



351932

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
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04/30/2025 05:14 PM	.	05/02/2025 07:12 PM
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Senator Calatayud moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Paragraphs (d) and (f) of subsection (2) of  
section 11.45, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

11.45 Definitions; duties; authorities; reports; rules.—

(2) DUTIES.—The Auditor General shall:

(d) Annually conduct financial audits of the accounts and  
records of all district school boards in counties with  
populations of less ~~fewer~~ than 150,000, according to the most



12 recent federal decennial statewide census; and the Florida  
13 School for the Deaf and the Blind; ~~and the Florida School for~~  
14 ~~Competitive Academics.~~

15 (f) At least every 3 years, conduct operational audits of  
16 the accounts and records of state agencies, state universities,  
17 state colleges, district school boards, the Florida Clerks of  
18 Court Operations Corporation, water management districts, and  
19 the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind; ~~and the Florida~~  
20 ~~School for Competitive Academics.~~

21  
22 The Auditor General shall perform his or her duties  
23 independently but under the general policies established by the  
24 Legislative Auditing Committee. This subsection does not limit  
25 the Auditor General's discretionary authority to conduct other  
26 audits or engagements of governmental entities as authorized in  
27 subsection (3).

28 Section 2. Subsection (5) is added to section 11.51,  
29 Florida Statutes, to read:

30 11.51 Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government  
31 Accountability.—

32 (5) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government  
33 Accountability may develop contracts or agreements with  
34 institutions in the State University System to use the expertise  
35 of state university faculty and research staff to provide  
36 assistance in analysis and evaluative research.

37 Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 110.211, Florida  
38 Statutes, is amended to read:

39 110.211 Recruitment.—

40 (3) Recruiting shall seek efficiency in advertising and may



41 be assisted by a contracted vendor responsible for maintenance  
42 of the personnel data. Recruiting may include the use of an  
43 apprenticeship program as defined in s. 446.021(6). Open  
44 competition is not required for a position that will be filled  
45 by a person who has successfully completed an apprenticeship  
46 program with the hiring agency.

47 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
48 125.901, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

49 125.901 Children's services; independent special district;  
50 council; powers, duties, and functions; public records  
51 exemption.—

52 (1) Each county may by ordinance create an independent  
53 special district, as defined in ss. 189.012 and 200.001(8)(e),  
54 to provide funding for children's services throughout the county  
55 in accordance with this section. The boundaries of such district  
56 shall be coterminous with the boundaries of the county. The  
57 county governing body shall obtain approval at a general  
58 election, as defined in s. 97.021, by a majority vote of those  
59 electors voting on the question, to annually levy ad valorem  
60 taxes which shall not exceed the maximum millage rate authorized  
61 by this section. Any district created pursuant to the provisions  
62 of this subsection shall be required to levy and fix millage  
63 subject to the provisions of s. 200.065. Once such millage is  
64 approved by the electorate, the district shall not be required  
65 to seek approval of the electorate in future years to levy the  
66 previously approved millage. However, a referendum to increase  
67 the millage rate previously approved by the electors must be  
68 held at a general election, and the referendum may be held only  
69 once during the 48-month period preceding the effective date of



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70 the increased millage.

71 (b) However, any county as defined in s. 125.011(1) may  
72 instead have a governing body composed ~~consisting~~ of 33 members,  
73 including the superintendent of schools, or his or her designee;  
74 two representatives of public postsecondary education  
75 institutions located in the county; the county manager or the  
76 equivalent county officer, or his or her designee; the district  
77 administrator from the appropriate district of the Department of  
78 Children and Families, or the administrator's designee who is a  
79 member of the Senior Management Service or the Selected Exempt  
80 Service; the director of the county health department or the  
81 director's designee; the state attorney for the county or the  
82 state attorney's designee; the chief judge assigned to juvenile  
83 cases, or another juvenile judge who is the chief judge's  
84 designee and who shall sit as a voting member of the board,  
85 except that the judge may not vote or participate in setting ad  
86 valorem taxes under this section; an individual who is selected  
87 by the board of the local United Way or its equivalent; a member  
88 of a locally recognized faith-based coalition, selected by that  
89 coalition; a member of the local chamber of commerce, selected  
90 by that chamber or, if more than one chamber exists within the  
91 county, a person selected by a coalition of the local chambers;  
92 a member of the early learning coalition, selected by that  
93 coalition; a representative of a labor organization or union  
94 active in the county; ~~a member of a local alliance or coalition~~  
95 ~~engaged in cross-system planning for health and social service~~  
96 ~~delivery in the county, selected by that alliance or coalition;~~  
97 a member of the local Parent-Teachers Association/Parent-  
98 Teacher-Student Association, selected by that association; a



