

By the Committee on Education Pre-K -12; and Senators Simon and Perry

581-02188-24

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to career and technical education;
3 amending s. 450.061, F.S.; providing an exemption for
4 minors to work in specified conditions; repealing s.
5 489.5335, F.S., relating to journeyman reciprocity;
6 amending s. 489.537, F.S.; conforming a provision to
7 changes made by the act; amending s. 1001.43, F.S.;
8 providing an alternative to career fairs through other
9 career and industry networking opportunities; amending
10 s. 1003.41, F.S.; revising a list of individuals who
11 are required to review and comment on certain
12 revisions to the state academic standards; making
13 technical changes; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.;
14 revising the requirements for certain credits and
15 certifications to meet specified graduation
16 requirements; requiring the Department of Education to
17 convene a workgroup by a specified date for specified
18 purposes; making a technical change; amending s.
19 1004.91, F.S.; providing an additional exemption from
20 completing an entry-level examination for certain
21 students; creating the Career and Technical Education
22 Task Force adjunct to the Department of Education;
23 providing the purpose of the task force; providing the
24 membership and duties of the task force; requiring the
25 task force to submit a report to certain officials by
26 a specified date; providing for expiration of the task
27 force; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 450.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

450.061 Hazardous occupations prohibited; exemptions.—

(2) ~~A ne~~ A minor under 18 years of age, regardless of whether such person's disabilities of nonage have been removed, may not ~~shall~~ be employed or permitted or suffered to work in any of the following places of employment or in any of the following occupations, provided that ~~the provisions of~~ paragraphs (b), (e), (g), (h), (j), (m), (o), and (q) do ~~shall~~ not apply to the employment of student learners under the conditions prescribed in s. 450.161:

(a) In or around explosive or radioactive materials.

(b) On any scaffolding, roof, superstructure, residential or nonresidential building construction, or ladder above 6 feet. A minor 16 or 17 years of age may be employed on any residential building construction if:

1. The minor 16 or 17 years of age has earned his or her Occupational Safety and Health Administration 10 certification and is under the direct supervision of a person who:

a. Has earned his or her Occupational Safety and Health Administration 10 certification.

b. Is 21 years of age or older.

c. Has at least 2 years of work experience related to the work he or she is supervising.

2. The minor 16 or 17 years of age is not working on any scaffolding, roof, superstructure, or ladder above 6 feet.

3. The work being performed by the minor 16 or 17 years of age is not in violation of any Occupational Safety and Health

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59 Administration rule or federal law related to minors in the
60 workplace.

61 (c) In or around toxic substances or corrosives, including
62 pesticides or herbicides, unless proper field entry time
63 allowances have been followed.

64 (d) Any mining occupation.

65 (e) In the operation of power-driven woodworking machines.

66 (f) In the operation of power-driven hoisting apparatus.

67 (g) In the operation of power-driven metal forming,
68 punching, or shearing machines.

69 (h) Slaughtering, meat packing, processing, or rendering,
70 except as provided in 29 C.F.R. s. 570.61(c).

71 (i) In the operation of power-driven bakery machinery.

72 (j) In the operation of power-driven paper products and
73 printing machines.

74 (k) Manufacturing brick, tile, and like products.

75 (l) Wrecking or demolition.

76 (m) Excavation operations.

77 (n) Logging or sawmilling.

78 (o) Working on electric apparatus or wiring.

79 (p) Firefighting.

80 (q) Operating or assisting to operate, including starting,
81 stopping, connecting or disconnecting, feeding, or any other
82 activity involving physical contact associated with operating, a
83 tractor over 20 PTO horsepower, any trencher or earthmoving
84 equipment, fork lift, or any harvesting, planting, or plowing
85 machinery, or any moving machinery.

86 Section 2. Section 489.5335, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

87 Section 3. Paragraph (f) of subsection (3) of section

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88 489.537, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

89 489.537 Application of this part.—

90 (3) Nothing in this act limits the power of a municipality
91 or county:

92 (f) To require that one electrical journeyman, who is a
93 graduate of the Institute of Applied Technology in Construction
94 Excellence ~~or licensed pursuant to s. 489.5335,~~ be present on an
95 industrial or commercial new construction site with a facility
96 of 50,000 gross square feet or more when electrical work in
97 excess of 77 volts is being performed in order to supervise or
98 perform such work, except as provided in s. 489.503.

99 Section 4. Paragraph (c) of subsection (14) of section
100 1001.43, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101 1001.43 Supplemental powers and duties of district school
102 board.—The district school board may exercise the following
103 supplemental powers and duties as authorized by this code or
104 State Board of Education rule.

