

By the Committees on Appropriations; and Education; and Senator Legg

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to education; amending s. 1011.62,  
3       F.S.; providing the purpose for the Florida digital  
4       classrooms allocation; requiring a school district to  
5       adopt a district digital classrooms plan and submit  
6       the plan to the Department of Education for approval;  
7       providing requirements for the plan; requiring that  
8       allocated funds be used for a specified purpose;  
9       requiring a district school board to submit to the  
10      department the district's digital classrooms plan;  
11      providing requirements for the district's plan;  
12      requiring the State Board of Education to adopt a  
13      Florida digital classrooms plan that establishes  
14      certain protocols, parameters, requirements, and  
15      digital tools; authorizing the Department of Education  
16      to consult with qualified experts to develop the  
17      Florida digital classrooms plan; providing  
18      requirements for the plan; providing calculations for  
19      funding; requiring the commissioner to support  
20      statewide, coordinated partnerships and efforts of  
21      education practitioners to identify and share best  
22      practices, corrective actions, and other identified  
23      needs; requiring each district school board to report  
24      by a specified date to the department the district's  
25      use of funds and student performance outcomes;  
26      authorizing the department to contract with an  
27      independent third-party entity to conduct an annual  
28      independent verification of the district's use of  
29      Florida digital classrooms allocation funds; requiring

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30 the Auditor General to verify the use of Florida  
31 digital classrooms allocation funds if an independent  
32 third-party verification is not conducted; requiring  
33 the commissioner to provide by a specified date to the  
34 Governor and the Legislature a summary of each  
35 district's use of funds, student performance outcomes,  
36 and progress toward meeting statutory requirements and  
37 timelines; authorizing the State Board of Education to  
38 adopt rules; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; conforming  
39 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.  
40 1002.45, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made  
41 by the act; requiring school districts to annually  
42 provide parents with notification regarding a  
43 student's right and choice to participate in a virtual  
44 instruction program; repealing s. 1006.281, F.S.,  
45 relating to local instructional improvement systems;  
46 repealing s. 1006.282, F.S., relating to a pilot  
47 program for the transition to electronic and digital  
48 instructional materials; amending s. 1006.38, F.S.;  
49 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
50 creating s. 1007.2616, F.S.; requiring public schools  
51 to provide students in grades K-12 opportunities for  
52 learning computer science, including, but not limited  
53 to, computer coding and computer programming;  
54 authorizing grade-specific instruction in specified  
55 areas; authorizing elementary schools and middle  
56 schools to establish digital classrooms for specified  
57 purposes; authorizing high schools to provide students  
58 with opportunities to take certain computer science

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59 courses to satisfy requirements for high school  
60 graduation; providing exceptions for certain course  
61 requirements for high school graduation; authorizing  
62 the State Board of Education to adopt rules; creating  
63 s. 1004.448, F.S.; establishing the Florida Center for  
64 Library Automation; providing the duties of the  
65 center; providing that an executive director  
66 administers the center; providing the duties of the  
67 executive director; repealing s. 1006.72, F.S.,  
68 relating to licensing electronic library resources;  
69 repealing s. 1006.73, F.S., relating to the Florida  
70 Virtual Campus; amending s. 1006.735, F.S.; creating  
71 the Complete Florida Plus Program, rather than the  
72 Complete Florida Degree Program, within the Innovation  
73 Institute of the University of West Florida; providing  
74 a purpose for the program; establishing the Complete  
75 Florida Degree Initiative; requiring the initiative to  
76 use labor market data and projections to identify  
77 specific workforce needs and targeted occupations;  
78 deleting implementing provisions relating to the  
79 Complete Florida Degree Program; providing duties of  
80 the Complete Florida Degree Initiative; requiring the  
81 Complete Florida Plus Program to develop and manage a  
82 statewide Internet-based catalog of distance learning  
83 courses, degree programs, and resources offered by  
84 public postsecondary education institutions; providing  
85 requirements for the operational procedures for the  
86 catalog; requiring the Complete Florida Plus Program  
87 to make available to postsecondary students specified

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88 online supports and services; providing that records,  
89 personnel, property, existing contracts, unexpended  
90 balances of appropriations, allocations, grants, and  
91 other funds of the Florida Virtual Campus are  
92 transferred to the University of West Florida;  
93 providing that the University of West Florida is the  
94 successor in interest to the Florida Virtual Campus;  
95 deleting an obsolete provision; amending ss. 1007.01,  
96 1009.23, and 1009.24, F.S.; conforming cross-  
97 references; amending s. 1011.71, F.S.; conforming  
98 provisions to changes made by the act; providing an  
99 effective date.

100  
101 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

102  
103 Section 1. Subsection (15) is added to section 1011.62,  
104 Florida Statutes, to read:

105 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual  
106 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each  
107 district for operation of schools is not determined in the  
108 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing  
109 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as  
110 follows:

111 (15) FLORIDA DIGITAL CLASSROOMS.—

112 (a) The Florida digital classrooms allocation is created to  
113 support district and school efforts and strategies to improve  
114 outcomes related to student performance by integrating  
115 technology in classroom teaching and learning. The outcomes must  
116 be measurable and may also be unique to the needs of individual

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117 schools and school districts within the general parameters  
118 established by the Department of Education.

