

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to education; amending s. 1002.41,
3 F.S.; specifying that a home education program is not
4 a school district program; requiring a school district
5 to provide exceptional student education-related
6 services to certain home education program students;
7 requiring reporting and funding through the Florida
8 Education Finance Program; requiring home education
9 program students be provided access to certain courses
10 and programs offered by the school district; requiring
11 home education program students be provided access to
12 certain certifications and assessments offered by the
13 school district; providing for a textbook
14 reimbursement for home education program students;
15 providing for the disbursement of the reimbursement;
16 requiring a home education student be verified by the
17 school district before award of the reimbursement;
18 prohibiting a school district from taking certain
19 actions against a home education program student's
20 parent unless such action is required for a school
21 district program; amending s. 1003.27, F.S.; requiring
22 a school and school district to comply with specified
23 provisions before instituting criminal prosecution
24 against certain parents relating to compulsory school
25 attendance; amending s. 1007.271, F.S.; prohibiting
26 dual enrollment course and program limitations for

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27 | home education students from exceeding limitations for
28 | other students; providing an exemption from the grade
29 | point average requirement for initial enrollment in a
30 | dual enrollment program for certain home education
31 | students; providing that articulation agreements for
32 | private schools and home education students may not
33 | contain specified payment provisions; requiring each
34 | public postsecondary institution to develop a
35 | comprehensive dual enrollment articulation agreement
36 | for home education students; requiring a specified
37 | committee for each institution to develop the
38 | agreement; amending s. 1009.536, F.S.; specifying
39 | student eligibility for the Florida Gold Seal
40 | Vocational Scholars award; providing an effective
41 | date.

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43 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

44 |
45 | Section 1. Subsections (3) and (9) of section 1002.41,
46 | Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (10), (11), (12),
47 | (13), and (14) are added to that section, to read:

48 | 1002.41 Home education programs.—

49 | (3) A home education program is not a school district
50 | program and shall be excluded from meeting the requirements of a
51 | school day.

52 | ~~(9) Home education program students may receive Testing~~

53 and evaluation services at diagnostic and resource centers shall
54 be available to home education program students, in accordance
55 with the provisions of s. 1006.03.

56 (10) A school district shall provide exceptional student
57 education-related services, as defined in State Board of
58 Education rule, to a home education program student with a
59 disability who is eligible for the services and who enrolls in a
60 public school solely for the purpose of receiving those related
61 services. The school district providing the services shall
62 report each student as a full-time equivalent student in a
63 manner prescribed by the Department of Education, and funding
64 shall be provided through the Florida Education Finance Program
65 pursuant to s. 1011.62.

66 (11) Home education program students shall be provided
67 access to career and technical courses and programs offered by
68 the school district.

69 (12) Industry certifications, national assessments, and
70 statewide, standardized assessments offered by the school
71 district shall be available to home education program students.
72 Each school district shall notify home education program
73 students of the available certifications and assessments; the
74 date, time, and locations for the administration of each
75 certification and assessment; and the deadline for notifying the
76 school district of the student's intent to participate and the
77 student's preferred location.

78 (13) Home education program students shall be provided an

79 annual textbook reimbursement in the amount of \$81.42. The
 80 reimbursement shall be disbursed by an eligible nonprofit
 81 scholarship-funding organization, as defined in s. 1002.395,
 82 selected by the Department of Education. A student's enrollment
 83 in a home education program must be verified by the student's
 84 school district before the reimbursement may be awarded.

85 (14) A school district may not further regulate, exercise
 86 control over, or require documentation from parents of home
 87 education program students beyond the requirements of this
 88 section unless the regulation, control, or documentation is
 89 necessary for participation in a school district program.