105 (14) RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC AND CAREER ACHIEVEMENT.—

106 (c) Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, each district
107 school board shall require each high school within its
108 jurisdiction to host an annual career fair during the school
109 year and establish a process to provide students in grades 11
110 and 12 the opportunity to meet or interview with potential
111 employers during the career fair. The career fair must be held
112 on the campus of the high school, except that a group of high
113 schools in the district or a group of districts may hold a joint
114 career fair at an alternative location to satisfy the
115 requirement in this paragraph. A joint career fair must be held
116 at a location located within reasonable driving distance for

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117 students at all participating schools. The career fair must be
118 held during the school day and may use Florida's online career
119 planning and work-based learning system as part of the career
120 fair activities. Alternatively, district school boards may
121 consult with local workforce development boards, advisory
122 committees, and business groups to determine free or cost-
123 effective methods to provide other career and industry
124 networking opportunities, during the school day, for secondary
125 students and exposure for elementary and secondary students to a
126 representative variety of industries, businesses, and careers.

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128 District school board policies and procedures may include
129 conducting assemblies or other appropriate public events in
130 which students sign actual or ceremonial documents accepting
131 scholarships or enrollment. The district school board may
132 encourage holding such events in an assembly or gathering of the
133 entire student body as a means of making academic and career
134 success and recognition visible to all students.

135 Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 1003.41, Florida
136 Statutes, is amended to read:

137 1003.41 State academic standards.—

138 (3) The Commissioner of Education shall, as deemed
139 necessary ~~needed, shall~~ develop and submit proposed revisions to
140 the standards for review and comment by Florida educators,
141 school administrators, representatives of the Florida College
142 System institutions and state universities who have expertise in
143 the content knowledge and skills necessary to prepare a student
144 for postsecondary education and careers, a representative from
145 the Department of Commerce, business and industry leaders for

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146 in-demand careers, and the public. The commissioner, after
147 considering reviews and comments, shall submit the proposed
148 revisions to the State Board of Education for adoption.

149 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) and subsection
150 (10) of section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, are amended to
151 read:

152 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—

153 (7) CAREER EDUCATION COURSES THAT SATISFY HIGH SCHOOL
154 CREDIT REQUIREMENTS.—

155 (a) Participation in career education courses engages
156 students in their high school education, increases academic
157 achievement, enhances employability, and increases postsecondary
158 success. The department shall develop, for approval by the State
159 Board of Education, multiple, additional career education
160 courses or a series of courses that meet the requirements set
161 forth in s. 1003.493(2), (4), and (5) and this subsection and
162 allow students to earn credit in both the career education
163 course and courses required for high school graduation under
164 this section and s. 1003.4281.

165 1. The state board must determine at least biennially
166 whether ~~if~~ sufficient academic standards are covered to warrant
167 the award of academic credit, including satisfaction of
168 graduation, assessment, and state university admissions
169 requirements under this section.

170 2. Career education courses must:

171 a. Include workforce and digital literacy skills.

172 b. Integrate required course content with practical
173 applications and designated rigorous coursework that results in
174 one or more industry certifications or clearly articulated

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175 credit or advanced standing in a 2-year or 4-year certificate or
176 degree program, which may include high school junior and senior
177 year work-related internships or apprenticeships. The department
178 shall negotiate state licenses for material and testing for
179 industry certifications.

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181 The instructional methodology used in these courses must
182 comprise authentic projects, problems, and activities for
183 contextual academic learning and emphasize workplace skills
184 identified under s. 445.06.

185 3. A student who earns credit upon completion of 1 year of
186 related technical instruction for an apprenticeship program
187 registered with the Department of Education under chapter 446 or
188 preapprenticeship program registered with the Department of
189 Education under chapter 446 may use such credit to satisfy the
190 high school graduation credit requirements in paragraph (3)(e)
191 or paragraph (3)(g). The state board shall approve and identify
192 in the Course Code Directory the apprenticeship and
193 preapprenticeship programs from which earned credit may be used
194 pursuant to this subparagraph.

195 4. The State Board of Education shall, by rule, establish a
196 process that enables a student to receive work-based learning
197 credit or credit in electives for completing a threshold level
198 of demonstrable participation in extracurricular activities
199 associated with career and technical student organizations.
200 Work-based learning credit or credit in electives for
201 extracurricular activities or supervised agricultural
202 experiences may not be limited by grade level.

