

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 to complete an alternative pathway to a
 6 standard high school diploma; specifying alternative
 7 pathways; requiring that students provide verified
 8 documentation of completion of an alternative pathway;
 9 requiring district school boards to incorporate
 10 certain information in the student progression plan;
 11 amending s. 1008.22, F.S.; providing that certain
 12 students may be eligible to complete an alternative
 13 pathway to a standard high school diploma; providing
 14 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 2019-2020 school year, a student who
 25 completes the minimum high school graduation course credit
 26 requirements established by rule of the State Board of Education
 27 but has not passed 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.

3-00825-19

2019312__

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

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

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

3-00825-19

2019312__

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

62 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.