

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to education funding; amending s.  
3           1002.391, F.S.; revising the definition for the term  
4           "auditory-oral education program"; amending s.  
5           1011.62, F.S.; revising the basic amount for current  
6           operation calculation for the Florida Education  
7           Finance Program; revising the calculation of the  
8           district cost differentials; requiring the Legislature  
9           to annually prescribe such district cost differentials  
10          in the General Appropriations Act; providing  
11          requirements for the Office of Economic and  
12          Demographic Research; providing calculations for the  
13          district cost differentials for specified fiscal  
14          years; creating the salary enhancement supplement for  
15          specified purposes; authorizing the Legislature to  
16          provide such supplement in the Florida Education  
17          Finance Program for specified purposes; providing  
18          requirements for the use of such funds; deleting a  
19          requirement for specified calculation and funding for  
20          school districts with a decline in full-time  
21          equivalent students; revising the calculation of the  
22          virtual education contribution; deleting the Florida  
23          digital classrooms allocation, the funding compression  
24          allocation, and the Florida Best and Brightest Teacher  
25          and Principal Allocation; conforming provisions and

26 cross-references to changes made by the act; amending  
27 ss. 1002.33, 1006.12, 1011.71, and 1012.584, F.S.;  
28 conforming provisions and cross-references to changes  
29 made by the act; repealing s. 1012.731, F.S., relating  
30 to the Florida Best and Brightest Teacher Program;  
31 repealing s. 1012.732, F.S., relating to the Florida  
32 Best and Brightest Principal Program; providing an  
33 effective date.  
34

35 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
36

37 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
38 1002.391, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39 1002.391 Auditory-oral education programs.—

40 (1) As used in this section, the term:

41 (a) "Auditory-oral education program" means a program that  
42 develops and relies solely on listening skills and uses an  
43 implant or assistive hearing device for the purpose of relying  
44 on speech and spoken language skills as the method of  
45 communication and uses faculty and supervisors certified as  
46 listening and spoken language specialists each day the child is  
47 in attendance.

48 Section 2. Subsections (13) through (16) of section  
49 1011.62, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (12)  
50 through (15), respectively, subsections (19) through (21) are

51 | renumbered as subsections (16) through (18), respectively,  
52 | paragraph (s) of subsection (1), subsection (2), paragraph (a)  
53 | of subsection (4), paragraph (b) of subsection (6), present  
54 | subsection (8), subsection (11), and present subsections (12),  
55 | (14), (17), and (18) of that section are amended, and a new  
56 | subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

57 |       1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual  
58 | allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each  
59 | district for operation of schools is not determined in the  
60 | annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing  
61 | the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as  
62 | follows:

63 |       (1) COMPUTATION OF THE BASIC AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED FOR  
64 | OPERATION.—The following procedure shall be followed in  
65 | determining the annual allocation to each district for  
66 | operation:

67 |       (s) Determination of the basic amount for current  
68 | operation.—The basic amount for current operation to be included  
69 | in the Florida Education Finance Program for kindergarten  
70 | through grade 12 for each district shall be the product of the  
71 | following:

72 |       1. The full-time equivalent student membership in each  
73 | program, multiplied by

74 |       2. The cost factor for each program, adjusted for the  
75 | maximum as provided by paragraph (c), multiplied by

76 |           3. The base student allocation, multiplied by

77 |           4. The district cost differential determined pursuant to  
 78 | subsection (2).

79 |           (2) DETERMINATION OF DISTRICT COST DIFFERENTIALS.—The  
 80 | Legislature shall annually prescribe in the General  
 81 | Appropriations Act the district cost differential to represent  
 82 | the variance in personnel costs among school districts. The  
 83 | district cost differential shall be used to determine the basic  
 84 | amount for current operations to be included in the Florida  
 85 | Education Finance Program for kindergarten through grade 12.

86 |           (a) To determine the district cost differential for each  
 87 | school district, the Office of Economic and Demographic Research  
 88 | shall calculate an annual comparable wage index for each county  
 89 | that measures the systematic, county-level variations in the  
 90 | wages of similarly educated workers who are not in a  
 91 | kindergarten through grade 12 education-related occupation. For  
 92 | each county's annual comparable wage index, the office shall use  
 93 | the most recent 3 years of Occupational Employment Statistics  
 94 | data as compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the United  
 95 | States Department of Labor.

