about reading.
31	(4) Develop frameworks for comprehensive reading 39

1	intervention courses for possible use in middle schools and
2	secondary schools.
3	(5) Disseminate information about research-based
4	practices related to literacy instruction, assessment, and
5	programs for students in preschool through grade 12.
6	(6) Collect, manage, and report on assessment
7	information from screening, progress monitoring, and outcome
8	assessments through the Florida Progress Monitoring and
9	Reporting Network. The network is a statewide resource that is
10	operated to provide valid and timely reading assessment data
11	for parents, teachers, principals, and district-level and
12	state-level staff in the management of instruction at the
13	individual, classroom, and school levels.
14	Section 22. Section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, is
15	amended to read:
16	1008.22 Student assessment program for public
17	schools
18	(1) PURPOSEThe primary purposes of the student
19	assessment program are to provide information needed to
20	improve the public schools by enhancing the learning gains of
21	all students and to inform parents of the educational progress
22	of their public school children. The program must be designed
23	to:
24	(a) Assess the annual learning gains of each student
25	toward achieving the Sunshine State Standards appropriate for
26	the student's grade level.
27	(b) Provide data for making decisions regarding school
28	accountability and recognition.
29	(c) Identify the educational strengths and needs of
30	students and the readiness of students to be promoted to the
31	next grade level or to graduate from high school with a
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### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

standard high school diploma.

- (d) Assess how well educational goals and performance standards are met at the school, district, and state levels.
- (e) Provide information to aid in the evaluation and development of educational programs and policies.
- (f) Provide information on the performance of Florida students in this state compared with other students others across the United States.

#### (2) INTENT.--

- (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the

  Department of Education pursue innovations in technology and
  assessment to allow the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test

  (FCAT) to be administered as late as possible in the school
  year with scores received before the end of the school year.

  The department shall pursue such innovations to the extent
  funded by the Legislature. Annually, the Commissioner of
  Education shall report to the Governor, the President of the
  Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the
  state of the art in large-scale on-line assessment
  capabilities of the industry and of the capacity of the public
  schools in this state to implement a statewide program.
- (b) It is the further intent of the Legislature that the Department of Education make accessible to the public copies of actual scored FCAT test items when sufficient items are available through the test-item databank to ensure the security and validity of the test. The department shall provide such FCAT test items to the extent that sufficient items are funded by the Legislature. However, this paragraph does not apply to those provisions of the FCAT to which the department does not hold the copyright.
- $\frac{(3)(2)}{(2)}$  NATIONAL EDUCATION COMPARISONS.--It is

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### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

Florida's intent to participate in the measurement of national educational goals. The Commissioner of Education shall direct Florida school districts to participate in the administration of the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or a similar national assessment program, both for the national sample and for any state-by-state comparison programs which may be initiated. Such assessments must be conducted using the data collection procedures, the student surveys, the educator surveys, and other instruments included in the National Assessment of Educational Progress or similar program being administered in Florida. The results of these assessments shall be included in the annual report of the Commissioner of Education specified in this section. The administration of the National Assessment of Educational Progress or similar program shall be in addition to and separate from the administration of the statewide assessment program. (4)(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 services to youth in Department of Juvenile Justice programs. The commissioner may enter into contracts for the continued administration of the assessment, testing, and evaluation programs authorized and funded by the Legislature. Contracts may be initiated in 1 fiscal year and continue into the next and may be paid from the appropriations of either or both fiscal years. The commissioner is authorized to negotiate for the sale or lease of tests, scoring protocols, test scoring

services, and related materials developed pursuant to law.

#### Barcode 493828

shall:

- (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 improvements in student proficiency.
- (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.
- (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 assessment of reading and math shall be administered annually in grades 3 through 10. The assessment of writing and science

Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

shall be administered at least once at the elementary school level, at least once at the middle school level, and at least once at the high school level. 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.
- 5. Except as provided in s. 1003.43(11)(b), students must earn a passing score on the grade 10 assessment test

# Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

### Barcode 493828

I	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 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 <u>that</u> 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 only to students
	taking the grade 10 FCAT for the first time after such rules
	are adopted by the State Board of Education.

6. 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

#### Barcode 493828

instruction to provide accommodations that would not be permitted on the statewide assessment tests, the district must 2 notify the student's parent of the implications of such 3 instructional modifications. A parent must provide signed consent for a student to receive instructional modifications 5 that would not be permitted on the statewide assessments and 7 must acknowledge in writing that he or she understands the implications of such accommodations. The State Board of 8 Education shall adopt rules, based upon recommendations of the 10 commissioner, for the provision of test accommodations and 11 modifications of procedures as necessary for students in exceptional education programs and for students who have 12 13 limited English proficiency. Accommodations that negate the validity of a statewide assessment are not allowable. 14

- 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

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#### Barcode 493828

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 <u>into</u> and analysis of student achievement data, including, without limitation, monitoring trends in student achievement <u>by grade level and overall student achievement</u>, 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.
- (5)(4) DISTRICT TESTING PROGRAMS.--Each district school board shall periodically assess student performance and achievement within each school of the district. The assessment programs must be based upon local goals and objectives that are compatible with the state plan for education and that supplement the skills and competencies adopted by the State Board of Education. All school districts must participate in

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### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

the statewide assessment program designed to measure annual student learning and school performance. All district school boards shall report assessment results as required by the state management information system.

(6)(5) SCHOOL TESTING PROGRAMS. -- Each public school shall participate in the statewide assessment program, unless specifically exempted by state board rule based on serving a specialized population for which standardized testing is not appropriate. Student performance data shall be analyzed and reported to parents, the community, and the state. Student performance data shall be used in developing objectives of the school improvement plan, evaluation of instructional personnel, evaluation of administrative personnel, assignment of staff, allocation of resources, acquisition of instructional materials and technology, performance-based budgeting, and promotion and assignment of students into educational programs. The analysis of student performance data also must identify strengths and needs in the educational program and trends over time. The analysis must be used in conjunction with the budgetary planning processes developed pursuant to s. 1008.385 and the development of the programs of remediation.

(7)(6) REQUIRED ANALYSES.--The commissioner shall provide, at a minimum, for the following analyses of data produced by the student achievement testing program:

(a) The statistical system for the annual assessments shall use measures of student learning, such as the FCAT, to determine teacher, school, and school district statistical distributions, which shall be determined using available data from the FCAT, and other data collection as deemed appropriate by the Department of Education, to measure the differences in

### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

student prior year achievement compared to the current year achievement for the purposes of accountability and recognition.

- (b) The statistical system shall provide the best estimates of teacher, school, and school district effects on student progress. The approach used by the department shall be approved by the commissioner before implementation.
- (c) The annual testing program shall be administered to provide for valid statewide comparisons of learning gains to be made for purposes of accountability and recognition. The commissioner shall establish a schedule for the administration of the statewide assessments. In establishing such schedule, the commissioner is charged with the duty to accomplish the latest possible administration of the statewide assessments and the earliest possible provision of the results to the school districts feasible within available technology and specific appropriation. District school boards shall not establish school calendars that jeopardize or limit the valid testing and comparison of student learning gains.
- (8)(7) LOCAL ASSESSMENTS.--Measurement of the learning gains of students in all subjects and grade levels other than subjects and grade levels required for the state student achievement testing program is the responsibility of the school districts.
- (9)(8) APPLICABILITY OF TESTING STANDARDS.--A student must meet the testing requirements for high school graduation that were in effect at the time the student entered 9th grade, provided the student's enrollment was continuous.
  - (10)<del>(9)</del> EQUIVALENCIES FOR STANDARDIZED TESTS.--
- (a) The Commissioner of Education shall approve the use of the SAT and ACT tests as alternative assessments to the

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## Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

grade 10 FCAT for the 2003-2004 school year. Students who
attain scores on the SAT or ACT which equate to the passing
scores on the grade 10 FCAT for purposes of high school
graduation shall satisfy the assessment requirement for a
standard high school diploma as provided in s. 1003.429(6)(a)
or s. 1003.43(5)(a) for the 2003-2004 school year if the
students meet the requirement in paragraph (b).

(b) A student shall be required to take the grade 10 FCAT a total of three times without earning a passing score in order to use the scores on an alternative assessment pursuant to paragraph (a). This requirement shall not apply to a student who is a new student to the public school system in grade 12.

(11)(10) RULES.--The State Board of Education shall adopt rules under pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this section.

