

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Education

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BILL: SB 1292

INTRODUCER: Senator Legg

SUBJECT: Postsecondary Education

DATE: March 24, 2014

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

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	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Graf	Klebacha	ED	<b>Pre-meeting</b>
2.	_____	_____	AED	_____
3.	_____	_____	AP	_____

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**I. Summary:**

SB 1292 adds industry certifications to the list of articulated acceleration mechanisms in which secondary and postsecondary students may participate to shorten the time to complete high school diploma and postsecondary degree requirements.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2014.

**II. Present Situation:**

Since 2007, the Legislature has passed laws making a variety of articulated acceleration mechanisms available to secondary and postsecondary students attending public educational institutions that are intended to provide to students options for shortening the time to complete high school diploma and postsecondary degree requirements, broadening the scope of curricular options, and increasing the depth of study.<sup>1</sup>

In 2007, the Legislature created the Florida Career and Professional Education (CAPE) Act to:<sup>2</sup>

- Improve middle and high school academic performance by providing rigorous and relevant curriculum opportunities;
- Provide rigorous and relevant career-themed courses<sup>3</sup> that articulate to postsecondary-level coursework and lead to industry certification;
- Support local and regional economic development;
- Respond to Florida's critical workforce needs; and

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<sup>1</sup> Section 1007.27(1), F.S.

<sup>2</sup> Section 1003.491(1), F.S.

<sup>3</sup> A "career-themed course" is a course, or a course in a series of courses, that leads to an industry certification identified in the Industry Certification Funding List pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education. Career-themed courses have industry-specific curriculum aligned directly to priority workforce needs established by the regional workforce board or the Department of Economic Opportunity. Section 1003.493(1)(b), F.S.

- Provide state residents with access to high-wage and high-demand careers.

Through third-party assessments called “industry certifications”, students demonstrate competency to perform specifically-tailored, industry-endorsed and -recognized, skills and abilities required by industry to perform particular jobs.

The State Board of Education adopts by rule, the list of industry certifications that are eligible for funding through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP).<sup>4</sup> The list of industry certifications approved by Workforce Florida, Inc., and the Florida Department of Education, called the Industry Certification Funding List, is updated annually.<sup>5</sup> Industry certifications on the “Gold Standard Career Pathways” list, which is incorporated by reference in SBE rule,<sup>6</sup> articulate to Associate in Applied Science and Associate in Science degree programs and are a subset of the Industry Certification Funding List<sup>7, 8</sup>.

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 1292 adds industry certifications to the list of articulated acceleration mechanisms in which secondary and postsecondary students may participate to shorten the time to complete high school diploma and postsecondary degree requirements. The bill expands students’ access to accelerated options by codifying current operational practice regarding industry certifications.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2014.

### IV. Constitutional Issues:

#### A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

#### B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

#### C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

### V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

#### A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

<sup>4</sup> Sections 1008.44 and 1003.492, F.S.

<sup>5</sup> Section 1003.492(2), F.S.

<sup>6</sup> Rule 6A-10.0401, F.A.C.

<sup>7</sup> The Industry Certification Funding List is adopted by State Board of Education Rule. Section 1008.44, F.S.

<sup>8</sup> Florida Department of Education, *Process for Establishing Gold Standard Career Pathways Industry Certification to AAS/AS Degree Statewide Articulation Agreements*, available at <http://www.fldoe.org/workforce/dwdframe/pdf/GSCPICprocess.pdf>.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends section 1007.27 of the Florida Statutes.

**IX. Additional Information:**

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.