96 |           (b) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall  
 97 | use the following formula to calculate the annual comparable  
 98 | wage index for each county:

99 |           1. Calculate the annual comparable wage for each county.

100 | The term "comparable wage" means the countywide occupational

101 mean wage for all occupations in which, after removing the wages  
102 associated with kindergarten through grade 12 education-related  
103 occupations, more than 50 percent of the workers possess at  
104 least a bachelor's degree but fewer than 50 percent possess a  
105 doctorate or advanced medical degree compared to the statewide  
106 occupational mean wage for such occupations.

107 2. Calculate the annual overall wage for each county. The  
108 term "overall wage" means the countywide occupational mean wage  
109 for all occupations compared to the statewide occupational mean  
110 wage for all occupations.

111 3. Calculate the annual comparable wage index for each  
112 county by dividing the annual comparable wage by the annual  
113 overall wage.

114 (c) When calculating the annual comparable wage index for  
115 each county, the index shall incorporate the following:

116 1. In a county with suppressed Occupational Employment  
117 Statistics data as compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in  
118 the United States Department of Labor, for suppressed-data  
119 occupations:

120 a. The occupational mean wage of the county or counties  
121 contiguous to the affected county shall be used when the  
122 contiguous county or counties have a similar share of the total  
123 statewide employment.

124 b. If there is no data available from a contiguous county  
125 or counties as provided for in sub-subparagraph a., the

126 statewide occupational mean wage shall be used.

127 2. In a county with fewer than 31 comparable occupations,  
128 the occupational mean wage shall be calculated by using the  
129 occupational mean wage of a county or counties contiguous to the  
130 affected county when the contiguous county or counties have a  
131 similar share of the total statewide employment.

132 3. After all annual comparable wage indexes have been  
133 calculated, if the criteria in subparagraph 1. was applied to a  
134 county with 31 or more comparable occupations and the  
135 occupational mean wage that was calculated results in a  
136 difference of more than 20 percent compared to the occupational  
137 mean wage calculated without applying the criteria, the criteria  
138 provided for in subparagraph 1. may not be applied.

139 4. If the comparable wage and overall wage for a county is  
140 higher than the statewide occupational mean wage, the comparable  
141 wage index shall use the comparable wage only and the comparable  
142 wage may not be divided by the overall wage.

143 5. In a county that has an overall wage that is less than  
144 the statewide occupational mean wage and the comparable wage  
145 exceeds the overall wage, the comparable wage index shall be  
146 calculated by dividing the overall wage by the comparable wage.

147 (d) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research  
148 ~~Commissioner of Education~~ shall annually compute for each  
149 district the current year's district cost differential and shall  
150 provide the district cost differentials to the Legislature no

151 later than January 1 of each year.

152 1. For the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the district cost  
153 differentials ~~differential~~ shall be calculated by adding the  
154 ~~each~~ district's 2019 comparable wage index and the district's  
155 2018 and 2017 price level indexes ~~index~~ as published in the  
156 Florida Price Level Index ~~for the most recent 3 years~~ and  
157 dividing the resulting sum by 3. The result for each district  
158 shall be multiplied by 0.008 and to the resulting product shall  
159 be added 0.200; ~~the sum thus obtained shall be the cost~~  
160 ~~differential for that district for that year.~~

161 2. For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the district cost  
162 differentials shall be calculated by adding the district's 2019  
163 and 2020 comparable wage indexes and the district's 2018 price  
164 level index as published in the Florida Price Level Index and  
165 dividing the resulting sum by 3. The result for each district  
166 shall be multiplied by 0.008 and to the resulting product shall  
167 be added 0.200.

168 3. Beginning in the 2022-2023 fiscal year and each fiscal  
169 year thereafter, the district cost differentials shall be  
170 calculated by adding the most recent 3 years of comparable wage  
171 indexes for the district and dividing the resulting sum by 3.  
172 The result for each district shall be multiplied by 0.008 and to  
173 the resulting product shall be added 0.200.

