

By the Committees on Budget Subcommittee on Higher Education Appropriations; and Education Pre-K - 12; and Senators Gaetz and Lynn

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to education; creating s. 445.07,  
3           F.S.; requiring that the Department of Economic  
4           Opportunity prepare, or contract with an entity to  
5           prepare, an economic security report of employment and  
6           earning outcomes for degrees or certificates earned at  
7           a public postsecondary educational institution;  
8           requiring that the report be made available online;  
9           providing requirements for the report; amending s.  
10          1001.02, F.S.; providing duties of the State Board of  
11          Education relating to the 5-year plan for  
12          postsecondary enrollment and the strategic plan that  
13          specifies goals and objectives for public schools and  
14          Florida College System institutions; requiring that  
15          Florida College System institutions provide students  
16          with electronic access to the economic security report  
17          of employment and earning outcomes prepared by the  
18          Department of Economic Opportunity; providing powers  
19          and duties of the State Board of Education relating to  
20          institutional service delivery areas and credit hour  
21          requirements; amending s. 1001.03, F.S.; requiring  
22          that the State Board of Education identify performance  
23          metrics for the Florida College System and develop a  
24          plan specifying goals and objectives for each Florida  
25          College System institution; providing requirements for  
26          the plan; requiring that the State Board of Education  
27          adopt a unified state plan for science, technology,  
28          engineering, and mathematics in K-20 education;  
29          amending s. 1001.10, F.S.; authorizing the

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30 Commissioner of Education to review or investigate the  
31 practices, procedures, or actions of any Florida  
32 College System institution under certain  
33 circumstances; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; requiring  
34 that district school boards require school principals  
35 or classroom teachers to annually provide secondary  
36 school students and their parents with electronic  
37 access to the Department of Economic Opportunity's  
38 economic security report; amending s. 1001.64, F.S.;  
39 revising provisions relating to the powers and duties  
40 of Florida College System institution boards of  
41 trustees to conform to changes made by the act;  
42 amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; revising the powers and  
43 duties of the Board of Governors; requiring that the  
44 strategic plan developed by the Board of Governors  
45 include performance metrics and standards for  
46 institutions; requiring that the accountability plan  
47 for the State University System address institutional  
48 and system achievement goals and objectives specified  
49 in the strategic plan and be submitted by the Board of  
50 Governors as part of its legislative budget request;  
51 requiring that the Board of Governors require state  
52 universities to provide each enrolled student with  
53 electronic access to the Department of Economic  
54 Opportunity's economic security report during  
55 registration or earlier and information concerning  
56 employment and earnings data for graduates of degree  
57 programs; authorizing the Board of Governors to waive  
58 or modify requirements for use of the tuition

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59 differential fee under s. 1009.24, F.S.; requiring  
60 that the Board of Governors confirm the reappointment  
61 of a university president; authorizing the Board of  
62 Governors to revoke or modify certain powers or duties  
63 that it has delegated; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.;  
64 requiring that each middle school and high school  
65 student and his or her parent receive a two-page  
66 summary and electronic access to the Department of  
67 Economic Opportunity's economic security report each  
68 year; amending s. 1004.015, F.S.; requiring that the  
69 Higher Education Coordinating Council submit an annual  
70 report by a specified date to the Governor and the  
71 Legislature; revising the content requirements for the  
72 report; amending s. 1005.22, F.S.; requiring that the  
73 Commission for Independent Education collect, and that  
74 institutions licensed by the commission report,  
75 certain student data; amending s. 1007.23, F.S.;  
76 revising provisions relating to statewide articulation  
77 agreements; requiring that the articulation agreement  
78 require each student enrolled in a Florida College  
79 System institution who is seeking an associate in arts  
80 degree to indicate a baccalaureate degree program  
81 offered by an institution of interest before the  
82 student earns a specified number of semester hours;  
83 amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; revising provisions  
84 relating to general education courses and associate  
85 and baccalaureate degree requirements; revising the  
86 minimum number of semester hours required in general  
87 education courses; amending s. 1007.33, F.S.; revising

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88 the requirements for proposals by a Florida College  
89 System institution to offer a baccalaureate degree  
90 program; requiring that a Florida College System  
91 institution offering a baccalaureate degree program  
92 report its status using specified performance and  
93 compliance standards; deleting provisions relating to  
94 an exemption from State Board of Education approval of  
95 certain baccalaureate degree programs; amending s.  
96 1008.31, F.S.; requiring that colleges and  
97 universities eligible to participate in the William L.  
98 Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant Program report  
99 information regarding the recipients of funds to the  
100 Department of Education; amending s. 1008.46, F.S.;  
101 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
102 creating s. 1011.905, F.S.; requiring that the Board  
103 of Governors review and rank each state university  
104 that applies for performance funding based on certain  
105 criteria; requiring that the Board of Governors award  
106 up to a specified amount to the highest-ranked state  
107 universities; requiring that the Board of Governors  
108 report to the Governor and the Legislature by a  
109 specified date each year; providing an effective date.

110  
111 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

112  
113 Section 1. Section 445.07, Florida Statutes, is created to  
114 read:

115 445.07 Economic security report of employment and earning  
116 outcomes.-

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117 (1) Beginning December 31, 2013, and annually thereafter,  
118 the Department of Economic Opportunity shall prepare, or  
119 contract with an entity to prepare, an economic security report  
120 of employment and earning outcomes for degrees or certificates  
121 earned at a public postsecondary educational institution.

