By Senator Jones

35-00743A-22 20221578

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to instructional personnel; amending s. 1012.01, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "instructional personnel" to include specified prekindergarten instructors; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 1012.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.01 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:

- (2) INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL.—"Instructional personnel" means certified prekindergarten staff members funded in the Florida Education Finance Program and any K-12 staff member whose function includes the provision of direct instructional services to students. Instructional personnel also includes K-12 personnel whose functions provide direct support in the learning process of students. Included in the classification of instructional personnel are the following prekindergarten through grade 12 K-12 personnel:
- (a) Classroom teachers.—Classroom teachers are staff members assigned the professional activity of instructing students in courses in classroom situations, including basic instruction, exceptional student education, career education, and adult education, including substitute teachers. <u>Included in this classification are prekindergarten instructors funded in the Florida Education Finance Program who hold an educator staff.</u>

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certificate in Prekindergarten/Primary Education, Preschool
Education, Early Childhood Education, or any exceptional student
education area with the Prekindergarten Disabilities
endorsement.

- (b) Student personnel services.—Student personnel services include staff members responsible for: advising students with regard to their abilities and aptitudes, educational and occupational opportunities, and personal and social adjustments; providing placement services; performing educational evaluations; and similar functions. Included in this classification are certified school counselors, social workers, career specialists, and school psychologists.
- (c) Librarians/media specialists.—Librarians/media specialists are staff members responsible for providing school library media services. These employees are responsible for evaluating, selecting, organizing, and managing media and technology resources, equipment, and related systems; facilitating access to information resources beyond the school; working with teachers to make resources available in the instructional programs; assisting teachers and students in media productions; and instructing students in the location and use of information resources.
- (d) Other instructional staff.—Other instructional staff are staff members who are part of the instructional staff but are not classified in one of the categories specified in paragraphs (a)-(c). Included in this classification are primary specialists, learning resource specialists, instructional trainers, adjunct educators certified pursuant to s. 1012.57, and similar positions.

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(e) Education paraprofessionals.—Education paraprofessionals are individuals who are under the direct supervision of an instructional staff member, aiding the instructional process. Included in this classification are classroom paraprofessionals in regular instruction, exceptional education paraprofessionals, career education paraprofessionals, adult education paraprofessionals, library paraprofessionals, physical education and playground paraprofessionals, and other school-level paraprofessionals.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.