174 (4) COMPUTATION OF DISTRICT REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT.—The  
175 Legislature shall prescribe the aggregate required local effort

176 | for all school districts collectively as an item in the General  
177 | Appropriations Act for each fiscal year. The amount that each  
178 | district shall provide annually toward the cost of the Florida  
179 | Education Finance Program for kindergarten through grade 12  
180 | programs shall be calculated as follows:

181 |       (a) Estimated taxable value calculations.—

182 |       1.a. Not later than 2 working days before July 19, the  
183 | Department of Revenue shall certify to the Commissioner of  
184 | Education its most recent estimate of the taxable value for  
185 | school purposes in each school district and the total for all  
186 | school districts in the state for the current calendar year  
187 | based on the latest available data obtained from the local  
188 | property appraisers. The value certified shall be the taxable  
189 | value for school purposes for that year, and no further  
190 | adjustments shall be made, except those made pursuant to  
191 | paragraphs (c) and (d), or an assessment roll change required by  
192 | final judicial decisions as specified in paragraph (16) (b)  
193 | ~~(19) (b)~~. Not later than July 19, the Commissioner of Education  
194 | shall compute a millage rate, rounded to the next highest one  
195 | one-thousandth of a mill, which, when applied to 96 percent of  
196 | the estimated state total taxable value for school purposes,  
197 | would generate the prescribed aggregate required local effort  
198 | for that year for all districts. The Commissioner of Education  
199 | shall certify to each district school board the millage rate,  
200 | computed as prescribed in this subparagraph, as the minimum

201 millage rate necessary to provide the district required local  
 202 effort for that year.

203       b. The General Appropriations Act shall direct the  
 204 computation of the statewide adjusted aggregate amount for  
 205 required local effort for all school districts collectively from  
 206 ad valorem taxes to ensure that no school district's revenue  
 207 from required local effort millage will produce more than 90  
 208 percent of the district's total Florida Education Finance  
 209 Program calculation as calculated and adopted by the  
 210 Legislature, and the adjustment of the required local effort  
 211 millage rate of each district that produces more than 90 percent  
 212 of its total Florida Education Finance Program entitlement to a  
 213 level that will produce only 90 percent of its total Florida  
 214 Education Finance Program entitlement in the July calculation.

215       2. On the same date as the certification in sub-  
 216 subparagraph 1.a., the Department of Revenue shall certify to  
 217 the Commissioner of Education for each district:

218       a. Each year for which the property appraiser has  
 219 certified the taxable value pursuant to s. 193.122(2) or (3), if  
 220 applicable, since the prior certification under sub-subparagraph  
 221 1.a.

222       b. For each year identified in sub-subparagraph a., the  
 223 taxable value certified by the appraiser pursuant to s.  
 224 193.122(2) or (3), if applicable, since the prior certification  
 225 under sub-subparagraph 1.a. This is the certification that

226 reflects all final administrative actions of the value  
227 adjustment board.

228 (6) CATEGORICAL FUNDS.—

229 (b) If a district school board finds and declares in a  
230 resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the school board that  
231 the funds received for any of the following categorical  
232 appropriations are urgently needed to maintain school board  
233 specified academic classroom instruction or improve school  
234 safety, the school board may consider and approve an amendment  
235 to the school district operating budget transferring the  
236 identified amount of the categorical funds to the appropriate  
237 account for expenditure:

238 1. Funds for student transportation.

239 2. Funds for research-based reading instruction if the  
240 required additional hour of instruction beyond the normal school  
241 day for each day of the entire school year has been provided for  
242 the students in each low-performing elementary school in the  
243 district pursuant to paragraph (9) (a).

244 3. Funds for instructional materials if all instructional  
245 material purchases necessary to provide updated materials that  
246 are aligned with applicable state standards and course  
247 descriptions and that meet statutory requirements of content and  
248 learning have been completed for that fiscal year, but no sooner  
249 than March 1. Funds available after March 1 may be used to  
250 purchase hardware for student instruction.

251 4. Funds for the guaranteed allocation as provided in  
 252 subparagraph (1)(e)2.

