

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to education; amending s. 1002.421,
3 F.S.; revising requirements for a private school to
4 participate in certain educational scholarship
5 programs; requiring the Department of Education to
6 suspend the payment of funds to participating private
7 schools under certain circumstances; amending s.
8 1011.62, F.S.; requiring the Legislature to determine
9 the base student allocation using the Consumer Price
10 Index; revising the minimum base salary for classroom
11 teachers; creating s. 1011.761, F.S.; creating the K-
12 12 Classroom Technology Grant Program; requiring the
13 department to administer the program and establish an
14 application process; providing for the award of grants
15 and the amount of such grants; providing funding for
16 the program; authorizing the State Board of Education
17 to adopt rules; creating s. 1011.781, F.S.; creating
18 the K-12 Education Funding Task Force within the
19 department; providing the purpose of the task force;
20 providing for membership of the task force; providing
21 for the terms of task force members; providing
22 requirements for the selection of a chair, a quorum,
23 and meetings of the task force; authorizing task force
24 members to receive specified reimbursements; providing
25 the duties and responsibilities of the task force;

26 requiring the task force to annually provide a report
 27 to specified individuals and the public; providing
 28 requirements for such report; providing an effective
 29 date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1002.421, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.421 State school choice scholarship program
 accountability and oversight.—

(1) PRIVATE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY AND OBLIGATIONS.—A private school participating in an educational scholarship program established pursuant to this chapter must be a private school as defined in s. 1002.01 in this state, be registered, and be in compliance with all requirements of this section in addition to private school requirements outlined in s. 1002.42, specific requirements identified within respective scholarship program laws, and other provisions of Florida law that apply to private schools, and must:

(a) Comply with the antidiscrimination provisions of 42 U.S.C. s. 2000d.

(b) Notify the department of its intent to participate in a scholarship program.

(c) Notify the department of any change in the school's

51 name, school director, mailing address, or physical location
52 within 15 days after the change.

53 (d) Provide to the department or scholarship-funding
54 organization all documentation required for a student's
55 participation, including the private school's and student's
56 individual fee schedule, and attendance verification as required
57 by the department or scholarship-funding organization, prior to
58 scholarship payment.

59 (e) Annually complete and submit to the department a
60 notarized scholarship compliance statement certifying that all
61 school employees and contracted personnel with direct student
62 contact have undergone background screening pursuant to s.
63 435.12 and have met the screening standards as provided in s.
64 435.04.

65 (f) Demonstrate fiscal soundness and accountability by:

66 1. Being in operation for at least 3 school years or
67 obtaining a surety bond or letter of credit for the amount equal
68 to the scholarship funds for any quarter and filing the surety
69 bond or letter of credit with the department.

70 2. Requiring the parent of each scholarship student to
71 personally restrictively endorse the scholarship warrant to the
72 school or to approve a funds transfer before any funds are
73 deposited for a student. The school may not act as attorney in
74 fact for the parent of a scholarship student under the authority
75 of a power of attorney executed by such parent, or under any

76 | other authority, to endorse a scholarship warrant or approve a
77 | funds transfer on behalf of such parent.

78 | (g) Meet applicable state and local health, safety, and
79 | welfare laws, codes, and rules, including:

80 | 1. Firesafety.

81 | 2. Building safety.

82 | (h) Employ or contract with teachers who hold
83 | baccalaureate or higher degrees, have at least 3 years of
84 | teaching experience in public or private schools, or have
85 | special skills, knowledge, or expertise that qualifies them to
86 | provide instruction in subjects taught.

87 | (i) Maintain a physical location in the state at which
88 | each student has regular and direct contact with teachers.
89 | Regular and direct contact with teachers may be satisfied for
90 | students enrolled in a personalized education program if
91 | students have regular and direct contact with teachers at the
92 | physical location at least 2 school days per week and the
93 | student learning plan addresses the remaining instructional
94 | time.

95 | (j) Publish on the school's website, or provide in a
96 | written format, information for parents regarding the school,
97 | including, but not limited to, programs, services, the
98 | qualifications of classroom teachers, and a statement that a
99 | parentally placed private school student with a disability does
100 | not have an individual right to receive some or all of the

101 special education and related services that the student would
102 receive if enrolled in a public school under the Individuals
103 with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as amended.

104 (k) At a minimum, provide the parent of each scholarship
105 student with a written explanation of the student's progress on
106 a quarterly basis.

107 (l) Cooperate with a student whose parent chooses to
108 participate in the statewide assessments pursuant to s. 1008.22.

