

Bill No. SB 1480

Barcode 573946

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Commerce and Consumer Services (King)
recommended the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Section 1003.493, Florida Statutes, is
created to read:

1003.493 Career and professional academies.--

(1) A "career and professional academy" is a
research-based program that integrates a rigorous academic
curriculum with an industry-driven career curriculum. Career
and professional academies may be offered by public schools,
school districts, or the Florida Virtual School. Students
completing career and professional academy programs receive a
standard high school diploma, the highest available industry
certification, and postsecondary credit if the academy
partners with a postsecondary institution.

(2) The goals of a career and professional academy are
to:

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1 (a) Increase student academic achievement and
2 graduation rates through integrated academic and career
3 curricula.

4 (b) Focus on career preparation through rigorous
5 academics and industry certification.

6 (c) Raise student aspiration and commitment to
7 academic achievement and work ethics.

8 (d) Support graduation requirements by providing
9 creative, applied majors as provided by law.

10 (e) Promote acceleration mechanisms, such as dual
11 enrollment, articulated credit, or occupational completion
12 points, so that students may earn postsecondary credit while
13 in high school.

14 (f) Support the state's economy by meeting industry
15 needs for skilled employees in high-demand occupations.

16 (3) A career and professional academy may be offered
17 as one of the following small learning communities:

18 (a) A school-within-a-school career academy, as part
19 of an existing high school, that provides courses in one
20 occupational cluster. Students in the high school are not
21 required to be students in the academy.

22 (b) A total school configuration providing multiple
23 academies, each structured around an occupational cluster.
24 Every student in the school is in an academy.

25 (4) Each career and professional academy must:

26 (a) Provide a rigorous standards-based academic
27 curriculum integrated with a career curriculum. The curriculum
28 must take into consideration multiple styles of student
29 learning; promote learning by doing through application and
30 adaptation; maximize relevance of the subject matter; enhance
31 each student's capacity to excel; and include an emphasis on

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1 work habits and work ethics.

2 (b) Include one or more partnerships with
3 postsecondary institutions, businesses, industry, employers,
4 economic development organizations, or other appropriate
5 partners from the local community. Such partnerships must
6 provide opportunities for:

7 1. Instruction from highly skilled professionals.

8 2. Internships, externships, and on-the-job training.

9 3. A postsecondary degree, diploma, or certificate.

10 4. The highest available level of industry
11 certification. Where no national or state certification
12 exists, school districts may establish a local certification
13 in conjunction with the local workforce development board, the
14 chamber of commerce, or the Agency for Workforce Innovation.

15 5. Maximum articulation of credits pursuant to s.
16 1007.23 upon program completion.

17 (c) Provide creative and tailored student advisement,
18 including parent participation and coordination with middle
19 schools to provide career exploration and education planning.
20 Coordination with middle schools must provide information to
21 middle school students about secondary and postsecondary
22 career education programs and academies.

23 (d) Provide a career education certification on the
24 high school diploma pursuant to s. 1003.431.

25 (e) Provide instruction in careers designated as high
26 growth, high demand, and high pay by the local workforce
27 development board, the chamber of commerce, or the Agency for
28 Workforce Innovation.

29 (f) Deliver academic content through instruction
30 relevant to the career, including intensive reading and
31 mathematics intervention, with an emphasis on strengthening

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1 reading for information skills.

2 (g) Offer applied courses that combine academic
3 content with technical skills. Such courses must be submitted
4 to the Department of Education no later than 5 months before
5 the beginning of the school term in which such courses are
6 planned to be offered. The State Board of Education must
7 approve or disapprove courses no later than 3 months before
8 the beginning of the school term in which such courses are
9 planned to be offered. The department shall present new
10 courses to the state board for approval a minimum of three
11 times annually.

12 (h) Provide instruction resulting in competency,
13 certification, or credentials in workplace skills, including,
14 but not limited to, communication skills, interpersonal
15 skills, decisionmaking skills, the importance of attendance
16 and timeliness in the work environment, and work ethics.

17 (i) Provide opportunities for students to obtain the
18 Florida Ready to Work Certification as provided by law.

