

By Senator Stewart

17-01644-24

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to educational services in Department
3 of Juvenile Justice programs; amending s. 1003.52,
4 F.S.; requiring school districts to annually provide
5 certain students in a juvenile justice program with at
6 least one opportunity to take the high school
7 equivalency examination at no cost to the student;
8 providing an effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section
13 1003.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 1003.52 Educational services in Department of Juvenile
15 Justice programs.—

16 (3) The district school board of the county in which the
17 juvenile justice education prevention, day treatment,
18 residential, or detention program is located shall provide or
19 contract for appropriate educational assessments and an
20 appropriate program of instruction and special education
21 services.

22 (c) The district school board shall make provisions for
23 each student to participate in basic, CAPE, and exceptional
24 student programs as appropriate. Students served in Department
25 of Juvenile Justice education programs shall have access to the
26 appropriate courses and instruction to prepare them for the high
27 school equivalency examination. Students participating in high
28 school equivalency examination preparation programs shall be
29 funded at the basic program cost factor for Department of

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30 Juvenile Justice programs in the Florida Education Finance
31 Program. Each program shall be conducted according to applicable
32 law providing for the operation of public schools and rules of
33 the State Board of Education. School districts shall provide the
34 high school equivalency examination exit option for all juvenile
35 justice education programs and provide each student who is 16
36 years of age or older with the opportunity to take the high
37 school equivalency examination at least once a year at no cost
38 to the student.

39 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.