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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/28/2013	.	
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The Committee on Appropriations (Montford) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 745 and 746
insert:

Section 9. Section 1003.4291, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

1003.4291 Accelerated high school graduation options.-

(1) A student who enters grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school
year and thereafter may select, upon receipt of each consent
required by this section, one of the following three high school
graduation options:

(a) Completion of the general requirements for high school



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13 graduation pursuant to s. 1003.428, s. 1003.4282, or s. 1003.43,
14 as applicable.

15 (b) Completion of a 3-year standard college preparatory
16 program requiring successful completion of a minimum of 18
17 academic credits in grades 9 through 12. At least 6 of the 18
18 credits required for completion of this program must be received
19 in classes that are offered pursuant to the International
20 Baccalaureate Program, the Advanced Placement Program, dual
21 enrollment, or the Advanced International Certificate of
22 Education or that are specifically listed or identified by the
23 Department of Education as containing rigorous academic
24 curriculum and performance standards pursuant to s. 1009.531(3).
25 The 18 credits required for completion of this program are
26 primary requirements and shall be distributed as follows:

27 1. Four credits in English Language Arts (ELA). The four
28 credits must be in ELA I, II, III, and IV.

29 2. Four credits in mathematics at the Algebra I level or
30 higher from the list of courses that qualify for state
31 university admission. A student must pass the Algebra I end-of-
32 course (EOC) assessment until the state transitions to a common
33 core Algebra I assessment, after which time a student must pass
34 the common core assessment to earn the required credit in
35 Algebra I. In addition to the Algebra I credit requirement, one
36 of the four credits in mathematics must be in geometry or a
37 series of courses equivalent to geometry as approved by the
38 State Board of Education. A student must pass the Geometry EOC
39 assessment or common core assessment in order to earn the
40 required credit. In addition to the Algebra I and geometry
41 credit requirements, one of the four credits in mathematics must



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42 be in Algebra II or a series of courses equivalent to Algebra II
43 as approved by the State Board of Education. When the state
44 administers a common core Algebra II assessment, a student must
45 pass the Algebra II common core assessment to earn the required
46 credit in Algebra II. Industry certification courses that lead
47 to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics
48 credits.

49 3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a
50 laboratory component. One of the three credits in science must
51 be in Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I
52 as approved by the State Board of Education. For a student to
53 earn the required credit in Biology I, the student must pass the
54 Biology I EOC assessment. One credit must be in chemistry or
55 physics or a series of courses equivalent to chemistry or
56 physics, as approved by the State Board of Education, and one
57 credit must be an equally rigorous course approved by the State
58 Board of Education. Industry certification courses that lead to
59 college credit may substitute for up to one science credit.

60 4. Three credits in social sciences, which must include one
61 credit in United States history, one credit in world history,
62 one-half credit in United States government, and one-half credit
63 in economics, including financial literacy. A student must pass
64 the United States History EOC assessment to earn the required
65 credit.

66 5. Two credits in the same second language unless the
67 student is a native speaker of, or can otherwise demonstrate
68 competency in, a language other than English. If the student
69 demonstrates competency in another language, the student may
70 replace the language requirement with two credits in other



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71 academic courses.

72 6. Two credits in electives.

73 (c) Completion of a 3-year career preparatory program
74 requiring successful completion of a minimum of 18 academic
75 credits in grades 9 through 12. The 18 credits shall be primary
76 requirements and shall be distributed as follows:

77 1. Four credits in English language arts (ELA). The four
78 credits must be in ELA I, II, III, and IV.

79 2. Four credits in mathematics, one of which must be in
80 Algebra I. A student must pass the Algebra I EOC assessment
81 until the state transitions to a common core Algebra I
82 assessment, after which time a student must pass the common core
83 assessment in order to earn the required credit in Algebra I. In
84 addition to the Algebra I credit requirement, one of the four
85 credits in mathematics must be in geometry or a series of
86 courses equivalent to geometry, as approved by the State Board
87 of Education. A student must pass the geometry EOC assessment or
88 common core assessment in order for a student to earn the
89 required credit in geometry. In addition to the Algebra I and
90 geometry credit requirements, one of the four credits in
91 mathematics must be in Algebra II or a series of courses
92 equivalent to Algebra II as approved by the State Board of
93 Education. When the state administers a common core Algebra II
94 assessment, a student must pass the Algebra II common core
95 assessment to earn the required credit in Algebra II. Industry
96 certification courses that lead to college credit may substitute
97 for up to two math credits.

98 3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a
99 laboratory component. One of the three credits in science must



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100 be in Biology I or a series of courses equivalent to Biology I,
101 as approved by the State Board of Education. A student must pass
102 the Biology I EOC assessment to earn the required credit in
103 Biology I. One credit must be in chemistry or physics or a
104 series of courses equivalent to chemistry or physics, as
105 approved by the State Board of Education, and one credit must be
106 in an equally rigorous course approved by the State Board of
107 Education.

108 4. Three credits in social sciences, which must include one
109 credit in United States history, one credit in world history,
110 one-half credit in United States government, and one-half credit
111 in economics, including financial literacy. A student must pass
112 the United States History EOC assessment to earn the required
113 credit.

114 5. Three credits in a single vocational or career education
115 program, three credits in career and technical certificate dual
116 enrollment courses, or five credits in vocational or career
117 education courses.

118 6. One credit in electives unless five credits are earned
119 under subparagraph 5.