19 (j) Include an evaluation plan developed jointly with
20 the Department of Education. The evaluation plan must include
21 a self-assessment tool based on standards, such as the Career
22 Academy National Standards of Practice, and outcome measures
23 including, but not limited to, graduation rates, enrollment in
24 postsecondary education, business and industry satisfaction,
25 employment and earnings, achievement of industry
26 certification, awards of postsecondary credit, and FCAT
27 achievement levels and learning gains.

28 Section 2. Section 1003.494, Florida Statutes, is
29 created to read:

30 1003.494 Career High-Skill Occupational Initiative for
31 Career Education (CHOICE) academies.--

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1 (1) The Department of Education shall establish a
 2 Career High-Skill Occupational Initiative for Career Education
 3 (CHOICE) project. The project shall consist of a competitive
 4 process for selecting and designating school districts as
 5 participants in the project and designating CHOICE academies
 6 within participating school districts.

7 (2) A "CHOICE academy" is a career and professional
 8 academy that meets the goals and requirements specified in s.
 9 1003.493 and offers a rigorous and relevant academic
 10 curriculum leading to industry-recognized certification,
 11 college credit, and credit toward a high school diploma.
 12 Existing career education courses may serve as a foundation
 13 for the creation of a CHOICE academy.

14 (3) The purposes of a CHOICE academy are to:

15 (a) Draw upon ongoing partnerships between education
 16 and workforce development or economic development
 17 organizations to enhance the quality and opportunities for
 18 career education for high school students by exposure to
 19 in-demand career education as identified by such organizations
 20 in the local community.

21 (b) Build upon the state system of school improvement
 22 and education accountability by providing students with a
 23 solid academic foundation, opportunities to obtain
 24 industry-recognized certification or credentials, and
 25 preparation for postsecondary educational experiences in
 26 related fields.

27 (c) Prepare graduating high school students to make
 28 appropriate choices relative to employment and future
 29 educational experiences.

30 (4) The Department of Education may establish
 31 application guidelines for an annual competitive process and

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1 eligibility criteria for school district participation. A
 2 school district may apply to the department for designation as
 3 a CHOICE project participating district, and the department,
 4 in consultation with Workforce Florida, Inc., and Enterprise
 5 Florida, Inc., may designate as many school districts as it
 6 deems advisable each year. Eligibility criteria for
 7 designation of a school district as a CHOICE project
 8 participant shall include, but not be limited to:

9 (a) The willingness and ability of associated
 10 businesses or industries to form partnerships with and support
 11 CHOICE academies.

12 (b) The dedication of school district resources to
 13 CHOICE academies.

14 (5) The Department of Education, in consultation with
 15 Workforce Florida, Inc., shall establish standards for
 16 designating specific CHOICE academies in each participating
 17 school district. A participating school district may apply to
 18 the department for designation of a CHOICE academy within the
 19 district. Eligibility criteria for such designation shall
 20 include, but not be limited to:

21 (a) Partnerships with an associated business or
 22 industry and a regional workforce board or the primary local
 23 economic development organization in the county as recognized
 24 by Enterprise Florida, Inc. The partnership of the business or
 25 industry with the CHOICE academy must be based on the
 26 connection of the business or industry with the academy's
 27 career theme and must involve future plans for improving the
 28 local economy. The business or industry partner must be
 29 consulted during the planning stages of a CHOICE academy and
 30 provide business or industry support and resources devoted to
 31 the CHOICE academy. The Consortium of Florida Education

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1 Foundations or a designee must also be consulted during the
2 planning stages of a CHOICE academy and may provide support
3 and resources devoted to the CHOICE academy.

4 (b) At least one established partnership and an
5 articulation agreement for credit with a postsecondary
6 institution.

7 (c) A plan for sustaining the CHOICE academy.

8
9 The Okaloosa County School District and other school districts
10 that have received funding from Workforce Florida, Inc., for
11 the establishment of CHOICE academies prior to July 1, 2006,
12 shall receive an expedited review for CHOICE academy
13 designation by the department.