Section 23. Subsection (8) of section 1008.25, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (11) is added to that section, to read:

1008.25 Public school student progression; remedial instruction; reporting requirements.--

- (8) ANNUAL REPORT. --
- (a) In addition to the requirements in paragraph (5)(b), each district school board must annually report to the parent of each student the progress of the student toward achieving state and district expectations for proficiency in reading, writing, science, and mathematics. The district school board must report to the parent the student's results on each statewide assessment test. The evaluation of each student's progress must be based upon the student's classroom work, observations, tests, district and state assessments, and

## Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

other relevant information. Progress reporting must be provided to the parent in writing in a format adopted by the district school board.

- (b) Beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, Each district school board must annually publish in the local newspaper, and report in writing to the State Board of Education by September 1 of each year, the following information on the prior school year:
- 1. The provisions of this section relating to public school student progression and the district school board's policies and procedures on student retention and promotion.
- 2. By grade, the number and percentage of all students in grades 3 through 10 performing at Levels 1 and 2 on the reading portion of the FCAT.
- 3. By grade, the number and percentage of all students retained in grades 3 through 10.
- 4. Information on the total number of students who were promoted for good cause, by each category of good cause as specified in paragraph (6)(b).
- 5. Any revisions to the district school board's policy on student retention and promotion from the prior year.
- (c) The Department of Education shall establish a uniform format in which school districts must report such information. The department shall annually compile the information required under subparagraphs (b)2., 3., and 4., along with state-level summary information, and shall report the information to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (11) REPORTS.--The Department of Education shall
  annually provide to the Governor, the President of the Senate,
  and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report on:

1	(a) The longitudinal performance of students in math
2	and reading.
3	(b) The longitudinal performance of students by grade
4	level in math and reading.
5	(c) The longitudinal performance regarding efforts to
6	close the achievement gap.
7	(d) The longitudinal performance of students on the
8	norm-referenced component of the FCAT.
9	(e) Other student performance data based on national
10	norm-referenced and criterion-referenced tests, when
11	available.
12	Section 24. Section 1008.31, Florida Statutes, is
13	amended to read:
14	1008.31 Florida's K-20 education performance
15	accountability system; legislative intent; public
16	accountability and reporting performance based funding;
17	mission, goals, and systemwide measures
18	(1) LEGISLATIVE INTENTIt is the intent of the
19	Legislature that:
20	(a) The performance accountability system implemented
21	to assess the effectiveness of Florida's seamless K-20
22	education delivery system provide answers to the following
23	questions in relation to its mission and goals:
24	1. What is the public receiving in return for funds it
25	invests in education?
26	2. How effectively is Florida's K-20 education system
27	educating its students?
28	3. How effectively are the major delivery sectors
29	promoting student achievement?
30	4. How are individual schools and postsecondary
31	education institutions performing their responsibility to 52

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## Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

educate their students as measured by how students are <a href="mailto:exhibiting">exhibiting</a> performing and how much they are learning?

- (b) The K-20 education performance accountability system be established as a single, unified accountability system with multiple components, including, but not limited to, measures of adequate yearly progress, individual student learning gains in public schools, school grades, and return on investment.
- (c) The K-20 education performance accountability system comply with the accountability requirements of the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001," Pub. L. No. 107-110.
- (d) The State Board of Education recommend to the Legislature systemwide performance standards; the Legislature establish systemwide performance measures and standards; and the systemwide measures and standards provide Floridians with information on what the public is receiving in return for the funds it invests in education and how well the K-20 system educates its students.
- (e) The State Board of Education establish performance measures and set performance standards for individual components of the public education system, including individual schools and community colleges postsecondary educational institutions, with measures and standards based primarily on student achievement.
- (f) The Board of Governors establish performance
  measures and set performance standards for state universities,
  with measures and standards based primarily on student access
  and achievement. Measures should encourage the seamless
  transition of students from one educational level to the next
  and be consistent with other educational accountability
  measures.

1	(2) PERFORMANCE-BASED FUNDING
2	(a) The State Board of Education shall cooperate with
3	each delivery system to develop proposals for
4	performance-based funding, using performance measures adopted
5	pursuant to this section.
6	(b) The State Board of Education proposals must
7	provide that at least 10 percent of the state funds
8	appropriated for the K-20 education system are conditional
9	upon meeting or exceeding established performance standards.
10	(c) The State Board of Education shall adopt
11	guidelines required to implement performance-based funding
12	that allow 1 year to demonstrate achievement of specified
13	performance standards prior to a reduction in appropriations
14	pursuant to this section.
15	(d) By December 1, 2003, the State Board of Education
16	shall adopt common definitions, measures, standards, and
17	performance improvement targets required to:
18	1. Use the state core measures and the sector-specific
19	measures to evaluate the progress of each sector of the
20	educational delivery system toward meeting the systemwide
21	goals for public education.
22	2. Notify the sectors of their progress in achieving
23	the specified measures so that they may develop improvement
24	plans that directly influence decisions about policy, program
25	development, and management.
26	3. Implement the performance-based budgeting system
27	described in this section.
28	(e) During the 2003-2004 fiscal year, the Department
29	of Education shall collect data required to establish
30	progress, rewards, and sanctions.
31	(f) By December 1, 2004, the Department of Education

1	shall recommend to the Legislature a formula for
2	performance-based funding that applies accountability
3	standards for the individual components of the public
4	education system at every level, kindergarten through graduate
5	school. Effective for the 2004-2005 fiscal year and
6	thereafter, subject to annual legislative approval in the
7	General Appropriations Act, performance-based funds shall be
8	allocated based on the progress, rewards, and sanctions
9	established pursuant to this section.
10	(2)(3) MISSION, GOALS, AND SYSTEMWIDE MEASURES
11	(a) The mission of Florida's K-20 education system
12	shall be to increase the proficiency of all students within
13	one seamless, efficient system, by allowing them the
14	opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through
15	learning opportunities and research valued by students,
16	parents, and communities.
17	(b) The <del>State Board of Education shall adopt</del> guiding
18	principles for establishing state and sector-specific
19	standards and measures <u>must assure that the process is:</u> -
20	1. Focused on student success;
21	2. Actionable, in that an educational entity can
22	affect the outcomes through policy and program changes;
23	3. High-quality and efficient;
24	4. Measurable over time;
25	5. Simple to explain and display to the public; and
26	6. Aligned with other measures and other sectors to
27	support a coordinated K-20 education system.
28	(c) The <u>Department</u> <del>State Board</del> of Education shall
29	maintain an accountability system that measures student
30	progress toward the following goals:
31	1. Highest student achievement, as <u>indicated by</u> 55

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Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

- evidence of student learning gains at all levels measured by:
  student FCAT performance and annual learning gains; the number
  and percentage of schools that improve at least one school
  performance grade designation or maintain a school performance
  grade designation of "A" pursuant to s. 1008.34; graduation or
  completion rates at all learning levels; and other measures
  identified in law or rule.
- 2. Seamless articulation and maximum access, as measured by evidence of progression and readiness and evidence of access by targeted groups of students identified by the commissioner: the percentage of students who demonstrate readiness for the educational level they are entering, from kindergarten through postsecondary education and into the workforce; the number and percentage of students needing remediation; the percentage of Floridians who complete associate, baccalaureate, graduate, professional, and postgraduate degrees; the number and percentage of credits that articulate; the extent to which each set of exit-point requirements matches the next set of entrance-point requirements; the degree to which underserved populations access educational opportunity; the extent to which access is provided through innovative educational delivery strategies; and other measures identified in law or rule.
- 3. Skilled workforce and economic development, as measured by evidence of employment and earnings: the number and percentage of graduates employed in their areas of preparation; the percentage of Floridians with high school diplomas and postsecondary education credentials; the percentage of business and community members who find that Florida's graduates possess the skills they need; national rankings; and other measures identified in law or rule.

Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

4. Quality efficient services, as measured by evidence
of return on investment: cost per completer or graduate;
average cost per noncompleter at each educational level; cost
disparity across institutions offering the same degrees; the
percentage of education customers at each educational level
who are satisfied with the education provided; and other
measures identified in law or rule.
(3)(4) K-20 EDUCATION DATA QUALITY IMPROVEMENTTo

(3)(4) K-20 EDUCATION DATA QUALITY IMPROVEMENT.--To provide data required to implement education performance accountability measures in state and federal law, the commissioner shall initiate and maintain strategies to improve data quality and timeliness.

- (a) SYSTEMWIDE DATA COLLECTION.—School districts and public postsecondary educational institutions shall maintain information systems that will provide the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors, and the Legislature with information and reports necessary to address the specifications of the accountability system. The State Board of Education shall determine the standards for the required data. The level of comprehensiveness and quality shall be no less than that which was available as of June 30, 2001.
- (b) The Commissioner of Education shall determine the standards for the required data, monitor data quality, and measure improvements. The commissioner shall report annually to the Legislature, the State Board of Education, and the Board of Governors data quality indicators and ratings for all public postsecondary education institutions and school districts.
- (4) RULES.--The State Board of Education shall adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this section.

