

By Senator Book

32-00110-18

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to schools of hope; amending s.
3 1001.292, F.S.; revising enrollment requirements for a
4 hope operator to receive a loan under the Schools of
5 Hope Revolving Loan Program; amending s. 1002.333,
6 F.S.; redefining the term "school of hope"; requiring
7 hope operators to employ school administrators and
8 instructional and noninstructional personnel who meet
9 specified certification requirements; providing an
10 effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 1001.292,
15 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

16 1001.292 Schools of Hope Revolving Loan Program.—

17 (3) The department may contract with a third-party
18 administrator to administer the program. If the department
19 contracts with a third-party administrator, funds shall be
20 granted to the third-party administrator to create a revolving
21 loan fund to finance ~~for the purpose of financing~~ projects that
22 meet the requirements of subsection (4). The third-party
23 administrator shall report to the department annually. The
24 department shall continue to administer the program until a
25 third-party administrator is selected.

26 (4) Hope operators that have been designated by the State
27 Board of Education and have executed a performance-based
28 agreement pursuant to s. 1002.333 shall be provided a loan of up
29 to the amount provided in subsection (2) for projects that are

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30 located in the attendance area of a persistently low-performing
31 school or within a 5-mile radius of such school and primarily
32 serve students who comprise at least 75 percent of its total
33 enrollment from the persistently low-performing school. A hope
34 operator is not eligible for funding if it operates in
35 facilities provided by the school district for a nominal fee, or
36 at no charge, or if it is directly or indirectly operated by the
37 school district.

38 Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and paragraph
39 (d) of subsection (6) of section 1002.333, Florida Statutes, are
40 amended to read:

41 1002.333 Persistently low-performing schools.—

42 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

43 (c) "School of hope" means:

44 1. A charter school operated by a hope operator which
45 serves students from one or more persistently low-performing
46 schools and who comprise at least 75 percent of its total
47 enrollment; is located in the attendance zone of a persistently
48 low-performing school or within a 5-mile radius of such school,
49 whichever is greater; and is a Title I eligible school; or

50 2. A school operated by a hope operator pursuant to s.
51 1008.33(4)(b)3.

52 (6) STATUTORY AUTHORITY.—

53 (d) A hope operator must ~~may~~ employ school administrators
54 and instructional and noninstructional personnel who ~~do not~~ meet
55 the requirements of s. 1012.55 or s. 1012.56 ~~if the school~~
56 ~~administrators and instructional personnel are not ineligible~~
57 ~~for such employment under s. 1012.315.~~

58 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.