



260108

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
02/02/2012	.	
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	.	
	.	

The Committee on Commerce and Tourism (Montford) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 1003.491, Florida Statutes, is amended
to read:

1003.491 Florida Career and Professional Education Act.—The
Florida Career and Professional Education Act is created to
provide a statewide planning partnership between the business
and education communities in order to attract, expand, and
retain targeted, high-value industry and to sustain a strong,
knowledge-based economy.



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13 (1) The primary purpose of the Florida Career and
14 Professional Education Act is to:

15 (a) Improve middle and high school academic performance by
16 providing rigorous and relevant curriculum opportunities;

17 (b) Provide rigorous and relevant career-themed courses
18 that articulate to postsecondary-level coursework and lead to
19 industry certification;

20 (c) Support local and regional economic development;

21 (d) Respond to Florida's critical workforce needs; and

22 (e) Provide state residents with access to high-wage and
23 high-demand careers.

24 (2) Each district school board shall develop, in
25 collaboration with regional workforce boards, economic
26 development agencies, and postsecondary institutions approved to
27 operate in the state, a strategic 3-year ~~5-year~~ plan to address
28 and meet local and regional workforce demands. If involvement of
29 a regional workforce board or an economic development agency in
30 the strategic plan development is not feasible, the local school
31 board, with the approval of the Department of Economic
32 Opportunity, shall collaborate with the most appropriate
33 regional business leadership board. Two or more school districts
34 may collaborate in the development of the strategic plan and
35 offer career-themed courses or a career and professional academy
36 as a joint venture. The strategic plan must describe in detail
37 provisions for the efficient transportation of students, the
38 maximum use of shared resources, access to courses aligned to
39 state curriculum standards through virtual education providers
40 legislatively authorized to provide part-time instruction to
41 middle school students, and an objective review of proposed



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42 career-themed ~~career and professional academy~~ courses to
43 determine if the courses will lead to the attainment of industry
44 certifications included on the Industry Certified Funding List
45 pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education. Each
46 strategic plan shall be reviewed, updated, and jointly approved
47 every 3 ~~5~~ years by the local school district, regional workforce
48 boards, economic development agencies, and state-approved
49 postsecondary institutions.

50 (3) The strategic 3-year ~~5-year~~ plan developed jointly by
51 the local school district, regional workforce boards, economic
52 development agencies, and state-approved postsecondary
53 institutions shall be constructed and based on:

54 (a) Research conducted to objectively determine local and
55 regional workforce needs for the ensuing 3 ~~5~~ years, using labor
56 projections of the United States Department of Labor and the
57 Department of Economic Opportunity;

58 (b) Strategies to develop and implement career-themed
59 courses ~~career academies~~ based on those careers determined to be
60 in high demand;

61 (c) Strategies to provide shared, maximum use of private
62 sector facilities and personnel;

63 (d) Strategies that ensure instruction by industry-
64 certified faculty and standards and strategies to maintain
65 current industry credentials and for recruiting and retaining
66 faculty to meet those standards;

67 (e) Strategies to provide personalized student advisement,
68 including a parent-participation component, and coordination
69 with middle schools to promote and support career-themed courses
70 and education planning as required under s. 1003.4156. As part



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71 of the coordination with middle schools, career-themed courses
72 must provide information to middle school students about
73 secondary and postsecondary career education courses that lead
74 to industry certification;

75 (f)-(e) Alignment of requirements for middle school and high
76 school career-themed courses ~~career exploration, middle and high~~
77 ~~school career and professional academies~~ leading to industry
78 certification, postsecondary credit, and high school graduation
79 requirements;

80 (g)-(f) Provisions to ensure that career-themed courses
81 ~~offered through career and professional academies~~ are
82 academically rigorous, meet or exceed appropriate state-adopted
83 subject area standards, result in attainment of industry
84 certification, and, when appropriate, result in postsecondary
85 credit;

86 (h) Plans to sustain and improve career-themed courses and
87 career and professional academies;

88 (i)-(g) Strategies to improve the passage rate for industry
89 certification examinations if the rate falls below 50 percent;