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### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

Section 25. Section 1008.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

improvement.—It is the intent of the Legislature that all public schools be held accountable for students performing at acceptable levels. A system of school improvement and accountability that assesses student performance by school, identifies schools in which students are not making adequate progress toward state standards, institutes appropriate measures for enforcing improvement, and provides rewards and sanctions based on performance shall be the responsibility of the State Board of Education.

(1) Pursuant to Art. IX of the State Constitution prescribing the duty of the State Board of Education to supervise Florida's public school system and notwithstanding any other statutory provisions to the contrary, the State Board of Education shall intervene in the operation of a district school system when one or more schools in the school district have failed to make adequate progress for 2 school years in a 4-year period. For purposes of determining when a school is eligible for state board action and opportunity scholarships for its students, the terms "2 years in any 4-year period" and "2 years in a 4-year period" mean that in any year that a school has a grade of "F," the school is eligible for state board action and opportunity scholarships for its students if it also has had a grade of "F" in any of the previous 3 school years. The State Board of Education may determine that the school district or school has not taken steps sufficient for students in the school to be academically well served. Considering recommendations of the Commissioner of Education, the State Board of Education shall recommend

#### Barcode 493828

action to a district school board intended to improve educational services to students in each school that is 2 designated with a grade of as performance grade category "F." 3 Recommendations for actions to be taken in the school district shall be made only after thorough consideration of the unique 5 characteristics of a school, which shall include student 7 mobility rates, the number and type of exceptional students enrolled in the school, and the availability of options for 8 improved educational services. The state board shall adopt by 10 rule steps to follow in this process. Such steps shall 11 provide school districts sufficient time to improve student performance in schools and the opportunity to present evidence 12 13 of assistance and interventions that the district school board has implemented. 14

- (2) The State Board of Education may recommend one or more of the following actions to district school boards to enable students in schools designated with a grade of as performance grade category "F" to be academically well served by the public school system:
- (a) Provide additional resources, change certain practices, and provide additional assistance if the state board determines the causes of inadequate progress to be related to school district policy or practice;
- (b) Implement a plan that satisfactorily resolves the education equity problems in the school;
- (c) Contract for the educational services of the school, or reorganize the school at the end of the school year under a new school principal who is authorized to hire new staff and implement a plan that addresses the causes of inadequate progress;
  - (d) Transfer high-quality teachers, faculty, and staff

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1	to improve the performance of students in any low-performing
2	school;
3	$rac{ ext{(e)} ext{(d)}}{ ext{Allow parents of students in the school to send}$
4	their children to another district school of their choice; or
5	$\frac{(f)}{(e)}$ Other action appropriate to improve the
6	school's performance.
7	(3) In recommending actions to district school boards,
8	the State Board of Education shall specify the length of time
9	available to implement the recommended action. The State
10	Board of Education may adopt rules to further specify how it
11	may respond in specific circumstances. No Action taken by the
12	State Board of Education <u>does not</u> shall relieve a school from
13	state accountability requirements.
14	(4) The State Board of Education may require the
15	Department of Education or Chief Financial Officer to withhold
16	any transfer of state funds to the school district if, within
17	the timeframe specified in state board action, the school
18	district has failed to comply with the action ordered to
19	improve the district's low-performing schools. Withholding The
20	transfer of funds <u>may be withheld</u> <del>shall occur</del> only after all
21	other recommended actions for school improvement have failed
22	to improve performance. The State Board of Education may
23	impose the same penalty on any district school board that
24	fails to develop and implement a plan for assistance and
25	intervention for low-performing schools as specified in s.
26	1001.42(16)(c).
27	Section 26. Section 1008.34, Florida Statutes, is
28	amended to read:
29	1008.34 School grading system; school report cards;
30	district performance grade
31	(1) ANNUAL REPORTSThe Commissioner of Education

Barcode 493828 shall prepare annual reports of the results of the statewide assessment program which describe student achievement in the 2 state, each district, and each school. The commissioner shall 3 prescribe the design and content of these reports, which must include, without limitation, descriptions of the performance 5 of all schools participating in the assessment program and all 7 of their major student populations as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and must also include the median 8 scores of all eligible students who scored at or in the lowest 9 10 25th percentile of the state in the previous school year; 11 provided, however, that the provisions of s. 1002.22 pertaining to student records apply to this section. 12 (2) SCHOOL GRADES PERFORMANCE GRADE CATEGORIES. -- The 13 annual report shall identify schools as having one of the 14 15 following grades being in one of the following grade 16 categories defined according to rules of the State Board of Education: 17 18 (a) "A," schools making excellent progress. 19 (b) "B," schools making above average progress. 20 (c) "C," schools making satisfactory progress. 21 "D," schools making less than satisfactory (d) 22 progress. "F," schools failing to make adequate progress. 23 24 Each school designated with a grade of in performance grade 25 26

category "A," making excellent progress, or having improved at least two <u>grade levels</u> performance grade categories, shall have greater authority over the allocation of the school's total budget generated from the FEFP, state categoricals, lottery funds, grants, and local funds, as specified in state

board rule. The rule must provide that the increased budget

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## Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

1 authority shall remain in effect until the school's
2 performance grade declines.

- (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES PERFORMANCE GRADE

  CATEGORIES.--School grades performance grade category

  designations itemized in subsection (2) shall be based on the following:
  - (a) Criteria Timeframes. --
- 1. School performance grade category designations shall be based on the school's current year performance and the school's annual learning gains.
- 2. A school's <u>grade</u> performance grade category designation shall be based on a combination of:
  - <u>1.</u> Student achievement scores;
- $\underline{2.}$  Student learning gains as measured by annual FCAT assessments in grades 3 through 10:7 and
- 3. Improvement of the lowest 25th percentile of students in the school in reading, math, or writing on the FCAT, unless these students are exhibiting performing above satisfactory performance.
- (b) Schools to be graded.--All schools shall receive a school grade except those alternative schools that receive a school improvement rating pursuant to s. 1008.341. Alternative schools may choose to receive a school grade pursuant to the provisions of this section in lieu of a school improvement rating described in s. 1008.341.
- (c)(b) Student assessment data.--Student assessment
  data used in determining school grades
  categories shall include:
- 1. The aggregate scores of all eligible students enrolled in the school who have been assessed on the FCAT.
  - 2. The aggregate scores of all eligible students

#### Barcode 493828

enrolled in the school who have been assessed on the FCAT,
including Florida Writes, and who have scored at or in the
lowest 25th percentile of students in the school in reading,
math, or writing, unless these students are exhibiting

performing above satisfactory performance.

3. The achievement scores and learning gains of eligible students attending alternative schools that provide dropout prevention and academic intervention services pursuant to s. 1003.53. The term "eligible students" as used in this subparagraph does not include students attending an alternative school who are subject to district school board policies for expulsion for repeated or serious offenses, who are in dropout retrieval programs serving students who have officially been designated as dropouts, and who are in the programs operated or contracted by the Department of Juvenile Justice. The student performance data for eligible students identified in this subparagraph shall be included in calculating the originating school's grade. For purposes of this section and s. 1008.341, the term "originating school" means the school that the student was attending when assigned to an alternative school. If an alternative school chooses to be graded pursuant to this section, student performance data for eligible students identified in this subparagraph may not be included in the originating school's grade, but shall be included only in the calculation of the alternative school's grade. School districts must ensure collaboration between the originating school and the alternative school in order to promote student success.

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The Department of Education shall study the effects of mobility on the performance of highly mobile students and

Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

recommend programs to improve the performance of such students. The State Board of Education shall adopt appropriate criteria for each school grade performance grade category. The criteria must also give added weight to student achievement in reading. Schools designated with a grade of as performance grade category "C," making satisfactory progress, shall be required to demonstrate that adequate progress has been made by students in the school who are in the lowest 25th percentile in reading, math, or writing on the FCAT, including Florida Writes, unless these students are exhibiting performing above satisfactory performance.