119 (b) Each district school board shall adopt a district  
120 digital classrooms plan that meets the unique needs of students,  
121 schools, and personnel and submit the plan for approval to the  
122 department. In addition, each district school board must, at a  
123 minimum, seek input from the district's instructional,  
124 curriculum, and information technology staff to develop the  
125 district digital classrooms plan. The district's plan must be  
126 within the general parameters established in the Florida digital  
127 classrooms plan pursuant to paragraph (c). In addition, if the  
128 district participates in federal technology initiatives and  
129 grant programs, the district digital classrooms plan must  
130 include a plan for meeting requirements of such initiatives and  
131 grant programs. Funds allocated under this subsection must be  
132 used to support implementation of district digital classrooms  
133 plans. By October 1, 2014, and by March 1 of each year  
134 thereafter, on a date determined by the department, each  
135 district school board shall submit to the department, in a  
136 format prescribed by the department, a digital classrooms plan.  
137 At a minimum, such plan must include, and be annually updated to  
138 reflect, the following:

139 1. Measurable student performance outcomes. Outcomes  
140 related to student performance, including outcomes for students  
141 with disabilities, must be tied to the efforts and strategies to  
142 improve outcomes related to student performance by integrating  
143 technology in classroom teaching and learning. Results of the  
144 outcomes shall be reported at least annually for the current  
145 school year and subsequent 3 years and be accompanied by an

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146 independent evaluation and validation of the reported results.

147 2. Digital learning and technology infrastructure purchases  
148 and operational activities. Such purchases and activities must  
149 be tied to the measurable outcomes under subparagraph 1.,  
150 including, but not limited to, connectivity, broadband access,  
151 wireless capacity, Internet speed, and data security, all of  
152 which must meet or exceed minimum requirements and protocols  
153 established by the department. For each year that the district  
154 uses funds for infrastructure, a third-party, independent  
155 evaluation of the district's technology inventory and  
156 infrastructure needs must accompany the district's plan.

157 3. Professional development purchases and operational  
158 activities. Such purchases and activities must be tied to the  
159 measurable outcomes under subparagraph 1., including, but not  
160 limited to, using technology in the classroom and improving  
161 digital literacy and competency.

162 4. Digital tool purchases and operational activities. Such  
163 purchases and activities must be tied to the measurable outcomes  
164 under subparagraph 1., including, but not limited to,  
165 competency-based credentials that measure and demonstrate  
166 digital competency and certifications; third-party assessments  
167 that demonstrate acquired knowledge and use of digital  
168 applications; and devices that meet or exceed minimum  
169 requirements and protocols established by the department.

170 5. Online assessment-related purchases and operational  
171 activities. Such purchases and activities must be tied to the  
172 measurable outcomes under subparagraph 1., including, but not  
173 limited to, expanding the capacity to administer assessments and  
174 compatibility with minimum assessment protocols and requirements

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175 established by the department.

176 (c) The State Board of Education shall adopt a Florida  
177 digital classrooms plan that, at a minimum, establishes minimum  
178 protocols, parameters, and requirements for district-level  
179 infrastructure, school-level infrastructure, and digital tools  
180 that accommodate statutory requirements and timelines for  
181 instruction, learning, assessments, and accountability. The  
182 Department of Education may consult with qualified experts to  
183 develop the Florida digital classrooms plan. The Florida digital  
184 classrooms plan shall be prepared for the current school year  
185 and the subsequent 5 years. The plan shall be reviewed and  
186 updated annually and must specify the criteria for the annual  
187 review and approval of the districts' digital classrooms plans.

188 (d) The Legislature shall annually provide in the General  
189 Appropriations Act a Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP)  
190 allocation for implementation of the digital classrooms plan to  
191 be calculated in an amount up to 1 percent of the base student  
192 allocation multiplied by the total K-12 full-time equivalent  
193 student enrollment included in the FEFP calculations for the  
194 legislative appropriation or as provided in the General  
195 Appropriations Act. Each school district shall be provided a  
196 minimum of \$250,000, with the remaining balance of the  
197 allocation to be distributed based on each district's proportion  
198 of the total K-12 full-time equivalent student enrollment.  
199 Distribution of funds for the Florida digital classrooms  
200 allocation shall begin following submittal of each district's  
201 digital classrooms plan, which must include formal verification  
202 of the superintendent's approval of the digital classrooms plan  
203 of each charter school in the district, and approval of the plan

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204 by the department. Prior to the distribution of the Florida  
205 digital classrooms allocation funds, each district school  
206 superintendent shall certify to the Commissioner of Education  
207 that the district school board has approved a comprehensive  
208 district digital classrooms plan that supports the fidelity of  
209 implementation of the Florida digital classrooms allocation.  
210 District allocations shall be recalculated during the fiscal  
211 year consistent with the periodic recalculation of the FEFP.  
212 School districts shall provide a proportionate share of the  
213 digital classrooms allocation to each charter school in the  
214 district, as required for categorical programs in s.  
215 1002.33(17) (b). A school district may use a competitive process  
216 to distribute funds for the Florida digital classrooms  
217 allocation to the schools within the school district.