90 (j)-(h) Strategies to recruit students into career-themed
91 courses, ~~Establishment of student eligibility criteria in career~~
92 ~~and professional academies~~ which include opportunities for
93 students who have been unsuccessful in traditional classrooms
94 but who are interested in enrolling in career-themed courses
95 ~~show aptitude to participate in academies~~. School boards shall
96 address the analysis of middle school ~~eighth grade~~ student
97 achievement data to provide opportunities for students who may
98 be deemed ~~as~~ potential dropouts to enroll ~~participate~~ in career-
99 themed courses ~~career and professional academies;~~



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100 (k)~~(i)~~ Strategies to provide sufficient space within
101 career-themed courses ~~academies~~ to meet workforce needs and to
102 provide access to all interested and qualified students;

103 (l)~~(j)~~ Strategies to implement career-themed courses ~~career~~
104 ~~and professional academy training~~ that lead ~~leads~~ to industry
105 certification in juvenile justice education programs ~~at~~
106 ~~Department of Juvenile Justice facilities;~~

107 (m)~~(k)~~ Opportunities for high school students to earn
108 weighted or dual enrollment credit for higher-level career-
109 themed ~~career and technical~~ courses;

110 (n)~~(l)~~ Promotion of the benefits of the Gold Seal Bright
111 Futures Scholarship;

112 (o)~~(m)~~ Strategies to ensure the review of district pupil-
113 progression plans and to amend such plans to include career-
114 themed ~~career and professional~~ courses, and to include courses
115 that may qualify as substitute courses for core graduation
116 requirements and those that may be counted as elective courses;
117 ~~and~~

118 (p)~~(n)~~ Strategies to provide professional development for
119 secondary guidance counselors on the benefits of career-themed
120 courses that lead to industry certification; ~~and career and~~
121 ~~professional academies.~~

122 (q) Strategies to redirect appropriated career funding to
123 career-themed courses and career and professional academies.

124 (4) The State Board of Education shall establish a process
125 for the continual and uninterrupted review of newly proposed
126 core secondary courses and existing courses requested to be
127 considered as core courses to ensure that sufficient rigor and
128 relevance is provided for workforce skills and postsecondary



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129 education and aligned to state curriculum standards. The review
130 of newly proposed core secondary courses shall be the
131 responsibility of a curriculum review committee whose membership
132 is approved by Workforce Florida, Inc., ~~the Workforce Florida~~
133 ~~Board~~ as described in s. 445.004, and shall include:

134 (a) Three certified high school guidance counselors
135 recommended by the Florida Association of Student Services
136 Administrators.

137 (b) Three assistant superintendents for curriculum and
138 instruction, recommended by the Florida Association of District
139 School Superintendents and who serve in districts that offer
140 career-themed courses ~~operate successful career and professional~~
141 ~~academies~~ pursuant to s. 1003.492. Committee members in this
142 category shall employ the expertise of appropriate subject area
143 specialists in the review of proposed courses.

144 (c) Three workforce representatives recommended by the
145 Department of Economic Opportunity.

146 (d) Three admissions directors of postsecondary
147 institutions accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges
148 and Schools, representing both public and private institutions.

149 (e) The ~~Deputy~~ Commissioner of Education, or his or her
150 designee, responsible for K-12 curriculum and instruction. The
151 Deputy Commissioner shall employ the expertise of appropriate
152 subject area specialists in the review of proposed courses.

153 (5) The curriculum review committee shall review ~~submission~~
154 ~~and review of~~ newly proposed core courses ~~shall be conducted~~
155 ~~electronically,~~ and approve or deny each proposed core course
156 ~~shall be approved or denied~~ within 30 ~~60~~ days. All courses
157 approved as core courses for purposes of middle school promotion



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158 and high school graduation shall be immediately added to the
159 Course Code Directory. Approved core courses shall also be
160 reviewed and considered for approval for dual enrollment credit.
161 The Board of Governors and the Commissioner of Education shall
162 jointly recommend an annual deadline for approval of new core
163 courses to be included for purposes of postsecondary admissions
164 and dual enrollment credit the following academic year. The
165 State Board of Education shall establish an appeals process in
166 the event that a proposed course is denied which shall require a
167 consensus ruling by the Department of Economic Opportunity and
168 the Commissioner of Education within 15 days.