122 (2) The report must be easily accessible to and readable by  
123 the public and shall be made available online. The report, by  
124 educational sector, must:

125 (a) Use the Florida Education and Training Placement  
126 Information Program for data relating to the employment,  
127 earnings, continuing education, and receipt of public assistance  
128 by graduates of a degree program from a public postsecondary  
129 educational institution.

130 (b) Use the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System  
131 or its equivalent for calculating the average student loan debt  
132 of a graduate of a degree program from a public postsecondary  
133 educational institution.

134 (c) Include data on the employment of graduates of a degree  
135 or certificate program from a public postsecondary educational  
136 institution the year after the degree or certificate is earned  
137 by number and percentage and for graduates employed full time in  
138 the year after graduation by number and percentage. Beginning  
139 with the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the report must include the  
140 employment data of graduates of a degree or certificate program  
141 from a public postsecondary educational institution 5 years  
142 after graduation by number and percentage.

143 (d) Include data on the earnings of graduates of a degree  
144 or certificate program from a public postsecondary educational  
145 institution the year after earning the degree or certificate by

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146 at least the following levels on a quarterly and annualized  
147 basis, rounded to the nearest dollar:

148 1. Quarterly wages of \$6,250 and annualized wages of  
149 \$25,000 and below.

150 2. Quarterly wages between \$6,251 and \$11,250 and  
151 annualized wages between \$25,001 and \$45,000.

152 3. Quarterly wages of \$11,251 and annualized wages of  
153 \$45,001 and above.

154 Section 2. Paragraph (v) of subsection (2), paragraph (a)  
155 of subsection (3), paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (4), and  
156 paragraph (d) of subsection (6) of section 1001.02, Florida  
157 Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (w) is added to subsection  
158 (2) of that section, to read:

159 1001.02 General powers of State Board of Education.—

160 (2) The State Board of Education has the following duties:

161 (v) To develop, in conjunction with the Board of Governors,  
162 and periodically review for adjustment, a coordinated 5-year  
163 plan for postsecondary enrollment, identifying enrollment and  
164 graduation expectations by baccalaureate degree program, and  
165 annually submit the plan to the Legislature as part of its  
166 legislative budget request.

167 (w) To require Florida College System institutions, prior  
168 to registration beginning in the 2014-2015 academic year and  
169 annually thereafter, to provide each enrolled student electronic  
170 access to the economic security report of employment and earning  
171 outcomes prepared by the Department of Economic Opportunity  
172 pursuant to s. 445.07.

173 (3) (a) The State Board of Education shall adopt a strategic  
174 plan that specifies goals and objectives for the state's public

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175 schools and Florida College System institutions. The plan shall  
176 be formulated in conjunction with plans of the Board of  
177 Governors in order to provide for the roles of the universities  
178 and Florida College System institutions to be coordinated to  
179 best meet state needs and reflect cost-effective use of state  
180 resources. The strategic plan must clarify the mission  
181 statements of each Florida College System institution and the  
182 system as a whole and identify degree programs, including  
183 baccalaureate degree programs, to be offered at each Florida  
184 College System institution in accordance with the objectives  
185 provided in this subsection and the coordinated 5-year plan  
186 pursuant to paragraph (2) (v). The strategic plan must cover a  
187 period of 5 years, with modification of the program lists after  
188 2 years. Development of each 5-year plan must be coordinated  
189 with and initiated after completion of the master plan. The  
190 strategic plans must specifically include programs and  
191 procedures for responding to the educational needs of teachers  
192 and students in the public schools of this state and consider  
193 reports and recommendations of the Higher Education Coordinating  
194 Council pursuant to s. 1004.015 and the Articulation  
195 Coordinating Committee pursuant to s. 1007.01. The state board  
196 shall submit a report to the President of the Senate and the  
197 Speaker of the House of Representatives upon modification of the  
198 plan and as part of its legislative budget request.

199 (4) The State Board of Education shall:

200 (b) Specify, by rule, procedures to be used by the Florida  
201 College System institution boards of trustees in the annual  
202 evaluations of presidents and review the evaluations of  
203 presidents by the boards of trustees, including the extent to

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204 which presidents serve both institutional and system goals.

205 (d) Establish criteria for making recommendations for  
206 modifying district boundary lines for Florida College System  
207 institutions, including criteria for service delivery areas of  
208 Florida College System institutions authorized to grant  
209 baccalaureate degrees.

210 (6) The State Board of Education shall prescribe minimum  
211 standards, definitions, and guidelines for Florida College  
212 System institutions that will ensure the quality of education,  
213 coordination among the Florida College System institutions and  
214 state universities, and efficient progress toward accomplishing  
215 the Florida College System institution mission. At a minimum,  
216 these rules must address:

217 (d) Provisions for curriculum development, graduation  
218 requirements, college calendars, and program service areas.  
219 These provisions must include rules that:

220 1. Provide for the award of an associate in arts degree to  
221 a student who successfully completes 60 semester credit hours at  
222 the Florida College System institution.

223 2. Require all of the credits accepted for the associate in  
224 arts degree to be in the statewide course numbering system as  
225 credits toward a baccalaureate degree offered by a state  
226 university or a Florida College System institution.

227 3. Beginning with students initially entering a Florida  
228 College System institution in the 2014-2015 academic year and  
229 thereafter, require no more than 30 ~~36~~ semester credit hours in  
230 general education courses in the subject areas of communication,  
231 mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.



