

By Senator Rouson

19-00514D-18

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to education for prisoners; amending
3 s. 944.801, F.S.; authorizing the Department of
4 Corrections to contract with certain entities to
5 provide educational services for the Correctional
6 Education Program; amending s. 951.176, F.S.;
7 authorizing each county to contract with certain
8 entities to provide educational services for county
9 inmates; amending s. 1011.80, F.S.; removing a
10 provision prohibiting state funds for the operation of
11 postsecondary workforce programs from being used for
12 the education of certain state inmates; providing an
13 effective date.

14
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17 Section 1. Present subsections (4) and (5) of section
18 944.801, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and
19 (6), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that
20 section, to read:

21 944.801 Education for state prisoners.—

22 (4) The department may contract with a district school
23 board, the Florida Virtual School, or a charter school
24 authorized to operate under s. 1002.33 to provide educational
25 services for the Correctional Education Program. The educational
26 services may include any educational, career, or vocational
27 training that is authorized by the department.

28 Section 2. Section 951.176, Florida Statutes, is amended to
29 read:

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30 951.176 Provision of education ~~programs for youth.~~

31 (1) Each county may contract with a district school board,
32 the Florida Virtual School, or a charter school authorized to
33 operate under s. 1002.33 to provide educational services for
34 inmates at county detention facilities. The educational services
35 may include any educational, career, or vocational training that
36 is authorized by the sheriff or chief correctional officer, or
37 his or her designee.

38 (2) Minors who have not graduated from high school and
39 eligible students with disabilities under the age of 22 who have
40 not graduated with a standard diploma or its equivalent who are
41 detained in a county or municipal detention facility as defined
42 in s. 951.23 shall be offered educational services by the local
43 school district in which the facility is located. These
44 educational services shall be based upon the estimated length of
45 time the youth will be in the facility and the youth's current
46 level of functioning. School district superintendents or their
47 designees shall be notified by the county sheriff or chief
48 correctional officer, or his or her designee, upon the
49 assignment of a youth under the age of 21 to the facility. A
50 cooperative agreement with the local school district and
51 applicable law enforcement units shall be developed to address
52 the notification requirement and the provision of educational
53 services to these youth.

54 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section
55 1011.80, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

56 1011.80 Funds for operation of workforce education
57 programs.—

58 (7)

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59 (b) State funds provided for the operation of postsecondary
60 workforce programs may not be expended for the education of
61 state inmates with more than 24 months of time remaining to
62 serve on their sentence or federal inmates.

63 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.