109 (m) Require each employee and contracted personnel with
110 direct student contact, upon employment or engagement to provide
111 services, to undergo a state and national background screening,
112 pursuant to s. 943.0542, by electronically filing with the
113 Department of Law Enforcement a complete set of fingerprints
114 taken by an authorized law enforcement agency or an employee of
115 the private school, a school district, or a private company who
116 is trained to take fingerprints and deny employment to or
117 terminate an employee if he or she fails to meet the screening
118 standards under s. 435.04. Results of the screening shall be
119 provided to the participating private school. For purposes of
120 this paragraph:

121 1. An "employee or contracted personnel with direct
122 student contact" means any employee or contracted personnel who
123 has unsupervised access to a scholarship student for whom the
124 private school is responsible.

125 2. The costs of fingerprinting and the background check

126 shall not be borne by the state.

127 3. Continued employment of an employee or contracted
128 personnel after notification that he or she has failed the
129 background screening under this paragraph shall cause a private
130 school to be ineligible for participation in a scholarship
131 program.

132 4. An employee or contracted personnel holding a valid
133 Florida teaching certificate who has been fingerprinted pursuant
134 to s. 1012.32 is not required to comply with the provisions of
135 this paragraph.

136 5. All fingerprints submitted to the Department of Law
137 Enforcement as required by this section shall be retained by the
138 Department of Law Enforcement in a manner provided by rule and
139 entered in the statewide automated biometric identification
140 system authorized by s. 943.05(2)(b). Such fingerprints shall
141 thereafter be available for all purposes and uses authorized for
142 arrest fingerprints entered in the statewide automated biometric
143 identification system pursuant to s. 943.051.

144 6. The Department of Law Enforcement shall search all
145 arrest fingerprints received under s. 943.051 against the
146 fingerprints retained in the statewide automated biometric
147 identification system under subparagraph 5. Any arrest record
148 that is identified with the retained fingerprints of a person
149 subject to the background screening under this section shall be
150 reported to the employing school with which the person is

151 affiliated. Each private school participating in a scholarship
152 program is required to participate in this search process by
153 informing the Department of Law Enforcement of any change in the
154 employment or contractual status of its personnel whose
155 fingerprints are retained under subparagraph 5. The Department
156 of Law Enforcement shall adopt a rule setting the amount of the
157 annual fee to be imposed upon each private school for performing
158 these searches and establishing the procedures for the retention
159 of private school employee and contracted personnel fingerprints
160 and the dissemination of search results. The fee may be borne by
161 the private school or the person fingerprinted.

162 7. Employees and contracted personnel whose fingerprints
163 are not retained by the Department of Law Enforcement under
164 subparagraphs 5. and 6. are required to be refingerprinted and
165 must meet state and national background screening requirements
166 upon reemployment or reengagement to provide services in order
167 to comply with the requirements of this section.

168 8. Every 5 years following employment or engagement to
169 provide services with a private school, employees or contracted
170 personnel required to be screened under this section must meet
171 screening standards under s. 435.04, at which time the private
172 school shall request the Department of Law Enforcement to
173 forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation
174 for national processing. If the fingerprints of employees or
175 contracted personnel are not retained by the Department of Law

176 Enforcement under subparagraph 5., employees and contracted
177 personnel must electronically file a complete set of
178 fingerprints with the Department of Law Enforcement. Upon
179 submission of fingerprints for this purpose, the private school
180 shall request that the Department of Law Enforcement forward the
181 fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for national
182 processing, and the fingerprints shall be retained by the
183 Department of Law Enforcement under subparagraph 5.

184 (n) Adopt policies establishing standards of ethical
185 conduct for educational support employees, instructional
186 personnel, and school administrators. The policies must require
187 all educational support employees, instructional personnel, and
188 school administrators, as defined in s. 1012.01, to complete
189 training on the standards; establish the duty of educational
190 support employees, instructional personnel, and school
191 administrators to report, and procedures for reporting, alleged
192 misconduct by other educational support employees, instructional
193 personnel, and school administrators which affects the health,
194 safety, or welfare of a student; and include an explanation of
195 the liability protections provided under ss. 39.203 and 768.095.
196 A private school, or any of its employees, may not enter into a
197 confidentiality agreement regarding terminated or dismissed
198 educational support employees, instructional personnel, or
199 school administrators, or employees, personnel, or
200 administrators who resign in lieu of termination, based in whole

201 or in part on misconduct that affects the health, safety, or
202 welfare of a student, and may not provide the employees,
203 personnel, or administrators with employment references or
204 discuss the employees', personnel's, or administrators'
205 performance with prospective employers in another educational
206 setting, without disclosing the employees', personnel's, or
207 administrators' misconduct. Any part of an agreement or contract
208 that has the purpose or effect of concealing misconduct by
209 educational support employees, instructional personnel, or
210 school administrators which affects the health, safety, or
211 welfare of a student is void, is contrary to public policy, and
212 may not be enforced.