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233 The rules should encourage Florida College System institutions  
234 to enter into agreements with state universities that allow  
235 Florida College System institution students to complete upper-  
236 division-level courses at a Florida College System institution.  
237 An agreement may provide for concurrent enrollment at the  
238 Florida College System institution and the state university and  
239 may authorize the Florida College System institution to offer an  
240 upper-division-level course or distance learning.

241 Section 3. Subsections (16) and (17) are added to section  
242 1001.03, Florida Statutes, to read:

243 1001.03 Specific powers of State Board of Education.—

244 (16) PLAN SPECIFYING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.—By July 1, 2013,  
245 the State Board of Education shall identify performance metrics  
246 for the Florida College System and develop a plan that specifies  
247 goals and objectives for each Florida College System  
248 institution. The plan must include:

249 (a) Performance metrics and standards common for all  
250 institutions and metrics and standards unique to institutions  
251 depending on institutional core missions, including, but not  
252 limited to, remediation success, retention, graduation,  
253 employment, transfer rates, licensure passage, excess hours,  
254 student loan burden and default rates, job placement, faculty  
255 awards, and highly respected rankings for institution and  
256 program achievements.

257 (b) Student enrollment and performance data delineated by  
258 method of instruction, including, but not limited to,  
259 traditional, online, and distance learning instruction.

260 (17) UNIFIED STATE PLAN FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY,  
261 ENGINEERING, and MATHEMATICS (STEM).—The State Board of

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262 Education, in consultation with the Board of Governors and the  
263 Department of Economic Opportunity, shall adopt a unified state  
264 plan to improve K-20 STEM education and prepare students for  
265 high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand employment in STEM and  
266 STEM-related fields.

267 Section 4. Subsection (7) is added to section 1001.10,  
268 Florida Statutes, to read:

269 1001.10 Commissioner of Education; general powers and  
270 duties.—

271 (7) The commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, may  
272 conduct a review or investigation of practices, procedures, or  
273 actions at any Florida College System institution which appear  
274 to be inconsistent with sound financial, management, or academic  
275 practice.

276 Section 5. Paragraph (c) of subsection (13) of section  
277 1001.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

278 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The  
279 district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all  
280 powers and perform all duties listed below:

281 (13) RECORDS AND REPORTS.—Provide for the keeping of all  
282 necessary records and the making of all needed or required  
283 reports, as follows:

284 (c) *Reports to parents.*—

285 1. Require that, at regular intervals, reports are made by  
286 school principals or teachers to parents, apprising them of the  
287 progress being made by the students in their studies and giving  
288 other needful information.

289 2. Beginning with the course registration process for the  
290 2013-2014 school year and each year thereafter, require that

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291 school principals or classroom teachers provide secondary school  
292 students and their parents with a link to the Department of  
293 Economic Opportunity's economic security report prepared  
294 pursuant to s. 445.07.

295 Section 6. Paragraph (d) of subsection (8) of section  
296 1001.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

297 1001.64 Florida College System institution boards of  
298 trustees; powers and duties.—

299 (8) Each board of trustees has authority for policies  
300 related to students, enrollment of students, student records,  
301 student activities, financial assistance, and other student  
302 services.

303 (d) Boards of trustees shall identify their general  
304 education core curricula, ~~which shall include courses required~~  
305 ~~by the State Board of Education~~, pursuant to ~~the provisions of~~  
306 s. 1007.25(6).

307 Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4), subsection (5),  
308 paragraph (a) of subsection (6), and subsections (9) and (10) of  
309 section 1001.706, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection  
310 (11) is added to that section, to read:

311 1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

312 (4) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO FINANCE.—

313 (c) The Board of Governors, or the board's designee, shall  
314 establish tuition and fees pursuant to ss. 1009.24 and 1009.26,  
315 unless otherwise provided in law.

316 (5) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY.—

317 (a) The Legislature intends that the Board of Governors  
318 shall align the missions of each constituent university with the  
319 academic success of its students; the national reputation of its

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320 faculty and its academic and research programs; the quantity of  
321 externally generated research, patents, and licenses; and the  
322 strategic and accountability plans required in paragraphs (b)  
323 and (c). The mission alignment and strategic plan shall consider  
324 peer institutions at the constituent universities. The mission  
325 alignment and strategic plan shall acknowledge that universities  
326 that have a national and international impact have the greatest  
327 capacity to promote the state's economic development through:  
328 new discoveries, patents, licenses, and technologies that  
329 generate state businesses of global importance; research  
330 achievements through external grants and contracts that are  
331 comparable to nationally recognized and ranked universities; the  
332 creation of a resource rich academic environment that attracts  
333 high-technology business and venture capital to the state; and  
334 this generation's finest minds focusing on solving the state's  
335 economic, social, environmental, and legal problems in the areas  
336 of life sciences, water, sustainability, energy, and health  
337 care. A nationally recognized and ranked university that has a  
338 global perspective and impact shall be afforded the opportunity  
339 to enable and protect the university's competitiveness on the  
340 global stage in fair competition with other institutions of  
341 other states in the highest Carnegie Classification.

342 (b) The Board of Governors shall develop a strategic plan  
343 specifying goals and objectives for the State University System  
344 and each constituent university, including each university's  
345 contribution to overall system goals and objectives. The  
346 strategic plan must:

347 1. Include performance metrics and standards common for all  
348 institutions and metrics and standards unique to institutions

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349 depending on institutional core missions, including, but not  
350 limited to, student admission requirements, retention,  
351 graduation, employment, continuing education, licensure passage,  
352 excess hours, student loan burden and default rates, faculty  
353 awards, total annual research expenditures, patents, licenses  
354 and royalties, intellectual property, startup companies, annual  
355 giving, endowments, and well-known, highly respected national  
356 rankings for institutional and program achievements.