253 5. Funds for the supplemental academic instruction  
 254 allocation as provided in paragraph (1)(f).

255 ~~6. Funds for the Florida digital classrooms allocation as~~  
 256 ~~provided in subsection (12).~~

257 ~~6.7.~~ Funds for the federally connected student supplement  
 258 as provided in subsection (12) ~~(13)~~.

259 ~~7.8.~~ Funds for class size reduction as provided in s.  
 260 1011.685.

261 (8) SALARY ENHANCEMENT SUPPLEMENT.—The Legislature may  
 262 annually provide in the Florida Education Finance Program a  
 263 salary enhancement supplement to assist school districts in  
 264 their recruitment and retention of classroom teachers and other  
 265 instructional and educational support staff. The amount of the  
 266 supplement shall be specified in the General Appropriations Act  
 267 and shall be allocated to each school district based on each  
 268 school district's proportionate share of the state's total  
 269 unweighted full-time equivalent student enrollment.

270 (a)1. For fiscal year 2020-2021, each school district  
 271 shall use its portion of the supplement as specified in the  
 272 General Appropriations Act to increase the minimum base salary  
 273 for a classroom teacher, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a). The  
 274 term "minimum base salary" means the annual base salary that a  
 275 full-time classroom teacher receives before payroll deductions

276 and excluding supplements, as defined in s. 1012.22(1)(c).

277 2. For fiscal year 2020-2021, each school district shall  
278 use its portion of the supplement as specified in the General  
279 Appropriations Act to provide salary and compensation related  
280 enhancements for full-time classroom teachers, as defined in s.  
281 1012.01(2)(a), who did not receive an increase under  
282 subparagraph 1.

283 (b) Beginning in fiscal year 2021-2022 and subject to  
284 legislative appropriation, each school district shall use its  
285 portion of the supplement as specified in the General  
286 Appropriations Act to increase the minimum base salary for a  
287 classroom teacher, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), by at least  
288 75 percent of the largest salary adjustment made by the school  
289 district for a classroom teacher who is rated as highly  
290 effective, as determined by the classroom teacher's performance  
291 evaluation under s. 1012.34. If a school district has any  
292 remaining funds after complying with the 75 percent increase to  
293 the minimum base salary, such funds shall be used to provide  
294 salary and compensation related enhancements for instructional  
295 personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2), or educational support  
296 employees, as defined in s. 1012.01(6).

297 ~~(8) DECLINE IN FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENTS.—In those~~  
298 ~~districts where there is a decline between prior year and~~  
299 ~~current year unweighted FTE students, a percentage of the~~  
300 ~~decline in the unweighted FTE students as determined by the~~

301 ~~Legislature shall be multiplied by the prior year calculated~~  
302 ~~FEFP per unweighted FTE student and shall be added to the~~  
303 ~~allocation for that district. For this purpose, the calculated~~  
304 ~~FEFP shall be computed by multiplying the weighted FTE students~~  
305 ~~by the base student allocation and then by the district cost~~  
306 ~~differential. If a district transfers a program to another~~  
307 ~~institution not under the authority of the district's school~~  
308 ~~board, including a charter technical career center, the decline~~  
309 ~~is to be multiplied by a factor of 0.15. However, if the funds~~  
310 ~~provided for the Florida Education Finance Program in the~~  
311 ~~General Appropriations Act for any fiscal year are reduced by a~~  
312 ~~subsequent appropriation for that fiscal year, the percent of~~  
313 ~~the decline in the unweighted FTE students to be funded shall be~~  
314 ~~determined by the Legislature and designated in the subsequent~~  
315 ~~appropriation.~~

316 (11) VIRTUAL EDUCATION CONTRIBUTION.—The Legislature may  
317 annually provide in the Florida Education Finance Program a  
318 virtual education contribution. The amount of the virtual  
319 education contribution shall be the difference between the  
320 amount per FTE established in the General Appropriations Act for  
321 virtual education and the amount per FTE for each district and  
322 the Florida Virtual School, which may be calculated by taking  
323 the sum of the base FEFP allocation, the discretionary local  
324 effort, the state-funded discretionary contribution, the  
325 discretionary millage compression supplement, the research-based

326 reading instruction allocation, the salary enhancement  
327 supplement ~~the best and brightest teacher and principal~~  
328 ~~allocation~~, and the instructional materials allocation, and then  
329 dividing by the total unweighted FTE. This difference shall be  
330 multiplied by the virtual education unweighted FTE for programs  
331 and options identified in s. 1002.455 and the Florida Virtual  
332 School and its franchises to equal the virtual education  
333 contribution and shall be included as a separate allocation in  
334 the funding formula.