213 (o) Before employing a person in any position that
214 requires direct contact with students, conduct employment
215 history checks of previous employers, screen the person through
216 use of the screening tools described in s. 1001.10(5), and
217 document the findings. If unable to contact a previous employer,
218 the private school must document efforts to contact the
219 employer. The private school may not employ a person whose
220 educator certificate is revoked, who is barred from reapplying
221 for an educator certificate, or who is on the disqualification
222 list maintained by the department pursuant to s. 1001.10(4)(b).

223 (p) Require each owner or operator of the private school,
224 prior to employment or engagement to provide services, to
225 undergo level 2 background screening as provided under chapter

226 435. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "owner or
227 operator" means an owner, operator, superintendent, or principal
228 of, or a person with equivalent decisionmaking authority over, a
229 private school participating in a scholarship program
230 established pursuant to this chapter. The fingerprints for the
231 background screening must be electronically submitted to the
232 Department of Law Enforcement and may be taken by an authorized
233 law enforcement agency or a private company who is trained to
234 take fingerprints. However, the complete set of fingerprints of
235 an owner or operator may not be taken by the owner or operator.
236 The owner or operator shall provide a copy of the results of the
237 state and national criminal history check to the Department of
238 Education. The cost of the background screening may be borne by
239 the owner or operator.

240 1. Every 5 years following employment or engagement to
241 provide services, each owner or operator must meet level 2
242 screening standards as described in s. 435.04, at which time the
243 owner or operator shall request the Department of Law
244 Enforcement to forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of
245 Investigation for level 2 screening. If the fingerprints of an
246 owner or operator are not retained by the Department of Law
247 Enforcement under subparagraph 2., the owner or operator must
248 electronically file a complete set of fingerprints with the
249 Department of Law Enforcement. Upon submission of fingerprints
250 for this purpose, the owner or operator shall request that the

251 Department of Law Enforcement forward the fingerprints to the
252 Federal Bureau of Investigation for level 2 screening, and the
253 fingerprints shall be retained by the Department of Law
254 Enforcement under subparagraph 2.

255 2. Fingerprints submitted to the Department of Law
256 Enforcement as required by this paragraph must be retained by
257 the Department of Law Enforcement in a manner approved by rule
258 and entered in the statewide automated biometric identification
259 system authorized by s. 943.05(2)(b). The fingerprints must
260 thereafter be available for all purposes and uses authorized for
261 arrest fingerprints entered in the statewide automated biometric
262 identification system pursuant to s. 943.051.

263 3. The Department of Law Enforcement shall search all
264 arrest fingerprints received under s. 943.051 against the
265 fingerprints retained in the statewide automated biometric
266 identification system under subparagraph 2. Any arrest record
267 that is identified with an owner's or operator's fingerprints
268 must be reported to the owner or operator, who must report to
269 the Department of Education. Any costs associated with the
270 search shall be borne by the owner or operator.

271 4. An owner or operator who fails the level 2 background
272 screening is not eligible to participate in a scholarship
273 program under this chapter.

274 5. In addition to the offenses listed in s. 435.04, a
275 person required to undergo background screening pursuant to this

276 part or authorizing statutes may not have an arrest awaiting
277 final disposition for, must not have been found guilty of, or
278 entered a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of
279 adjudication, and must not have been adjudicated delinquent for,
280 and the record must not have been sealed or expunged for, any of
281 the following offenses or any similar offense of another
282 jurisdiction:

- 283 a. Any authorizing statutes, if the offense was a felony.
- 284 b. This chapter, if the offense was a felony.
- 285 c. Section 409.920, relating to Medicaid provider fraud.
- 286 d. Section 409.9201, relating to Medicaid fraud.
- 287 e. Section 741.28, relating to domestic violence.
- 288 f. Section 817.034, relating to fraudulent acts through
289 mail, wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic, or
290 photooptical systems.
- 291 g. Section 817.234, relating to false and fraudulent
292 insurance claims.
- 293 h. Section 817.505, relating to patient brokering.
- 294 i. Section 817.568, relating to criminal use of personal
295 identification information.
- 296 j. Section 817.60, relating to obtaining a credit card
297 through fraudulent means.
- 298 k. Section 817.61, relating to fraudulent use of credit
299 cards, if the offense was a felony.
- 300 l. Section 831.01, relating to forgery.

