

By Senator Brodeur

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to the Parent-Teacher Compact program;  
3       providing a short title; creating s. 1002.371, F.S.;  
4       requiring the State Board of Education to establish  
5       the Parent-Teacher Compact program; providing the  
6       purposes of the program; defining the term "teacher";  
7       authorizing a parent to enter into a written compact  
8       with a teacher to oversee the education of his or her  
9       children; authorizing a teacher to enter into multiple  
10      compacts with multiple families; specifying the  
11      information the compact must contain; requiring a  
12      teacher to submit a compact to the Department of  
13      Education for review and approval; requiring the state  
14      board to publish a compact template; providing that a  
15      student being served pursuant to a compact is  
16      considered enrolled in an education program; requiring  
17      a teacher who is a signed party to a compact to be a  
18      member of any individualized education program team;  
19      requiring a teacher who is serving students under a  
20      compact to maintain a portfolio of student records and  
21      materials; specifying requirements for the portfolio;  
22      requiring the teacher to evaluate and certify that the  
23      student demonstrates educational progress at a certain  
24      level; requiring the teacher to file a copy of such  
25      evaluation annually with the district school  
26      superintendent's office in the county in which the  
27      student resides; requiring teachers serving one or  
28      more students in a compact to offer to administer the  
29      statewide, standardized assessments; requiring

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30 teachers who are serving students under a parent-  
31 teacher compact to be considered employees of the  
32 department for a certain timeframe; authorizing  
33 teachers serving under a compact to participate in the  
34 Florida Retirement System and state group insurance  
35 program; providing for funding; requiring school  
36 districts to report all students participating in a  
37 compact; requiring the department to transfer funds on  
38 certain dates to an account for disbursement to  
39 participating teachers; requiring the Chief Financial  
40 Officer to make payments in four equal amounts no  
41 later than specified dates by individual warrant  
42 payable to the student's teacher; requiring a teacher  
43 to notify the department within a certain timeframe  
44 after termination of a compact; requiring the  
45 department to prorate funding to the teacher based on  
46 instructional hours rendered; exempting the state from  
47 liability; clarifying that the program does not expand  
48 the regulatory authority of the state; requiring the  
49 state board to adopt rules; amending s. 1003.01, F.S.;  
50 conforming a provision related to regular school  
51 attendance to changes made by the act; providing an  
52 effective date.

53  
54 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

55  
56 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Parent-Teacher  
57 Compact Act."

58 Section 2. Section 1002.371, Florida Statutes, is created

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59 to read:

60 1002.371 Parent-Teacher Compact program.-

61 (1) PURPOSE.-The State Board of Education shall establish  
62 the Parent-Teacher Compact program, which allows teachers to  
63 enter into compacts to provide educational instruction with  
64 parents of K-12 students who attended a public school in the  
65 prior year or who are entering kindergarten. The purpose of the  
66 program is to:

67 (a) Increase learning opportunities for all students;

68 (b) Create new professional opportunities for teachers;

69 (c) Empower families to create education solutions that fit  
70 the unique needs of their children;

71 (d) Empower teachers to serve students and their families  
72 in innovative ways; and

73 (e) Facilitate written agreements between teachers and  
74 parents.

75 (2) DEFINITION.-As used in this section, the term "teacher"  
76 means a person who holds a professional educator certificate  
77 pursuant to s. 1012.56 and who has not been employed by a  
78 Florida public school district in the prior 9 months.

79 (3) PARENT-TEACHER COMPACTS.-

80 (a) A parent who is a resident of this state may enter into  
81 a written compact with a teacher to oversee the education of,  
82 and provide educational services to, children in his or her  
83 legal custody. A teacher may enter into one or more compacts  
84 with one or more families to serve one or more students. A  
85 parent-teacher compact must contain, but need not be limited to,  
86 the following information:

87 1. The name of the teacher and the teacher's educator

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88 certification license number;

89 2. The name of the student and parent and their home  
90 address;

91 3. The number of students who will be served by the  
92 compact;

93 4. A list of students who will be served by the compact and  
94 their identifying information;

95 5. A description of the services to be provided in a format  
96 prescribed by the State Board of Education;

97 6. A termination clause that allows the parent or teacher  
98 to terminate the compact for any reason; and

99 7. The terms of the compact.

100 (b) Once a compact between a parent and teacher has been  
101 agreed to and signed by both parties, the teacher shall submit a  
102 copy of the written compact to the Department of Education for  
103 review and approval.