218 (e) To facilitate the implementation of the district  
219 digital classrooms plans and charter school digital classrooms  
220 plans, the commissioner shall support statewide, coordinated  
221 partnerships and efforts of this state's education practitioners  
222 in the field, including, but not limited to, superintendents,  
223 principals, and teachers, to identify and share best practices,  
224 corrective actions, and other identified needs.

225 (f) Beginning in the 2015-2016 fiscal year and each year  
226 thereafter, each district school board shall report to the  
227 department its use of funds provided through the Florida digital  
228 classrooms allocation and student performance outcomes in  
229 accordance with the district's digital classrooms plan. The  
230 department may contract with an independent third-party entity  
231 to conduct an annual independent verification of the district's  
232 use of Florida digital classrooms allocation funds in accordance



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233 with the district's digital classrooms plan. In the event an  
234 independent third-party verification is not conducted, the  
235 Auditor General shall, during scheduled operational audits of  
236 the school districts, verify compliance of the use of Florida  
237 digital classrooms allocation funds in accordance with the  
238 district's digital classrooms plan. No later than October 1 of  
239 each year, beginning in the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the  
240 commissioner shall provide to the Governor, the President of the  
241 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a  
242 summary of each district's use of funds, student performance  
243 outcomes, and progress toward meeting statutory requirements and  
244 timelines.

245 (g) The State Board of Education may adopt rules pursuant  
246 to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this subsection.

247 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (17) and paragraph  
248 (a) of subsection (20) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, are  
249 amended to read:

250 1002.33 Charter schools.—

251 (17) FUNDING.—Students enrolled in a charter school,  
252 regardless of the sponsorship, shall be funded as if they are in  
253 a basic program or a special program, the same as students  
254 enrolled in other public schools in the school district. Funding  
255 for a charter lab school shall be as provided in s. 1002.32.

256 (b) The basis for the agreement for funding students  
257 enrolled in a charter school shall be the sum of the school  
258 district's operating funds from the Florida Education Finance  
259 Program as provided in s. 1011.62 and the General Appropriations  
260 Act, including gross state and local funds, discretionary  
261 lottery funds, and funds from the school district's current

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262 operating discretionary millage levy; divided by total funded  
263 weighted full-time equivalent students in the school district;  
264 multiplied by the weighted full-time equivalent students for the  
265 charter school. Charter schools whose students or programs meet  
266 the eligibility criteria in law are ~~shall be~~ entitled to their  
267 proportionate share of categorical program funds included in the  
268 total funds available in the Florida Education Finance Program  
269 by the Legislature, including transportation and the Florida  
270 digital classrooms allocation. Total funding for each charter  
271 school shall be recalculated during the year to reflect the  
272 revised calculations under the Florida Education Finance Program  
273 by the state and the actual weighted full-time equivalent  
274 students reported by the charter school during the full-time  
275 equivalent student survey periods designated by the Commissioner  
276 of Education.

277 (20) SERVICES.—

278 (a)1. A sponsor shall provide certain administrative and  
279 educational services to charter schools. These services shall  
280 include contract management services; full-time equivalent and  
281 data reporting services; exceptional student education  
282 administration services; services related to eligibility and  
283 reporting duties required to ensure that school lunch services  
284 under the federal lunch program, consistent with the needs of  
285 the charter school, are provided by the school district at the  
286 request of the charter school, that any funds due to the charter  
287 school under the federal lunch program be paid to the charter  
288 school as soon as the charter school begins serving food under  
289 the federal lunch program, and that the charter school is paid  
290 at the same time and in the same manner under the federal lunch

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291 program as other public schools serviced by the sponsor or the  
292 school district; test administration services, including payment  
293 of the costs of state-required or district-required student  
294 assessments; processing of teacher certificate data services;  
295 and information services, including equal access to student  
296 information systems that are used by public schools in the  
297 district in which the charter school is located. Student  
298 performance data for each student in a charter school,  
299 including, but not limited to, FCAT scores, standardized test  
300 scores, previous public school student report cards, and student  
301 performance measures, shall be provided by the sponsor to a  
302 charter school in the same manner provided to other public  
303 schools in the district.

304 2. A total administrative fee for the provision of such  
305 services shall be calculated based upon up to 5 percent of the  
306 available funds defined in paragraph (17)(b) for all students,  
307 except that when 75 percent or more of the students enrolled in  
308 the charter school are exceptional students as defined in s.  
309 1003.01(3), the 5 percent of those available funds shall be  
310 calculated based on unweighted full-time equivalent students.  
311 However, a sponsor may only withhold up to a 5-percent  
312 administrative fee for enrollment for up to and including 250  
313 students. For charter schools with a population of 251 or more  
314 students, the difference between the total administrative fee  
315 calculation and the amount of the administrative fee withheld  
316 may only be used for capital outlay purposes specified in s.  
317 1013.62(2).