335 ~~(12) FLORIDA DIGITAL CLASSROOMS ALLOCATION.—~~

336 ~~(a) The Florida digital classrooms allocation is created~~  
337 ~~to support the efforts of school districts and schools,~~  
338 ~~including charter schools, to integrate technology in classroom~~  
339 ~~teaching and learning to ensure students have access to high-~~  
340 ~~quality electronic and digital instructional materials and~~  
341 ~~resources, and empower classroom teachers to help their students~~  
342 ~~succeed. Each school district shall receive a minimum digital~~  
343 ~~classrooms allocation in the amount provided in the General~~  
344 ~~Appropriations Act. The remaining balance of the digital~~  
345 ~~classrooms allocation shall be allocated based on each school~~  
346 ~~district's proportionate share of the state's total unweighted~~  
347 ~~full-time equivalent student enrollment.~~

348 ~~(b) Funds allocated under this subsection must be used for~~  
349 ~~costs associated with:~~

350 ~~1. Acquiring and maintaining the items on the eligible~~

351 ~~services list authorized by the Universal Service Administrative~~  
352 ~~Company for the Schools and Libraries Program, more commonly~~  
353 ~~referred to as the federal E-rate program.~~

354 ~~2. Acquiring computer and device hardware and associated~~  
355 ~~operating system software that comply with the requirements of~~  
356 ~~s. 1001.20(4)(a)1.b.~~

357 ~~3. Providing professional development, including in-state~~  
358 ~~conference attendance or online coursework, to enhance the use~~  
359 ~~of technology for digital instructional strategies.~~

360 ~~(13)(14)~~ QUALITY ASSURANCE GUARANTEE.—The Legislature may  
361 annually in the General Appropriations Act determine a  
362 percentage increase in funds per K-12 unweighted FTE as a  
363 minimum guarantee to each school district. The guarantee shall  
364 be calculated from prior year base funding per unweighted FTE  
365 student which shall include the adjusted FTE dollars as provided  
366 in subsection (16) ~~(19)~~, quality guarantee funds, and actual  
367 nonvoted discretionary local effort from taxes. From the base  
368 funding per unweighted FTE, the increase shall be calculated for  
369 the current year. The current year funds from which the  
370 guarantee shall be determined shall include the adjusted FTE  
371 dollars as provided in subsection (16) ~~(19)~~ and potential  
372 nonvoted discretionary local effort from taxes. A comparison of  
373 current year funds per unweighted FTE to prior year funds per  
374 unweighted FTE shall be computed. For those school districts  
375 which have less than the legislatively assigned percentage

376 increase, funds shall be provided to guarantee the assigned  
377 percentage increase in funds per unweighted FTE student. Should  
378 appropriated funds be less than the sum of this calculated  
379 amount for all districts, the commissioner shall prorate each  
380 district's allocation. This provision shall be implemented to  
381 the extent specifically funded.

382 ~~(17) FUNDING COMPRESSION ALLOCATION. The Legislature may~~  
383 ~~provide an annual funding compression allocation in the General~~  
384 ~~Appropriations Act. The allocation is created to provide~~  
385 ~~additional funding to school districts and developmental~~  
386 ~~research schools whose total funds per FTE in the prior year~~  
387 ~~were less than the statewide average. Using the most recent~~  
388 ~~prior year FEFP calculation for each eligible school district,~~  
389 ~~the total funds per FTE shall be subtracted from the state~~  
390 ~~average funds per FTE, not including any adjustments made~~  
391 ~~pursuant to paragraph (19) (b). The resulting funds per FTE~~  
392 ~~difference, or a portion thereof, as designated in the General~~  
393 ~~Appropriations Act, shall then be multiplied by the school~~  
394 ~~district's total unweighted FTE to provide the allocation. If~~  
395 ~~the calculated funds are greater than the amount included in the~~  
396 ~~General Appropriations Act, they must be prorated to the~~  
397 ~~appropriation amount based on each participating school~~  
398 ~~district's share. This subsection expires July 1, 2020.~~

