

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to alternative high school graduation  
 3           requirements; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; providing  
 4           that certain students are eligible for alternative  
 5           pathways to a standard high school diploma; providing  
 6           student eligibility requirements; providing  
 7           requirements for meeting the alternative pathways to a  
 8           standard high school diploma; specifying required  
 9           documentation; requiring district school boards to  
 10          incorporate certain information in the student  
 11          progression plan; amending s. 1008.22, F.S.; providing  
 12          that certain students may be eligible to complete an  
 13          alternative pathway to a standard high school diploma;  
 14          providing an effective date.

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 16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 18           Section 1. Subsection (11) of section 1003.4282, Florida  
 19           Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (12), and a new subsection  
 20           (11) is added to that section to read:

21           1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school  
 22           diploma.—

23           (11) ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS TO A STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL  
 24           DIPLOMA.—

25           (a) Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2017-

26 | 2018 school year, a student who completed the minimum high  
27 | school graduation course credit requirements established by rule  
28 | of the State Board of Education but did not pass the grade 10  
29 | ELA assessment or the statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC  
30 | assessment is eligible to complete an alternative pathway to a  
31 | standard high school diploma.

32 | (b) A student may satisfy the requirements for a standard  
33 | high school diploma through one of the following alternative  
34 | pathways:

35 | 1. Attain an industry-recognized credential or  
36 | certification approved by the State Board of Education and  
37 | accumulate a combined level score of at least 13 points on the  
38 | ACT WorkKeys Applied Mathematics, Locating Information, and  
39 | Reading for Information assessments.

40 | 2. Master the academic standards or competencies that had  
41 | not previously been met, as indicated by the student not passing  
42 | the applicable grade 10 ELA assessment or the statewide,  
43 | standardized Algebra I EOC assessment, in a portfolio containing  
44 | quantifiable evidence of such mastery.

45 | 3. For a student who did not pass the grade 10 ELA  
46 | assessment, earn a score established by the State Board of  
47 | Education for the Advanced Placement Language and Composition  
48 | Examination; the Advanced Placement Literature and Composition  
49 | Examination; the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test  
50 | (P.E.R.T.) Reading and the P.E.R.T. Writing Assessments; or the

51 ACT English Subject Test.

52 4. For a student who did not pass the statewide,  
53 standardized Algebra I EOC, earn a score established by the  
54 State Board of Education for the SAT Mathematics Test.

55 (c) A student shall be awarded a standard high school  
56 diploma upon completion of the requirements of an appropriate  
57 alternative pathway to graduation. The student must provide  
58 documentation verifying the completion of the alternative  
59 pathway to graduation. Documentation must be verified by the  
60 student's principal.

61 (d) Each district school board shall incorporate the  
62 alternative pathways to graduation in the student progression  
63 plan required pursuant to s. 1008.25.

64 Section 2. Subsections (10), (11), and (12) of section  
65 1008.22, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (11),  
66 (12), and (13), respectively, and a new subsection (10) is added  
67 to that section to read:

68 1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.—

69 (10) ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS TO GRADUATION.—If a student  
70 fails to satisfy the grade 10 ELA assessment or Algebra I EOC  
71 assessment graduation requirements, the student may be eligible  
72 to complete an alternative pathway to graduation under s.  
73 1003.4282(11).

74 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.