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99 youth representative selected by the local school system's  
100 student government; a local school board member appointed by the  
101 chair of the school board; the mayor of the county or the  
102 mayor's designee; one member of the county governing body,  
103 appointed by the chair of that body; a member of the state  
104 Legislature who represents residents of the county, selected by  
105 the chair of the local legislative delegation; an elected  
106 official representing the residents of a municipality in the  
107 county, selected by the county municipal league; and five 4  
108 members-at-large, appointed to the council by the majority of  
109 sitting council members. The remaining seven members shall be  
110 appointed by the Governor in accordance with procedures set  
111 forth in paragraph (a), except that the Governor may remove a  
112 member for cause or upon the written petition of the council.  
113 Appointments by the Governor must, to the extent reasonably  
114 possible, represent the geographic and demographic makeup  
115 ~~diversity~~ of the population of the county. Members ~~who are~~  
116 appointed to the council by reason of their position are not  
117 subject to the length of terms and limits on consecutive terms  
118 as provided in this section. The remaining appointed members of  
119 the governing body shall be appointed to serve 3-year ~~2-year~~  
120 terms, except that those members appointed by the Governor shall  
121 be appointed to serve 4-year terms, and the youth representative  
122 and the legislative delegate shall be appointed to serve 1-year  
123 terms. A member may be reappointed; however, a member may not  
124 serve for more than three consecutive terms. A member is  
125 eligible to be appointed again after a 2-year hiatus from the  
126 council.

127 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section



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128 216.251, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

129 216.251 Salary appropriations; limitations.-

130 (2) (a) The salary for each position not specifically  
131 indicated in the appropriations acts shall be as provided in one  
132 of the following subparagraphs:

133 1. Within the classification and pay plans provided for in  
134 chapter 110.

135 2. Within the classification and pay plans established by  
136 the Board of Trustees for the Florida School for the Deaf and  
137 the Blind of the Department of Education and approved by the  
138 State Board of Education for academic and academic  
139 administrative personnel.

140 3. Within the classification and pay plan approved and  
141 administered by the Board of Governors or the designee of the  
142 board for those positions in the State University System.

143 4. Within the classification and pay plan approved by the  
144 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
145 Representatives, as the case may be, for employees of the  
146 Legislature.

147 5. Within the approved classification and pay plan for the  
148 judicial branch.

149 ~~6. Within the classification and pay plans established by~~  
150 ~~the Board of Trustees for the Florida School for Competitive~~  
151 ~~Academies of the Department of Education and approved by the~~  
152 ~~State Board of Education for academic and academic~~  
153 ~~administrative personnel.~~

154 Section 6. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 288.036,  
155 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

156 288.036 Ocean economy development.-



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157 (3) The Office of Ocean Economy shall:  
158 (a) Develop and undertake activities and strategies with a  
159 focus on research and development, technological innovation,  
160 emerging industries, strategic business recruitment, public and  
161 private funding opportunities, and workforce training and  
162 education to promote and stimulate the ocean economy.  
163 (b)1. Collaborate ~~Foster relationships~~ and coordinate with  
164 state universities, private universities, career centers, and  
165 Florida College System institutions, including the College of  
166 the Florida Keys, to periodically survey ~~surveying~~ the  
167 development of academic research relating to the ocean economy  
168 across all disciplines and facilitating the transfer of  
169 innovative technology into marketable goods and services. ~~The~~  
170 ~~office shall encourage collaboration between state universities~~  
171 ~~and Florida College System institutions that have overlapping~~  
172 ~~areas of academic research.~~  
173 2. Maintain ~~Include~~ and update on the office's website  
174 information related to:  
175 a. An inventory of current research and current  
176 collaborations, including contact information; and  
177 b. Any available resources for research and technology  
178 development, including financial opportunities.  
179 (c) Collaborate with relevant industries to identify  
180 economic challenges that may be solved through innovation in the  
181 ocean economy, including commercializing or otherwise  
182 facilitating public access to academic research and resources,  
183 removing governmental barriers, strengthening the workforce, and  
184 maximizing access to financial or other opportunities for growth  
185 and development.



