

By Senator Montford

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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, as of a specified school year, certain students
5 are eligible for alternative pathways to a standard
6 high school diploma; specifying the alternative
7 pathways; requiring that students provide verified
8 documentation of completion of the alternative
9 pathway; 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. Present subsection (11) of section 1003.4282,
19 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (12), and a new
20 subsection (11) is added to that section, to read:

21 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.-

22 (11) ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS TO A STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL
23 DIPLOMA.-

24 (a) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, a student who
25 completed the minimum high school graduation course credit
26 requirements established by rule of the State Board of Education
27 but did not pass the grade 10 ELA assessment or the statewide,
28 standardized Algebra I EOC assessment is eligible to complete an
29 alternative pathway to a standard high school diploma.

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

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

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

43 (c) A student shall be awarded a standard high school
44 diploma upon completion of the requirements of an appropriate
45 alternative pathway to graduation. The student must provide
46 documentation verifying the completion of the alternative
47 pathway to graduation. Documentation must be verified by the
48 student's principal.

49 (d) Each district school board shall incorporate the
50 alternative pathways to graduation in the student progression
51 plan required pursuant to s. 1008.25.

52 Section 2. Present subsections (11), (12), and (13) of
53 section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
54 subsections (12), (13), and (14), respectively, and a new
55 subsection (11) is added to that section, to read:

56 1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.—

57 (11) ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS TO GRADUATION.—If a student fails
58 to satisfy the grade 10 ELA assessment or Algebra I EOC

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59 assessment graduation requirements, the student may be eligible
60 to complete an alternative pathway to graduation under s.
61 1003.4282(11).

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