- (4) SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT RATINGS.—The annual report shall identify each school's performance as having improved, remained the same, or declined. This school improvement rating shall be based on a comparison of the current year's and previous year's student and school performance data. Schools that improve at least one performance grade category are eligible for school recognition awards pursuant to s. 1008.36.
- shall annually develop in collaboration with the school districts a school report card to be delivered to parents throughout each school district. The report card must include the school's grade, information regarding school improvement, an explanation of school performance as evaluated by the federal No Child Left Behind Act, and indicators of return on investment. PERFORMANCE GRADE CATEGORY AND IMPROVEMENT RATING REPORTS.—School performance grade category designations and improvement ratings shall apply to each school's performance for the year in which performance is measured. Each school's report card designation and rating shall be published annually by the Department of Education on the department's website,

1	and the school district shall provide the report card to each
2	parent. Parents shall be entitled to an easy-to-read report
3	card about the designation and rating of the school in which
4	their child is enrolled.
5	(6) RULESThe State Board of Education shall adopt
6	rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the
7	provisions of this section.
8	(6)(7) PERFORMANCE-BASED FUNDINGThe Legislature may
9	factor in the performance of schools in calculating any
10	performance-based funding policy that is provided for annually
11	in the General Appropriations Act.
12	(7)(8) DISTRICT PERFORMANCE GRADEThe annual report
13	required by subsection (1) shall include district performance
14	grades, which shall consist of weighted district average
15	grades, by level, for all elementary schools, middle schools,
16	and high schools in the district. A district's weighted
17	average grade shall be calculated by weighting individual
18	school grades determined pursuant to subsection (2) by school
19	enrollment.
20	(8) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules
21	under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this section.
22	Section 27. Section 1008.341, Florida Statutes, is
23	created to read:
24	1008.341 School improvement rating for alternative
25	schools
26	(1) ANNUAL REPORTS The Commissioner of Education
27	shall prepare an annual report on the performance of each
28	school receiving a school improvement rating pursuant to this
29	section if the provisions of s. 1002.22 pertaining to student
30	records apply.
31	(2) SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT RATINGAlternative schools
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1	that provide dropout prevention and academic intervention
2	services pursuant to s. 1003.53 may not receive a school grade
3	as described in s. 1008.34, but shall receive a school
4	improvement rating pursuant to this section. The school
5	improvement rating shall identify schools as having one of the
6	following ratings defined according to rules of the State
7	Board of Education:
8	(a) "Improving" schools with students making more
9	academic progress than when the students were served in their
10	home school.
11	(b) "Maintaining" schools with students making the
12	equivalent progress as when the students were served in their
13	home school.
14	(c) "Declining" schools with students making less
15	academic progress than when the students were served in their
16	home school.
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18	The school improvement rating shall be based on a comparison
19	of the current year's and previous year's students and school
20	performance data. Schools that improve at least one level
21	pursuant to this section are eligible for school recognition
22	awards pursuant to s. 1008.36.
23	(3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT RATING Student
24	assessment data used in determining an alternative school's
25	school improvement rating shall include:
26	(a) The aggregate scores of all eligible students who
27	were assigned to and enrolled in the school during the October
28	or February FTE counts, who have been assessed on the FCAT,
29	and who have FCAT or comparable scores for the preceding
30	school year.
31	(b) The aggregate scores of all eligible students who

#### Barcode 493828

were assigned to and enrolled in the school during the October or February FTE counts, who have been assessed on the FCAT, 2 including Florida Writes, and who have scored at or in the 3 4 lowest 25th percentile of students in the state on FCAT 5 Reading. 6 7 The scores of students who are subject to district school board policies for expulsion for repeated or serious offenses, 8 who are in dropout retrieval programs serving students who 9 10 have officially been designated as dropouts, and who are in 11 programs operated and contracted by the Department of Juvenile Justice may not be included in an alternative school's 12 13 improvement rating. (4) IDENTIFICATION OF STUDENT LEARNING GAINS. -- For all 14 15 alternative schools receiving a school improvement rating, the 16 Department of Education shall annually identify the percent of students making learning gains as compared to the percent of 17 the same students making learning gains at their originating 18 19 school in the year before being assigned to the alternative 20 school. 21 (5) SCHOOL REPORT CARD. -- The Department of Education 22 shall annually develop, in collaboration with the school districts, a school report card for alternative schools to be 23 24 delivered to parents through each school district. The report card shall include the school improvement rating, 2.5 identification of student learning gains, information 26 regarding school improvement, an explanation of school 27 performance as evaluated by the federal No Child Left Behind 28 29 Act of 2001, and indicators of return on investment. (6) RULES. -- The State Board of Education shall adopt 30 rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer the

# Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

provisions of this section.
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Section 28. Section 1008.36, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.36 Florida School Recognition Program. --

- (1) The Legislature finds that there is a need for a performance incentive program for outstanding faculty and staff in highly productive schools. The Legislature further finds that performance-based incentives are commonplace in the private sector and should be infused into the public sector as a reward for productivity.
- (2) The Florida School Recognition Program is created to provide financial awards to public schools that:
- (a) Sustain high performance by receiving a school grade of "A," making excellent progress; or
- (b) Demonstrate exemplary improvement due to innovation and effort by improving a letter grade.
- that receive a school grade pursuant to s. 1008.34 are eligible to participate in the program. For purposes of this section, a school serving any combination of kindergarten through grade 3 students which does not receive a school grade under s. 1008.34 shall be assigned the school performance grade of the feeder pattern school designated by the

  Department of Education and verified by the school district and shall be eligible to participate in the program based upon that feeder. A feeder school pattern is defined where at least 60 percent of the students in the school or schools servicing a combination of kindergarten through grade 3 students are scheduled to be assigned to the school receiving the school grade. In addition, the feeder pattern school shall be subject

#### Barcode 493828

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- awards depending on the availability of funds appropriated and the number and size of schools selected to receive an award. Funds must be distributed to the school's fiscal agent and placed in the school's account and must be used for purposes listed in subsection (5) as determined jointly by the school's staff and school advisory council. If school staff and the school advisory council cannot reach agreement by November 1, the awards must be equally distributed to all classroom teachers currently teaching in the school.
- (5) School recognition awards must be used for the following:
- (a) Nonrecurring bonuses to the faculty and staff who presently are employed at the school or who were employed at the school during the year of improved performance;
- (b) Nonrecurring expenditures for educational equipment or materials to assist in maintaining and improving student performance; or
- (c) Temporary personnel for the school to assist in maintaining and improving student performance.

Notwithstanding statutory provisions to the contrary,

24 incentive awards are not subject to collective bargaining.

Section 29. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (4), and subsection (8) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, are amended, present paragraphs (o) through (r) of subsection (1) are redesignated as paragraphs (p) through (s), respectively and a new paragraph (o) is added to subsection (1), and present subsection (9) of that section is redesignated as subsection

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### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

(10), and a new subsection (9) is added to that section, 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:
- Supplemental academic instruction; categorical (f) fund.--14
  - 1. There is created a categorical fund to provide supplemental academic instruction to students in kindergarten through grade 12. This paragraph may be cited as the "Supplemental Academic Instruction Categorical Fund."
  - 2. Categorical funds for supplemental academic instruction shall be allocated annually to each school district in the amount provided in the General Appropriations Act. These funds shall be in addition to the funds appropriated on the basis of FTE student membership in the Florida Education Finance Program and shall be included in the total potential funds of each district. These funds shall be used to provide supplemental academic instruction to students enrolled in the K-12 program. Supplemental instruction strategies may include, but are not limited to: modified curriculum, reading instruction, after-school instruction, tutoring, mentoring, class size reduction, extended school year, intensive skills development in summer school, and other

### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

methods for improving student achievement. Supplemental instruction may be provided to a student in any manner and at any time during or beyond the regular 180-day term identified by the school as being the most effective and efficient way to best help that student progress from grade to grade and to graduate.

