

1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to students enrolled in dropout  
 3           retrieval programs; amending s. 1002.45, F.S.;  
 4           revising assessment and accountability requirements  
 5           for a virtual instruction program provider; providing  
 6           that a virtual instruction program provider operating  
 7           exclusively as a dropout retrieval program is exempt  
 8           from specified requirements; amending s. 1003.53,  
 9           F.S.; providing that dropout retrieval programs serve  
 10          specified students; providing that specified  
 11          accountability requirements apply to dropout retrieval  
 12          programs; 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. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section**  
 17 **1002.45, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

18           1002.45 Virtual instruction programs.—

19           (7) ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—

20           (a) Each approved virtual instruction program provider  
 21           contracted pursuant to this section must:

22           1. Participate in the statewide assessment program under  
 23           s. 1008.22 and in the state's education performance  
 24           accountability system under s. 1008.31.

25           2. Receive a school grade under s. 1008.34 or a school

26 | improvement rating under s. 1008.341, as applicable, for each  
27 | district with which it contracts, based on the assessment scores  
28 | of all students served within the school district. ~~The school~~  
29 | ~~improvement rating received by each approved virtual instruction~~  
30 | ~~program provider shall be based upon the aggregated assessment~~  
31 | ~~scores of all students served by the provider statewide.~~ Each  
32 | approved virtual instruction program provider shall receive a  
33 | district grade pursuant to s. 1008.34 based upon the aggregated  
34 | assessment scores of all students served by the provider  
35 | statewide and a separate school grade or school improvement  
36 | rating for each school district with which it contracts based  
37 | upon the assessment scores of all students served within the  
38 | school district. A virtual instruction program provider  
39 | operating exclusively as a dropout retrieval program described  
40 | in s. 1003.53(7) is exempt from the district grade requirement  
41 | of this paragraph. The department shall publish the school grade  
42 | or school improvement rating received by each approved virtual  
43 | instruction program provider on its Internet website. The  
44 | department shall develop an evaluation method for providers of  
45 | part-time programs which includes the percentage of students  
46 | making learning gains, the percentage of students successfully  
47 | passing any required end-of-course assessment, the percentage of  
48 | students taking Advanced Placement examinations, and the  
49 | percentage of students scoring 3 or higher on an Advanced  
50 | Placement examination.

51           **Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 1003.53, Florida**  
52 **Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (8), and a new subsection**  
53 **(7) is added to that section, to read:**

54           1003.53 Dropout prevention and academic intervention.—  
55           (7) Dropout retrieval programs serve students who have  
56 officially withdrawn from high school before graduation and who  
57 are not engaged in the education system at the time of  
58 enrollment in the program. Each dropout retrieval program shall  
59 choose to receive a school grade under s. 1008.34 or a school  
60 improvement rating under s. 1008.341.

61           **Section 3.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.