318 3. For high-performing charter schools, as defined in ch.  
319 2011-232, a sponsor may withhold a total administrative fee of

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320 up to 2 percent for enrollment up to and including 250 students  
321 per school.

322 4. In addition, a sponsor may withhold only up to a 5-  
323 percent administrative fee for enrollment for up to and  
324 including 500 students within a system of charter schools which  
325 meets all of the following:

326 a. Includes both conversion charter schools and  
327 nonconversion charter schools;

328 b. Has all schools located in the same county;

329 c. Has a total enrollment exceeding the total enrollment of  
330 at least one school district in the state;

331 d. Has the same governing board; and

332 e. Does not contract with a for-profit service provider for  
333 management of school operations.

334 5. The difference between the total administrative fee  
335 calculation and the amount of the administrative fee withheld  
336 pursuant to subparagraph 4. may be used for instructional and  
337 administrative purposes as well as for capital outlay purposes  
338 specified in s. 1013.62(2).

339 6. For a high-performing charter school system that also  
340 meets the requirements in subparagraph 4., a sponsor may  
341 withhold a 2-percent administrative fee for enrollments up to  
342 and including 500 students per system.

343 7. Sponsors shall not charge charter schools any additional  
344 fees or surcharges for administrative and educational services  
345 in addition to the maximum 5-percent administrative fee withheld  
346 pursuant to this paragraph.

347 8. The sponsor of a virtual charter school may withhold a  
348 fee of up to 5 percent. The funds shall be used to cover the

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349 cost of services provided under subparagraph 1. and  
350 implementation of ~~for~~ the school district's digital classrooms  
351 plan pursuant to s. 1011.62 ~~local instructional improvement~~  
352 ~~system pursuant to s. 1006.281 or other technological tools that~~  
353 ~~are required to access electronic and digital instructional~~  
354 ~~materials.~~

355 Section 3. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsection  
356 (10) of section 1002.45, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
357 1002.45 Virtual instruction programs.—

358 (1) PROGRAM.—

359 (e) Each school district shall:

360 1. Provide to the department by October 1, 2011, and by  
361 each October 1 thereafter, a copy of each contract and the  
362 amounts paid per unweighted full-time equivalent student for  
363 services procured pursuant to subparagraphs (c)1. and 2.

364 2. Expend the difference in funds provided for a student  
365 participating in the school district virtual instruction program  
366 pursuant to subsection (7) and the price paid for contracted  
367 services procured pursuant to subparagraphs (c)1. and 2. for  
368 implementation of the school district's digital classrooms plan  
369 pursuant to s. 1011.62 ~~the district's local instructional~~  
370 ~~improvement system pursuant to s. 1006.281 or other~~  
371 ~~technological tools that are required to access electronic and~~  
372 ~~digital instructional materials.~~

373 3. At the end of each fiscal year, but no later than  
374 September 1, report to the department an itemized list of the  
375 technological tools purchased with these funds.

376 (10) MARKETING.—At the beginning of each school year, each  
377 school district shall provide notification ~~information~~ to

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378 parents and students about a ~~the parent's~~ and student's right  
379 and choice to participate in a virtual instruction program under  
380 this section and in courses offered by the Florida Virtual  
381 School under s. 1002.37.

382 Section 4. Section 1006.281, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

383 Section 5. Section 1006.282, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

384 Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section  
385 1006.38, Florida Statutes, is amended:

386 1006.38 Duties, responsibilities, and requirements of  
387 instructional materials publishers and manufacturers.—This  
388 section applies to both the state and district approval  
389 processes. Publishers and manufacturers of instructional  
390 materials, or their representatives, shall:

391 (3) Submit, at a time designated in s. 1006.33, the  
392 following information:

393 (b) Evidence that the publisher or manufacturer has  
394 provided materials that address the performance standards  
395 provided for in s. 1001.03(1) and that can be accessed through  
396 the school district's digital classrooms plan ~~local~~  
397 ~~instructional improvement system~~ and a variety of electronic,  
398 digital, and mobile devices.

399 Section 7. Section 1007.2616, Florida Statutes, is created  
400 to read:

401 1007.2616 Computer science and technology instruction.—

402 (1) Public schools shall provide students in grades K-12  
403 opportunities for learning computer science, including, but not  
404 limited to, computer coding and computer programming. Such  
405 opportunities may include coding instruction in elementary  
406 school and middle school, instruction to develop students'

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407 computer usage and digital literacy skills in middle school, and  
408 courses in computer science, computer coding, and computer  
409 programming in high school, including earning related industry  
410 certifications.

411 (2) Elementary schools and middle schools may establish  
412 digital classrooms in which students are provided opportunities  
413 to improve digital literacy and competency; to learn digital  
414 skills, such as coding, multiple media presentation, and the  
415 manipulation of multiple digital graphic images; and to earn  
416 digital tools, such as certificates and certifications pursuant  
417 to s. 1003.4203 and grade-appropriate, technology-related  
418 industry certifications.