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186 (d) Develop and facilitate a pipeline for innovative ideas  
187 and strategies to be created, developed, researched,  
188 commercialized, and financed. This includes promotion and  
189 coordination of industry collaboration, academic research,  
190 accelerator programs, training and technical assistance, and  
191 startup or second-stage funding opportunities.

192 (e) Maintain and update on the office's website:

193 1. Reports and data on the number, growth, and average  
194 wages of jobs included in the ocean economy; the impacts on the  
195 number, growth, and development of businesses in the ocean  
196 economy; and the collaboration, transition, or adoption of  
197 innovation and research into new, viable ideas employed in the  
198 ocean economy.

199 2. A current inventory of programs related to the ocean  
200 economy, an evaluation of additional opportunities to earn  
201 credentials, and the institutions or training providers where  
202 such credentials may be earned.

203 (f) Educate other state and local entities on the interests  
204 of the ocean economy and how such entities may positively  
205 address environmental issues while simultaneously considering  
206 the economic impact of their policies.

207 (g) Communicate the state's role as an integral component  
208 of the ocean economy by promoting the state on national and  
209 international platforms and other appropriate forums as the  
210 premier destination for convening on pertinent subject matters.

211 (h) Collaborate with public and private educational and  
212 industry organizations to make recommendations:

213 1. For strengthening employment opportunities in:

214 a. Commercial fishing;





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215           b. Fisheries and aquaculture, marine and freshwater;  
216           c. Processing and preserving fish, crustaceans, and  
217 mollusks;  
218           d. Shipbuilding and repair; and  
219           e. Shipping, water transport such as sea and coastal and  
220 inland water transportation of both freight and passengers,  
221 ports, and related services and support activities.  
222           2. Regarding the expansion of existing maritime programs  
223 and the addition of new programs and strategies for a public  
224 awareness campaign.  
225           3. To increase the availability of dual enrollment,  
226 preapprenticeship and apprenticeship, and work-study programs at  
227 both public and private institutions.  
228           4. For aligning the regulatory framework for fishing and  
229 boat operations with the demand for personnel through  
230 consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.  
231           (4) By August 1, 2025, and each August 1 thereafter, the  
232 office shall provide to the Board of Governors, the Governor,  
233 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
234 Representatives and post on its website a detailed report on  
235 demonstrating the economic benefits of the office and the  
236 development of emerging ocean economy industries. By August 1,  
237 2026, the report must include the recommendations in paragraph  
238 (3) (h).  
239           Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
240 435.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:  
241           435.12 Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse.—  
242           (3) (a) Employees of each district unit under s. 1001.30,  
243 special district units under s. 1011.24, the Florida School for



244 the Deaf and the Blind under s. 1002.36, the Florida Virtual  
245 School under s. 1002.37, virtual instruction programs under s.  
246 1002.45, charter schools under s. 1002.33, hope operators under  
247 s. 1002.333, private schools participating in an educational  
248 scholarship program established pursuant to chapter 1002, and  
249 alternative schools under s. 1008.341 must be rescreened in  
250 compliance with the following schedule:

251 1. Employees for whom the last screening was conducted on  
252 or before June 30, 2021, must be rescreened by December 1 ~~June~~  
253 ~~30~~, 2025.

254 2. Employees for whom the last screening was conducted  
255 between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022, must be rescreened by  
256 December 1 ~~June 30~~, 2026.

257 3. Employees for whom the last screening was conducted  
258 between July 1, 2022, and December 31, 2023, must be rescreened  
259 by December 1 ~~June 30~~, 2027.

260 Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 446.032, Florida  
261 Statutes, is amended to read:

262 446.032 General duties of the department for apprenticeship  
263 training.—The department shall:

264 (2) By November 30 ~~September 1~~ of each year, publish an  
265 annual report on apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs.  
266 The report must be published on the department's website and, at  
267 a minimum, include all of the following:

268 (a) A list of registered apprenticeship and  
269 preapprenticeship programs, sorted by local educational agency,  
270 as defined in s. 1004.02(18), and apprenticeship sponsor, under  
271 s. 446.071.

