

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Florida Ready to Work Certification
 3 Program; creating s. 1004.99, F.S.; creating the program
 4 to provide students with workforce skills assessment,
 5 instruction related to an occupation, and certification
 6 based on demonstration of such skills; providing for
 7 institutional eligibility; providing program components;
 8 authorizing rulemaking; providing appropriations;
 9 providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 1004.99, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1004.99 Florida Ready to Work Certification Program.--

(1) There is created the Florida Ready to Work Certification Program to provide workforce skills assessment; instruction designed to address specific academic, technical, and work ethics skills related to an occupation; and certification based on demonstration of these skills. High school students may participate in the program if they are enrolled in a program of study that results in career education certification on their high school diplomas. The program is intended to prepare participants for entry-level employment in the most expeditious manner possible by focusing instruction on skills required for successful employment that the student does not demonstrate upon program entry.

28 (2) The Florida Ready to Work Certification Program may be
29 conducted in public secondary schools, community colleges, area
30 technical centers, one-stop career centers, vocational
31 rehabilitation centers, and Department of Juvenile Justice
32 educational facilities. The Department of Education shall
33 establish institutional readiness criteria for program
34 implementation.

35 (3) The Florida Ready to Work Certification Program shall
36 be composed of:

37 (a) A profile of skills associated with occupations
38 identified for inclusion in the program by the Agency for
39 Workforce Innovation. A comprehensive set of academic,
40 technical, and work ethics skills shall be developed for each
41 such occupation, which skills students must demonstrate to
42 receive certification.

43 (b) A preinstructional assessment that delineates the
44 student's mastery level on specific academic, technical, and
45 work ethics skills identified in the profile for that
46 occupation.

47 (c) A targeted instructional program that is limited to
48 the academic, technical, and work ethics skills in which the
49 student is not proficient as measured by the preinstructional
50 assessment. Instruction must be available on the Internet and
51 must be revisable to meet identified specific needs of local
52 employers.

53 (d) A certificate and portfolio awarded to students upon
54 successful completion of the instruction. The portfolio must
55 delineate the skills demonstrated by the student in a manner

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56 that informs prospective employers of the student's preparation
57 for employment.

58 (4) The State Board of Education and the Agency for
59 Workforce Innovation may adopt rules necessary to implement the
60 Florida Ready to Work Certification Program.

61 Section 2. (1) From the \$39 million transferred in fiscal
62 year 2006-2007 to the Educational Media and Technology Trust
63 Fund in the Department of Education, \$11 million is appropriated
64 in fiscal year 2006-2007 for student assessments, curriculum,
65 and instruction for the Florida Ready to Work Certification
66 Program created under s. 1004.99, Florida Statutes.

67 (2) From the balance of funds transferred to the
68 Educational Media and Technology Trust Fund pursuant to
69 subsection (1), \$13 million shall be appropriated in fiscal year
70 2007-2008 for student assessments, curriculum, and instruction
71 for the Florida Ready to Work Certification Program created
72 under s. 1004.99, Florida Statutes.

73 (3) From the balance of funds transferred to the
74 Educational Media and Technology Trust Fund pursuant to
75 subsection (1), \$15 million shall be appropriated in fiscal year
76 2008-2009 for student assessments, curriculum, and instruction
77 for the Florida Ready to Work Certification Program created
78 under s. 1004.99, Florida Statutes.

79 Section 3. (1) From the \$11 million transferred in fiscal
80 year 2006-2007 to the Employment Security Administration Trust
81 Fund in the Agency for Workforce Innovation, \$4 million is
82 appropriated in fiscal year 2006-2007 for business outreach and

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83 profiling for the Florida Ready to Work Certification Program
84 created under s. 1004.99, Florida Statutes.

85 (2) From the balance of funds transferred to the
86 Employment Security Administration Trust Fund pursuant to
87 subsection (1), \$4 million shall be appropriated in fiscal year
88 2007-2008 for business outreach and profiling for the Florida
89 Ready to Work Certification Program created under s. 1004.99,
90 Florida Statutes.

91 (3) From the balance of funds transferred to the
92 Employment Security Administration Trust Fund pursuant to
93 subsection (1), \$3 million shall be appropriated in fiscal year
94 2008-2009 for business outreach and profiling for the Florida
95 Ready to Work Certification Program created under s. 1004.99,
96 Florida Statutes.

97 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.