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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to health education; amending s. 1003.428,
3 F.S.; providing for a mandatory one-half credit in health
4 education, independent of physical education credit
5 requirements, for high school students; providing a waiver
6 for students who request to take and successfully complete
7 a health education assessment developed by the Department
8 of Education; reducing the number of credits in elective
9 courses; providing an effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 1003.428, Florida
14 Statutes, is amended to read:

15 1003.428 General requirements for high school graduation;
16 revised.—

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

20 (a) Sixteen and one-half core curriculum credits:

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

23 2. Four credits in mathematics, one of which must be
24 Algebra I, a series of courses equivalent to Algebra I, or a
25 higher-level mathematics course. Beginning with students
26 entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year, in addition to
27 the Algebra I credit requirement, one of the four credits in
28 mathematics must be geometry or a series of courses equivalent

29 | to geometry as approved by the State Board of Education.
30 | Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school
31 | year, the end-of-course assessment requirements under s.
32 | 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I) must be met in order for a student to earn
33 | the required credit in Algebra I. Beginning with students
34 | entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the end-of-course
35 | assessment requirements under s. 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(I) must be
36 | met in order for a student to earn the required credit in
37 | geometry. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2012-
38 | 2013 school year, in addition to the Algebra I and geometry
39 | credit requirements, one of the four credits in mathematics must
40 | be Algebra II or a series of courses equivalent to Algebra II as
41 | approved by the State Board of Education.

42 | 3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a
43 | laboratory component. Beginning with students entering grade 9
44 | in the 2011-2012 school year, one of the three credits in
45 | science must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to
46 | Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education. Beginning
47 | with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, the
48 | end-of-course assessment requirements under s.
49 | 1008.22(3)(c)2.a.(II) must be met in order for a student to earn
50 | the required credit in Biology I. Beginning with students
51 | entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year, one of the three
52 | credits must be Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to
53 | Biology I as approved by the State Board of Education, one
54 | credit must be chemistry or physics or a series of courses
55 | equivalent to chemistry or physics as approved by the State
56 | Board of Education, and one credit must be an equally rigorous

57 | course, as determined by the State Board of Education.

58 | 4. Three credits in social studies as follows: one credit
59 | in United States history; one credit in world history; one-half
60 | credit in economics; and one-half credit in United States
61 | government.

62 | 5. One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and
63 | debate, or a practical arts course that incorporates artistic
64 | content and techniques of creativity, interpretation, and
65 | imagination. Eligible practical arts courses shall be identified
66 | through the Course Code Directory.

67 | 6. One credit in physical education ~~to include integration~~
68 | ~~of health~~. Participation in an interscholastic sport at the
69 | junior varsity or varsity level for two full seasons shall
70 | satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education if the
71 | student passes a competency test on personal fitness with a
72 | score of "C" or better. The competency test on personal fitness
73 | must be developed by the Department of Education. A district
74 | school board may not require that the one credit in physical
75 | education be taken during the 9th grade year. Completion of one
76 | semester with a grade of "C" or better in a marching band class,
77 | in a physical activity class that requires participation in
78 | marching band activities as an extracurricular activity, or in a
79 | dance class shall satisfy one-half credit in physical education
80 | or one-half credit in performing arts. This credit may not be
81 | used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the
82 | requirement for adaptive physical education under an individual
83 | education plan (IEP) or 504 plan. Completion of 2 years in a
84 | Reserve Officer Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) class, a significant

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85 component of which is drills, shall satisfy the one-credit
86 requirement in physical education and the one-credit requirement
87 in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the
88 personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive
89 physical education under an individual education plan (IEP) or
90 504 plan.

91 7. One-half credit in health education. The health
92 education requirement may be waived if the student requests to
93 take the health education assessment and scores a "C" or better.
94 The Department of Education shall develop the health education
95 assessment.

96 (b) Seven and one-half ~~Eight~~ credits in electives.

97 1. For each year in which a student scores at Level 1 on
98 FCAT Reading, the student must be enrolled in and complete an
99 intensive reading course the following year. Placement of Level
100 2 readers in either an intensive reading course or a content
101 area course in which reading strategies are delivered shall be
102 determined by diagnosis of reading needs. The department shall
103 provide guidance on appropriate strategies for diagnosing and
104 meeting the varying instructional needs of students reading
105 below grade level. Reading courses shall be designed and offered
106 pursuant to the comprehensive reading plan required by s.
107 1011.62(9).

108 2. For each year in which a student scores at Level 1 or
109 Level 2 on FCAT Mathematics, the student must receive
110 remediation the following year. These courses may be taught
111 through applied, integrated, or combined courses and are subject
112 to approval by the department for inclusion in the Course Code

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113 | Directory.

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