

HB 513

2006
CS

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Community Colleges & Workforce Committee recommends the
2 following:

Council/Committee Substitute

5 Remove the entire bill and insert:

6 A bill to be entitled

7 An act relating to career and professional academies;
8 creating s. 1003.493, F.S.; defining "career and
9 professional academy"; providing academy goals and duties;
10 authorizing an academy to be offered as a described small
11 learning community; creating s. 1003.494, F.S.; requiring
12 the Department of Education to establish a Career High-
13 Skill Occupational Initiative for Career Education
14 (CHOICE) project as a competitive process for the
15 designation of school district participants and CHOICE
16 academies; defining "CHOICE academy" and providing
17 purposes thereof; providing eligibility criteria for such
18 designation and duties of participating school districts
19 and the department; providing for the award to school
20 district participants in the CHOICE project of startup
21 funds for the development of CHOICE academies; amending
22 ss. 288.9015 and 445.004, F.S.; providing duties of

HB 513

2006
CS

23 Enterprise Florida, Inc., and Workforce Florida, Inc., to
24 conform; providing an effective date.

25
26 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

27
28 Section 1. Section 1003.493, Florida Statutes, is created
29 to read:

30 1003.493 Career and professional academies.--

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

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

41 (a) Increase student academic achievement and graduation
42 rates through integrated academic and career curricula.

43 (b) Focus on career preparation through rigorous academics
44 and industry certification.

45 (c) Raise student aspiration and commitment to academic
46 achievement and work ethics.

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

49 (e) Promote acceleration mechanisms, such as dual
50 enrollment, articulated credit, or occupational completion

HB 513

2006
CS

51 points, so that students may earn postsecondary credit while in
52 high school.

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

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

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

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

64 (4) Each career and professional academy must:

65 (a) Provide a rigorous standards-based academic curriculum
66 integrated with a career curriculum. The curriculum must take
67 into consideration multiple styles of student learning; promote
68 learning by doing through application and adaptation; maximize
69 relevance of the subject matter; enhance each student's capacity
70 to excel; and include an emphasis on work habits and work
71 ethics.

72 (b) Include one or more partnerships with postsecondary
73 institutions, businesses, industry, employers, economic
74 development organizations, or other appropriate partners from
75 the local community. Such partnerships must provide
76 opportunities for:

- 77 1. Instruction from highly skilled professionals.
78 2. Internships, externships, and on-the-job training.

HB 513

2006
CS

79 | 3. A postsecondary degree, diploma, or certificate.

80 | 4. The highest available level of industry certification.

81 | Where no national or state certification exists, school
82 | districts may establish a local certification in conjunction
83 | with the local workforce development board, the chamber of
84 | commerce, or the Agency for Workforce Innovation.

85 | 5. Maximum articulation of credits pursuant to s. 1007.23
86 | upon program completion.

87 | (c) Provide creative and tailored student advisement,
88 | including parent participation and coordination with middle
89 | schools to provide career exploration and education planning.
90 | Coordination with middle schools must provide information to
91 | middle school students about secondary and postsecondary career
92 | education programs and academies.

93 | (d) Provide a career education certification on the high
94 | school diploma pursuant to s. 1003.431.

95 | (e) Provide instruction in careers designated as high
96 | growth, high demand, and high pay by the local workforce
97 | development board, the chamber of commerce, or the Agency for
98 | Workforce Innovation.

99 | (f) Deliver academic content through instruction relevant
100 | to the career, including intensive reading and mathematics
101 | intervention, with an emphasis on strengthening reading for
102 | information skills.

103 | (g) Offer applied courses that combine academic content
104 | with technical skills. Such courses must be submitted to the
105 | Department of Education no later than 5 months before the
106 | beginning of the school term in which such courses are planned

HB 513

2006
CS

107 to be offered. The State Board of Education must approve or
108 disapprove courses no later than 3 months before the beginning
109 of the school term in which such courses are planned to be
110 offered. The department shall present new courses to the state
111 board for approval a minimum of three times annually.

112 (h) Provide instruction resulting in competency,
113 certification, or credentials in workplace skills, including,
114 but not limited to, communication skills, interpersonal skills,
115 decisionmaking skills, the importance of attendance and
116 timeliness in the work environment, and work ethics.

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

119 (j) Include an evaluation plan developed jointly with the
120 Department of Education. The evaluation plan must include a
121 self-assessment tool based on standards, such as the Career
122 Academy National Standards of Practice, and outcome measures
123 including, but not limited to, graduation rates, enrollment in
124 postsecondary education, business and industry satisfaction,
125 employment and earnings, achievement of industry certification,
126 awards of postsecondary credit, and FCAT achievement levels and
127 learning gains.

128 Section 2. Section 1003.494, Florida Statutes, is created
129 to read:

130 1003.494 Career High-Skill Occupational Initiative for
131 Career Education (CHOICE) academies.--

132 (1) The Department of Education shall establish a Career
133 High-Skill Occupational Initiative for Career Education (CHOICE)
134 project. The project shall consist of a competitive process for

HB 513

2006
CS

135 selecting and designating school districts as participants in
136 the project and designating CHOICE academies within
137 participating school districts.

138 (2) A "CHOICE academy" is a career and professional
139 academy that meets the goals and requirements specified in s.
140 1003.493 and offers a rigorous and relevant academic curriculum
141 leading to industry-recognized certification, college credit,
142 and credit toward a high school diploma. Existing career
143 education courses may serve as a foundation for the creation of
144 a CHOICE academy.