90 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 1003.27, Florida
 91 Statutes, is amended to read:

92 1003.27 Court procedure and penalties.—The court procedure
 93 and penalties for the enforcement of the provisions of this
 94 part, relating to compulsory school attendance, shall be as
 95 follows:

96 (2) NONENROLLMENT AND NONATTENDANCE CASES.—

97 (a) In each case of nonenrollment or of nonattendance upon
 98 the part of a student who is required to attend some school,
 99 when no valid reason for such nonenrollment or nonattendance is
 100 found, the district school superintendent shall institute a
 101 criminal prosecution against the student's parent. However,
 102 criminal prosecution may not be instituted against the student's
 103 parent until the school and school district have complied with
 104 s. 1003.26.

105 (b) Each public school principal or the principal's
 106 designee shall notify the district school board of each minor
 107 student under its jurisdiction who accumulates 15 unexcused
 108 absences in a period of 90 calendar days. ~~Each designee of the~~
 109 ~~governing body of each private school, and each parent whose~~
 110 ~~child is enrolled in a home education program, may provide the~~
 111 ~~Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles with the legal~~
 112 ~~name, sex, date of birth, and social security number of each~~
 113 ~~minor student under his or her jurisdiction who fails to satisfy~~
 114 ~~relevant attendance requirements and who fails to otherwise~~
 115 ~~satisfy the requirements of s. 322.091.~~ The district school
 116 superintendent must provide the Department of Highway Safety and
 117 Motor Vehicles the legal name, sex, date of birth, and social
 118 security number of each minor student who has been reported
 119 under this paragraph and who fails to otherwise satisfy the
 120 requirements of s. 322.091. The Department of Highway Safety and
 121 Motor Vehicles may not issue a driver license or learner's
 122 driver license to, and shall suspend any previously issued
 123 driver license or learner's driver license of, any such minor
 124 student, pursuant to the provisions of s. 322.091.

125 (c) Each designee of the governing body of each private
 126 school and each parent whose child is enrolled in a home
 127 education program may provide the Department of Highway Safety
 128 and Motor Vehicles with the legal name, sex, date of birth, and
 129 social security number of each minor student under his or her
 130 jurisdiction who fails to satisfy relevant attendance

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131 requirements and who fails to otherwise satisfy the requirements
132 of s. 322.091. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor
133 Vehicles may not issue a driver license or learner's driver
134 license to, and shall suspend any previously issued driver
135 license or learner's driver license of, any such minor student,
136 pursuant to the provisions of s. 322.091.

137 Section 3. Subsections (22) through (24) are renumbered as
138 subsections (23) through (25), respectively, paragraph (b) of
139 subsection (13), subsection (16), and paragraph (n) of
140 subsection (21) of section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, are
141 amended, and a new subsection (22) is added to that section, to
142 read:

143 1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—

144 (13)

145 (b) Each postsecondary institution shall enter into a home
146 education articulation agreement with each home education
147 student seeking enrollment in a dual enrollment course and the
148 student's parent. The home education articulation agreement
149 shall include, at a minimum:

150 1. A delineation of courses and programs available to
151 dually enrolled home education students. Courses and programs
152 may be added, revised, or deleted at any time by the
153 postsecondary institution. Any course or program limitations may
154 not exceed the limitations for other dually enrolled students.

155 2. The initial and continued eligibility requirements for
156 home education student participation, not to exceed those

157 | required of other dually enrolled students. A high school grade
158 | point average may not be required for home education students
159 | who meet the minimum score on a common placement test adopted by
160 | the State Board of Education which indicates that the student is
161 | ready for college-level coursework; however, home education
162 | student eligibility requirements for continued enrollment in
163 | college credit dual enrollment courses must include the
164 | maintenance of the minimum postsecondary grade point average
165 | established by the postsecondary institution.

166 | 3. The student's responsibilities for providing his or her
167 | own instructional materials and transportation.

168 | 4. A copy of the statement on transfer guarantees
169 | developed by the Department of Education under subsection (15).

170 | (16) Public school, private school, or home education
171 | program students who meet the eligibility requirements of this
172 | section and who choose to participate in dual enrollment
173 | programs are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition,
174 | and laboratory fees.