120
121 The required credits in the three high school graduation options
122 specified in this subsection may be earned through equivalent,
123 applied, or integrated courses or career education courses as
124 defined in s. 1003.01(4), including work-related internships
125 approved by the State Board of Education and identified in the
126 Course Code Directory. However, any must-pass assessment
127 requirements must be met. An equivalent course is one or more
128 courses identified by content area experts as being a match to



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129 the core curricular content of another course, based upon review
130 of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for that
131 subject. An applied course is a course that aligns with Next
132 Generation Sunshine State Standards and includes real-world
133 applications of a career and technical education standards used
134 in business or industry. An integrated course is a course that
135 includes content from several courses within a content area or
136 across content areas.

137 (2) Before selecting a program listed in paragraph (1) (b)
138 or paragraph (1) (c), a student and his or her parent may meet
139 with designated school personnel to receive an explanation of
140 the relative requirements, advantages, and disadvantages of each
141 program option, and the student must receive the written consent
142 of the student's parent to make a selection. If an effort to
143 meet with the student's parent fails and that effort has been
144 documented by designated school personnel, the student may
145 select a program described in paragraph (1) (b) or paragraph
146 (1) (c) with the written consent of the student's parent. A
147 student may select a program described in paragraph (1) (b) or
148 paragraph (1) (c) without the written consent of the student's
149 parent if the student is 18 years of age or older.

150 (3) Each district school board shall provide each student
151 in grades 6 through 12 and his or her parents with information
152 relating to the 3-year and 4-year high school graduation options
153 specified in subsection (1), including the respective curriculum
154 requirements for those options, so that each student and his or
155 her parents may select the program that best fits the student's
156 needs. The information must include a timeframe for achieving
157 each graduation option.



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158 (4) The student may select one of the graduation options
159 specified in subsection (1) at any time during grades 9 through
160 12, subject to the requirements in subsection (2). If the
161 student and parent fail to select one of the accelerated high
162 school graduation options, the student shall be considered to
163 have selected the general requirements for high school
164 graduation listed in paragraph (1)(a).

165 (5) A district school board may not establish requirements
166 for accelerated 3-year high school graduation options in excess
167 of the requirements in paragraphs (1)(b) and (c). For courses
168 that require statewide, standardized EOC assessments under s.
169 1008.22(3)(c)5., a minimum of 30 percent of a student's course
170 grade is composed of performance on the statewide, standardized
171 end-of-course assessment.

172 (6) A student who pursues one of the accelerated 3-year
173 high school graduation options specified in paragraph (1)(b) or
174 paragraph (1)(c) is required to:

175 (a) Earn passing scores on the FCAT as provided in s.
176 1008.22 or on a standardized test which are concordant with
177 passing scores on the FCAT as provided in s. 1008.22.

178 (b)1. Achieve a cumulative weighted grade point average of
179 3.5 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required
180 for the college preparatory accelerated 3-year high school
181 graduation option specified in paragraph (1)(b); or

182 2. Achieve a cumulative weighted grade point average of 3.0
183 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required for
184 the career preparatory accelerated 3-year high school graduation
185 option specified in paragraph (1)(c).

186 (c) Receive a weighted or unweighted grade that earns at



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187 least 3.0 points, or its equivalent, to earn course credit
188 toward the 18 credits required for the college preparatory
189 accelerated 3-year high school graduation option specified in
190 paragraph (1)(b).

191 (d) Receive a weighted or unweighted grade that earns at
192 least 2.0 points, or its equivalent, to earn course credit
193 toward the 18 credits required for the career preparatory
194 accelerated 3-year high school graduation option specified in
195 paragraph (1)(c).

196
197 Weighted grades referred to in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) are
198 applied to those courses specifically listed or identified by
199 the department as rigorous pursuant to s. 1009.531(3) or
200 weighted by the district school board for class ranking
201 purposes.

202 (7) If, at the end of each grade, a student is not on track
203 to meet the credit, assessment, or grade point average
204 requirements of the accelerated graduation option selected, the
205 school shall notify the student and parent of the following:

206 (a) The requirements that the student is not currently
207 meeting.

208 (b) The specific performance necessary in grade 11 for the
209 student to meet the accelerated graduation requirements.

210 (c) The right of the student to change to the 4-year
211 program set forth in s. 1003.428, s. 1003.4282, or s. 1003.43,
212 as applicable.

213 (8) A student who selects one of the accelerated 3-year
214 graduation options shall automatically move to the the 4-year
215 high school graduation option established under s. 1003.428, s.



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216 1003.4282, or s. 1003.43, if applicable, if the student:
217 (a) Exercises his or her right to change to the 4-year high
218 school graduation program;
219 (b) Fails to earn five credits by the end of grade 9 or
220 fails to earn 11 credits by the end of grade 10;
221 (c) Does not achieve a score of 3 or higher on the grade 10
222 FCAT Writing assessment; or
223 (d) By the end of grade 11, does not meet the requirements
224 of subsections (1) and (6).
225 (9) A student who meets all requirements prescribed in
226 subsections (1) and (6) shall be awarded a standard diploma in a
227 form prescribed by the State Board of Education.

228
229 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

230 And the title is amended as follows:
231 Delete line 61
232 and insert:
233 high school graduation; creating s. 1003.4291, F.S.;
234 providing requirements for accelerated high school
235 graduation options; establishing an 18-credit
236 requirement; providing course and assessment
237 requirements; amending s. 1003.4295, F.S.;