419 (3) High schools may provide students with opportunities to  
420 take computer science courses to satisfy high school graduation  
421 requirements, including, but not limited to, the following:

422 (a) High school computer science courses of sufficient  
423 rigor, as identified by the commissioner, such that one credit  
424 in computer science and the earning of related industry  
425 certifications constitute the equivalent of up to one credit of  
426 mathematics requirement, with the exception of Algebra I or  
427 higher level mathematics, or up to one credit of science  
428 requirement, with the exception of Biology I or higher level  
429 science, for high school graduation. Computer science courses  
430 and technology-related industry certifications that are  
431 identified as eligible for meeting mathematics or science  
432 requirements for high school graduation shall be included in the  
433 Course Code Directory.

434 (b) High school computer technology courses in 3D rapid  
435 prototype printing of sufficient rigor, as identified by the

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436 commissioner, such that one or more credits in such courses and  
437 related industry certifications earned may satisfy up to two  
438 credits of mathematics required for high school graduation.  
439 Computer technology courses in 3D rapid prototype printing and  
440 related industry certifications that are identified as eligible  
441 for meeting mathematics requirements for high school graduation  
442 shall be included in the Course Code Directory.

443 (c) Courses in computer science, such that one credit, at  
444 the discretion of the local district school board, may satisfy  
445 one credit in physical education which is required for high  
446 school graduation.

447 (4) The State Board of Education may adopt rules pursuant  
448 to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this section.

449 Section 8. Section 1004.448, Florida Statutes, is created  
450 to read:

451 1004.448 Florida Center for Library Automation.—

452 (1) The Florida Center for Library Automation is  
453 established to provide a single library automation system and  
454 associated resources and services that all public postsecondary  
455 institutions shall use to support their learning, teaching, and  
456 research needs.

457 (2) The Florida Center for Library Automation shall:

458 (a) Develop and manage a library information portal and  
459 automated library management tools for use by the Florida  
460 College System institutions and state universities. The library  
461 information portal and automated library management tools must  
462 include, but are not limited to, the following services and  
463 functions:

464 1. A shared Internet-based catalog and a discovery tool



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465 that allow a user to search and, if authorized, access the  
466 aggregate library holdings of the state's public postsecondary  
467 education institutions. The catalog and discovery tool must  
468 allow the user to search the library holdings of one  
469 institution, selected institutions, or all institutions and, to  
470 the extent feasible, include an interlibrary loan function that  
471 ensures that the authorized user can access the required library  
472 holding.

473 2. An Internet-based searchable collection of electronic  
474 resources which includes, but is not limited to, full-text  
475 journals, articles, databases, and electronic books that the  
476 center licenses pursuant to paragraph (b).

477 3. An integrated library management system and its  
478 associated services that all public postsecondary education  
479 institution academic libraries must use for purposes of  
480 acquiring, cataloging, circulating, and tracking library  
481 material.

482 4. A statewide searchable database that includes an  
483 inventory of digital archives and collections held by public  
484 postsecondary education institutions.

485 (b) Coordinate the negotiation of statewide licensing of  
486 electronic library resources and preferred pricing agreements,  
487 issue purchase orders, and enter into contracts for the  
488 acquisition of library support services, electronic resources,  
489 and other goods and services necessary to carry out its duties  
490 under this section.

491 (c) Promote and provide recommendations concerning the use  
492 and distribution of open-access textbooks and education  
493 resources as a method for reducing costs and work with public

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494 postsecondary education institutions in developing a  
495 standardized process for the review and approval of open-access  
496 textbooks.

497 (3) The Florida Center for Library Automation shall be  
498 administered by an executive director who is accountable to the  
499 executive director of the University of West Florida's  
500 Innovation Institute. The executive director of the Florida  
501 Center for Library Automation shall:

502 (a) Independently exercise all powers, duties, and  
503 functions of the center as prescribed by law.

504 (b) Administer the operational requirements of the center.

505 (c) Hire professional and administrative staff necessary to  
506 carry out the duties of the center.

507 (d) Keep administrative staff to the minimum necessary to  
508 administer the duties of the center.

509 Section 9. Section 1006.72, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

510 Section 10. Section 1006.73, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

511 Section 11. Section 1006.735, Florida Statutes, is amended  
512 to read:

513 1006.735 Complete Florida ~~Plus Degree~~ Program.—The Complete  
514 Florida Plus Program is created within the Innovation Institute  
515 at the University of West Florida.

516 (1) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Complete Florida Plus  
517 Program is to:

518 (a) Facilitate degree completion for the state's adult  
519 learners through the Complete Florida Degree Initiative.

520 (b) Provide information and access to distance learning  
521 courses and degree programs offered by the state's public  
522 postsecondary education institutions.

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523 (c) Coordinate with the Florida College System and the  
524 State University System to identify and provide online academic  
525 support services and resources when the multi-institutional  
526 provision of such services and resources is more cost-effective  
527 or operationally effective.