357 2. Consider reports and recommendations of the Higher  
358 Education Coordinating Council pursuant to s. 1004.015 and the  
359 Articulation Coordinating Committee pursuant to s. 1007.01.

360 3. Include student enrollment and performance data  
361 delineated by method of instruction, including, but not limited  
362 to, traditional, online, and distance learning instruction.

363 (c) The Board of Governors shall develop an accountability  
364 plan for the State University System and each constituent  
365 university. The accountability plan must address institutional  
366 and system achievement of goals and objectives specified in the  
367 strategic plan adopted pursuant to paragraph (b) and must be  
368 submitted as part of its legislative budget request.

369 (d) Prior to registration, beginning in the 2014-2015  
370 academic year and each year thereafter, the Board of Governors  
371 shall require a state university to provide each enrolled  
372 student electronic access to the economic security report of  
373 employment and earning outcomes prepared by the Department of  
374 Economic Opportunity pursuant to s. 445.07. In addition, the  
375 Board of Governors shall require a state university to provide  
376 each student electronic access to the following information each  
377 year prior to registration using the data described in s.

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378 1008.39:

379 1. The top 25 percent of degrees reported by the university  
380 in terms of highest full-time job placement and highest average  
381 annualized earnings in the year after earning the degree.

382 2. The bottom 10 percent of degrees reported by the  
383 university in terms of lowest full-time job placement and lowest  
384 average annualized earnings in the year after earning the  
385 degree.

386 (e)~~(d)~~ The Board of Governors shall maintain an effective  
387 information system to provide accurate, timely, and cost-  
388 effective information about each university. The board shall  
389 continue to collect and maintain, at a minimum, management  
390 information as such information existed on June 30, 2002.

391 (f)~~(e)~~ If the Board of Governors of the State University  
392 System determines that a state university board of trustees is  
393 unwilling or unable to address substantiated allegations made by  
394 any person relating to waste, fraud, or financial mismanagement  
395 within the state university, the Office of the Inspector General  
396 shall investigate the allegations.

397 (g) The Board of Governors may consider waiving its  
398 regulations and may waive or modify the tuition differential use  
399 requirements under s. 1009.24(16) (a). If not currently  
400 authorized, the Board of Governors may request authority from  
401 the Legislature to waive or modify specific statutory  
402 requirements, including percentages and dollar amount  
403 limitations in s. 1009.24, in order to reduce barriers and  
404 support attainment of goals identified in institutional plans,  
405 as necessary for advancing system priorities and unique  
406 institutional priorities. Regulatory and statutory flexibilities

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407 authorized or requested by the Board of Governors pursuant to  
408 this paragraph must be included in the accountability plan  
409 prepared and submitted pursuant to paragraph (c).

410 (6) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO PERSONNEL.—

411 (a) The Board of Governors, or the board's designee, shall  
412 establish the personnel program for all employees of a state  
413 university. The Board of Governors shall confirm the  
414 presidential selection and reappointment by a university board  
415 of trustees as a means of acknowledging that system cooperation  
416 is expected.

417 (9) COOPERATION WITH OTHER BOARDS.—The Board of Governors  
418 shall implement a plan for working on a regular basis with the  
419 State Board of Education, the Commission for Independent  
420 Education, the Higher Education Coordinating Council, the  
421 Articulation Coordinating Committee, the university boards of  
422 trustees, representatives of the Florida College System  
423 institution boards of trustees, representatives of the private  
424 colleges and universities, and representatives of the district  
425 school boards to achieve a seamless education system.

426 (10) PROHIBITION.—The Board of Governors is prohibited from  
427 assessing any fee on state universities, unless specifically  
428 authorized by law.

429 (11) AUTHORIZATION TO REVOKE OR MODIFY.—The Board of  
430 Governors may revoke or modify the scope of any power or duty it  
431 has delegated.

432 Section 8. Subsection (24) is added to section 1002.20,  
433 Florida Statutes, to read:

434 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
435 school students must receive accurate and timely information

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436 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
437 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
438 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
439 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

440 (24) ECONOMIC SECURITY REPORT.—Prior to registration for  
441 the 2014-2015 school year and each year thereafter, each middle  
442 school and high school student or the student's parent shall be  
443 provided a two-page summary of the Department of Economic  
444 Opportunity's economic security report of employment and earning  
445 outcomes prepared pursuant to s. 445.07 and electronic access to  
446 the report.

447 Section 9. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section  
448 1004.015, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

449 1004.015 Higher Education Coordinating Council.—

450 (4) The council shall annually submit by December 31, to  
451 the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the  
452 House of Representatives, the Board of Governors, and the State  
453 Board of Education a report outlining its recommendations ~~make~~  
454 ~~detailed recommendations~~ relating to:

455 (a) The primary core mission of public and nonpublic  
456 postsecondary education institutions in the context of state  
457 access demands and economic development goals.

458 (b) Performance outputs and outcomes designed to meet  
459 annual and long-term state goals, including, but not limited to,  
460 increased student access, preparedness, retention, transfer, and  
461 completion. Performance measures must be consistent across  
462 sectors and allow for a comparison of the state's performance to  
463 that of other states.

464 (c) The state's articulation policies and practices to



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465 ensure that cost benefits to the state are maximized without  
466 jeopardizing quality. The recommendations ~~recommendation~~ shall  
467 consider return on investment for both the state and students  
468 and propose systems to facilitate and ensure institutional  
469 compliance with state articulation policies.

