5-1108-07

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to education; amending ss.
3	218.39, 1002.34, 1004.99, F.S.; redesignating
4	"technical centers" as "technical colleges";
5	providing an effective date.
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7	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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9	Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section
10	218.39, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
11	218.39 Annual financial audit reports
12	(1) If, by the first day in any fiscal year, a local
13	governmental entity, district school board, charter school, or
14	charter technical career center has not been notified that a
15	financial audit for that fiscal year will be performed by the
16	Auditor General, each of the following entities shall have an
17	annual financial audit of its accounts and records completed
18	within 12 months after the end of its fiscal year by an
19	independent certified public accountant retained by it and
20	paid from its public funds:
21	(f) Each charter technical college center established
22	under s. 1002.34.
23	Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) and
24	subsections (4) and (19) of section 1002.34, Florida Statutes,
25	is amended to read:
26	1002.34 Charter technical career centers
27	(3) DEFINITIONSAs used in this section, the term:
28	(a) "Charter technical career center" or "center"
29	means a public school or a public technical college center
30	operated under a charter granted by a district school board or
31	community college board of trustees or a consortium, including

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one or more district school boards and community college boards of trustees, that includes the district in which the facility is located, that is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and operations, and is managed by a board of directors.

(4) CHARTER. -- A sponsor may designate centers as provided in this section. An application to establish a center may be submitted by a sponsor or another organization that is determined, by rule of the State Board of Education, to be appropriate. However, an independent school is not eligible for status as a center. The charter must be signed by the governing body of the center and the sponsor, and must be approved by the district school board and community college board of trustees in whose geographic region the facility is located. If a charter technical career center is established by the conversion to charter status of a public technical college center formerly governed by a district school board, the charter status of that center takes precedence in any question of governance. The governance of the center or of any program within the center remains with its board of directors unless the board agrees to a change in governance or its charter is revoked as provided in subsection (15). Such a conversion charter technical career center is not affected by a change in the governance of public technical colleges centers or of programs within other centers that are or have been governed by district school boards. A charter technical career center, or any program within such a center, that was governed by a district school board and transferred to a community college prior to the effective date of this act is not affected by this provision. An applicant who wishes to establish a center must submit to the district school board or

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community college board of trustees, or a consortium of one or more of each, an application that includes:

- (a) The name of the proposed center.
- (b) The proposed structure of the center, including a list of proposed members of the board of directors or a description of the qualifications for and method of their appointment or election.
- (c) The workforce development goals of the center, the curriculum to be offered, and the outcomes and the methods of assessing the extent to which the outcomes are met.
- (d) The admissions policy and criteria for evaluating the admission of students.
- (e) A description of the staff responsibilities and the proposed qualifications of the teaching staff.
- (f) A description of the procedures to be implemented to ensure significant involvement of representatives of business and industry in the operation of the center.
- (g) A method for determining whether a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation specified in s. 1003.43 and for completion of a postsecondary certificate or degree.
- (h) A method for granting secondary and postsecondary diplomas, certificates, and degrees.
- (i) A description of and address for the physical facility in which the center will be located.
- (j) A method of resolving conflicts between the governing body of the center and the sponsor and between consortium members, if applicable.
- 29 (k) A method for reporting student data as required by 30 law and rule.

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(1) Other information required by the district school 2 board or community college board of trustees. 3 4 Students at a center must meet the same testing and academic 5 performance standards as those established by law and rule for students at public schools and public technical colleges centers. The students must also meet any additional assessment 8 indicators that are included within the charter approved by 9 the district school board or community college board of 10 trustees. (19) EVALUATION; REPORT. -- The Commissioner of 11 12 Education shall provide for an annual comparative evaluation 13 of charter technical career centers and public technical colleges centers. The evaluation may be conducted in 14 cooperation with the sponsor, through private contracts, or by 15 department staff. At a minimum, the comparative evaluation 16 must address the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics 18 of the students served, the types and costs of services provided, and the outcomes achieved. By December 30 of each 19 year, the Commissioner of Education shall submit to the 20 21 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the 22 House of Representatives, and the Senate and House committees 23 that have responsibility for secondary and postsecondary career and technical education a report of the comparative 2.4 evaluation completed for the previous school year. 25 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 1004.99, Florida 26 27 Statutes, is amended to read: 2.8 1004.99 Florida Ready to Work Certification Program. --29 (2) The Florida Ready to Work Certification Program

may be conducted in public middle and high schools, community

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vocational rehabilitation centers, and Department of Juvenile
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   Justice educational facilities. The program may be made
   available to other entities that provide job training. The
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   Department of Education shall establish institutional
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   readiness criteria for program implementation.
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           Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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                            SENATE SUMMARY
     Substitutes the term "technical college" for the term "technical center."
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