- 3. Effective with the 1999-2000 fiscal year, funding on the basis of FTE membership beyond the 180-day regular term shall be provided in the FEFP only for students enrolled in juvenile justice education programs or in an education program for juveniles under s. 985.223. Funding for instruction beyond the regular 180-day school year for all other K-12 students shall be provided through the supplemental academic instruction categorical fund and other state, federal, and local fund sources with ample flexibility for schools to provide supplemental instruction to assist students in progressing from grade to grade and graduating.
- 4. The Florida State University School, as a lab school, is authorized to expend from its FEFP or Lottery Enhancement Trust Fund allocation the cost to the student of remediation in reading, writing, or mathematics for any graduate who requires remediation at a postsecondary educational institution.
- 5. Beginning in the 1999-2000 school year, dropout prevention programs as defined in ss. 1003.52, 1003.53(1)(a), (b), and (c), and 1003.54 shall be included in group 1 programs under subparagraph (d)3.
- (o) Calculation of additional full-time equivalent
  membership for the Florida Virtual School.--The total reported
  full-time equivalent student membership shall be multiplied by
  0.118, and the value shall be added to the total full-time

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# Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

# equivalent student membership.

- (4) COMPUTATION OF DISTRICT REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT.—The Legislature shall prescribe the aggregate required local effort for all school districts collectively as an item in the General Appropriations Act for each fiscal year. The amount that each district shall provide annually toward the cost of the Florida Education Finance Program for kindergarten through grade 12 programs shall be calculated as follows:
  - (a) Estimated taxable value calculations.--
- 1.a. Not later than 2 working days prior to July 19, the Department of Revenue shall certify to the Commissioner of Education its most recent estimate of the taxable value for school purposes in each school district and the total for all school districts in the state for the current calendar year based on the latest available data obtained from the local property appraisers. Not later than July 19, the Commissioner of Education shall compute a millage rate, rounded to the next highest one one-thousandth of a mill, which, when applied to 95 percent of the estimated state total taxable value for school purposes, would generate the prescribed aggregate required local effort for that year for all districts. The Commissioner of Education shall certify to each district school board the millage rate, computed as prescribed in this subparagraph, as the minimum millage rate necessary to provide the district required local effort for that year.
- b. The General Appropriations Act shall direct the computation of the statewide adjusted aggregate amount for required local effort for all school districts collectively from ad valorem taxes to ensure that no school district's revenue from required local effort millage will produce more

#### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

- than 90 percent of the district's total Florida Education
  Finance Program calculation, and the adjustment of the
  required local effort millage rate of each district that
  produces more than 90 percent of its total Florida Education
  Finance Program entitlement to a level that will produce only
  po percent of its total Florida Education Finance Program
  entitlement in the July calculation.
  - 2. As revised data are received from property appraisers, the Department of Revenue shall amend the certification of the estimate of the taxable value for school purposes. The Commissioner of Education, in administering the provisions of <a href="mailto:subparagraph(10)(a)2">subparagraph(9)(a)2</a>., shall use the most recent taxable value for the appropriate year.
    - (b) Final calculation. --
  - 1. The Department of Revenue shall, upon receipt of the official final assessed value of property from each of the property appraisers, certify to the Commissioner of Education the taxable value total for school purposes in each school district, subject to the provisions of paragraph (d). The commissioner shall use the official final taxable value for school purposes for each school district in the final calculation of the annual Florida Education Finance Program allocations.
  - 2. For the purposes of this paragraph, the official final taxable value for school purposes shall be the taxable value for school purposes on which the tax bills are computed and mailed to the taxpayers, adjusted to reflect final administrative actions of value adjustment boards and judicial decisions pursuant to part I of chapter 194. By September 1 of each year, the Department of Revenue shall certify to the

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#### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

commissioner the official prior year final taxable value for school purposes. For each county that has not submitted a revised tax roll reflecting final value adjustment board actions and final judicial decisions, the Department of Revenue shall certify the most recent revision of the official taxable value for school purposes. The certified value shall be the final taxable value for school purposes, and no further adjustments shall be made, except those made pursuant to  $\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}$ 

(8) QUALITY ASSURANCE GUARANTEE. -- The Legislature may annually in the General Appropriations Act determine a percentage increase in funds per K-12 unweighted FTE as a minimum guarantee to each school district. The guarantee shall be calculated from prior year base funding per unweighted FTE student which shall include the adjusted FTE dollars as provided in subsection(10)(9), quality guarantee funds, and actual nonvoted discretionary local effort from taxes. From the base funding per unweighted FTE, the increase shall be calculated for the current year. The current year funds from which the guarantee shall be determined shall include the adjusted FTE dollars as provided in subsection(10)(9) and potential nonvoted discretionary local effort from taxes. A comparison of current year funds per unweighted FTE to prior year funds per unweighted FTE shall be computed. For those school districts which have less than the legislatively assigned percentage increase, funds shall be provided to guarantee the assigned percentage increase in funds per unweighted FTE student. Should appropriated funds be less than the sum of this calculated amount for all districts, the commissioner shall prorate each district's allocation. This provision shall be implemented to the extent specifically

1	funded.
2	(9) RESEARCH-BASED READING-INSTRUCTION ALLOCATION
3	(a) There is created the Research-Based
4	Reading-Instruction Allocation to provide comprehensive
5	reading instruction to students in kindergarten through grade
6	<u>12.</u>
7	(b) Funds for comprehensive, research-based reading
8	instruction shall be allocated annually to each school
9	district in the amount provided in the General Appropriations
10	Act. Each school district may be allocated a minimum amount as
11	specified in the General Appropriations Act with the balance
12	of funds being allocated by prorating on each district's share
13	of Florida Education Finance Program base funding.
14	(c) Funds allocated under this subsection must be used
15	to provide a system of comprehensive reading instruction to
16	students enrolled in K-12 programs, which may include the
17	<pre>provision of:</pre>
18	1. Highly qualified reading coaches;
19	2. Professional development for district teachers in
20	scientifically based reading instruction;
21	3. Summer reading camps for students who score at
22	Level 1 on the FCAT;
23	4. Supplemental instructional materials that are
24	grounded in scientifically based reading research; and
25	5. Intensive interventions for middle-school and
26	secondary-school students who are reading below grade level.
27	(d) Annually, by a date determined by the Department
28	of Education but before May 1, school districts shall submit a
29	plan for the specific use of the research-based reading
30	instruction allocation in the format prescribed by the
31	department for review and approval by the Just Read, Florida!

1	Office created pursuant to s. 1001.215. The plan annually
2	submitted by school districts shall be deemed approved unless
3	the department rejects the plan on or before June 1. If a
4	school district and the Just Read, Florida! Office cannot
5	agree on the contents of the plan, the school district may
6	appeal to the State Board of Education. The plan format shall
7	be developed with input from school district personnel,
8	including teachers and principals, and shall allow courses in
9	core, career, and alternative programs that deliver intensive
10	reading remediation through integrated curricula. No later
11	than July 1 annually, the department shall release the school
12	district's allocation of appropriated funds to those districts
13	with approved plans. A school district that spends 100
14	percent of this allocation on its approved plan shall be
15	deemed to have been in compliance with the plan. The
16	department may withhold funds upon a determination that
17	reading instruction allocation funds are not being used to
18	implement the approved plan.
19	Section 30. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
20	1011.685, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
21	1011.685 Class size reduction; operating categorical
22	fund
23	(2) Class size reduction operating categorical funds
24	shall be used by school districts for the following:
25	(b) For any lawful operating expenditure, if the
26	district has met the constitutional maximums identified in s.
27	1003.03(1) or the reduction of two students per year required
28	by s. 1003.03(2); however, priority shall be given to increase
29	salaries of classroom teachers as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)
30	and to implement the <u>differentiated-pay provisions detailed in</u>
31	<u>s. 1012.22</u> <del>salary career ladder defined in s. 1012.231</del> .

#### Barcode 493828

1 Section 31. Subsection (1) of section 1011.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 2 1011.71 District school tax.--3 4 (1) If the district school tax is not provided in the General Appropriations Act or the substantive bill 5 implementing the General Appropriations Act, each district 7 school board desiring to participate in the state allocation of funds for current operation as prescribed by s. 1011.62(10) 8 s. 1011.62(9) shall levy on the taxable value for school 9 10 purposes of the district, exclusive of millage voted under the 11 provisions of s. 9(b) or s. 12, Art. VII of the State Constitution, a millage rate not to exceed the amount 12 certified by the commissioner as the minimum millage rate 13 necessary to provide the district required local effort for 14 15 the current year, pursuant to s. 1011.62(4)(a)1. In addition 16 to the required local effort millage levy, each district school board may levy a nonvoted current operating 17 discretionary millage. The Legislature shall prescribe 18 19 annually in the appropriations act the maximum amount of 20 millage a district may levy. The millage rate prescribed shall exceed zero mills but shall not exceed the lesser of 1.6 mills 21 22 or 25 percent of the millage which is required pursuant to s. 1011.62(4), exclusive of millage levied pursuant to subsection 23 24 (2). Section 32. Section 1011.6855, Florida Statutes, is 25 created to read: 26 27 1011.6855 Minimum instructional personnel salary and class size reduction; operating categorical fund. --28 29 (1) Effective upon the passage of an amendment to s. 1, Art. IX of the State Constitution to create district 30 31 average maximum class sizes, there is created an operating

