

581-548B-07

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to teacher education;
3 establishing the Florida Quality Educator
4 Council within the Executive Office of the
5 Governor; providing purposes and objectives of
6 the council; providing for membership and terms
7 of office; authorizing the members of the
8 council to be reimbursed for per diem and
9 travel expenses; requiring the council to
10 direct a data-collection and analysis
11 initiative; providing requirements for the
12 initiative; requiring that the council select
13 demonstration partnerships; providing
14 requirements for such partnerships; requiring
15 that the initiative and partnerships be used in
16 redesigning state teacher-preparation programs;
17 requiring that the council provide an annual
18 report to the Governor and Legislature;
19 providing an effective date.
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21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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23 Section 1. Florida Quality Educator Council.--
24 (1) The Florida Quality Educator Council is
25 established to promote, recruit, support, and sustain a highly
26 effective teacher workforce in order to meet the state's
27 educational needs and to compete in a global economy.
28 (2) Initiatives and programs developed by the Florida
29 Quality Educator Council pursuant to this act shall have the
30 following purposes and objectives:
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1 (a) To promote the extent to which teachers affect the
2 state's economy and ability to compete in a global, knowledge
3 economy.

4 (b) To advance teaching as a valuable profession.

5 (c) To direct a long-term data collection and analysis
6 initiative in order to identify and promote the most effective
7 practices and policies related to the preparation and
8 continuous support of highly effective teachers.

9 (d) To foster immediate and long-term modifications to
10 teacher preparation and teacher support programs provided by
11 postsecondary institutions, school districts, and individual
12 schools.

13 (e) To support action research through collaborative
14 partnerships between postsecondary institutions and local
15 school districts.

16 (3)(a) The Florida Quality Educator Council shall be
17 established within the Executive Office of the Governor and
18 shall consist of 12 members, six of whom shall be appointed by
19 the Governor, three of whom shall be appointed by the
20 President of the Senate, and three of whom shall be appointed
21 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Members shall
22 be appointed no later than October 1, 2007, and must represent
23 one of the following categories, provided each of the
24 respective categories is represented:

25 1. A Florida Teacher of the Year with demonstrated
26 evidence of sustained student achievement and who currently
27 teaches in a public school.

28 2. A school principal with demonstrated commitment to
29 beginning teachers, effective classroom instruction, and
30 evidence of sustained student achievement and school
31 improvement.

1 3. A district school superintendent with demonstrated
2 evidence of successful teacher recruitment and retention
3 practices and support for beginning teachers.

4 4. A president of a postsecondary institution
5 accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
6 (SACS) which is currently engaged in research on teacher
7 quality, multiple teacher-preparation pathways, efforts to
8 expand recruitment of new teachers, comprehensive redesign of
9 teacher preparation practices, and collaborative partnerships
10 with local schools and school-based instructional leaders.

11 5. A member of a Florida local education foundation
12 actively engaged in efforts to promote recruitment,
13 professional development, and retention of highly effective
14 teachers.

15 6. A chief operating officer of a Florida business who
16 serves as a member of a statewide economic development
17 organization and whose employees actively partner with local
18 schools.

19 (b) Council members shall serve 4-year terms and may
20 be reappointed to no more than two consecutive terms.

21 (c) Members of the council shall serve without
22 compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem
23 and travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

24 (d) The Executive Office of the Governor shall provide
25 administrative support and service to the council.

26 (e) The council may apply for and accept funds,
27 grants, gifts, and services from the state, the government of
28 the United States or any of its agencies, or any other public
29 or private source and is authorized to use funds derived from
30 these sources to defray clerical and administrative costs as
31 may be necessary to carry out the council's assigned duties.

1 (4) The Florida Quality Educator Council shall direct
2 a comprehensive data-collection and analysis initiative in
3 order to provide effective policy recommendations and to
4 establish successful and cost-efficient pathways to enhance
5 high quality and effective classroom instruction. The council
6 must use data collected pursuant to ss. 1001.10(3) and
7 1008.385(2), Florida Statutes, whenever feasible in order to
8 reduce data-collection duplication. The data-collection and
9 analysis initiative must be based upon evidence of student
10 achievement and learning gains attained as the result of
11 highly effective teaching. The data-collection elements shall
12 address at minimum, the following:

13 (a) Correlation, if any, based on a teacher's prior
14 involvement in a high school teaching career academy.

15 (b) Correlation, if any, based on standardized test
16 scores of teacher education candidates.

17 (c) Institution or teacher-preparation pathway
18 attended.

19 (d) Components of postsecondary teacher preparation to
20 include information regarding:

21 1. Onset and extent of classroom field experiences.

22 2. Description of both content and pedagogical
23 coursework.

24 3. Extent of opportunities for student teachers to
25 observe effective classroom instruction.

26 4. Extent of opportunities for student teachers to
27 demonstrate and model effective classroom instruction.

28 5. K-12 classroom teaching experience of faculty
29 members.

30 (e) Support and induction programs provided for
31 beginning teachers to include information regarding:

- 1 1. Length of the induction program.
- 2 2. Extent of involvement by the principal in the
3 induction period.
- 4 3. Description of mentoring provided to new teachers.
- 5 4. Provisions for common planning time and involvement
6 in professional learning communities with other teachers.
- 7 5. Professional development aligned to student
8 achievement.
- 9 6. Teaching load and assignment of extracurricular
10 responsibilities.
- 11 (f) Effect on student achievement and learning gains
12 by Florida National Board Certified Teachers.
- 13 (5) In order to provide immediate and continuous
14 action research and to implement findings of the
15 data-collection and analysis initiative specified in
16 subsection (4), the Florida Quality Educator Council shall
17 request proposals and select no later than January 1, 2008,
18 research demonstration partnerships from different
19 geographical regions of the state. Selected research
20 demonstration partnerships must include, at a minimum, the
21 following:
- 22 (a) Commitment, support, and involvement from the
23 president of a SACS-accredited postsecondary institution that
24 operates state-approved traditional and alternative
25 teacher-preparation programs and education-leadership programs
26 for school principals as specified in s. 1012.985, Florida
27 Statutes. The postsecondary institution must provide
28 opportunities for effective public school teachers to serve as
29 adjunct faculty instructors and must commit to engagement from
30 the entire institution to recruit and prepare classroom
31 teachers.

1 (b) Commitment, support, and involvement from local
2 school district superintendents and school principals. Local
3 schools must commit to serve as teaching and learning
4 laboratories, providing student teachers continuous
5 opportunities to observe effective classroom instruction.

6 (c) Technologies to deploy to Florida school districts
7 and state-approved teacher-preparation programs research
8 practices and key findings that result from the partnership.

9 (6) The comprehensive data-collection and analysis
10 specified in subparagraph (4) and the research demonstration
11 partnership specified in subparagraph (5) shall serve as the
12 basis of redesign and approval of all teacher-preparation
13 programs in the state.

14 (7) The Florida Quality Educator Council shall prepare
15 an annual report and present the report jointly with the
16 research demonstration partnerships to the Governor, the
17 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
18 Representatives no later than March 1 of each year.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
20 law.

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23 SENATE SUMMARY

24 Establishes the Florida Quality Educator Council within
25 the Executive Office of the Governor. Provides for
26 membership and terms of office. Requires that the council
27 direct a data-collection and analysis initiative and
28 select demonstration partnerships. Requires that the
29 initiative and partnerships be used in redesigning state
30 teacher-preparation programs. Requires that the council
31 provide an annual report to the Governor and Legislature.