470 (d) ~~A plan for~~ Workforce development education,  
471 specifically recommending improvements to that addresses:

472 ~~1. The alignment of school district and Florida College~~  
473 ~~System workforce development education programs to ensure cost~~  
474 ~~efficiency and mission delineation, including an examination of~~  
475 ~~the need for both college credit and noncollege credit~~  
476 ~~certificate programs, an evaluation of the merit of retaining~~  
477 ~~the associate in applied science degree, and the consolidation~~  
478 ~~of adult general education programs within school districts.~~

479 ~~2.~~ the consistency of workforce education data collected  
480 and reported by Florida College System institutions and school  
481 districts, including the establishment of common elements and  
482 definitions for any data that is used for state and federal  
483 funding and program accountability.

484 ~~(5) The council shall submit a report outlining its~~  
485 ~~detailed recommendations to the Governor, the President of the~~  
486 ~~Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Board~~  
487 ~~of Governors, and the State Board of Education by December 31,~~  
488 ~~2011, which specifically includes recommendations for~~  
489 ~~consideration by the Legislature for implementation in the 2012-~~  
490 ~~2013 fiscal year.~~

491 ~~(5)-(6)~~ The Board of Governors and the Department of  
492 Education shall provide administrative support for the council.

493 Section 10. Paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section

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494 1005.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

495 1005.22 Powers and duties of commission.—

496 (1) The commission shall:

497 (i) Serve as a central agency for collecting and  
498 distributing current information regarding institutions licensed  
499 by the commission. The commission shall collect, and all  
500 institutions licensed by the commission shall report, student-  
501 level data for each student who receives state funds. At a  
502 minimum, data shall be reported annually and include retention  
503 rates, transfer rates, completion rates, graduation rates,  
504 employment and placement rates, and earnings of graduates.

505 Section 11. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section  
506 1007.23, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4),  
507 (5), and (6), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to  
508 that section to read:

509 1007.23 Statewide articulation agreement.—

510 (3) To improve articulation and reduce excess credit hours,  
511 the articulation agreement must require each student enrolled in  
512 a Florida College System institution who is seeking an associate  
513 in arts degree to indicate a baccalaureate degree program  
514 offered by an institution of interest by the time the student  
515 earns 30 semester hours. The institution in which the student is  
516 enrolled shall inform the student of the prerequisites for the  
517 baccalaureate degree program offered by an institution of  
518 interest.

519 Section 12. Subsections (3), (6), (7), (8), and (10) of  
520 section 1007.25, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

521 1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites;  
522 other degree requirements.—

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523           (3) The chair of the State Board of Education and the chair  
524 of the Board of Governors, or their designees, department shall  
525 jointly appoint faculty committees to identify statewide these  
526 courses that meet general education core course options. General  
527 education core course options shall consist of a maximum of five  
528 courses requirements within each of the subject areas of  
529 communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and  
530 natural sciences. Each general education core course option must  
531 contain high-level academic and critical thinking skills and  
532 common competencies that students must demonstrate to  
533 successfully complete the course. Beginning with students  
534 initially entering a Florida College System institution or state  
535 university in the 2014-2015 academic year and thereafter, each  
536 student must complete at least one identified core course in  
537 each subject area as part of the general education requirements.  
538 All public postsecondary educational institutions shall offer  
539 and accept such courses as meeting general education core course  
540 requirements. The remaining general education course  
541 requirements courses shall be identified by each institution and  
542 reported to the department by their statewide course code  
543 number. The general education core course options shall be  
544 adopted in rule by the State Board of Education and in  
545 regulation by the Board of Governors. ~~All public postsecondary~~  
546 ~~educational institutions shall accept these general education~~  
547 ~~courses.~~

548           (6) ~~The boards of trustees of the Florida College System~~  
549 ~~institutions shall identify their core curricula, which shall~~  
550 ~~include courses required by the State Board of Education. The~~  
551 ~~boards of trustees of the state universities shall identify~~

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552 ~~their core curricula, which shall include courses required by~~  
553 ~~the Board of Governors.~~ The universities and Florida College  
554 System institutions shall work with their school districts to  
555 ensure ~~assure~~ that high school curricula coordinate with the  
556 general education core ~~core~~ curricula and to prepare students for  
557 college-level work. General education Core ~~Core~~ curricula for  
558 associate in arts programs shall be identified by each  
559 institution adopted in rule by the State Board of Education and,  
560 beginning with students initially entering a Florida College  
561 System institution or state university in the 2014-2015 academic  
562 year and thereafter, shall include 30 ~~36~~ semester hours ~~of~~  
563 ~~general education courses~~ in the subject areas of communication,  
564 mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.

565 (7) An associate in arts degree shall require no more than  
566 60 semester hours of college credit and, beginning with students  
567 initially entering a Florida College System institution or state  
568 university in the 2014-2015 academic year and thereafter,  
569 include 30 ~~including 36~~ semester hours of general education  
570 coursework and demonstration of competency in a foreign language  
571 pursuant to s. 1007.262. Except for college-preparatory  
572 coursework required pursuant to s. 1008.30, all required  
573 coursework shall count toward the associate in arts degree or  
574 the baccalaureate degree.