169 Section 2. Section 1003.492, Florida Statutes, is amended
170 to read:

171 1003.492 Industry-certified career-themed courses ~~career~~
172 ~~education programs.~~—

173 (1) Career-themed courses must ~~Career and professional~~
174 ~~academies shall~~ be coordinated with the relevant and appropriate
175 industry ~~indicating that all components of the program are~~
176 ~~relevant and appropriate~~ to prepare a the student for further
177 education or for employment in that industry.

178 (2) The State Board of Education shall use the expertise of
179 Workforce Florida, Inc., to develop and adopt rules pursuant to
180 ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 for implementing an industry
181 certification process. Industry certification shall be defined
182 by the Department of Economic Opportunity, based upon the
183 highest available national standards for specific industry
184 certification, to ensure student skill proficiency and to
185 address emerging labor market and industry trends. A regional
186 workforce board or a school principal ~~career and professional~~



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187 ~~academy~~ may apply to Workforce Florida, Inc., to request
188 additions to the approved list of industry certifications based
189 on high-demand job requirements in the regional economy. The
190 list of industry certifications approved by Workforce Florida,
191 Inc., and the Department of Education shall be published and
192 updated annually by a date certain, to be included in the
193 adopted rule.

194 (3) The Department of Education shall collect student
195 achievement and performance data in industry-certified career-
196 themed courses ~~career education programs~~ and shall work with
197 Workforce Florida, Inc., in the analysis of collected data. The
198 data collection and analyses shall examine the performance of
199 participating students over time. Performance factors shall
200 include, but not be limited to, graduation rates, retention
201 rates, Florida Bright Futures Scholarship awards, additional
202 educational attainment, employment records, earnings, and
203 industry certification, ~~and employer satisfaction~~. The results
204 of this study shall be submitted to the President of the Senate
205 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives annually by
206 December 31.

207 Section 3. Section 1003.493, Florida Statutes, is amended
208 to read:

209 1003.493 Career-themed courses ~~Career and professional~~
210 ~~academies~~.—

211 (1) A "career-themed course" ~~"career and professional~~
212 ~~academy"~~ is a course in an ~~research-based program that~~
213 ~~integrates a rigorous academic curriculum with an~~ industry-
214 specific curriculum aligned directly to priority workforce needs
215 established by the regional workforce board or the Department of



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216 Economic Opportunity. ~~Career and professional academies shall be~~
217 ~~offered by~~ Public schools and school districts shall offer
218 career-themed courses. The Florida Virtual School is encouraged
219 to develop and offer rigorous career-themed ~~career and~~
220 ~~professional~~ courses as appropriate. A student who enrolls in
221 and completes a career-themed course or a sequence of career-
222 themed courses ~~Students completing career and professional~~
223 ~~academy programs~~ must receive ~~a standard high school diploma,~~
224 ~~the highest available industry certification,~~ and opportunities
225 to earn postsecondary credit if the credits for career-themed
226 courses can be articulated to academy partners with a
227 postsecondary institution approved to operate in the state.

228 (2) The goals of career-themed courses ~~a career and~~
229 ~~professional academy~~ are to:

230 (a) Increase student academic achievement and graduation
231 rates through integrated academic and career curricula.

232 (b) Prepare graduating high school students to make
233 appropriate choices relative to employment and future
234 educational experiences.

235 (c) Focus on career preparation through rigorous academics
236 and industry certification.

237 (d) Raise student aspiration and commitment to academic
238 achievement and work ethics through relevant coursework.

239 (e) Promote acceleration mechanisms, such as dual
240 enrollment ~~and,~~ articulated credits ~~credit, or occupational~~
241 ~~completion points,~~ so that students may earn postsecondary
242 credit while in high school.

243 (f) Support the state's economy by meeting industry needs
244 for skilled employees in high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand



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245 occupations.

246 (3) A career-themed course may be offered in one of the
247 following ~~Existing career education courses may serve as a~~
248 ~~foundation for the creation of a career and professional~~
249 ~~academy. A career and professional academy may be offered as one~~
250 ~~of the following small learning communities:~~

251 (a) A school-within-a-school career academy, as part of an
252 existing high school, which ~~that~~ provides courses in one
253 occupational cluster. Students who attend ~~in~~ the high school are
254 not required to attend ~~be students in~~ the academy.

