

ENROLLED

CS/HB 807, Engrossed 1

2019 Legislature

1
2 An act relating to civics education; amending s.
3 1003.4156, F.S.; requiring that instructional
4 materials for certain civics education courses be
5 reviewed and approved by the Commissioner of Education
6 in consultation with certain entities and individuals;
7 requiring the commissioner to identify errors and
8 inaccuracies in state-adopted materials; requiring
9 such errors and inaccuracies to be corrected;
10 requiring the commissioner to review and provide
11 recommendations for certain instructional materials
12 and test specifications by a specified date; requiring
13 the Department of Education to review statewide civics
14 education course standards by a specified date;
15 deleting obsolete provisions; amending s. 1003.44,
16 F.S.; providing that hours devoted to certain programs
17 satisfy the service work requirement for the Florida
18 Bright Futures Scholarship Program; providing an
19 effective date.
20

21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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23 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section
24 1003.4156, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

25 1003.4156 General requirements for middle grades

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26 | promotion.—

27 | (1) In order for a student to be promoted to high school
 28 | from a school that includes middle grades 6, 7, and 8, the
 29 | student must successfully complete the following courses:

30 | (c) Three middle grades or higher courses in social
 31 | studies. ~~Beginning with students entering grade 6 in the 2012-~~
 32 | ~~2013 school year,~~ One of these courses must be at least a one-
 33 | semester civics education course that includes the roles and
 34 | responsibilities of federal, state, and local governments; the
 35 | structures and functions of the legislative, executive, and
 36 | judicial branches of government; and the meaning and
 37 | significance of historic documents, such as the Articles of
 38 | Confederation, the Declaration of Independence, and the
 39 | Constitution of the United States. All instructional materials
 40 | for the civics education course must be reviewed and approved by
 41 | the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with
 42 | organizations that may include, but are not limited to, the
 43 | Florida Joint Center for Citizenship, the Bill of Rights
 44 | Institute, Hillsdale College, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of
 45 | American History, iCivics, and the Constitutional Sources
 46 | Project, and with educators, school administrators,
 47 | postsecondary education representatives, elected officials,
 48 | business and industry leaders, parents, and the public. Any
 49 | errors and inaccuracies the commissioner identifies in state-
 50 | adopted materials must be corrected pursuant to s. 1006.35.

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51 After consulting with such entities and individuals, the
52 commissioner shall review the current state-approved civics
53 education course instructional materials and the test
54 specifications for the statewide, standardized EOC assessment in
55 civics education and shall make recommendations for improvements
56 to the materials and test specifications by December 31, 2019.
57 By December 31, 2020, the department shall complete a review of
58 the statewide civics education course standards. ~~Beginning with~~
59 ~~the 2013-2014 school year,~~ Each student's performance on the
60 statewide, standardized EOC assessment in civics education
61 required under s. 1008.22 constitutes 30 percent of the
62 student's final course grade. A middle grades student who
63 transfers into the state's public school system from out of
64 country, out of state, a private school, or a home education
65 program after the beginning of the second term of grade 8 is not
66 required to meet the civics education requirement for promotion
67 from the middle grades if the student's transcript documents
68 passage of three courses in social studies or two year-long
69 courses in social studies that include coverage of civics
70 education.

71 Section 2. Subsection (5) is added to section 1003.44,
72 Florida Statutes, to read:

73 1003.44 Patriotic programs; rules.—

74 (5) The hours that a high school student devotes to the
75 Florida Debate Initiative, also known as the Central Florida

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76 | Debate Initiative, the YMCA Youth and Government program, the
77 | American Legion Boys State program, the American Legion Girls
78 | State program, or other similar programs approved by the
79 | commissioner shall count towards the service work requirement
80 | for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.

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