272 (b) A detailed summary of each local educational agency's



273 expenditure of funds for apprenticeship and preapprenticeship  
274 programs, including:

275       1. The total amount of funds received for apprenticeship  
276 and preapprenticeship programs.

277       2. The total amount of funds allocated by training  
278 provider, program, and occupation.

279       3. The total amount of funds expended for administrative  
280 costs by training provider, program, and occupation.

281       4. The total amount of funds expended for instructional  
282 costs by training provider, program, and occupation.

283       (c) The number of apprentices and preapprentices per trade  
284 and occupation.

285       (d) The percentage of apprentices and preapprentices who  
286 complete their respective programs in the appropriate timeframe.

287       (e) Information and resources related to applications for  
288 new apprenticeship programs and technical assistance and  
289 requirements for potential applicants.

290       (f) Documentation of activities conducted by the department  
291 to promote apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs through  
292 public engagement, community-based partnerships, and other  
293 initiatives and the outcomes of such activities and their impact  
294 on establishing or expanding apprenticeship and  
295 preapprenticeship programs.

296       (g) Retention and completion rates of participants  
297 disaggregated by training provider, program, and occupation.

298       (h) Wage progression of participants as demonstrated by  
299 starting, exit, and postapprenticeship wages at 1 and 5 years  
300 after participants exit the program.

301       Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 447.203, Florida



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302 Statutes, is amended to read:

303 447.203 Definitions.—As used in this part:

304 (2) "Public employer" or "employer" means the state or any  
305 county, municipality, or special district or any subdivision or  
306 agency thereof which the commission determines has sufficient  
307 legal distinctiveness properly to carry out the functions of a  
308 public employer. With respect to all public employees determined  
309 by the commission as properly belonging to a statewide  
310 bargaining unit composed of State Career Service System  
311 employees or Selected Professional Service employees, the  
312 Governor is deemed to be the public employer; and the Board of  
313 Governors of the State University System, or the board's  
314 designee, is deemed to be the public employer with respect to  
315 all public employees of each constituent state university. The  
316 board of trustees of a community college is deemed to be the  
317 public employer with respect to all employees of the community  
318 college. The district school board is deemed to be the public  
319 employer with respect to all employees of the school district.  
320 The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the  
321 Blind is deemed to be the public employer with respect to the  
322 academic and academic administrative personnel of the Florida  
323 School for the Deaf and the Blind. ~~The Board of Trustees of the  
324 Florida School for Competitive Academics is deemed to be the  
325 public employer with respect to the academic and academic  
326 administrative personnel of the Florida School for Competitive  
327 Academics.~~ The Governor is deemed to be the public employer with  
328 respect to all employees in the Correctional Education Program  
329 of the Department of Corrections established pursuant to s.  
330 944.801.



331 Section 10. Subsection (7) of section 1000.04, Florida  
332 Statutes, is amended to read:

333 1000.04 Components for the delivery of public education  
334 within the Florida Early Learning-20 education system.—Florida’s  
335 Early Learning-20 education system provides for the delivery of  
336 early learning and public education through publicly supported  
337 and controlled K-12 schools, Florida College System  
338 institutions, state universities and other postsecondary  
339 educational institutions, other educational institutions, and  
340 other educational services as provided or authorized by the  
341 Constitution and laws of the state.

342 ~~(7) THE FLORIDA SCHOOL FOR COMPETITIVE ACADEMICS. The~~  
343 ~~Florida School for Competitive Academics is a component of the~~  
344 ~~delivery of public education within Florida’s Early Learning-20~~  
345 ~~education system.~~

346 Section 11. Paragraph (j) of subsection (5) of section  
347 1000.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348 1000.21 Systemwide definitions.—As used in the Florida  
349 Early Learning-20 Education Code:

350 (5) “Florida College System institution” except as  
351 otherwise specifically provided, includes all of the following  
352 public postsecondary educational institutions in the Florida  
353 College System and any branch campuses, centers, or other  
354 affiliates of the institution:

355 (j) Hillsborough ~~Community~~ College, which serves  
356 Hillsborough County.