255 (b) A total school configuration providing multiple career-
256 themed courses that are academies, ~~each~~ structured around an
257 occupational cluster. The majority of students attending ~~Every~~
258 ~~student in~~ the school also attend the ~~is in an~~ academy.

259 (4) A career-themed course ~~Each career and professional~~
260 ~~academy~~ must:

261 (a) Consider ~~Provide a rigorous standards-based academic~~
262 ~~curriculum integrated with a career curriculum. The curriculum~~
263 ~~must take into consideration~~ multiple styles of student
264 learning; promote learning by doing through application and
265 adaptation; maximize relevance of the subject matter; enhance
266 each student's capacity to excel; and include an emphasis on
267 work habits and work ethics.

268 (b) Include one or more partnerships with postsecondary
269 institutions, businesses, industry, employers, economic
270 development organizations, or other appropriate partners from
271 the local community. These ~~Such~~ partnerships shall be delineated
272 in articulation agreements to provide for career-themed ~~career-~~
273 ~~based~~ courses that earn postsecondary credit. The ~~Such~~



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274 agreements may include articulation between the career-themed
275 courses academy and public or private 2-year and 4-year
276 postsecondary institutions and technical centers. The Department
277 of Education, in consultation with the Board of Governors, shall
278 establish a mechanism to ensure articulation and transfer of
279 credits to postsecondary institutions in this state. The ~~Such~~
280 partnerships must provide opportunities for:

- 281 1. Instruction from highly skilled professionals who
- 282 possess industry-certification credentials for courses they are
- 283 teaching.
- 284 2. Internships, externships, and on-the-job training.
- 285 3. A postsecondary degree, diploma, or certificate.
- 286 4. The highest available level of industry certification.
- 287 5. Maximum articulation of credits pursuant to s. 1007.23
- 288 upon program completion.

289 ~~(c) Provide shared, maximum use of private sector~~
290 ~~facilities and personnel.~~

291 ~~(d) Provide personalized student advisement, including a~~
292 ~~parent participation component, and coordination with middle~~
293 ~~schools to promote and support career exploration and education~~
294 ~~planning as required under s. 1003.4156. Coordination with~~
295 ~~middle schools must provide information to middle school~~
296 ~~students about secondary and postsecondary career education~~
297 ~~programs and academies.~~

298 ~~(c)-(e)~~ Promote and provide opportunities for students
299 enrolled in career-themed courses ~~career and professional~~
300 ~~academy students~~ to attain, at minimum, the Florida Gold Seal
301 Vocational Scholars award pursuant to s. 1009.536.

302 ~~(d)-(f)~~ Provide instruction in careers designated as high



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303 growth, high demand, and high pay by the regional workforce
304 development board, the chamber of commerce, economic development
305 agencies, or the Department of Economic Opportunity.

306 (e)~~(g)~~ Deliver academic content through instruction
307 relevant to the career, including intensive reading and
308 mathematics intervention required by s. 1003.428, with an
309 emphasis on strengthening reading for information skills.

310 (f)~~(h)~~ Offer applied courses that combine academic content
311 with technical skills.

312 (g)~~(i)~~ Provide instruction resulting in competency,
313 certification, or credentials in workplace skills, including,
314 but not limited to, communication skills, interpersonal skills,
315 decisionmaking skills, the importance of attendance and
316 timeliness in the work environment, and work ethics.

317 ~~(j) Include a plan to sustain career and professional
318 academies.~~

319 ~~(k) Redirect appropriated career funding to career and
320 professional academies.~~

321 (5) All career-themed career courses ~~offered in a career~~
322 ~~and professional academy~~ must lead to industry certification or
323 college credit ~~linked directly to the career theme of the~~
324 ~~course~~. If the passage rate on an industry certification
325 examination that is associated with a career-themed course ~~the~~
326 ~~career and professional academy~~ falls below 50 percent,
327 strategies to improve the passage rate must be included in the
328 strategic 3-year plan ~~the academy must discontinue enrollment of~~
329 ~~new students the following school year and each year thereafter~~
330 ~~until such time as the passage rate is above 50 percent or the~~
331 ~~academy is discontinued.~~



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332 (6) Workforce Florida, Inc., ~~through the secondary career~~
333 ~~academies initiatives~~, shall serve in an advisory role and offer
334 ~~technical assistance~~ in the development and deployment of newly
335 established career-themed courses ~~career and professional~~
336 ~~academies~~.