399 ~~(18) THE FLORIDA BEST AND BRIGHTEST TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL~~  
400 ~~ALLOCATION.—~~

401 ~~(a) The Florida Best and Brightest Teacher and Principal~~  
402 ~~Allocation is created to recruit, retain, and recognize~~  
403 ~~classroom teachers and instructional personnel who meet the~~  
404 ~~criteria established in s. 1012.731 and reward principals who~~  
405 ~~meet the criteria established in s. 1012.732. Subject to annual~~  
406 ~~appropriation, each school district shall receive an allocation~~  
407 ~~based on the district's proportionate share of FEFP base~~  
408 ~~funding. The Legislature may specify a minimum allocation for~~  
409 ~~all districts in the General Appropriations Act.~~

410 ~~(b) From the allocation, each district shall provide the~~  
411 ~~following:~~

412 ~~1. A one-time recruitment award, as provided in s.~~  
413 ~~1012.731(3)(a);~~

414 ~~2. A retention award, as provided in s. 1012.731(3)(b);~~  
415 ~~and~~

416 ~~3. A recognition award, as provided in s. 1012.731(3)(c)~~  
417 ~~from the remaining balance of the appropriation after the~~  
418 ~~payment of all other awards authorized under ss. 1012.731 and~~  
419 ~~1012.732.~~

420 ~~(c) From the allocation, each district shall provide~~  
421 ~~eligible principals an award as provided in s. 1012.732(3).~~

422  
423 ~~If a district's calculated awards exceed the allocation, the~~  
424 ~~district may prorate the awards.~~

425 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (17) of section

426 | 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

427 |       1002.33 Charter schools.—

428 |       (17) FUNDING.—Students enrolled in a charter school,  
429 | regardless of the sponsorship, shall be funded as if they are in  
430 | a basic program or a special program, the same as students  
431 | enrolled in other public schools in the school district. Funding  
432 | for a charter lab school shall be as provided in s. 1002.32.

433 |       (b) The basis for the agreement for funding students  
434 | enrolled in a charter school shall be the sum of the school  
435 | district's operating funds from the Florida Education Finance  
436 | Program as provided in s. 1011.62 and the General Appropriations  
437 | Act, including gross state and local funds, discretionary  
438 | lottery funds, and funds from the school district's current  
439 | operating discretionary millage levy; divided by total funded  
440 | weighted full-time equivalent students in the school district;  
441 | multiplied by the weighted full-time equivalent students for the  
442 | charter school. Charter schools whose students or programs meet  
443 | the eligibility criteria in law are entitled to their  
444 | proportionate share of categorical program funds included in the  
445 | total funds available in the Florida Education Finance Program  
446 | by the Legislature, including transportation, and the research-  
447 | based reading allocation, ~~and the Florida digital classrooms~~  
448 | ~~allocation~~. Total funding for each charter school shall be  
449 | recalculated during the year to reflect the revised calculations  
450 | under the Florida Education Finance Program by the state and the

451 actual weighted full-time equivalent students reported by the  
452 charter school during the full-time equivalent student survey  
453 periods designated by the Commissioner of Education. For charter  
454 schools operated by a not-for-profit or municipal entity, any  
455 unrestricted current and capital assets identified in the  
456 charter school's annual financial audit may be used for other  
457 charter schools operated by the not-for-profit or municipal  
458 entity within the school district. Unrestricted current assets  
459 shall be used in accordance with s. 1011.62, and any  
460 unrestricted capital assets shall be used in accordance with s.  
461 1013.62(2).