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

146 (a) Draw upon ongoing partnerships between education and
147 workforce development or economic development organizations to
148 enhance the quality and opportunities for career education for
149 high school students by exposure to in-demand career education
150 as identified by such organizations in the local community.

151 (b) Build upon the state system of school improvement and
152 education accountability by providing students with a solid
153 academic foundation, opportunities to obtain industry-recognized
154 certification or credentials, and preparation for postsecondary
155 educational experiences in related fields.

156 (c) Prepare graduating high school students to make
157 appropriate choices relative to employment and future
158 educational experiences.

159 (4) The Department of Education may establish application
160 guidelines for an annual competitive process and eligibility
161 criteria for school district participation. A school district
162 may apply to the department for designation as a CHOICE project

HB 513

2006
CS

163 participating district, and the department, in consultation with
164 Workforce Florida, Inc., and Enterprise Florida, Inc., may
165 designate as many school districts as it deems advisable each
166 year. Eligibility criteria for designation of a school district
167 as a CHOICE project participant shall include, but not be
168 limited to:

169 (a) The willingness and ability of associated businesses
170 or industries to form partnerships with and support CHOICE
171 academies.

172 (b) The dedication of school district resources to CHOICE
173 academies.

174 (5) The Department of Education, in consultation with
175 Workforce Florida, Inc., shall establish standards for
176 designating specific CHOICE academies in each participating
177 school district. A participating school district may apply to
178 the department for designation of a CHOICE academy within the
179 district. Eligibility criteria for such designation shall
180 include, but not be limited to:

181 (a) Partnerships with an associated business or industry
182 and a regional workforce board or the primary local economic
183 development organization in the county as recognized by
184 Enterprise Florida, Inc. The partnership of the business or
185 industry with the CHOICE academy must be based on the connection
186 of the business or industry with the academy's career theme and
187 must involve future plans for improving the local economy. The
188 business or industry partner must be consulted during the
189 planning stages of a CHOICE academy and provide business or
190 industry support and resources devoted to the CHOICE academy.

HB 513

2006
CS

191 The Consortium of Florida Education Foundations or a designee
 192 must also be consulted during the planning stages of a CHOICE
 193 academy and may provide support and resources devoted to the
 194 CHOICE academy.

195 (b) At least one established partnership and an
 196 articulation agreement for credit with a postsecondary
 197 institution.

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

200 The Okaloosa County School District and other school districts
 201 that have received funding from Workforce Florida, Inc., for the
 202 establishment of CHOICE academies prior to July 1, 2006, shall
 203 receive an expedited review for CHOICE academy designation by
 204 the department.

205 (6) A participating school district shall:

206 (a) Identify an appropriate location for classes.

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

210 (c) Redirect appropriated funding from ongoing activities
 211 to a CHOICE academy.

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

214 (7) The Department of Education shall:

215 (a) With assistance from Workforce Florida, Inc., provide
 216 technical assistance to participating school districts in
 217 submitting applications for designation of specific CHOICE
 218 academies located in specific schools in the school district,

HB 513

2006
CS

219 reorganizing career education opportunities, developing CHOICE
220 academies with career themes in areas deemed appropriate by
221 Workforce Florida, Inc., or local economic development
222 organizations, and developing funding plans.

223 (b) Jointly with Workforce Florida, Inc., and in
224 consultation with school districts, develop evaluation criteria
225 for CHOICE academies. Such criteria shall include increased
226 academic performance of students and schools using school-level
227 accountability data.

228 (c) Report to the State Board of Education, the Governor,
229 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
230 Representatives by July 1 of each year on school district
231 participation in the CHOICE project, designated CHOICE academies
232 with enrollment and completion data for such academies, and
233 appropriate outcomes for students who have completed a CHOICE
234 academy program. Such outcomes may include continuing
235 educational experiences of CHOICE academy graduates, business or
236 industry satisfaction with the CHOICE academies, placement of
237 CHOICE academy graduates in employment, and earnings of such
238 graduates.

239 (d) Promote CHOICE academies and provide planning and
240 startup resources as available.

241 (8) As provided in the General Appropriations Act, the
242 Department of Education shall award one-time startup funds to
243 school districts designated as participants in the CHOICE
244 project for the development of CHOICE academies. All school
245 districts designated by the department are authorized to
246 establish one or more CHOICE academies without incentive funds.

HB 513

2006
CS

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

249 288.9015 Enterprise Florida, Inc.; purpose; duties.--

250 (7) Enterprise Florida, Inc., shall work with the
251 Department of Education and Workforce Florida, Inc., in the
252 designation of school districts as participants in the CHOICE
253 project pursuant to s. 1003.494.

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

256 445.004 Workforce Florida, Inc.; creation; purpose;
257 membership; duties and powers.--

258 (5) Workforce Florida, Inc., shall have all the powers and
259 authority, not explicitly prohibited by statute, necessary or
260 convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes as
261 determined by statute, Pub. L. No. 105-220, and the Governor, as
262 well as its functions, duties, and responsibilities, including,
263 but not limited to, the following:

264 (i) Working with the Department of Education and
265 Enterprise Florida, Inc., in the implementation of the CHOICE
266 project pursuant to s. 1003.494.

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