357 Section 12. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section  
358 1000.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

359 1000.40 Future repeal of the Interstate Compact on



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360 Educational Opportunity for Military Children.—Sections 1000.36,  
361 1000.361, 1000.38, and 1000.39 and this section shall stand  
362 repealed on July 1, 2028 ~~2025~~, unless reviewed and saved from  
363 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

364 Section 13. Subsection (5) of section 1001.03, Florida  
365 Statutes, is amended to read:

366 1001.03 Specific powers of State Board of Education.—

367 (5) IDENTIFICATION OF HIGH-DEMAND ~~CRITICAL~~ TEACHER NEEDS  
368 ~~SHORTAGE~~ AREAS.—The State Board of Education shall identify  
369 high-demand ~~critical~~ teacher needs ~~shortage~~ areas pursuant to s.  
370 1012.07.

371 Section 14. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section  
372 1001.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373 1001.20 Department under direction of state board.—

374 (4) The Department of Education shall establish the  
375 following offices within the Office of the Commissioner of  
376 Education which shall coordinate their activities with all other  
377 divisions and offices:

378 (e) *Office of Inspector General*.—Organized using existing  
379 resources and funds and responsible for promoting  
380 accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness and detecting  
381 fraud and abuse within school districts, the Florida School for  
382 the Deaf and the Blind, ~~the Florida School for Competitive~~  
383 ~~Academies~~, and Florida College System institutions in Florida.  
384 If the Commissioner of Education determines that a district  
385 school board, the Board of Trustees for the Florida School for  
386 the Deaf and the Blind, ~~the Board of Trustees for the Florida~~  
387 ~~School for Competitive Academies~~, or a Florida College System  
388 institution board of trustees is unwilling or unable to address



389 substantiated allegations made by any person relating to waste,  
390 fraud, or financial mismanagement within the school district,  
391 the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, ~~the Florida~~  
392 ~~School for Competitive Academics,~~ or the Florida College System  
393 institution, the office must conduct, coordinate, or request  
394 investigations into such substantiated allegations. The office  
395 shall investigate allegations or reports of possible fraud or  
396 abuse against a district school board made by any member of the  
397 Cabinet; the presiding officer of either house of the  
398 Legislature; a chair of a substantive or appropriations  
399 committee with jurisdiction; or a member of the board for which  
400 an investigation is sought. The office may investigate  
401 allegations or reports of suspected violations of a student's,  
402 parent's, or teacher's rights. The office shall have access to  
403 all information and personnel necessary to perform its duties  
404 and shall have all of its current powers, duties, and  
405 responsibilities authorized in s. 20.055.

406 Section 15. Subsections (1), (2), and (5) of section  
407 1001.451, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (6) is  
408 added to that section, to read:

409 1001.451 Regional consortium service organizations.—In  
410 order to provide a full range of programs to larger numbers of  
411 students, minimize duplication of services, and encourage the  
412 development of new programs and services:

413 (1) School districts with 20,000 or fewer unweighted full-  
414 time equivalent students, developmental research (laboratory)  
415 schools established pursuant to s. 1002.32, and the Florida  
416 School for the Deaf and the Blind may enter into cooperative  
417 agreements to form a regional consortium service organization.



418 Each regional consortium service organization shall provide any  
419 of, at a minimum, three of the following services determined  
420 necessary and appropriate by the board of directors:

- 421 (a) Exceptional student education;
- 422 (b) Safe schools support ~~teacher education centers;~~  
423 environmental education;
- 424 (c) State and federal grant procurement and coordination;
- 425 (d) Data services ~~processing; health~~
- 426 (e) Insurance services;
- 427 (f) Risk management ~~insurance;~~
- 428 (g) Professional learning;
- 429 (h) College, career, and workforce development;
- 430 (i) Business and operational services ~~staff development;~~
- 431 (j) Purchasing; or
- 432 (k) Planning and accountability.

433 (2)(a) Each regional consortium service organization that  
434 consists of four or more school districts is eligible to  
435 receive, through the Department of Education, subject to the  
436 funds provided in the General Appropriations Act, an allocation  
437 incentive grant of \$150,000 ~~\$50,000~~ per school district and  
438 eligible member to be used for the delivery of services within  
439 ~~the~~ participating school districts. The determination of  
440 services and use of such funds must ~~shall~~ be established by the  
441 board of directors of the regional consortium service  
442 organization. The funds must ~~shall~~ be distributed to each  
443 regional consortium service organization no later than 30 days  
444 following the release of the funds to the department. Each  
445 regional consortium service organization shall submit an annual  
446 report to the department regarding the use of funds for





447 consortia services. Unexpended amounts in any fund in a  
448 consortium's current year operating budget must be carried  
449 forward and included as the balance forward for that fund in the  
450 approved operating budget for the following year. Each regional  
451 consortium service organization shall provide quarterly  
452 financial reports to member districts.