301 m. Section 831.02, relating to uttering forged
302 instruments.

303 n. Section 831.07, relating to forging bank bills, checks,
304 drafts, or promissory notes.

305 o. Section 831.09, relating to uttering forged bank bills,
306 checks, drafts, or promissory notes.

307 p. Section 831.30, relating to fraud in obtaining
308 medicinal drugs.

309 q. Section 831.31, relating to the sale, manufacture,
310 delivery, or possession with the intent to sell, manufacture, or
311 deliver any counterfeit controlled substance, if the offense was
312 a felony.

313 6. At least 30 calendar days before a transfer of
314 ownership of a private school, the owner or operator shall
315 notify the parent of each scholarship student.

316 7. The owner or operator of a private school that has been
317 deemed ineligible to participate in a scholarship program
318 pursuant to this chapter may not transfer ownership or
319 management authority of the school to a relative in order to
320 participate in a scholarship program as the same school or a new
321 school. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "relative"
322 means father, mother, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother,
323 brother, sister, uncle, aunt, cousin, nephew, niece, husband,
324 wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law,
325 brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson,

326 stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half
327 sister.

328 (q) Provide a report from an independent certified public
329 accountant who performs the agreed-upon procedures developed
330 pursuant to s. 1002.395(6)(q) if the private school receives
331 more than \$250,000 in funds from scholarships awarded under this
332 chapter in a state fiscal year. A private school subject to this
333 subsection must annually submit the report by September 15 to
334 the scholarship-funding organization that awarded the majority
335 of the school's scholarship funds. The agreed-upon procedures
336 must be conducted in accordance with attestation standards
337 established by the American Institute of Certified Public
338 Accountants.

339 (r) Prohibit education support employees, instructional
340 personnel, and school administrators from employment in any
341 position that requires direct contact with students if the
342 personnel or administrators are ineligible for such employment
343 pursuant to this section or s. 1012.315, or have been terminated
344 or have resigned in lieu of termination for sexual misconduct
345 with a student. If the prohibited conduct occurs subsequent to
346 employment, the private school must report the person and the
347 disqualifying circumstances to the department for inclusion on
348 the disqualification list maintained pursuant to s.
349 1001.10(4)(b).

350 (s) Not be owned or operated by a person or an entity

351 domiciled in, owned by, or in any way controlled by a foreign
352 country of concern or foreign principal as defined in s.
353 288.860. A violation of this paragraph constitutes an imminent
354 threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the school's
355 students and to the public, sufficient to justify immediate
356 suspension of payment of scholarship funds under paragraph
357 (3) (e), as well as denial, suspension, or revocation of a
358 school's participation in a scholarship program under paragraph
359 (3) (b).

360 (t) Publish on the school's website, and provide to
361 parents in a written format, a clear and easy to understand
362 disclosure of any conditions of attendance or policies of the
363 school that require compliance with:

364 1. Religious tenants.

365 2. A student code of conduct or dress code which specifies
366 grooming or hair style requirements.

367 3. Provisions related to sexual orientation or gender
368 identity.

369 (u) Beginning February 28, 2026, and annually on February
370 28 and thereafter, disclose to the school district the number of
371 vacant seats the school intends to offer to eligible scholarship
372 students during the subsequent school year.

373 (v) Disclose to the department when a student is
374 disenrolled by the school. This paragraph does not apply to a
375 student removed at a parent's choosing.

376 (w) Return to the department or an eligible nonprofit
377 scholarship-funding organization, as appropriate, a prorated
378 amount of funds, as determined by the department, for students
379 who disenroll from the private school midyear and enroll in a
380 public school, including a charter school.

381
382 The department shall suspend the payment of funds to a private
383 school that disenrolls, without the parents' consent, more than
384 25 percent of scholarship students within a single school year
385 or knowingly fails to comply with this subsection, and shall
386 prohibit the school from enrolling new scholarship students, for
387 1 fiscal year and until the school complies. If a private school
388 fails to meet the requirements of this subsection or has
389 consecutive years of material exceptions listed in the report
390 required under paragraph (q), the commissioner may determine
391 that the private school is ineligible to participate in a
392 scholarship program.