462 Section 4. Section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, is amended  
463 to read:

464 1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For  
465 the protection and safety of school personnel, property,  
466 students, and visitors, each district school board and school  
467 district superintendent shall partner with law enforcement  
468 agencies or security agencies to establish or assign one or more  
469 safe-school officers at each school facility within the  
470 district, including charter schools. A district school board  
471 must collaborate with charter school governing boards to  
472 facilitate charter school access to all safe-school officer  
473 options available under this section. The school district may  
474 implement any combination of the options in subsections (1)-(4)  
475 to best meet the needs of the school district and charter

476 schools.

477 (1) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER.—A school district may  
478 establish school resource officer programs through a cooperative  
479 agreement with law enforcement agencies.

480 (a) School resource officers shall undergo criminal  
481 background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation  
482 and be certified law enforcement officers, as defined in s.  
483 943.10(1), who are employed by a law enforcement agency as  
484 defined in s. 943.10(4). The powers and duties of a law  
485 enforcement officer shall continue throughout the employee's  
486 tenure as a school resource officer.

487 (b) School resource officers shall abide by district  
488 school board policies and shall consult with and coordinate  
489 activities through the school principal, but shall be  
490 responsible to the law enforcement agency in all matters  
491 relating to employment, subject to agreements between a district  
492 school board and a law enforcement agency. Activities conducted  
493 by the school resource officer which are part of the regular  
494 instructional program of the school shall be under the direction  
495 of the school principal.

496 (c) Complete mental health crisis intervention training  
497 using a curriculum developed by a national organization with  
498 expertise in mental health crisis intervention. The training  
499 shall improve officers' knowledge and skills as first responders  
500 to incidents involving students with emotional disturbance or

501 mental illness, including de-escalation skills to ensure student  
502 and officer safety.

503 (2) SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER.—A school district may  
504 commission one or more school safety officers for the protection  
505 and safety of school personnel, property, and students within  
506 the school district. The district school superintendent may  
507 recommend, and the district school board may appoint, one or  
508 more school safety officers.

509 (a) School safety officers shall undergo criminal  
510 background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation  
511 and be law enforcement officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1),  
512 certified under the provisions of chapter 943 and employed by  
513 either a law enforcement agency or by the district school board.  
514 If the officer is employed by the district school board, the  
515 district school board is the employing agency for purposes of  
516 chapter 943, and must comply with the provisions of that  
517 chapter.

518 (b) A school safety officer has and shall exercise the  
519 power to make arrests for violations of law on district school  
520 board property and to arrest persons, whether on or off such  
521 property, who violate any law on such property under the same  
522 conditions that deputy sheriffs are authorized to make arrests.  
523 A school safety officer has the authority to carry weapons when  
524 performing his or her official duties.

525 (c) A district school board may enter into mutual aid

526 | agreements with one or more law enforcement agencies as provided  
527 | in chapter 23. A school safety officer's salary may be paid  
528 | jointly by the district school board and the law enforcement  
529 | agency, as mutually agreed to.

530 |       (3) SCHOOL GUARDIAN.—At the school district's or the  
531 | charter school governing board's discretion, as applicable,  
532 | pursuant to s. 30.15, a school district or charter school  
533 | governing board may participate in the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian  
534 | Program to meet the requirement of establishing a safe-school  
535 | officer. The following individuals may serve as a school  
536 | guardian, in support of school-sanctioned activities for  
537 | purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory completion of the  
538 | requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and certification by a  
539 | sheriff:

540 |       (a) A school district employee or personnel, as defined  
541 | under s. 1012.01, or a charter school employee, as provided  
542 | under s. 1002.33(12)(a), who volunteers to serve as a school  
543 | guardian in addition to his or her official job duties; or

544 |       (b) An employee of a school district or a charter school  
545 | who is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school  
546 | guardian.

547 |       (4) SCHOOL SECURITY GUARD.—A school district or charter  
548 | school governing board may contract with a security agency as  
549 | defined in s. 493.6101(18) to employ as a school security guard  
550 | an individual who holds a Class "D" and Class "G" license

551 pursuant to chapter 493, provided the following training and  
552 contractual conditions are met:

553 (a) An individual who serves as a school security guard,  
554 for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section,  
555 must:

556 1. Demonstrate completion of 144 hours of required  
557 training pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.