453 (b) Member districts shall designate a district that will  
454 serve as a fiscal agent for contractual and reporting purposes.  
455 Such fiscal agent district is entitled to reasonable  
456 compensation for accounting and other services performed. The  
457 regional consortium service organization shall retain all funds  
458 received from grants or contracted services to cover indirect or  
459 administrative costs associated with the provision of such  
460 services. The regional consortium service organization board of  
461 directors shall determine the products and services to be  
462 provided by the consortium; however, in all contractual matters,  
463 the school board of the fiscal agent district shall act on  
464 proposed actions of the regional consortium service  
465 organization.

466 (c) The regional consortium service organization board of  
467 directors shall recommend establishment of positions and  
468 individuals for appointment to the fiscal agent district.  
469 Personnel must be employed under the personnel policies of the  
470 fiscal agent district and are deemed to be public employees of  
471 the fiscal agent district. The regional consortium service  
472 organization board of directors may recommend a salary schedule  
473 and job descriptions specific to its personnel.

474 (d) The regional consortium service organization may  
475 purchase or lease property and facilities essential for its



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476 operations and is responsible for their maintenance and  
477 associated overhead costs.

478 (e) If a regional consortium service organization is  
479 dissolved, any revenue from the sale of assets must be  
480 distributed among the member districts as determined by the  
481 board of directors ~~Application for incentive grants shall be~~  
482 ~~made to the Commissioner of Education by July 30 of each year~~  
483 ~~for distribution to qualifying regional consortium service~~  
484 ~~organizations by January 1 of the fiscal year.~~

485 (5) The board of directors of a regional consortium service  
486 organization may use various means to generate revenue in  
487 support of its activities, including, but not limited to,  
488 contracting for services to nonmember districts. The board of  
489 directors may acquire, enjoy, use, and dispose of patents,  
490 copyrights, and trademarks and any licenses and associated ~~other~~  
491 ~~rights or interests thereunder or therein.~~ Ownership of all such  
492 patents, copyrights, trademarks, licenses, and associated rights  
493 or interests ~~thereunder or therein shall~~ vest in the state, with  
494 the board of directors having full right of use and full right  
495 to retain associated ~~the~~ revenues ~~derived therefrom.~~ Any funds  
496 realized from contracted services, patents, copyrights,  
497 trademarks, or licenses are ~~shall be~~ considered internal funds  
498 as provided in s. 1011.07. A fund balance must be established  
499 for maintaining or expanding services, facilities maintenance,  
500 terminal pay, and other liabilities ~~Such funds shall be used to~~  
501 ~~support the organization's marketing and research and~~  
502 ~~development activities in order to improve and increase services~~  
503 ~~to its member districts.~~

504 (6) A regional consortium service organization is



505 authorized to administer the Regional Consortia Service  
506 Organization Supplemental Services Program under s. 1001.4511.

507 Section 16. Section 1001.4511, Florida Statutes, is created  
508 to read:

509 1001.4511 Regional Consortia Service Organization  
510 Supplemental Services Program.—

511 (1) There is created the Regional Consortia Service  
512 Organization Supplemental Services Program to increase the  
513 ability of regional consortium service organizations under s.  
514 1001.451 to provide programs and services to consortia members  
515 through cooperative agreements. Program funds may be used to  
516 supplement member needs related to transportation; district  
517 finance personnel services; property insurance, including  
518 property insurance obtained from any source; cybersecurity  
519 support; school safety; college, career, and workforce  
520 development; academic support; and behavior support within  
521 exceptional student education services.

522 (2) Each regional consortium service organization shall  
523 annually report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker  
524 of the House of Representatives the distribution of funds,  
525 including members awarded and services provided.

526 (3) Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351,  
527 funds allocated for this purpose which are not disbursed by June  
528 30 of the fiscal year in which the funds are allocated may be  
529 carried forward for up to 5 years after the effective date of  
530 the original appropriation.

