

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to Purple Star Schools; creating s.
 3 1003.055, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education
 4 to establish the Purple Star School Program; requiring
 5 the department to adopt certain procedures; requiring
 6 the department, in consultation with certain entities,
 7 to adopt program criteria; specifying minimum
 8 criteria; requiring the department to annually submit
 9 a report to the Legislature; providing construction;
 10 providing that the program and designation are not
 11 subject to specified provisions; providing for
 12 rulemaking; providing an effective date.

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 14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 16 Section 1. Section 1003.055, Florida Statutes, is created
 17 to read:

18 1003.055 PURPLE STAR SCHOOL PROGRAM.—

19 (1) The Department of Education shall establish the Purple
 20 Star School Program to designate a school as a Purple Star
 21 School if the school has demonstrated a commitment to supporting
 22 military students and their families.

23 (2) The department shall adopt procedures for the
 24 application, nomination, and designation processes for the
 25 Purple Star School Program.

26 (3) The department, in consultation with the Florida
27 Defense Support Task Force, the State Council on Interstate
28 Educational Opportunity for Military Children, and stakeholders,
29 shall adopt criteria for the program which must include, at a
30 minimum:

31 (a) Designation and training of a staff member to serve as
32 the point of contact between the school and military families.

33 (b) Student-led programs to create social connections.

34 (c) A dedicated webpage on the school website with
35 information for military families.

36 (d) Professional development opportunities for school
37 staff.

38 (4) By December 31, 2021, and each year thereafter, the
39 department shall submit a report to the President of the Senate
40 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the progress
41 and use of the program, including the number of schools that
42 have been awarded the Purple Star School designation.

43 (5) Designation as a Purple Star School does not affect
44 the substantial interests of a party and does not constitute a
45 final agency action. The Purple Star School Program and
46 designation are not subject to chapter 120.

47 (6) The department shall adopt rules to administer this
48 section.

49 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.