393 **Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection**
394 **(14) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

395 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual
396 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each
397 district for operation of schools is not determined in the
398 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing
399 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as
400 follows:

401 (1) COMPUTATION OF THE BASIC AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED FOR
 402 OPERATION.—The following procedure shall be followed in
 403 determining the annual allocation to each district for
 404 operation:

405 (b) Determination of base student allocation.—The base
 406 student allocation for the Florida Education Finance Program for
 407 kindergarten through grade 12 shall be determined annually by
 408 the Legislature and shall be that amount prescribed in the
 409 current year's General Appropriations Act. The Legislature must
 410 determine the base student allocation using the Consumer Price
 411 Index.

412 (14) CLASSROOM TEACHER AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL
 413 SALARY INCREASE.—The Legislature shall annually apportion an
 414 amount of funds provided in the Florida Education Finance
 415 Program to assist school districts and charter schools in their
 416 compliance with the requirement to meet ~~that~~ the minimum base
 417 salary for full-time classroom teachers, as defined in s.
 418 1012.01(2)(a), and certified prekindergarten teachers funded in
 419 the Florida Education Finance Program ~~is at least \$47,500~~ or to
 420 provide salary increases to instructional personnel, as defined
 421 in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d), in a manner that best meets the needs
 422 of the school district or charter school. This subsection does
 423 not apply to substitute teachers. The amount and distribution
 424 methodology for the funding shall be specified in the General
 425 Appropriations Act.

426 (a) The term "minimum base salary" means the lowest annual
427 base salary reported on the salary schedule for a full-time
428 classroom teacher. The minimum base salary must annually be
429 adjusted to be higher of:

430 1. The national average for a full-time classroom teacher;

431 or

432 2. Ten percent higher than the minimum base salary in the
433 salary schedule for the previous year.

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435 A full-time classroom teacher may not receive a salary less than
436 the minimum base salary as adjusted by this subsection.

437 (b) A school district or charter school shall maintain the
438 minimum base salary achieved for classroom teachers provided in
439 the prior fiscal year and may not reduce the salary increases in
440 any subsequent fiscal year.

441 (c) Before distributing any additional funds received over
442 the prior fiscal year, each school district and each charter
443 school shall develop a salary distribution plan that clearly
444 delineates the planned distribution of funds in accordance with
445 modified salary schedules, as necessary, for the implementation
446 of this subsection.

447 1. Each school district superintendent and each charter
448 school administrator must submit its proposed salary
449 distribution plan to the district school board or the charter
450 school governing body, as appropriate, for approval.

451 2. Each school district shall submit the approved district
452 salary distribution plan and the approved salary distribution
453 plan for each charter school in the district to the department
454 by October 1 of each fiscal year.

455 (d) Beginning August 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, in
456 a format specified by the department, each school district shall
457 provide a report to the department that includes a detailed
458 summary explaining the school district's prior year's
459 expenditures pursuant to this subsection. The report must
460 include the amount of the increase to the minimum base salary
461 for classroom teachers and the school district's salary schedule
462 for the prior fiscal year and the fiscal year in which the base
463 salary is increased. Each charter school governing board shall
464 submit the information required under this subparagraph to the
465 district school board for inclusion in the school district's
466 report to the department.

467 (e) Although district school boards and charter school
468 governing boards are not precluded from bargaining over wages,
469 the classroom teacher and other instructional personnel salary
470 increase must be used solely to comply with the requirements of
471 this subsection. A district school board or charter school
472 governing board that is unable to meet the reporting
473 requirements in paragraph (d) due to a collective bargaining
474 impasse must provide written notification to the department or
475 the district school board, as applicable, detailing the reasons

476 for the impasse with a proposed timeline and details for a
477 resolution.

478 **Section 3. Section 1011.761, Florida Statutes, is created**
479 **to read:**

480 1011.761 K-12 Classroom Technology Grant Program.—There is
481 established the K-12 Classroom Technology Grant Program to be
482 administered by the Department of Education. The purpose of the
483 program is to provide grants to K-12 public schools, including
484 charter schools, to enable schools to purchase or update
485 technology within its classrooms or per student.

486 (1) The department shall establish an application process
487 for schools to apply for a grant through the program. Grants
488 shall be awarded on first come, first served basis.

489 (2) Funding for the program shall be as provided in the
490 General Appropriations Act. The amount of each grant award shall
491 be determined by the department.

492 (3) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to
493 administer this program.

