

By Senator Gaetz

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to vocational rehabilitation; amending  
3           s. 413.207, F.S.; requiring the Division of Vocational  
4           Rehabilitation to initiate, by a specified date, a  
5           performance improvement plan designed to achieve  
6           specified goals; requiring the division to submit a  
7           performance report annually, by a specified date, to  
8           the Governor and the Legislature which includes  
9           specified information; providing an effective date.

10  
11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12  
13           Section 1. Section 413.207, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
14 read:

15           413.207 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; quality  
16 assurance; performance improvement plan.—

17           (1) The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation shall  
18 maintain an internal system of quality assurance, have proven  
19 functional systems, perform due diligence, review provider  
20 systems of quality assurance, and be subject to monitoring for  
21 compliance with state and federal laws, rules, and regulations.

22           (2) No later than October 1, 2016, the division shall  
23 develop and implement a performance improvement plan designed to  
24 achieve the following goals:

25           (a) Decrease the average wait list time for reportable  
26 individuals.

27           (b) Increase the percentage of participants who are in  
28 unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after they  
29 exit from the program.

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30 (c) Increase the percentage of participants who are in  
31 unsubsidized employment during the fourth quarter after they  
32 exit from the program.

33 (d) Increase the number of persons earning CAPE industry  
34 certifications and CAPE postsecondary industry certifications  
35 approved pursuant to s. 1008.44.

36 (e) Increase the median earnings of participants who are in  
37 unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after they  
38 exit from the program.

39 (f) Increase the percentage of participants who obtained a  
40 recognized postsecondary credential or a secondary school  
41 diploma or its recognized equivalent during participation in, or  
42 within 1 year after their exit from, the program.

43 (g) Increase the percentage of youth who received  
44 preemployment transition services without applying for  
45 additional vocational rehabilitation services and who obtained a  
46 recognized postsecondary credential or a secondary school  
47 diploma or its recognized equivalent during participation in, or  
48 within 1 year after their exit from, the program.

49 (h) Increase the percentage of participants who, during a  
50 program year, are in an education or training program that leads  
51 to a recognized postsecondary credential or to employment and  
52 who are achieving a measurable gain of skill, including  
53 documented academic, technical, occupational gains or other  
54 forms of progress toward a postsecondary credential or  
55 employment.

56 (i) Increase the number of students receiving pre-  
57 employment transition services.

58 (j) Increase the division's effectiveness in serving

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59 employers, based on indicators developed as required by section  
60 116(b) (2) (A) (iv) of the federal Workforce Innovation and  
61 Opportunity Act.

62 (3) The goals established under subsection (2) must be  
63 designed to elevate the state vocational rehabilitation program  
64 to one of the top 10 in the nation.

65 (4) By December 1 of each year, the division shall submit a  
66 performance report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,  
67 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which includes  
68 the following information for each of the 5 most recent fiscal  
69 years:

70 (a) Caseload data, including the number of individuals who  
71 apply for services and who receive services, by service type,  
72 reported statewide and by service area.

73 (b) Service use data, by service type, including the number  
74 of units of service provided, statewide and by service area.

75 (c) Financial data, by service type, including expenditures  
76 for administration and the provision of services. Expenditure  
77 data shall be reported on a statewide basis and by service area,  
78 and expenditures for education-related services must be  
79 identified in specific categories such as tuition and fees,  
80 program fees, and support services.

81 (d) Outcome data, statewide and by service area, including  
82 the number of cases closed without employment and the number of  
83 cases closed with employment. Employment data must be provided  
84 separately for supported employment.

85 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.