528 (2)-(1) COMPLETE FLORIDA DEGREE INITIATIVE.—The Complete  
529 Florida Degree Initiative Program is established for the purpose  
530 of recruiting, recovering, and retaining the state's adult  
531 learners and assisting them in completing an associate degree or  
532 a baccalaureate degree that is aligned to high-wage, high-skill  
533 workforce needs. As used in this section, the term "adult  
534 learner" means a student who has successfully completed college-  
535 level coursework in multiple semesters but has left an  
536 institution in good standing before completing his or her  
537 degree. The program shall give priority to adult learners who  
538 are veterans or active duty members of the United States Armed  
539 Forces.

540 (a)-(2) The Complete Florida Degree Initiative Program shall  
541 be implemented ~~by the University of West Florida, acting as the~~  
542 ~~lead institution,~~ in coordination with Florida College System  
543 institutions, state universities, and private postsecondary  
544 institutions, as appropriate. The initiative includes program  
545 ~~shall include~~ the associate, applied baccalaureate, and  
546 baccalaureate degree programs that these institutions have  
547 selected. Other partnering public postsecondary education  
548 institutions shall provide areas of specialization or  
549 concentration.

550 (b)-(3) In determining ~~For purposes of selecting~~ the degree  
551 programs that will be given priority, ~~in~~ the Complete Florida

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552 Degree Initiative Program, the institutions identified in  
553 subsection (2) shall partner with public and private job  
554 recruitment and placement agencies and use labor market data and  
555 projections, including those identified in the Board of  
556 Governors' gap analysis, to identify the specific workforce  
557 needs and targeted occupations of the state.

558 (c) ~~(4)~~ The Complete Florida Degree Initiative Program shall  
559 provide adult learners with a single point of access to  
560 information and links to innovative online and accelerated  
561 distance learning courses, student and library support services,  
562 and electronic resources that will guide the adult learner  
563 toward the successful completion of a postsecondary degree.

564 ~~(5)~~ By the end of the 2013-2014 academic year, the Complete  
565 Florida Degree Program shall be implemented and must:

566 ~~(a)~~ Use the distance learning course catalog established  
567 pursuant to s. 1006.73 to communicate course availability to the  
568 adult learner.

569 ~~(b)~~ Develop and implement an advising and student support  
570 system that includes the use of degree completion specialists,  
571 is based upon best practices and processes, and includes  
572 academic and career support services designed specifically for  
573 the adult learner. The program must identify proposed changes to  
574 the statewide computer-assisted student advising system  
575 established pursuant to s. 1006.73 to assist the adult learner  
576 in using the system.

577 ~~(c)~~ Use the streamlined, automated, online admissions  
578 application process for transient students established pursuant  
579 to s. 1006.73. The program shall identify any additional  
580 admissions and registration policies and practices that could be

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581 ~~further streamlined and automated for purposes of assisting the~~  
582 ~~adult learner.~~

583 (d) The Complete Florida Degree Initiative shall:

584 1. Use existing and, if necessary, develop new competency-  
585 based instructional and evaluation tools to assess prior  
586 performance, experience, and education for the award of college  
587 credit in order to reduce the time required for adult learners  
588 to complete their degrees. The tools may include the use of the  
589 American Council on Education's collaborative link between the  
590 United States Department of Defense and higher education through  
591 the review of military training and experiences for the award of  
592 equivalent college credit for members of the United States Armed  
593 Forces.

594 2.~~(e)~~ Develop and implement an evaluation process that  
595 collects, analyzes, and provides to the chancellors of the  
596 Florida College System and the State University System, the  
597 participating postsecondary education institutions, the chairs  
598 of the legislative appropriations committees, and the Executive  
599 Office of the Governor information on the effectiveness of the  
600 program and the attainment of its goals. Such a process shall  
601 include a management information system that collects the  
602 appropriate student, programmatic, and fiscal data necessary to  
603 complete the evaluation of the program. Institutions involved in  
604 the program shall also collect job placement and employment data  
605 on the adult learners who have completed their degrees as a  
606 result of the program.

607 3.~~(f)~~ Develop and implement a statewide student recruitment  
608 campaign targeted toward adult learners, particularly veterans  
609 and active duty members of the United States Armed Forces, for

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610 enrollment in the degree programs offered through the program.

611 ~~(e)(6)~~ For purposes of the Complete Florida Degree  
612 Initiative Program, each institution's current tuition and fee  
613 structure shall be used. However, all participating institutions  
614 shall collaboratively identify the applicable cost components  
615 involved in the development and delivery of distance learning  
616 courses, collect information on these cost components, and  
617 submit the information to the chancellors of the Florida College  
618 System and the State University System. The chancellors shall  
619 submit a report to the chairs of the legislative appropriations  
620 committees no later than December 31, 2014, on the need for a  
621 differentiated tuition and fee structure for the development and  
622 delivery of distance learning courses.