104 (c) The State Board of Education shall publish a simple  
105 compact template that may be used by parents and teachers to  
106 facilitate the development of parent-teacher compacts.

107 (4) STATUS OF STUDENTS BEING SERVED BY PARENT-TEACHER  
108 COMPACTS.—

109 (a) A student being served under the direction of a parent-  
110 teacher compact that has been properly submitted to and approved  
111 by the Department of Education shall be considered fully  
112 enrolled in an education program under the direction of a  
113 teacher.

114 (b) The teacher who is a signed party to the parent-teacher  
115 compact shall be a member of any individualized education  
116 program team.

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117 (5) STATUS AND DUTIES OF TEACHERS SERVING STUDENTS UNDER A  
118 PARENT-TEACHER COMPACT.—

119 (a) A teacher serving students under a parent-teacher  
120 compact shall maintain a portfolio of student records and  
121 materials. The portfolio must consist of the following:

122 1. A log of educational activities which is made  
123 contemporaneously with the instruction and which designates by  
124 title any reading materials used.

125 2. Samples of any writings, worksheets, workbooks, or  
126 creative materials used or developed by a student.

127 (b) The teacher shall evaluate and certify that the student  
128 demonstrates educational progress at a level commensurate with  
129 his or her ability and shall file a copy of the evaluation  
130 annually with the district school superintendent's office in the  
131 county in which the student resides.

132 (c) Teachers who are serving one or more students under the  
133 authority of a parent-teacher compact shall offer to administer  
134 the statewide, standardized assessments required for public  
135 school students in this state.

136 (d) Teachers who are serving students under the authority  
137 of a parent-teacher compact pursuant to this section shall be  
138 considered employees of the Department of Education through the  
139 term of the approved parent-teacher compact and may participate  
140 in the Florida Retirement System and the state group insurance  
141 program.

142 (6) FUNDING AND PAYMENT.—

143 (a) The calculated amount for a student shall be the  
144 equivalent to the base student allocation in the Florida  
145 Education Finance Program multiplied by the appropriate cost

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146 factor for the educational program that would have been provided  
147 for the student in the district school to which he or she would  
148 have been assigned, multiplied by the district cost differential  
149 plus a per-full-time equivalent share of the funds for all  
150 categorical programs.

151 (b) The school district shall report all students who are  
152 participating in a parent-teacher compact under this program.  
153 Students shall be reported separately from other students  
154 reported for purposes of the Florida Education Finance Program.

155 (c) On July 1, September 1, December 1, or February 1 after  
156 documentation of the number of program participants, the  
157 Department of Education shall transfer, from general revenue  
158 funds only, the amount calculated pursuant to paragraph (a) to a  
159 separate account for disbursement to teachers of participating  
160 students on the same payment schedule as Department of Education  
161 employees.

162 (d) If the teacher or parent terminates the compact for any  
163 reason, the teacher shall notify the parent and the Department  
164 of Education in writing within 5 business days after the date of  
165 the termination. The Department of Education shall prorate  
166 funding to the teacher based on the number of instructional  
167 hours, or the equivalent, the compact was in effect.

168 (7) LIABILITY.—No liability shall arise on the part of the  
169 state based on the student's participation in a parent-teacher  
170 compact.

171 (8) SCOPE OF AUTHORITY.—The inclusion of parent-teacher  
172 compacts within the options available to Florida public school  
173 students does not expand the regulatory authority of the state,  
174 its officers, or any school district to impose any additional

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175 regulation beyond that reasonably necessary to enforce  
176 requirements expressly set forth in this section.

177 (9) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules pursuant  
178 to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this section.

179 Section 3. Subsection (13) of section 1003.01, Florida  
180 Statutes, is amended to read:

181 1003.01 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

182 (13) "Regular school attendance" means the actual  
183 attendance of a student during the school day as defined by law  
184 and rules of the State Board of Education. Regular attendance  
185 within the intent of s. 1003.21 may be achieved by attendance  
186 in:

187 (a) A public school supported by public funds;

188 (b) A parochial, religious, or denominational school;

189 (c) A private school supported in whole or in part by  
190 tuition charges or by endowments or gifts;

191 (d) A home education program that meets the requirements of  
192 chapter 1002; ~~or~~

193 (e) A private tutoring program that meets the requirements  
194 of chapter 1002; or

195 (f) A parent-teacher compact program overseen by a teacher  
196 pursuant to s. 1002.371.

197 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.