14 (6) A participating school district shall:

15 (a) Identify an appropriate location for classes.

16 (b) Ensure that a CHOICE academy is flexible enough to
17 respond both to the needs and abilities of students and to the
18 needs of associated businesses or industries.

19 (c) Redirect appropriated funding from ongoing
20 activities to a CHOICE academy.

21 (d) Plan for sustaining a CHOICE academy as an ongoing
22 program without additional funding.

23 (7) The Department of Education shall:

24 (a) With assistance from Workforce Florida, Inc.,
25 provide technical assistance to participating school districts
26 in submitting applications for designation of specific CHOICE
27 academies located in specific schools in the school district,
28 reorganizing career education opportunities, developing CHOICE
29 academies with career themes in areas deemed appropriate by
30 Workforce Florida, Inc., or local economic development
31 organizations, and developing funding plans.

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1 (b) Jointly with Workforce Florida, Inc., and in
 2 consultation with school districts, develop evaluation
 3 criteria for CHOICE academies. Such criteria shall include
 4 increased academic performance of students and schools using
 5 school-level accountability data.

6 (c) Report to the State Board of Education, the
 7 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
 8 House of Representatives by July 1 of each year on school
 9 district participation in the CHOICE project, designated
 10 CHOICE academies with enrollment and completion data for such
 11 academies, and appropriate outcomes for students who have
 12 completed a CHOICE academy program. Such outcomes may include
 13 continuing educational experiences of CHOICE academy
 14 graduates, business or industry satisfaction with the CHOICE
 15 academies, placement of CHOICE academy graduates in
 16 employment, and earnings of such graduates.

17 (d) Promote CHOICE academies and provide planning and
 18 startup resources as available.

19 (8) As provided in the General Appropriations Act, the
 20 Department of Education shall award one-time startup funds to
 21 school districts designated as participants in the CHOICE
 22 project for the development of CHOICE academies. All school
 23 districts designated by the department are authorized to
 24 establish one or more CHOICE academies without incentive
 25 funds.

26 Section 3. Subsection (7) is added to section
 27 288.9015, Florida Statutes, to read:

28 288.9015 Enterprise Florida, Inc.; purpose; duties.--
 29 (7) Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall work with the
 30 Department of Education and Workforce Florida, Inc., in the
 31 designation of school districts as participants in the CHOICE

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1 project pursuant to s. 1003.494.

2 Section 4. Paragraph (i) is added to subsection (5) of
3 section 445.004, Florida Statutes, to read:

4 445.004 Workforce Florida, Inc.; creation; purpose;
5 membership; duties and powers.--

6 (5) Workforce Florida, Inc., shall have all the powers
7 and authority, not explicitly prohibited by statute, necessary
8 or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes as
9 determined by statute, Pub. L. No. 105-220, and the Governor,
10 as well as its functions, duties, and responsibilities,
11 including, but not limited to, the following:

12 (i) Working with the Department of Education and
13 Enterprise Florida, Inc., in the implementation of the CHOICE
14 project pursuant to s. 1003.494.

15 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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18 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

19 And the title is amended as follows:

20 Delete everything before the enacting clause

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22 and insert:

23 A bill to be entitled
24 An act relating to career and professional
25 academies; creating s. 1003.493, F.S.; defining
26 "career and professional academy"; providing
27 academy goals and duties; authorizing an
28 academy to be offered as a described small
29 learning community; creating s. 1003.494, F.S.;
30 requiring the Department of Education to
31 establish a Career High-Skill Occupational

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1 Initiative for Career Education (CHOICE)
2 project as a competitive process for the
3 designation of school district participants and
4 CHOICE academies; defining "CHOICE academy" and
5 providing purposes thereof; providing
6 eligibility criteria for such designation and
7 duties of participating school districts and
8 the department; providing for the award to
9 school district participants in the CHOICE
10 project of startup funds for the development of
11 CHOICE academies; amending ss. 288.9015 and
12 445.004, F.S.; providing duties of Enterprise
13 Florida, Inc., and Workforce Florida, Inc., to
14 conform; providing an effective date.

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