1	categorical fund for implementing the average maximum class
2	sizes and implementing the provisions of this section relating
3	to instructional personnel salary.
4	(2) The funds appropriated to the operating
5	categorical fund created under subsection (1) shall be used to
6	provide:
7	(a) Minimum salary of \$35,000 or more as specified by
8	the General Appropriations Act for all full-time, certified
9	instructional personnel identified in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d).
10	(b) Elevation funds of at least \$2,000 or as specified
11	in the General Appropriations Act to increase the salary of
12	all full-time, certified instructional personnel identified in
13	s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) to a level at or above the minimum
14	salary.
15	(3) After the obligations set forth in paragraphs
16	(2)(a) and (b) have been met, the remaining funds must be used
17	to reduce the district average class size until it meets the
18	requirements specified in the State Constitution.
19	Section 33. Subsection (6) is added to section
20	1012.21, Florida Statutes, to read:
21	1012.21 Department of Education duties; K-12
22	personnel
23	(6) REPORTING The Department of Education shall
24	annually post on-line the collective bargaining contracts of
25	each school district in the state which the department has
26	received under s. 1012.22.
27	Section 34. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section
28	1012.22, Florida Statutes, is amended read:
29	1012.22 Public school personnel; powers and duties of
30	the district school boardThe district school board shall:
31	(1) Designate positions to be filled, prescribe

## Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

qualifications for those positions, and provide for the appointment, compensation, promotion, suspension, and dismissal of employees as follows, subject to the requirements of this chapter:

- (c) Compensation and salary schedules .--
- 1. The district school board shall adopt a salary schedule or salary schedules designed to furnish incentives for improvement in training and for continued efficient service to be used as a basis for paying all school employees and fix and authorize the compensation of school employees on the basis thereof.
- 2. A district school board, in determining the salary schedule for instructional personnel, must base a portion of each employee's compensation on performance demonstrated under s. 1012.34, must consider the prior teaching experience of a person who has been designated state teacher of the year by any state in the United States, and must consider prior professional experience in the field of education gained in positions in addition to district level instructional and administrative positions.
- 3. In developing the salary schedule, the district school board shall seek input from parents, teachers, and representatives of the business community.
- 4.a. Beginning with the 2002-2003 fiscal year, Each district school board must adopt a performance-pay policy for school administrators and instructional personnel. The district's performance-pay policy is subject to negotiation as provided in chapter 447; however, the adopted salary schedule must allow school administrators and instructional personnel who demonstrate outstanding performance, as measured under s. 1012.34, to earn a 5-percent supplement in addition to their

1	individual, negotiated salary. The supplements shall be funded
2	from the performance-pay reserve funds adopted in the salary
3	schedule. Beginning with the 2004-2005 academic year, The
4	district's 5-percent performance-pay policy must provide for
5	the evaluation of classroom teachers <u>based</u> on the <u>level</u> of
6	their responsibilities within each level of the salary career
7	<del>ladder provided in s. 1012.231</del> .
8	b. The Commissioner of Education shall determine
9	whether the district school board's adopted salary schedule
10	complies with the requirement for performance-based pay. If
11	the district school board fails to comply with this section,
12	the commissioner shall <u>recommend to the State Board of</u>
13	Education that the board withhold disbursements from the
14	Educational Enhancement Trust Fund to the district until
15	compliance is verified, and the board may do so.
16	5.a. Beginning with the 2005-2006 fiscal year, each
17	district school board shall adopt a differentiated-pay policy
18	for school administrators and instructional personnel. The
19	policy with respect to instructional personnel is subject to
20	negotiation as provided in chapter 447; however, the adopted
21	salary schedule must allow school administrators and
22	instructional personnel to receive differentiated pay based
23	upon factors including, but not limited to:
24	(I) The subject areas taught, with classroom teachers
25	who teach in critical shortage areas receiving higher pay;
26	(II) The economic demographics of the school, with
27	school administrators and instructional personnel in schools
28	that have a majority of students who qualify for free or
29	reduced-price lunches receiving higher pay;
30	(III) The performance of school administrators and
31	instructional personnel as provided in subparagraph 4.; and

1	(IV) The responsibilities of the classroom teacher.
2	b. The district school board must hold a public
3	hearing at which the board must present its proposed
4	differentiated-pay policy and the rationale supporting the
5	differentiated-pay classifications as proposed, consistent
6	with this subparagraph's differentiated-pay factors.
7	c. The Commissioner of Education shall determine
8	whether the district school board's adopted salary schedule
9	complies with the requirement for differentiated pay. If the
10	district school board does not adopt a differentiated-pay
11	scale, the commissioner shall recommend to the State Board of
12	Education that the board withhold disbursements from the
13	Educational Enhancement Trust Fund to the district until
14	compliance is verified, and the board may do so.
15	Section 35. Section 1012.2305, Florida Statutes, is
16	created to read:
17	1012.2305 Minimum instructional personnel salary
18	(1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT The Legislature recognizes
19	that higher pay does not guarantee high-quality performance in
20	education. The Legislature also recognizes that competitive
21	pay, differential pay, and performance incentives are
22	necessary to attract and retain the highest-quality teachers
23	and that the prospects of higher pay and career opportunities
24	are important to attract talented individuals into the field
25	of teaching.
26	(2) MINIMUM SALARY FOR INSTRUCTIONAL
27	PERSONNEL Contingent upon the passage of an amendment to s.
28	1, Art. IX of the State Constitution to create district
29	average maximum class sizes and establish minimum salary for
30	instructional personnel, the minimum salary for full-time
31	instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) in 81

#### Barcode 493828

this state shall be \$35,000 and shall be established by the Legislature to remain above the national average public school 2 teacher beginning salary. 3 Section 36. Section 1012.2315, Florida Statutes, is 4 created to read: 5 б 1012.2315 Assignment of teachers.--7 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT. -- The Legislature finds disparity between teachers assigned to teach in a 8 majority of "A" schools compared with those assigned to teach 9 in a majority of "F" schools. The disparity can be found in 10 11 the average years of experience, the median salary, and the performance of the teachers on teacher certification exams. 12 It is the intent of the Legislature that district school 13 boards have flexibility through the collective bargaining 14 15 process to assign teachers more equitably to schools 16 throughout the district. (2) ASSIGNMENT TO "D" AND "F" SCHOOLS.--School 17 18 districts may not assign a higher percentage than the school 19 district average of first-time teachers, temporarily certified teachers, teachers in need of improvement, or out-of-field 20 21 teachers to schools that have more than the school district average of minority and economically disadvantaged students or 22 to schools that are graded "D" or "F." Each school district 23 2.4 shall annually certify to the Commissioner of Education that this requirement has been met. If the commissioner determines 2.5 that a school district is not in compliance with this section, 26 27 the State Board of Education shall be notified and shall take action in the next regularly scheduled meeting to require 28 29 compliance. 30 (3) SALARY INCENTIVES. -- District school boards may provide salary incentives to meet this requirement.

1	(4) COLLECTIVE BARGAININGNotwithstanding chapter
2	447, no provision of collective bargaining may preclude a
3	school district from assigning high-quality teachers to teach
4	in low-performing schools.
5	Section 37. Section 1012.72, Florida Statutes, is
6	amended to read:
7	1012.72 Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program
8	(1) The Legislature recognizes that teachers play a
9	critical role in preparing students to achieve the high levels
10	of academic performance expected by the Sunshine State
11	Standards. The Legislature further recognizes the importance
12	of identifying and rewarding teaching excellence and of
13	encouraging good teachers to become excellent teachers. The
14	Legislature finds that the National Board of Professional
15	Teaching Standards (NBPTS) has established high and rigorous
16	standards for accomplished teaching and has developed a
17	national voluntary system for assessing and certifying
18	teachers who demonstrate teaching excellence by meeting those
19	standards. It is therefore the Legislature's intent to provide
20	incentives for teachers to seek NBPTS certification and to
21	reward teachers who demonstrate teaching excellence by
22	attaining NBPTS certification and sharing their expertise with
23	other teachers.
24	(2) The Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program is
25	created to provide categorical funding for monetary incentives
26	and bonuses for teaching excellence. The Department of
27	Education shall distribute to each school district or to the
28	NBPTS an amount as prescribed annually by the Legislature for
29	the Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program. For purposes of
30	this section, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind

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#### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

provided in the General Appropriations Act, each distribution shall be the sum of the amounts earned for the following incentives and bonuses:

- Education to the NBPTS on behalf of each individual who is an employee of a district school board or a public school within the school district, who is certified by the district to have demonstrated satisfactory teaching performance pursuant to s. 1012.34 and who satisfies the prerequisites for participating in the NBPTS certification program, and who agrees, in writing, to pay 10 percent of the NBPTS participation fee and to participate in the NBPTS certification program during the school year for which the fee subsidy is provided. The fee subsidy for each eligible participant shall be an amount equal to 90 percent of the fee charged for participating in the NBPTS certification program. The fee subsidy is a one-time award and may not be duplicated for any individual.
- (b) A portfolio-preparation incentive of \$150 paid by the Department of Education to each teacher employed by a district school board or a public school within a school district who is participating in the NBPTS certification program. The portfolio-preparation incentive is a one-time award paid during the school year for which the NBPTS fee subsidy is provided.
- (c) An annual bonus equal to 10 percent of the prior fiscal year's statewide average salary for classroom teachers to be distributed to the school district to be paid to each individual who holds NBPTS certification and is employed by the district school board or by a public school within the school district. The district school board shall distribute the annual bonus to each individual who meets the requirements

#### Barcode 493828

of this paragraph and who is certified annually by the district to have demonstrated satisfactory teaching performance pursuant to s. 1012.34. The annual bonus may be paid as a single payment or divided into not more than three payments.