623 (3) STATEWIDE INTERNET-BASED CATALOG OF DISTANCE LEARNING  
624 COURSES.—The Complete Florida Plus Program shall develop and  
625 manage a statewide Internet-based catalog of distance learning  
626 courses, degree programs, and resources offered by public  
627 postsecondary education institutions to assist with the  
628 coordination and collaboration of articulation and access to  
629 postsecondary education pursuant to parts II and III of chapter  
630 1007. The program shall establish operational procedures for the  
631 catalog which must:

632 (a) Require participating institutions to provide specific  
633 information concerning the distance learning courses and degree  
634 programs including, but not limited to, prerequisite courses or  
635 technology competencies or skills; the availability of academic  
636 support services and financial aid resources; and course costs,  
637 fees, and payment policies.

638 (b) Require that distance learning courses and degree

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639 programs meet applicable accreditation standards and criteria  
640 established in law.

641 (c) Require that the catalog be reviewed at least annually  
642 and updated as needed to ensure that distance learning courses  
643 and degree programs comply with operational procedures.

644 (d) Define and describe the catalog's search and retrieval  
645 options that, at a minimum, allow users to search courses and  
646 programs by academic term or start date; institution or  
647 institutions; delivery method, level, availability, subject or  
648 discipline, and course number or program classification number.

649 (e) Use an Internet-based analytic tool that allows for the  
650 collection and analysis of information, including, but not  
651 limited to:

652 1. The number of students who use the catalog to search for  
653 distance learning courses and degree programs;

654 2. The number and type of requests for information on  
655 distance learning courses and degree programs that are not  
656 listed in the catalog; and

657 3. A summary of specific requests by course type or course  
658 number, delivery method, offering institution, and semester.

659 (4) STATEWIDE ONLINE STUDENT ADVISING SERVICES AND  
660 SUPPORT.—The Complete Florida Plus Program shall make available  
661 to all postsecondary students on a statewide basis online  
662 supports and services that:

663 (a) Provide a streamlined, automated, online admissions  
664 application process for undergraduate transient students who are  
665 currently enrolled and pursuing a degree at a public  
666 postsecondary education institution and who enroll in a course  
667 offered by a public postsecondary education institution that is

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668 not the student's degree-granting institution. The University of  
669 West Florida shall work with the Florida College System  
670 institutions and state universities to:

671 1. Use the transient student admissions application  
672 available through the statewide computer-assisted student  
673 advising system established pursuant to paragraph (b). This  
674 admissions application is the only application required for the  
675 enrollment of a transient student as described in this  
676 paragraph.

677 2. Implement the financial aid procedures required by the  
678 transient student admissions application process.

679 3. Transfer credit awarded by the institution offering the  
680 course to the transient student's degree-granting institution.

681 4. Provide for an interface between the institutional  
682 advising system and the statewide computer-assisted student  
683 advising system established pursuant to paragraph (b) in order  
684 to electronically send, receive, and process the transient  
685 student admissions application.

686 (b) Develop and manage a statewide computer-assisted  
687 student advising system that supports the process of advising,  
688 registering, and certifying students for graduation and includes  
689 a degree audit and an articulation component. The Florida  
690 College System institutions and state universities shall  
691 interface institutional advising systems with the statewide  
692 computer-assisted student advising system. At a minimum, the  
693 statewide computer-assisted student advising system must:

694 1. Allow a student to access the system at any time, search  
695 public postsecondary education institutions, and identify course  
696 options that will meet the requirements of a selected path



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697 toward a degree.

698 2. Audit transcripts of students enrolled in a public  
699 postsecondary education institution to assess current academic  
700 standing, the requirements for a student to transfer to another  
701 institution, and all requirements necessary for graduation.

702 3. Serve as the official statewide repository for the  
703 common prerequisite manual, admissions information for  
704 transferring programs, foreign language requirements, residency  
705 requirements, and statewide articulation agreements.

706 4. Provide information relating to career descriptions and  
707 corresponding educational requirements, admissions requirements,  
708 and available sources of student financial assistance.

709 5. Provide the admissions application for transient  
710 students pursuant to paragraph (a) which must include the  
711 electronic transfer and receipt of information and records for:

712 a. Admissions and readmissions;

713 b. Financial aid; and

714 c. Transfer of credit awarded by the institution offering  
715 the course to the transient student's degree-granting  
716 institution.

717 (c) Identify and evaluate new technologies and  
718 instructional methods that can be used to improve distance  
719 learning instruction and professional development for faculty,  
720 student learning outcomes, student access, the delivery of  
721 student support services, the alignment of degrees to career  
722 needs, and the overall quality of postsecondary distance  
723 learning courses and degree programs.

724 (d) Provide appropriate help desk support and training and  
725 consultation services to institutions and students using the

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726 services and resources of the Complete Florida Plus Program.

727 (e) Coordinate the negotiation of statewide licensing  
728 resources and preferred pricing agreements, issue purchase  
729 orders, and execute contracts for the acquisition of distance  
730 learning resources, student support services, electronic  
731 resources, and other goods and services necessary to perform  
732 duties under this section.

733 (f) Develop and implement a plan, in consultation with the  
734 public postsecondary education institutions, that describes the  
735 services and resources available through the Complete Florida  
736 Plus Program to encourage current and prospective students' use  
737 of such services and resources.