575 (8) A baccalaureate degree program shall require no more  
576 than 120 semester hours of college credit and, beginning with  
577 students initially entering a Florida College System institution  
578 or state university in the 2014-2015 academic year and  
579 thereafter, include 30 ~~including 36~~ semester hours of general  
580 education coursework, unless prior approval has been granted by

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581 the Board of Governors for baccalaureate degree programs offered  
582 by state universities and by the State Board of Education for  
583 baccalaureate degree programs offered by Florida College System  
584 institutions.

585 (10) Students at state universities may request associate  
586 in arts certificates if they have successfully completed the  
587 minimum requirements for the degree of associate in arts (A.A.).  
588 The university must grant the student an associate in arts  
589 degree if the student has successfully completed minimum  
590 requirements for college-level communication and computation  
591 skills adopted by the State Board of Education and 60 academic  
592 semester hours or the equivalent within a degree program area  
593 which, beginning with students initially entering a Florida  
594 College System institution or state university in the 2014-2015  
595 academic year and thereafter, include 30 ~~with 36~~ semester hours  
596 in general education courses in the subject areas of  
597 communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and  
598 natural sciences, consistent with the general education  
599 requirements specified in the articulation agreement pursuant to  
600 s. 1007.23.

601 Section 13. Subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section  
602 1007.33, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

603 1007.33 Site-determined baccalaureate degree access.—

604 (5) The approval process for baccalaureate degree programs  
605 shall require:

606 (a) Each Florida College System institution to submit a  
607 notice of its intent to propose a baccalaureate degree program  
608 to the Division of Florida Colleges at least 100 days before the  
609 submission of its proposal under paragraph (d). The notice must

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610 include a brief description of the program, the workforce demand  
611 and unmet need for graduates of the program, including evidence  
612 from entities independent of the institution, the geographic  
613 region to be served, and an estimated timeframe for  
614 implementation. Notices of intent may be submitted by a Florida  
615 College System institution at any time throughout the year. The  
616 notice must also include evidence that the Florida College  
617 System institution is engaged in need, demand, and impact  
618 discussions with the state university and other regionally  
619 accredited postsecondary education providers in its service  
620 district.

621 (b) The Division of Florida Colleges to forward the notice  
622 of intent within 10 business days after receiving such notice to  
623 the Chancellor of the State University System, the President of  
624 the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, and the  
625 Executive Director of the Council for Independent Education.  
626 State universities shall have 60 days following receipt of the  
627 notice by the Chancellor of the State University System to  
628 submit objections to the proposed new program or submit an  
629 alternative proposal to offer the baccalaureate degree program.  
630 If a proposal from a state university is not received within the  
631 60-day period, the State Board of Education shall provide  
632 regionally accredited private colleges and universities 30 days  
633 to submit objections to the proposed new program or submit an  
634 alternative proposal. Objections or alternative proposals shall  
635 be submitted to the Division of Florida Colleges and must be  
636 considered by the State Board of Education in making its  
637 decision to approve or deny a Florida College System  
638 institution's proposal.

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639 (c) An alternative proposal submitted by a state university  
640 or private college or university to adequately address:

641 1. The extent to which the workforce demand and unmet need  
642 described in the notice of intent will be met.

643 2. The extent to which students will be able to complete  
644 the degree in the geographic region proposed to be served by the  
645 Florida College System institution.

646 3. The level of financial commitment of the college or  
647 university to the development, implementation, and maintenance  
648 of the specified degree program, including timelines.

649 4. The extent to which faculty at both the Florida College  
650 System institution and the college or university will  
651 collaborate in the development and offering of the curriculum.

652 5. The ability of the Florida College System institution  
653 and the college or university to develop and approve the  
654 curriculum for the specified degree program within 6 months  
655 after an agreement between the Florida College System  
656 institution and the college or university is signed.

657 6. The extent to which the student may incur additional  
658 costs above what the student would expect to incur if the  
659 program were offered by the Florida College System institution.

660 (d) Each proposal submitted by a Florida College System  
661 institution to, at a minimum, include:

662 1. A description of the planning process and timeline for  
663 implementation.

664 2. An analysis of workforce demand and unmet need for  
665 graduates of the program on a district, regional, or statewide  
666 basis, as appropriate, including evidence from entities  
667 independent of the institution.

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668 3. Identification of the facilities, equipment, and library  
669 and academic resources that will be used to deliver the program.

670 4. The program cost analysis of creating a new  
671 baccalaureate degree when compared to alternative proposals and  
672 other program delivery options.

673 5. The program's admission requirements, academic content,  
674 curriculum, faculty credentials, student-to-teacher ratios, and  
675 accreditation plan.

676 6. The program's enrollment projections and funding  
677 requirements.

678 7. A plan of action if the program is terminated.

679 (e) The Division of Florida Colleges to review the  
680 proposal, notify the Florida College System institution of any  
681 deficiencies in writing within 30 days following receipt of the  
682 proposal, and provide the Florida College System institution  
683 with an opportunity to correct the deficiencies. Within 45 days  
684 following receipt of a completed proposal by the Division of  
685 Florida Colleges, the Commissioner of Education shall recommend  
686 approval or disapproval of the proposal to the State Board of  
687 Education. The State Board of Education shall consider such  
688 recommendation, the proposal, and any objections or alternative  
689 proposals at its next meeting. If the State Board of Education  
690 disapproves the Florida College System institution's proposal,  
691 it shall provide the Florida College System institution with  
692 written reasons for that determination.

693 (f) The Florida College System institution to obtain from  
694 the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of  
695 Colleges and Schools accreditation as a baccalaureate-degree-  
696 granting institution if approved by the State Board of Education



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697 to offer its first baccalaureate degree program.