- (d) An annual bonus equal to 10 percent of the prior fiscal year's statewide average salary for classroom teachers to be distributed to the school district to be paid to each individual who meets the requirements of paragraph (c) and agrees, in writing, to provide the equivalent of 12 workdays of mentoring and related services to public school teachers within the state who do not hold NBPTS certification. Related services must include instruction in helping teachers work more effectively with the families of their students. The district school board shall distribute the annual bonus in a single payment following the completion of all required mentoring and related services for the year. It is not the intent of the Legislature to remove excellent teachers from their assigned classrooms; therefore, credit may not be granted by a school district or public school for mentoring or related services provided during student contact time during the 196 days of required service for the school year.
- (e) The employer's share of social security and Medicare taxes and Florida Retirement System contributions for those teachers who qualify for NBPTS certification and receive bonus amounts.

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A teacher for whom the state pays the certification fee and who does not complete the certification program or does not teach in a public school of this state for at least 1 year after completing the certification program must repay the

#### Barcode 493828

amount of the certification fee to the state. However, a teacher who completes the certification program but fails to 2 be awarded NBPTS certification is not required to repay the 3 amount of the certification fee if the teacher meets the 1-year teaching requirement. Repayment is not required of a 5 teacher who does not complete the certification program or 7 fails to fulfill the teaching requirement because of the teacher's death or disability or because of other extenuating 8 circumstances as determined by the State Board of Education. 9 10 (3)(a) In addition to any other remedy available under 11 the law, any person who is a recipient of a certification fee subsidy paid to the NBPTS and who is an employee of the state 12 13 or any of its political subdivisions is considered to have consented, as a condition of employment, to the voluntary or 14 15 involuntary withholding of wages to repay to the state the 16 amount of such a certification fee subsidy awarded under this section. Any such employee who defaults on the repayment of 17 such a certification fee subsidy must, within 60 days after 18 service of a notice of default by the Department of Education 19 20 to the employee, establish a repayment schedule which must be agreed to by the department and the employee, for repaying the 21 22 defaulted sum through payroll deductions. The department may not require the employee to pay more than 10 percent of the 23 24 employee's pay per pay period under such a repayment schedule or plan. If the employee fails to establish a repayment 25 schedule within the specified period of time or fails to meet 26 the terms and conditions of the agreed upon or approved 27 28 repayment schedule as authorized by this subsection, the 29 employee has breached an essential condition of employment and is considered to have consented to the involuntary withholding 30

1	subsidy.
2	(b) A person who is employed by the state, or any of
3	its political subdivisions, may not be dismissed for having
4	defaulted on the repayment of the certification fee subsidy to
5	the state.
6	(4) The Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program Trust
7	Fund shall be administered by the Department of Education
8	pursuant to s. 1010.72.
9	(5) The Council for Education Policy Research and
10	Improvement shall conduct research to evaluate the benefits
11	and effectiveness of the program.
12	$\frac{(6)}{(4)}$ The State Board of Education may adopt rules
13	pursuant to ss. 120.536 and 120.54 as necessary to administer
14	the provisions for payment of the fee subsidies, incentives,
15	and bonuses and for the repayment of defaulted certification
16	fee subsidies under this section.
17	(5) The Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program Trust
18	Fund shall be administered by the Department of Education
19	pursuant to s. 1010.72.
20	Section 38. Section 1012.986, Florida Statutes, is
21	created to read:
22	1012.986 Professional development for school
23	leaders
24	(1) SHORT TITLEThis section may be cited as the
25	DELTA (Developing Educational Leaders for Tomorrow's
26	Achievers) Act.
27	(2) CREATION OF PROGRAMThere is created the DELTA
28	Program which shall be administered by the Department of
29	Education. The program shall be a high-quality,
30	competency-based, customized, comprehensive, and coordinated
31	statewide professional development program to provide

1	leadership training opportunities for school leaders to enable
2	them to be more effective instructional leaders, especially in
3	the area of reading. The program shall provide school leaders
4	with the opportunity to attain a school leadership designation
5	pursuant to subsection (4).
6	(3) DEFINITIONAs used in this section, the term
7	"school leader" means a school principal or assistant
8	principal who holds a valid Florida certificate in educational
9	leadership.
10	(4) LEADERSHIP DESIGNATIONSThe Department of
11	Education shall determine annually, in collaboration with
12	school principals, thresholds for different leadership
13	designations. Criteria for school leadership designations
14	shall be based on the following point system:
15	(a) One point for each percent increase over the
16	previous year, by grade, of students who score at or above
17	FCAT Level 3 in reading;
18	(b) One point for each percent increase over the
19	previous year, by grade, of students who score at or above
20	FCAT Level 3 in math;
21	(c) One point for each percent increase over the
22	previous year, by school, of students who score 3.5 or higher
23	on FCAT writing;
24	(d) One point for each percent increase over the
25	previous year of students making learning gains in reading;
26	(e) One point for each percent increase over the
27	previous year of students making learning gains in math;
28	(f) One point for each percent increase over the
29	previous year of the lowest quartile making learning gains in
30	reading.
31	(5) DELTA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1	(a) The DELTA Program shall be based upon the
2	leadership standards adopted by the State Board of Education,
3	the standards of the National Staff Development Council, and
4	the federal requirements for high-quality professional
5	development under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
6	(b) The DELTA Program shall provide a competency-based
7	approach that uses prediagnostic and post-diagnostic
8	evaluations that shall be used to create an individualized
9	professional development plan approved by the district school
10	superintendent. The plan must be structured to support the
11	school leader's attainment of the leadership standards adopted
12	by the State Board of Education.
13	(c) The DELTA Program shall incorporate training in
14	instructional leadership and effective business practices for
15	efficient school operations in school leadership training
16	based on best practices of current effective leadership
17	training in school districts.
18	(6) DELIVERY SYSTEM The Department of Education
19	shall deliver the DELTA Program through multiple delivery
20	systems, including:
21	(a) Approved school district training programs;
22	(b) Interactive technology-based instruction; and
23	(c) State, regional, or local leadership academies.
24	(7) RULESThe State Board of Education shall adopt
25	rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this
26	section.
27	Section 39. Subsection (6) of section 1013.512,
28	Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
29	1013.512 Land Acquisition and Facilities Advisory
30	Board
31	(6) Upon certification by the advisory board that 89

#### Barcode 493828

corrective action has been taken, the Legislative Budget Commission shall release all funds remaining in reserve. Upon 2 such release, each Land Acquisition and Facilities Advisory 3 4 Board shall be disbanded. Section 40. Approval is granted for the endowment for 5 6 the Appleton Museum of Art, currently held by the Appleton 7 Cultural Center, Inc., to be transferred to the Central Florida Community College Foundation. The endowment to be 8 transferred, which includes state matching funds, was established in 1987 through the Cultural Arts Endowment 10 11 Program. By this provision, the Central Florida Community College Foundation is authorized to manage the endowment only 12 13 for the support of the educational program at the Appleton Museum of Art and is released from all other provisions of the 14 15 Trust Agreement dated July 17, 1987, by and between the State of Florida and the Appleton Cultural Center, Inc., and 16 sections 265.601 through 265.607, Florida Statutes. 17 Section 41. Sections 1012.987 and 1012.231, Florida 18 19 Statutes, are repealed. 20 Section 42. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held 21 22 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the 23 2.4 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared severable. 25 Section 43. Except as otherwise expressly provided in 26 this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, 27 except that sections 1003.035, 1011.6855, and 1012.2305, 28 29 Florida Statutes, as created by this act, shall take effect on the effective date of an amendment to Section 1, Article IX of 30 the State Constitution approved by the electors which requires 90