558 2. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a  
559 psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the  
560 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the  
561 evaluation to the sheriff's office, school district, or charter  
562 school governing board, as applicable. The Department of Law  
563 Enforcement is authorized to provide the sheriff's office,  
564 school district, or charter school governing board with mental  
565 health and substance abuse data for compliance with this  
566 paragraph.

567 3. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent  
568 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.  
569 112.0455 and the sheriff's office, school district, or charter  
570 school governing board, as applicable.

571 4. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon  
572 inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual  
573 basis and provide documentation to the sheriff's office, school  
574 district, or charter school governing board, as applicable.

575 (b) The contract between a security agency and a school

576 district or a charter school governing board regarding  
577 requirements applicable to school security guards serving in the  
578 capacity of a safe-school officer for purposes of satisfying the  
579 requirements of this section shall define the entity or entities  
580 responsible for training and the responsibilities for  
581 maintaining records relating to training, inspection, and  
582 firearm qualification.

583 (c) School security guards serving in the capacity of a  
584 safe-school officer pursuant to this subsection are in support  
585 of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of s. 790.115, and  
586 must aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant  
587 incidents on school premises.

588 (5) NOTIFICATION.—The school district shall notify the  
589 county sheriff and the Office of Safe Schools immediately after,  
590 but no later than 72 hours after:

591 (a) A safe-school officer is dismissed for misconduct or  
592 is otherwise disciplined.

593 (b) A safe-school officer discharges his or her firearm in  
594 the exercise of the safe-school officer's duties, other than for  
595 training purposes.

596 (6) EXEMPTION.—Any information that would identify whether  
597 a particular individual has been appointed as a safe-school  
598 officer pursuant to this section held by a law enforcement  
599 agency, school district, or charter school is exempt from s.  
600 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This

601 subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act  
 602 in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October  
 603 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through  
 604 reenactment by the Legislature.

605

606 If a district school board, through its adopted policies,  
 607 procedures, or actions, denies a charter school access to any  
 608 safe-school officer options pursuant to this section, the school  
 609 district must assign a school resource officer or school safety  
 610 officer to the charter school. Under such circumstances, the  
 611 charter school's share of the costs of the school resource  
 612 officer or school safety officer may not exceed the safe school  
 613 allocation funds provided to the charter school pursuant to s.  
 614 1011.62(14) ~~s. 1011.62(15)~~ and shall be retained by the school  
 615 district.

616 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1011.71, Florida  
 617 Statutes, is amended to read:

618 1011.71 District school tax.—

619 (1) If the district school tax is not provided in the  
 620 General Appropriations Act or the substantive bill implementing  
 621 the General Appropriations Act, each district school board  
 622 desiring to participate in the state allocation of funds for  
 623 current operation as prescribed by s. 1011.62(16) ~~s. 1011.62(19)~~  
 624 shall levy on the taxable value for school purposes of the  
 625 district, exclusive of millage voted under s. 9(b) or s. 12,

HB 5101

2020

626 Art. VII of the State Constitution, a millage rate not to exceed  
627 the amount certified by the commissioner as the minimum millage  
628 rate necessary to provide the district required local effort for  
629 the current year, pursuant to s. 1011.62(4)(a)1. In addition to  
630 the required local effort millage levy, each district school  
631 board may levy a nonvoted current operating discretionary  
632 millage. The Legislature shall prescribe annually in the  
633 appropriations act the maximum amount of millage a district may  
634 levy.

635 Section 6. Subsection (4) of section 1012.584, Florida  
636 Statutes, is amended to read:

637 1012.584 Continuing education and inservice training for  
638 youth mental health awareness and assistance.—

639 (4) Each school district shall notify all school personnel  
640 who have received training pursuant to this section of mental  
641 health services that are available in the school district, and  
642 the individual to contact if a student needs services. The term  
643 "mental health services" includes, but is not limited to,  
644 community mental health services, health care providers, and  
645 services provided under ss. 1006.04 and 1011.62(15) ~~ss. 1006.04~~  
646 ~~and 1011.62(16)~~.

647 Section 7. Sections 1012.731 and 1012.732, Florida  
648 Statutes, are repealed.

649 Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.