698 (g) The Florida College System institution to notify the  
699 Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges  
700 and Schools of subsequent degree programs that are approved by  
701 the State Board of Education and to comply with the  
702 association's required substantive change protocols for  
703 accreditation purposes.

704 (h) The Florida College System institution to annually, and  
705 upon request of the State Board of Education, the Commissioner  
706 of Education, the Chancellor of the Florida College System, or  
707 the Legislature, report its status using the following  
708 performance and compliance indicators:

709 1. Obtaining and maintaining appropriate Southern  
710 Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation;

711 2. Maintaining qualified faculty and institutional  
712 resources;

713 3. Maintaining enrollment in previously approved programs;

714 4. Managing fiscal resources appropriately;

715 5. Complying with the primary mission and responsibility  
716 requirements in subsections (2) and (3); and

717 6. Other indicators of success, including program  
718 completions, placements, and surveys of graduates and employers.

719  
720 The State Board of Education, upon review of the performance and  
721 compliance indicators, may require a Florida College System  
722 institution's board of trustees to modify or terminate a  
723 baccalaureate degree program authorized under this section.

724 ~~(6) (a) Beginning July 1, 2010, and each subsequent July 1,~~  
725 ~~the Division of Florida Colleges may accept and review~~

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726 ~~applications from a Florida College System institution to obtain~~  
727 ~~an exemption from the State Board of Education's approval for~~  
728 ~~subsequent degrees as required in subsection (5), if the Florida~~  
729 ~~College System institution is accredited by the Commission on~~  
730 ~~Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as~~  
731 ~~a baccalaureate-degree-granting institution and has been~~  
732 ~~offering baccalaureate degree programs for 3 or more years. The~~  
733 ~~division shall develop criteria for determining eligibility for~~  
734 ~~an exemption based upon demonstrated compliance with the~~  
735 ~~requirements for baccalaureate degrees, primary mission, and~~  
736 ~~fiscal, including, but not limited to:~~

- 737       ~~1. Obtaining and maintaining appropriate SACS~~  
738 ~~accreditation;~~
- 739       ~~2. The maintenance of qualified faculty and institutional~~  
740 ~~resources;~~
- 741       ~~3. The maintenance of enrollment projections in previously~~  
742 ~~approved programs;~~
- 743       ~~4. The appropriate management of fiscal resources;~~
- 744       ~~5. Compliance with the primary mission and responsibility~~  
745 ~~requirements in subsections (2) and (3);~~
- 746       ~~6. The timely submission of the institution's annual~~  
747 ~~performance accountability report; and~~
- 748       ~~7. Other indicators of success such as program completers,~~  
749 ~~placements, and surveys of students and employers.~~

750       ~~(b) If the Florida College System institution has~~  
751 ~~demonstrated satisfactory progress in fulfilling the eligibility~~  
752 ~~criteria in this subsection, the Division of Florida Colleges~~  
753 ~~may recommend to the State Board of Education that the~~  
754 ~~institution be exempt from the requirement in subsection (5) for~~

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755 ~~approval of future baccalaureate degree programs. The State~~  
756 ~~Board of Education shall review the division's recommendation~~  
757 ~~and determine if an exemption is warranted. If the State Board~~  
758 ~~of Education approves the application, the Florida College~~  
759 ~~System institution is exempt from subsequent program approval~~  
760 ~~under subsection (5) and such authority is delegated to the~~  
761 ~~Florida College System institution board of trustees. If the~~  
762 ~~State Board of Education disapproves of the Florida College~~  
763 ~~System institution's request for an exemption, the college shall~~  
764 ~~continue to be subject to the State Board of Education's~~  
765 ~~approval of subsequent baccalaureate degree programs.~~

766 ~~(c) Prior to developing or proposing a new baccalaureate~~  
767 ~~degree program, all Florida College System institutions,~~  
768 ~~regardless of an exemption from subsection (5), shall:~~

769 ~~1. Engage in need, demand, and impact discussions with the~~  
770 ~~state university in their service district and other local and~~  
771 ~~regional, accredited postsecondary providers in their region.~~

772 ~~2. Send documentation, data, and other information from the~~  
773 ~~inter-institutional discussions regarding program need, demand,~~  
774 ~~and impact required in subparagraph 1. to the college's board of~~  
775 ~~trustees, the Division of Florida Colleges, and the Chancellor~~  
776 ~~of the State University System.~~

777 ~~3. Base board of trustees approval of the new program upon~~  
778 ~~the documentation, data, and other information required in this~~  
779 ~~paragraph and the factors in subsection (5)(d).~~

780  
781 ~~The Division of Florida Colleges shall use the documentation,~~  
782 ~~data, and other information required in this subsection,~~  
783 ~~including information from the Chancellor of the State~~

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784 ~~University System, in its compliance review.~~

785 ~~(d) The board of trustees of a Florida College System~~  
786 ~~institution that is exempt from subsection (5) must submit newly~~  
787 ~~approved programs to the Division of Florida Colleges and SACS~~  
788 ~~within 30 days after approval.~~

789 ~~(e) Within 30 days after receiving the approved~~  
790 ~~baccalaureate degree program, the Division of Florida Colleges~~  
791 ~~shall conduct a compliance review and notify the college if the~~  
792 ~~proposal meets the criteria for implementation based upon the~~  
793 ~~criteria in paragraphs (5) (d) and (6) (e). If the program fails~~  
794 ~~to meet the criteria for implementation as determined by the~~  
795 ~~Division of Florida Colleges, the college may not proceed with~~  
796 ~~implementation of the program until the State Board of Education~~  
797 ~~reviews the proposal and the compliance materials and gives its~~  
798 ~~final approval of the program.~~

799 ~~(6)(7)~~ The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to  
800 prescribe format and content requirements and submission  
801 procedures for notices of intent, proposals, ~~and~~ alternative  
802 proposals, and compliance reviews under subsection (5).