337 Section 4. Section 1003.4935, Florida Statutes, is amended
338 to read:

339 1003.4935 Middle school career-themed ~~career and~~
340 ~~professional academy~~ courses.—

341 (1) Beginning with the 2012-2013 ~~2011-2012~~ school year,
342 each district school board, in collaboration with regional
343 workforce boards, economic development agencies, and state-
344 approved postsecondary institutions, shall include plans to
345 implement career-themed courses ~~a career and professional~~
346 ~~academy~~ in at least one middle school in the district as part of
347 the strategic 3-year ~~5-year~~ plan pursuant to s. 1003.491(2). The
348 ~~middle school career and professional academy component of the~~
349 strategic plan must ensure the transition of middle school
350 ~~career and professional academy~~ students enrolled in career-
351 themed courses to a high school career-themed courses ~~career and~~
352 ~~professional academy~~ currently operating within the school
353 district. Students who complete a middle school career-themed
354 courses ~~career and professional academy~~ must have the
355 opportunity to earn an industry certificate and high school
356 credit and participate in career planning, job shadowing, and
357 business leadership development activities.

358 (2) Each middle school career-themed course ~~career and~~
359 ~~professional academy~~ must be aligned with at least one high
360 school career-themed course ~~career and professional academy~~



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361 offered in the district and maintain partnerships with local
362 business and industry and economic development boards. Middle
363 school career-themed courses ~~career and professional academies~~
364 must:

365 (a) Lead ~~Provide instruction in courses leading to careers~~
366 in occupations designated as high growth, high demand, and high
367 wage pay in the Industry Certification Funding List approved
368 under rules adopted by the State Board of Education;

369 (b) ~~Offer career and professional academy courses that~~
370 Integrate content from core subject areas;

371 (c) ~~Offer courses that~~ Integrate career-themed course
372 ~~career and professional academy~~ content with intensive reading
373 and mathematics pursuant to s. 1003.428;

374 (d) ~~Coordinate with high schools to~~ Maximize opportunities
375 for middle school ~~career and professional academy~~ students
376 enrolled in career-themed courses to earn high school credit;

377 (e) Be offered ~~Provide access to virtual instruction~~
378 ~~courses provided~~ by virtual education providers legislatively
379 authorized to provide part-time instruction to middle school
380 students. The virtual instruction courses must be aligned to
381 state curriculum standards for middle school ~~career and~~
382 ~~professional academy~~ students, with priority given to students
383 who have required course deficits;

384 (f) Be taught by ~~Provide instruction from~~ highly skilled
385 professionals who hold industry certificates in the career area
386 in which they teach;

387 (g) Offer externships; and

388 (h) Provide personalized student advisement that includes a
389 parent-participation component.



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390 (3) Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, if a school
391 district implements a middle school career-themed courses ~~career~~
392 ~~and professional academy~~, the Department of Education shall
393 collect and report student achievement data pursuant to
394 performance factors identified under s. 1003.492(3) for ~~academy~~
395 students who are enrolled in career-themed courses and who
396 attain an industry certification identified in the Industry
397 Certified Funding List pursuant to rules adopted by the State
398 Board of Education.