203 (10) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CREDIT.—The Department

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204 of Education shall convene a workgroup, no later than December
205 1, 2024, to:

206 (a) Identify best practices in career and technical
207 education pathways from middle school to high school to aid
208 middle school students in career planning and facilitate their
209 transition to high school programs. The career pathway must be
210 linked to postsecondary programs.

211 (b) Establish three mathematics pathways for students
212 enrolled in secondary grades by aligning mathematics courses to
213 programs, postsecondary education, and careers. The workgroup
214 shall collaborate to identify the three mathematics pathways and
215 the mathematics course sequence within each pathway which align
216 to the mathematics skills needed for success in the
217 corresponding academic programs, postsecondary education, and
218 careers.

219 Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 1004.91, Florida
220 Statutes, is amended to read:

221 1004.91 Requirements for career education program basic
222 skills.—

223 (3)(a) An adult student with a disability may be exempted
224 from this section.

225 (b) The following students are exempt from this section:

226 1. A student who possesses a college degree at the
227 associate in applied science level or higher.

228 2. A student who demonstrates readiness for public
229 postsecondary education pursuant to s. 1008.30 and applicable
230 rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

231 3. Beginning with students graduating in 2007 and
232 thereafter, a student who possesses a high school diploma from a

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233 private school in compliance with s. 1002.42, or, for a student
234 in a home education program, a signed affidavit submitted by the
235 student's parent or legal guardian attesting that the student
236 has completed a home education program pursuant to the
237 requirements of s. 1002.41.

238 4. A student who passes a state or national industry
239 certification or licensure examination that is identified in
240 State Board of Education rules and aligned to the career
241 education program in which the student is enrolled.

242 5.4. An adult student who is enrolled in an apprenticeship
243 program that is registered with the Department of Education in
244 accordance with chapter 446.

245 Section 8. (1) The Career and Technical Education Task
246 Force, a task force as defined in s. 20.03(5), Florida Statutes,
247 is created adjunct to the Department of Education to study the
248 status of career and technical education in each school district
249 within this state. Except as otherwise provided in this section,
250 the task force shall operate in a manner consistent with s.
251 20.052, Florida Statutes. The department shall provide
252 administrative and staff support relating to the functions of
253 the task force.

254 (2) The Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker
255 of the House of Representatives, the Commissioner of Education,
256 and the Secretary of the Department of Commerce shall each
257 appoint two members to the task force by September 1, 2024. The
258 commissioner shall appoint a chair of the task force.

259 (3) The task force shall do all of the following:

260 (a) Compile a list of career and technical education
261 courses offered within each school district. Such data must be

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262 broken down by industry, grade level, location, the number of
263 students enrolled in such courses, the number of students who
264 complete such courses, and the total number of students per
265 district enrolled in such courses.

266 (b) Compile a list of career and technical education
267 courses offered through the Department of Corrections and
268 Juvenile Justice. Such data must be broken down by location,
269 population, industry course offering, the number of students
270 enrolled in each course, and the number of students who complete
271 such courses.

272 (c) Identify the total funding provided for the career and
273 technical education courses offered through school districts and
274 analyze whether such funding is uniform across the state or
275 whether it varies by course or industry.

276 (d) Compare funding and reimbursement rates and timelines
277 for career and technical education courses to funding and
278 reimbursement rates and timelines for traditional K-12 education
279 courses.

280 (e) Identify any additional funding available for
281 additional career and technical education courses, including
282 federal funding, industry funding, or additional state funding.

283 (f) Identify how career and technical education courses are
284 advertised to parents and students.

285 (g) Identify the needs of school districts to expand career
286 and technical education, including what needs could be met by
287 the Legislature.

288 (h) Identify the number of students who earn an industry
289 certification through career and technical education courses who
290 also find employment in relevant industries.

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291 (i) Review existing postsecondary credits available for K-
292 12 career and technical education course offerings and how this
293 information is advertised to students and parents.

294 (j) Compare existing career and technical education course
295 offerings with data from the Department of Commerce and industry
296 leaders on in-demand careers and the state's economic needs.

297 (k) Provide recommendations for changes and expansions to
298 career and technical education course offerings beginning in the
299 2026-2027 school year.

300 (l) Provide recommendations for increasing funding,
301 eliminating barriers to expanding career and technical education
302 offerings, and streamlining regulations.

303 (m) Provide recommendations for improving the marketing of
304 career and technical education offerings to students and
305 parents.

306 (4) The task force shall submit to the Governor, the
307 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
308 Representatives, and the Commissioner of Education a report of
309 its findings by September 1, 2025, and its recommendations by
310 January 1, 2026. This section shall expire upon submission of
311 the recommendations.

312 Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.