803 Section 14. Present paragraphs (b), (c), (d), and (e) of  
804 subsection (3) of section 1008.31, Florida Statutes, are  
805 redesignated as paragraphs (c), (d), (e), and (f), respectively,  
806 and a new paragraph (b) is added to that subsection, to read:

807 1008.31 Florida's K-20 education performance accountability  
808 system; legislative intent; mission, goals, and systemwide  
809 measures; data quality improvements.-

810 (3) K-20 EDUCATION DATA QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS.-To provide  
811 data required to implement education performance accountability  
812 measures in state and federal law, the Commissioner of Education

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813 shall initiate and maintain strategies to improve data quality  
814 and timeliness. All data collected from state universities  
815 shall, as determined by the commissioner, be integrated into the  
816 K-20 data warehouse. The commissioner shall have unlimited  
817 access to such data solely for the purposes of conducting  
818 studies, reporting annual and longitudinal student outcomes, and  
819 improving college readiness and articulation. All public  
820 educational institutions shall provide data to the K-20 data  
821 warehouse in a format specified by the commissioner.

822 (b) Colleges and universities eligible to participate in  
823 the William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access Grant Program  
824 shall report student-level data for each student who receives  
825 state funds in a format prescribed by the Department of  
826 Education. At a minimum, data shall be annually reported to the  
827 department and include retention rates, transfer rates,  
828 completion rates, graduation rates, employment and placement  
829 rates, and earnings of graduates.

830 Section 15. Section 1008.46, Florida Statutes, is amended  
831 to read:

832 1008.46 State university accountability process.—It is the  
833 intent of the Legislature that an accountability process be  
834 implemented that provides for the systematic, ongoing evaluation  
835 of quality and effectiveness of state universities. It is  
836 further the intent of the Legislature that this accountability  
837 process monitor performance at the system level in each of the  
838 major areas of instruction, research, and public service, while  
839 recognizing the differing missions of each of the state  
840 universities. The accountability process shall provide for the  
841 adoption of systemwide performance standards and performance

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842 goals for each standard identified through a collaborative  
843 effort involving state universities, the Board of Governors, the  
844 Legislature, and the Governor's Office, consistent with the  
845 requirements specified in s. 1001.706. These standards and goals  
846 shall be consistent with s. 216.011(1) to maintain congruity  
847 with the performance-based budgeting process. This process  
848 requires that university accountability reports reflect measures  
849 defined through performance-based budgeting. The performance-  
850 based budgeting measures must also reflect the elements of  
851 teaching, research, and service inherent in the missions of the  
852 state universities.

853 (1) By December 31 of each year, the Board of Governors  
854 shall submit an annual accountability report providing  
855 information on the implementation of performance standards,  
856 actions taken to improve university achievement of performance  
857 goals, the achievement of performance goals during the prior  
858 year, and initiatives to be undertaken during the next year. The  
859 accountability reports shall be designed in consultation with  
860 the Governor's Office, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and  
861 Government Accountability, and the Legislature.

862 (2) The Board of Governors shall recommend in the annual  
863 accountability report any appropriate modifications to this  
864 section.

865 Section 16. Section 1011.905, Florida Statutes, is created  
866 to read:

867 1011.905 Performance funding for state universities.-

868 (1) For the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 fiscal years, the Board  
869 of Governors shall review and rank each state university that  
870 applies for performance funding based on the following formula:

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871 (a) Twenty-five percent of a state university's score shall  
872 be based on the percentage of employed graduates who have earned  
873 degrees in the following programs:

- 874 1. Computer and information science;  
875 2. Computer engineering;  
876 3. Information systems technology;  
877 4. Information technology; and  
878 5. Management information systems.

879 (b) Twenty-five percent of a state university's score shall  
880 be based on the percentage of graduates who earned baccalaureate  
881 degrees in the programs in paragraph (a) and who earned industry  
882 certifications in a related field from a Florida College System  
883 institution or state university prior to graduation.

884 (c) Fifty percent of a state university's score shall be  
885 based on factors determined by the Board of Governors which  
886 relate to increasing the probability that graduates who have  
887 earned degrees in the programs described in paragraph (a) will  
888 be employed in high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand  
889 employment.

890 (2) The submission from a state university that has the  
891 highest score shall be ranked first, with each remaining  
892 submission from a state university ranked sequentially by score.

893 (3) (a) Each year, the Board of Governors shall award up to  
894 \$15 million to the highest-ranked state universities from funds  
895 appropriated for the purposes in this section and as specified  
896 in the General Appropriations Act. The award per state  
897 university shall be a minimum of 25 percent of the total amount  
898 appropriated pursuant to this section.

899 (b) The funds shall be awarded to the department of the

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900 state university which offers the degrees described in paragraph  
901 (1) (a).

902 (c) The funds may not be used to supplant funding for the  
903 degree programs described in paragraph (1) (a).

904 (4) By December 31, 2012, and each year thereafter, the  
905 Board of Governors shall submit a report containing the rankings  
906 and award distributions to the Governor, the President of the  
907 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

908 Section 17. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.