399 Section 5. Paragraph (o) of subsection (1) of section
400 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

401 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual
402 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each
403 district for operation of schools is not determined in the
404 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing
405 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as
406 follows:

407 (1) COMPUTATION OF THE BASIC AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED FOR
408 OPERATION.—The following procedure shall be followed in
409 determining the annual allocation to each district for
410 operation:

411 (o) *Calculation of additional full-time equivalent*
412 *membership based on certification of successful completion of*
413 *career-themed courses ~~industry-certified career and professional~~*
414 *~~academy programs~~ pursuant to ss. 1003.491, 1003.492, 1003.493,*
415 *and 1003.4935 and attainment of the highest level of industry*
416 *certification identified in the Industry Certified Funding List*
417 *pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education.—A*
418 *value of 0.1, 0.2, or 0.3 full-time equivalent student*



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419 membership shall be calculated for each student who completes
420 career-themed courses ~~an industry-certified career and~~
421 ~~professional academy program~~ under ss. 1003.491, 1003.492,
422 1003.493, and 1003.4935 and who is issued the highest level of
423 industry certification identified annually in the Industry
424 Certification Funding List approved under rules adopted by the
425 State Board of Education and a high school diploma. The maximum
426 full-time equivalent student membership value for any student is
427 0.3. The Department of Education shall assign the appropriate
428 full-time equivalent value for each certification, 50 percent of
429 which is based on rigor and the remaining 50 percent on
430 employment value. The State Board of Education shall include the
431 assigned values in the Industry Certification Funding List under
432 rules adopted by the state board. Rigor shall be based on the
433 number of instructional hours, including work experience hours,
434 required to earn the certification, with a bonus for industry
435 certifications that have a statewide articulation agreement for
436 college credit approved by the State Board of Education.
437 Employment value shall be based on the entry wage, growth rate
438 in employment for each occupational category, and average annual
439 openings for the primary occupation linked to the industry
440 certification. The ~~Such~~ value shall be added to the total full-
441 time equivalent student membership in secondary career education
442 programs for grades 9 through 12 in the subsequent year for
443 courses that were not funded through dual enrollment. The
444 additional full-time equivalent membership authorized under this
445 paragraph may not exceed 0.3 per student. Each district must
446 allocate at least 80 percent of the funds provided for industry
447 certification, in accordance with this paragraph, to the program



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448 that generated the funds. Unless a different amount is specified
449 in the General Appropriations Act, the appropriation for this
450 calculation is limited to \$30 ~~\$15~~ million annually. If the
451 appropriation is insufficient to fully fund the total
452 calculation, the appropriation shall be prorated.

453 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

454
455 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

456 And the title is amended as follows:

457 Delete everything before the enacting clause
458 and insert:

459 A bill to be entitled
460 An act relating to career-themed courses; amending s.
461 1003.491, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the
462 Florida Career and Professional Education Act;
463 requiring that each district school board, in
464 collaboration with regional workforce boards, economic
465 development agencies, and postsecondary institutions,
466 develop a strategic 3-year plan addressing and meeting
467 local and regional workforce demands; authorizing
468 school districts to offer career-themed courses;
469 revising the requirements of the strategic 3-year plan
470 to include career-themed courses and specified
471 strategies; revising the period within which newly
472 proposed core courses are to be approved or denied by
473 the curriculum review committee; amending s. 1003.492,
474 F.S.; revising provisions relating to industry-
475 certified career education programs to conform to
476 changes made by the act; amending s. 1003.493, F.S.;



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477 providing a definition for the term "career-themed
478 course"; requiring that a student who enrolls in and
479 completes a career-themed course or a sequence of
480 career-themed courses receive opportunities to earn
481 postsecondary credit if the career-themed course
482 credits can be articulated to a postsecondary
483 institution; providing goals of career-themed courses;
484 providing for career-themed courses to be offered in a
485 school-within-a-school career academy or a school
486 providing multiple career-themed courses structured
487 around an occupational cluster; providing requirements
488 for career-themed courses; requiring that strategies
489 to improve the passage rate on an industry
490 certification examination be included in the strategic
491 3-year plan under certain circumstances; requiring
492 that Workforce Florida, Inc., serve in a advisory role
493 in the development and deployment of newly established
494 career-themed courses; amending s. 1003.4935, F.S.;
495 revising provisions relating to middle school career
496 and professional academy courses to conform to changes
497 made by the act; requiring that the Department of
498 Education collect and report student achievement data
499 for students who are enrolled in career-themed courses
500 and who attain a specified industry certification;
501 amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising provisions
502 relating to the computation of the annual allocation
503 of funds to each school district for operation;
504 providing an effective date.