#### Barcode 493828

district average maximum class sizes and minimum pay for 2 teachers. 3 4 ======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========= 5 б And the title is amended as follows: 7 Delete everything before the enacting clause 8 9 and insert: A bill to be entitled 10 11 An act relating to education; amending s. 1001.03, F.S., relating to the powers of the 12 13 State Board of Education; requiring the State Board of Education to periodically review the 14 15 Sunshine State Standards; creating s. 1001.215, 16 F.S.; creating the Just Read, Florida! Office within the Department of Education; providing 17 duties of the office; amending s. 1001.42, 18 F.S., relating to powers and duties of a 19 district school board; revising the 20 21 requirements for school improvement plans; 22 requiring school districts to observe Veterans' Day; prohibiting holding classes on that day; 23 2.4 providing an exception; requiring the date of the Veterans' Day observance to correspond with 25 the federal holiday; creating s. 1002.421, 26 F.S.; prescribing requirements of private 27 schools participating in state school choice 28 29 scholarship programs; requiring compliance with requirements relating to notice, student 30 31 enrollment and attendance verification, fiscal

## Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

soundness, academic assessment, and
criminal-background checks and to applicable
state and local health, safety, and welfare
laws, codes, and rules; providing grounds for
ineligibility to participate in certain
scholarship programs; providing rulemaking
authority to the State Board of Education;
creating s. 1002.423, F.S.; prescribing
obligations of the Department of Education for
education scholarship programs; requiring the
department to identify certain assessments;
requiring the department to select a private
research organization to which private schools
report student scores; providing reporting
requirements; amending s. 1003.03, F.S.;
revising dates for implementation of class size
maximums; creating s. 1003.035, F.S.; providing
for the contingent application of the section
upon the adoption of an amendment to the State
Constitution; prescribing district average
class size limitations for grades
prekindergarten through 3, grades 4 through 8,
and grades 9 through 12; requiring the
Department of Education to annually calculate
class size measures based on a specified
student-membership survey; providing
implementation options; providing for
accountability and for transfer of funds in
certain circumstances; providing for the
department redrawing attendance zones in
certain circumstances; amending s. 1003.05,

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# Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

F.S.; relating to military families; limiting
certain enrollment opportunities; creating s.
1003.413, F.S.; requiring school districts to
adopt certain reading policies in high schools;
requiring that certain high schools offer
specific support services for students scoring
at Level 1 on the FCAT reading test; creating a
high school task force; providing membership;
providing reporting requirements; amending s.
1003.415, F.S., relating to the Middle School
Grades Reform Act; revising legislative intent;
deleting obsolete references; creating s.
1003.4155, F.S.; establishing a grading system
for middle schools; creating s. 1003.4156,
F.S.; establishing general requirements for
promotion from middle school; requiring the
successful completion of 12 academic credits in
certain courses; requiring an intensive reading
course under certain circumstances; defining a
middle school academic credit for purposes of
the section; requiring district school boards
to adopt policies for alternatives to obtain
credits; amending s. 1003.42, F.S., relating to
required instruction; revising and increasing
the requirements for studying U.S. history and
free enterprise; providing rulemaking authority
to the State Board of Education; amending s.
1003.52, F.S.; requiring the Department of
Education to develop procedures for reporting
performance and participation data of students
in juvenile justice education programs;
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#### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

amending s. 1003.57, F.S.; providing guidelines for determining the residency of a student who receives instruction as an exceptional student with a disability; requiring the student's placing authority or parent to pay the cost of such instruction, facilities, and services; providing responsibilities of the Department of Education; providing responsibilities of residential facilities that educate exceptional students with disabilities; providing applicability; creating s. 1003.575, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education to devise an individual education plan form for use in developing and implementing individual education plans for exceptional students; requiring school districts to use the form; amending s. 1003.58, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; requiring the Council for Education Policy Research and Improvement to review and report on the effectiveness of the graduates of state-approved teacher preparation programs and alternative certification programs; creating s. 1004.64, F.S.; establishing the Florida Center for Reading Research; specifying duties of the center; amending s. 1008.22, F.S., relating to student assessment; expressing legislative intent; identifying grade levels for state assessment administration; eliminating obsolete references; requiring certain reports; amending s. 1008.25, F.S., relating to public school

# Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

student progression; eliminating obsolete
references; directing the Department of
Education to establish a uniform format for
reporting student progression information;
requiring certain reports; amending s. 1008.31,
F.S., relating to education accountability;
expressing legislative intent relating to
performance measures established by the Board
of Governors with respect to the state
universities; eliminating certain
performance-based funding requirements;
providing guiding principles for the
accountability system; revising the goals of
the accountability system; requiring certain
reports; providing rulemaking authority to the
State Board of Education; amending s. 1008.33,
F.S., relating to the authority to enforce
public school improvement; authorizing transfer
of certain teachers to low-performing schools;
amending s. 1008.34, F.S., relating to the
school grading system; requiring all schools to
receive a school grade except certain
alternative schools; requiring that achievement
scores and learning gains be calculated in
alternative schools that provide certain
services; requiring that student test scores be
calculated in the alternative school in which
the student is enrolled and in the school
previously attended by the student; providing
exceptions; requiring the Department of
Education to develop a school report card;

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#### Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

#### Barcode 493828

creating s. 1008.341, F.S.; requiring school improvement ratings for alternative schools; providing definitions; requiring that the Commissioner of Education prepare an annual report; specifying the data to be used in determining school improvement ratings; requiring the department to identify student learning gains annually; requiring that a school report card be delivered to parents; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 1008.36, F.S., relating to the Florida School Recognition Program; providing that certain feeder schools are eligible to participate in the program; providing a definition; requiring certain feeder schools to be subject to the Opportunity Scholarship Program, as defined in s. 1002.38, F.S.; providing for the disposition of school recognition funds; defining eligibility for the receipt of school recognition funds; amending s. 1011.62, F.S., relating to funds for the operation of schools; providing for additional funding for students enrolled in education programs for juveniles; providing a methodology to calculate full-time equivalent student membership of the Florida Virtual School; creating a research-based reading-instruction allocation for students in kindergarten through grade 12; providing for the use of the funds; providing for fund disbursement; amending ss. 1011.685, and 1011.71, F.S., to conform;

# Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

creating s. 1011.6855, F.S.; providing for the
contingent application of the section upon the
adoption of an amendment to the State
Constitution; establishing an operating
categorical fund; providing a minimum
instructional personnel salary; requiring the
use of certain funds for class size reduction;
amending s. 1012.21, F.S., relating to the
duties of the Department of Education;
requiring the department to annually post
school district collective bargaining
agreements on-line; amending s. 1012.22, F.S.,
relating to public school personnel; requiring
school boards to adopt differentiated-pay
policies for school administrators and
instructional personnel; specifying factors to
be included in differentiated-pay policies;
providing for the withholding of funds for
failure to comply; creating s. 1012.2305, F.S.;
expressing legislative intent regarding minimum
instructional personnel pay; providing for
contingent application of the section upon the
adoption of an amendment to the State
Constitution; establishing minimum pay for
certain instructional personnel; creating s.
1012.2315, F.S.; establishing legislative
findings; expressing legislative intent;
providing criteria for the assignment of
teachers to certain schools; authorizing
certain salary incentives; limiting certain
collective bargaining provisions relating to

# Bill No. HCB 6007, 2nd Eng.

assignment of teachers at certain schools;
amending s. 1012.72, F.S., relating to the Dale
Hickam Excellent Teaching Program; requiring
that the Department of Education administer the
Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program Trust
Fund; requiring the Council for Education
Policy Research and Improvement to evaluate the
benefits and effectiveness of the program;
creating s. 1012.986, F.S.; establishing a
statewide system for the professional
development of school leaders; providing a
short title; providing program purposes and
legislative intent; requiring the Department of
Education to annually determine criteria for
school leadership designations based on certain
factors; requiring certain program components;
providing for a program delivery system;
providing rulemaking authority to the State
Board of Education; amending s. 1013.512, F.S.;
requiring the release of funds remaining in
reserve relating to school district land
acquisition and facilities operations;
specifying when a Land Acquisition and
Facilities Advisory Board shall be disbanded;
approving a transfer of an endowment from the
Appleton Cultural Center, Inc., to the Central
Florida Community College Foundation; providing
restrictions on the management of the
endowment; releasing the foundation from
certain trust agreement and statutory
requirements; repealing s. 1012.987, F.S.,

1	relating to education leadership development;
2	repealing s. 1012.231, F.S., relating to the
3	BEST Florida Teaching Salary career ladder
4	program; providing for severability; providing
5	contingent effective dates.
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