494 **Section 4. Section 1011.781, Florida Statutes, is created**
495 **to read:**

496 1011.781 K-12 Education Funding Task Force.—

497 (1) The K-12 Education Funding Task Force, a task force as
498 defined in s. 20.03, is created within the Department of
499 Education to:

500 (a) Make recommendations to identify and examine issues

501 within nontraditional schools that receive state funds.

502 (b) Provide recommendations for increased transparency
503 with such schools.

504 (c) Provide recommendations for universal standards for
505 the use of public dollars in education.

506 (d) Provide recommendations for accountability measures
507 for nontraditional schools that fail to meet specified
508 requirements.

509 (2) (a) The task force shall be comprised of 16 members
510 appointed as follows:

511 1. Six members appointed by the Commissioner of Education
512 as follows:

513 a. One member who is a behavioral health professional who
514 specializes in childhood behavioral disabilities.

515 b. One member who is a health professional who specializes
516 in childhood developmental disabilities.

517 c. One member who is a school safety specialist.

518 d. One member who is a certified school counselor, child
519 psychologist, or social worker.

520 e. One member who is an English for Speakers of Other
521 Languages representative.

522 f. One member who has experience with the state's academic
523 standards and curriculum transparency requirements.

524 2. The Chief Executive Officer of the Florida Association
525 of District School Superintendents or his or her designee.

526 3. One member who is selected by the Florida Education
527 Association.

528 4. One member who is selected by the Minority Leader of
529 the House of Representatives.

530 5. One member who is selected by the Minority Leader of
531 the Senate.

532 6. Three members who are selected by the Speaker of the
533 House of Representatives.

534 7. Three members who are selected by the President of the
535 Senate.

536 (b) Members shall serve 4-year terms. However, for the
537 purpose of staggered terms of the initial appointments, seven
538 members shall be appointed for 2-year terms and nine members
539 shall be appointed for 4-year terms.

540 (c) The chair of the task force shall be selected by a
541 majority vote of members. A majority of the members of the task
542 force constitutes a quorum.

543 (d) The task force shall meet as necessary to accomplish
544 its responsibilities or at the call of the chair and at a time
545 and a place designated by the chair. The task force may conduct
546 its meetings through teleconferences or other similar means.
547 Members of the task force are entitled to receive a
548 reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses pursuant to s.
549 112.061.

550 (3) The task force shall develop recommendations for

551 establishing universal standards for the use of public funds in
552 the public education system and in nontraditional schools and
553 improve public integrity of such funding.

554 (4) The task force shall identify and examine:

555 (a) All nontraditional schools that receive state funds.

556 (b) The number of students disenrolled by such schools
557 receiving state funds. Such examination does not include
558 students who are disenrolled at the request of their parents.

559 (c) The number of students disenrolled from such schools
560 at the parents' request.

561 (d) The areas in which schools receiving state funds lack
562 transparency, including, but not limited to, such schools' high
563 school graduation rates, disclosure of any conditions of
564 attendance or policies that require compliance with religious
565 tenants, student codes of conduct or dress codes which specify
566 grooming or hair style requirements, and policies related to
567 sexual orientation or gender identity.

568 (e) The impacts of the lack of transparency in the areas
569 identified in paragraph (d).

570 (f) The disciplinary data for such schools, including the
571 number of students expelled or suspended and the reasons for
572 such expulsions or suspensions.

573 (g) The quality of the curricula and instructional
574 materials of such schools and the parental access to such
575 curricula and instructional materials.

576 (h) The experience and credentials of educators at such
577 schools.

578 (i) Data of students enrolled at such schools, including
579 student achievement, learning gains, and acceleration success
580 data.

581 (j) Any information or data provided from parents of
582 students enrolled at such schools.

583 (k) Possible accountability measures for nontraditional
584 schools that fail to meet accountability measures.

585 (5) The task force shall, beginning October 1, 2026, and
586 annually on October 1 thereafter, provide a report to the
587 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House
588 of Representatives, and the Minority Leaders of the Senate and
589 the House of Representatives and make such report available to
590 the public. The report must include:

591 (a) A summary of the task force's activities and progress
592 in identifying and examining the information in subsection (4).

593 (b) Any statutory or rule changes necessary to accomplish
594 the goals of the task force.

595 (c) Proposed accountability measures for nontraditional
596 schools that receive state funds, including, but not limited to,
597 bond or surety requirements, assigning property to the state,
598 and the imposition of liens.

599 **Section 5.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.