175 | (21) Each district school superintendent and each public
176 | postsecondary institution president shall develop a
177 | comprehensive dual enrollment articulation agreement for the
178 | respective school district and postsecondary institution. The
179 | superintendent and president shall establish an articulation
180 | committee for the purpose of developing the agreement. Each
181 | state university president may designate a university
182 | representative to participate in the development of a dual

183 enrollment articulation agreement. A dual enrollment
184 articulation agreement shall be completed and submitted annually
185 by the postsecondary institution to the Department of Education
186 on or before August 1. The agreement must include, but is not
187 limited to:

188 (n) A funding provision that delineates costs incurred by
189 each entity.

190 1. School districts shall pay public postsecondary
191 institutions the standard tuition rate per credit hour from
192 funds provided in the Florida Education Finance Program when
193 dual enrollment course instruction takes place on the
194 postsecondary institution's campus and the course is taken
195 during the fall or spring term. When dual enrollment is provided
196 on the high school site by postsecondary institution faculty,
197 the school district shall reimburse the costs associated with
198 the postsecondary institution's proportion of salary and
199 benefits to provide the instruction. When dual enrollment course
200 instruction is provided on the high school site by school
201 district faculty, the school district is not responsible for
202 payment to the postsecondary institution. A postsecondary
203 institution may enter into an agreement with the school district
204 to authorize teachers to teach dual enrollment courses at the
205 high school site or the postsecondary institution. A school
206 district may not deny a student access to dual enrollment unless
207 the student is ineligible to participate in the program subject
208 to provisions specifically outlined in this section.

209 2. Subject to annual appropriation in the General
 210 Appropriations Act, a public postsecondary institution shall
 211 receive an amount of funding equivalent to the standard tuition
 212 rate per credit hour for each dual enrollment course taken by a
 213 student during the summer term.

214 3. The payment provisions of this paragraph do not apply
 215 to an articulation agreement with a private school or home
 216 education student.

217 (22) Each public postsecondary institution shall develop a
 218 comprehensive dual enrollment articulation agreement for home
 219 education students and the postsecondary institution. The
 220 president shall establish an articulation committee composed of
 221 postsecondary education representatives and home education
 222 parents or home education association representatives for the
 223 purpose of developing the agreement.

224 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 1009.536, Florida
 225 Statutes, is amended to read:

226 1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award.—The
 227 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award is created within
 228 the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to recognize and
 229 reward academic achievement and career preparation by high
 230 school students who wish to continue their education.

231 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal
 232 Vocational Scholars award if the student meets the general
 233 eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures
 234 Scholarship Program and the student:

235 (a) Completes the secondary school portion of a sequential
 236 program of studies that requires at least three secondary school
 237 career credits and earns a minimum unweighted grade point
 238 average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for secondary school career
 239 courses comprising the career program. On-the-job training may
 240 not be substituted for any of the three required career credits.

241 (b) Demonstrates readiness for postsecondary education by
 242 earning a passing score on the Florida College Entry Level
 243 Placement Test or its equivalent as identified by the Department
 244 of Education.

245 (c) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point
 246 average of 3.0, as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, on all
 247 subjects required for a standard high school diploma, excluding
 248 elective courses, or has attended a home education program
 249 pursuant to s. 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12.

250 ~~(d) Earns a minimum unweighted grade point average of 3.5~~
 251 ~~on a 4.0 scale for secondary career courses comprising the~~
 252 ~~career program.~~

253 (d)(e) Beginning with high school students graduating in
 254 the 2011-2012 academic year and thereafter, completes a program
 255 of community service work approved by the district school board,
 256 the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of
 257 Education for home education program students, which shall
 258 include a minimum of 30 hours of service work, and identifies a
 259 social problem that interests him or her, develops a plan for
 260 his or her personal involvement in addressing the problem, and,

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261 | through papers or other presentations, evaluates and reflects
262 | upon his or her experience.

263 | Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.