

By Senator Alexander

17-01496-11

20111614\_\_

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to high school graduation  
3           requirements; amending s. 1003.428, F.S.; revising  
4           provisions relating to the general requirements for  
5           high school graduation to include a Career Academy  
6           curriculum and an Honors ROTC curriculum; providing an  
7           effective date.  
8

9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
10

11           Section 1. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection  
12           (2) of section 1003.428, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
13           1003.428 General requirements for high school graduation;  
14           revised.—

15           (1) Except as otherwise authorized pursuant to s. 1003.429,  
16           beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2007-2008 school  
17           year, graduation requires the successful completion of a minimum  
18           of 24 credits, an International Baccalaureate curriculum, ~~or~~ an  
19           Advanced International Certificate of Education curriculum, a  
20           Career Academy curriculum, or an Honors ROTC curriculum.

21           Students must be advised of eligibility requirements for state  
22           scholarship programs and postsecondary admissions.

23           (2) The 24 credits may be earned through applied,  
24           integrated, and combined courses approved by the Department of  
25           Education. The 24 credits shall be distributed as follows:

26           (a) Sixteen core curriculum credits:

27           1. Four credits in English, with major concentration in  
28           composition, reading for information, and literature.

29           2. Four credits in mathematics, one of which must be

17-01496-11

20111614

30 Algebra I, a series of courses equivalent to Algebra I, or a  
31 higher-level mathematics course. Beginning with students  
32 entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, in addition to  
33 the Algebra I credit requirement, one of the four credits in  
34 mathematics must be geometry, ~~or~~ a series of courses equivalent  
35 to geometry, or a rigorous course consistent with the intent of  
36 the student's career program in which he or she is enrolled as  
37 approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning with  
38 students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, the end-  
39 of-course assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I)  
40 must be met in order for a student to earn the required credit  
41 in Algebra I. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the  
42 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course assessment requirements  
43 under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student  
44 to earn the required credit in geometry. Beginning with students  
45 entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year, in addition to  
46 the Algebra I and geometry credit requirements, one of the four  
47 credits in mathematics must be Algebra II or a series of courses  
48 equivalent to Algebra II as approved by the State Board of  
49 Education.

50 3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a  
51 laboratory component. Beginning with students entering grade 9  
52 in the 2011-2012 school year, one of the three credits in  
53 science must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to  
54 Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning  
55 with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the  
56 end-of-course assessment requirements under s.  
57 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(II) must be met in order for a student to earn  
58 the required credit in Biology I. Beginning with students

17-01496-11

20111614

59 entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year, one of the three  
60 credits must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to  
61 Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education, one  
62 credit must be chemistry or physics, ~~or~~ a series of courses  
63 equivalent to chemistry or physics, or a rigorous course  
64 consistent with the intent of the student's career program in  
65 which he or she is enrolled as approved by the State Board of  
66 Education, and one credit must be an equally rigorous course, as  
67 determined by the State Board of Education.

68 4. Three credits in social studies as follows: one credit  
69 in United States history; one credit in world history; one-half  
70 credit in economics; and one-half credit in United States  
71 government.

72 5. One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and  
73 debate, or a practical arts course that incorporates artistic  
74 content and techniques of creativity, interpretation, and  
75 imagination. Eligible practical arts courses shall be identified  
76 through the Course Code Directory.

77 6. One credit in physical education to include integration  
78 of health. Participation in an interscholastic sport at the  
79 junior varsity or varsity level for two full seasons shall  
80 satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education if the  
81 student passes a competency test on personal fitness with a  
82 score of "C" or better. The competency test on personal fitness  
83 must be developed by the Department of Education. A district  
84 school board may not require that the one credit in physical  
85 education be taken during the 9th grade year. Completion of one  
86 semester with a grade of "C" or better in a marching band class,  
87 in a physical activity class that requires participation in

17-01496-11

20111614\_\_

88 marching band activities as an extracurricular activity, or in a  
89 dance class shall satisfy one-half credit in physical education  
90 or one-half credit in performing arts. This credit may not be  
91 used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the  
92 requirement for adaptive physical education under an individual  
93 education plan (IEP) or 504 plan. Completion of 2 years in a  
94 Reserve Officer Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) class, a significant  
95 component of which is drills, shall satisfy the one-credit  
96 requirement in physical education and the one-credit requirement  
97 in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the  
98 personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive  
99 physical education under an individual education plan (IEP) or  
100 504 plan.

101 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.