

ENROLLED
 HB 1243, Engrossed 1

2006 Legislature

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to education personnel; amending s.
 3 1012.985, F.S.; authorizing a regional professional
 4 development academy to receive funds from certain sources
 5 for the purpose of developing programs and services;
 6 providing that a regional professional development academy
 7 is not a component of any school district or governmental
 8 unit to which it provides services; providing an effective
 9 date.

10

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

12

13 Section 1. Section 1012.985, Florida Statutes, is amended
 14 to read:

15 1012.985 Statewide system for inservice professional
 16 development.--

17 (1) The intent of this section is to establish a statewide
 18 system of professional development that provides a wide range of
 19 targeted inservice training to teachers, managers, and
 20 administrative personnel designed to upgrade skills and
 21 knowledge needed to reach world class standards in education.
 22 The system shall consist of a network of professional
 23 development academies in each region of the state which ~~that~~ are
 24 operated in partnership with area business partners to develop
 25 and deliver high-quality training programs purchased by school
 26 districts. The academies shall be established to meet the human
 27 resource development needs of professional educators, schools,

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28 | and school districts. Funds appropriated for the initiation of
29 | professional development academies shall be allocated by the
30 | Commissioner of Education, unless otherwise provided in an
31 | appropriations act. To be eligible for startup funds, the
32 | academy must:

33 | (a)~~(1)~~ Be established by the collaborative efforts of one
34 | or more district school boards, members of the business
35 | community, and the postsecondary educational institutions which
36 | may award college credits for courses taught at the academy.

37 | (b)~~(2)~~ Demonstrate the capacity to provide effective
38 | training to improve teaching skills in the areas of elementary
39 | reading and mathematics, the use of instructional technology,
40 | high school algebra, and classroom management, and to deliver
41 | such training using face-to-face, distance learning, and
42 | individualized computer-based delivery systems.

43 | (c)~~(3)~~ Propose a plan for responding in an effective and
44 | timely manner to the professional development needs of teachers,
45 | managers, administrative personnel, schools, and school
46 | districts relating to improving student achievement and meeting
47 | state and local education goals.

48 | (d)~~(4)~~ Demonstrate the ability to provide high-quality
49 | trainers and training, appropriate followup and coaching for all
50 | participants, and support school personnel in positively
51 | impacting student performance.

52 | (e)~~(5)~~ Be operated under contract with its public partners
53 | and governed by an independent board of directors, which should
54 | include at least one district school superintendent and one

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55 | district school board chair from the participating school
56 | districts, the president of the collective bargaining unit that
57 | represents the majority of the region's teachers, and at least
58 | three individuals who are not employees or elected or appointed
59 | officials of the participating school districts. Regional
60 | educational consortia as defined in s. 1001.451 satisfy the
61 | requirements of this paragraph ~~subsection~~.

62 | ~~(f)(6)~~ Be financed during the first year of operation by
63 | an equal or greater match from private funding sources and
64 | demonstrate the ability to be self-supporting within 1 year
65 | after opening through fees for services, grants, or private
66 | contributions. Regional educational consortia as defined in s.
67 | 1001.451 which serve rural areas of critical economic concern
68 | are exempt from the funding match required by this paragraph
69 | ~~subsection~~.

70 | ~~(g)(7)~~ Own or lease a facility that can be used to deliver
71 | training onsite and through distance learning and other
72 | technology-based delivery systems. The participating district
73 | school boards may lease a site or facility to the academy for a
74 | nominal fee and may pay all or part of the costs of renovating a
75 | facility to accommodate the academy. The academy is responsible
76 | for all operational, maintenance, and repair costs.

77 | ~~(h)(8)~~ Provide professional development services for the
78 | participating school districts as specified in the contract and
79 | may provide professional development services to other school
80 | districts, private schools, and individuals on a fee-for-
81 | services basis.

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82 (2) Upon compliance with the requirements for the first
83 year of operation in paragraph (1)(f), a regional professional
84 development academy:

85 (a) May receive funds from the Department of Education or
86 as provided in the General Appropriations Act for the purpose of
87 developing programs, expanding services, assessing inservice
88 training and professional development, or other programs that
89 are consistent with the mission of the academy and the needs of
90 the state and region; and

91 (b) Is not, by virtue of providing services to one or more
92 school districts, a component of any school district or any
93 governmental unit to which the regional professional development
94 academy provides services.

95 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.