738 (5) All records, personnel, property, existing contracts,  
739 and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, grants,  
740 and other funds of the Florida Virtual Campus shall be  
741 transferred to the University of West Florida. The University of  
742 West Florida shall be the successor in interest to the Florida  
743 Virtual Campus and shall be responsible for the provision of all  
744 services as authorized by this section.

745 ~~(7) The University of West Florida, in collaboration with~~  
746 ~~its partners, shall submit to the chairs of the Board of~~  
747 ~~Governors, the State Board of Education, and the legislative~~  
748 ~~appropriations committees no later than September 1, 2013, a~~  
749 ~~detailed program plan that defines the major work activities,~~  
750 ~~student eligibility criteria, timeline, and cost for~~  
751 ~~implementing the Complete Florida Degree Program.~~

752 Section 12. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section  
753 1007.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

754 1007.01 Articulation; legislative intent; purpose; role of

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755 the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors;  
756 Articulation Coordinating Committee.—

757 (3) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the  
758 Chancellor of the State University System, shall establish the  
759 Articulation Coordinating Committee, which shall make  
760 recommendations related to statewide articulation policies and  
761 issues regarding access, quality, and reporting of data  
762 maintained by the K-20 data warehouse, established pursuant to  
763 ss. 1001.10 and 1008.31, to the Higher Education Coordination  
764 Council, the State Board of Education, and the Board of  
765 Governors. The committee shall consist of two members each  
766 representing the State University System, the Florida College  
767 System, public career and technical education, K-12 education,  
768 and nonpublic postsecondary education and one member  
769 representing students. The chair shall be elected from the  
770 membership. The Office of K-20 Articulation shall provide  
771 administrative support for the committee. The committee shall:

772 (h) Recommend roles and responsibilities of public  
773 education entities in interfacing with the single, statewide  
774 computer-assisted student advising system established pursuant  
775 to s. 1006.735 ~~s. 1006.73~~.

776 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (16) and subsection  
777 (17) of section 1009.23, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

778 1009.23 Florida College System institution student fees.—

779 (16) (a) Each Florida College System institution may assess  
780 a student who enrolls in a course listed in the distance  
781 learning catalog, established pursuant to s. 1006.735 ~~s.~~  
782 ~~1006.73~~, a per-credit-hour distance learning course user fee.  
783 For purposes of assessing this fee, a distance learning course

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784 is a course in which at least 80 percent of the direct  
785 instruction of the course is delivered using some form of  
786 technology when the student and instructor are separated by time  
787 or space, or both.

788 (17) Each Florida College System institution that accepts  
789 transient students, pursuant to s. 1006.735 ~~s. 1006.73~~, may  
790 establish a transient student fee not to exceed \$5 per course  
791 for processing the transient student admissions application.

792 Section 14. Paragraph (t) of subsection (14) and paragraph  
793 (a) of subsection (17) of section 1009.24, Florida Statutes, are  
794 amended to read:

795 1009.24 State university student fees.—

796 (14) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (15), each  
797 university board of trustees is authorized to establish the  
798 following fees:

799 (t) A transient student fee that may not exceed \$5 per  
800 course for accepting a transient student and processing the  
801 transient student admissions application pursuant to s. 1006.735  
802 ~~s. 1006.73~~.

803

804 With the exception of housing rental rates and except as  
805 otherwise provided, fees assessed pursuant to paragraphs (h)-(s)  
806 shall be based on reasonable costs of services. The Board of  
807 Governors shall adopt regulations and timetables necessary to  
808 implement the fees and fines authorized under this subsection.  
809 The fees assessed under this subsection may be used for debt  
810 only as authorized under s. 1010.62.

811 (17) (a) A state university may assess a student who enrolls  
812 in a course listed in the distance learning catalog, established

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813 pursuant to s. 1006.735 ~~s. 1006.73~~, a per-credit-hour distance  
814 learning course fee. For purposes of assessing this fee, a  
815 distance learning course is a course in which at least 80  
816 percent of the direct instruction of the course is delivered  
817 using some form of technology when the student and instructor  
818 are separated by time or space, or both.

819 Section 15. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section  
820 1011.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

821 1011.71 District school tax.—

822 (2) In addition to the maximum millage levy as provided in  
823 subsection (1), each school board may levy not more than 1.5  
824 mills against the taxable value for school purposes for district  
825 schools, including charter schools at the discretion of the  
826 school board, to fund:

827 (d) The purchase, lease-purchase, or lease of new and  
828 replacement equipment; computer hardware, including electronic  
829 hardware and other hardware devices necessary for gaining access  
830 to or enhancing the use of electronic content and resources or  
831 to facilitate the access to and the use of a school district's  
832 digital classrooms plan pursuant to s. 1011.62 ~~electronic~~  
833 ~~learning management system pursuant to s. 1006.281~~, excluding  
834 software other than the operating system necessary to operate  
835 the hardware or device; and enterprise resource software  
836 applications that are classified as capital assets in accordance  
837 with definitions of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board,  
838 have a useful life of at least 5 years, and are used to support  
839 districtwide administration or state-mandated reporting  
840 requirements.

841 Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.