531 Section 17. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
532 1001.452, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

533 1001.452 District and school advisory councils.—



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534 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

535 (a) The district school board shall establish an advisory  
536 council for each school in the district and shall develop  
537 procedures for the election and appointment of advisory council  
538 members. Each school advisory council shall include in its name  
539 the words "school advisory council." The school advisory council  
540 shall be the sole body responsible for final decisionmaking at  
541 the school relating to implementation of ss. 1001.42(18) and  
542 1008.345. A majority of the members of each school advisory  
543 council must be persons who are not employed by the school  
544 district. Each advisory council shall be composed of the  
545 principal and an appropriately balanced number of teachers,  
546 education support employees, students, parents, and other  
547 business and community citizens who are representative of the  
548 ethnic, racial, and economic community served by the school.  
549 Career center and high school advisory councils shall include  
550 students, and middle and junior high school advisory councils  
551 may include students. School advisory councils of career centers  
552 and adult education centers are not required to include parents  
553 as members. Council members representing teachers, education  
554 support employees, students, and parents shall be elected by  
555 their respective peer groups at the school in a fair and  
556 equitable manner as follows:

557 1. Teachers shall be elected by teachers.

558 2. Education support employees shall be elected by  
559 education support employees.

560 3. Students shall be elected by students.

561 4. Parents shall be elected by parents.

562



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563 The district school board shall establish procedures to be used  
564 by schools in selecting business and community members which  
565 ~~that~~ include means of ensuring wide notice of vacancies and of  
566 taking input on possible members from local business, chambers  
567 of commerce, community and civic organizations and groups, and  
568 the public at large. The district school board shall review the  
569 membership composition of each advisory council. If the district  
570 school board determines that the membership elected by the  
571 school is not representative of the ethnic, racial, and economic  
572 community served by the school, the district school board must  
573 ~~shall~~ appoint additional members to achieve proper  
574 representation. ~~The commissioner shall determine if schools have~~  
575 ~~maximized their efforts to include on their advisory councils~~  
576 ~~minority persons and persons of lower socioeconomic status.~~  
577 Although schools are strongly encouraged to establish school  
578 advisory councils, the district school board of any school  
579 district that has a student population of 10,000 or less ~~fewer~~  
580 may establish a district advisory council which includes at  
581 least one duly elected teacher from each school in the district.  
582 For the purposes of school advisory councils and district  
583 advisory councils, the term "teacher" includes classroom  
584 teachers, certified student services personnel, and media  
585 specialists. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "education  
586 support employee" means any person employed by a school who is  
587 not defined as instructional or administrative personnel  
588 pursuant to s. 1012.01 and whose duties require 20 or more hours  
589 in each normal working week.

590 Section 18. Section 1001.68, Florida Statutes, is created  
591 to read:



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592           1001.68 State college regional consortium service  
593 organizations.—In order to create effectiveness and efficiency  
594 of small institutions in the Florida College System which serve  
595 rural communities:

596           (1) Colleges with 5,000 or fewer full-time equivalent  
597 students may enter into cooperative agreements to form a  
598 regional consortium service organization. Each regional  
599 consortium service organization shall, at a minimum, provide  
600 three of the following services: grant procurement;  
601 institutional research and reporting; risk management;  
602 professional development for faculty and staff; leadership  
603 support; information technology and cybersecurity training;  
604 faculty and staff recruitment; workforce development programs;  
605 cooperative purchasing; administrative services; or enrollment  
606 management services.

607           (2) Each regional consortium service organization must be  
608 governed by a board of directors composed of the presidents of  
609 the respective member colleges.

610           Section 19. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section  
611 1001.706, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

612           1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

613           (5) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY.—

614           (d) The Board of Governors shall annually require a state  
615 university prior to registration to provide each enrolled  
616 student electronic access to the economic security report of  
617 employment and earning outcomes prepared by the Department of  
618 Commerce pursuant to s. 445.07. ~~In addition, the Board of~~  
619 ~~Governors shall require a state university to provide each~~  
620 ~~student electronic access to the following information each year~~



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621 ~~prior to registration using the data described in s. 1008.39:~~

622 ~~1. The top 25 percent of degrees reported by the university~~  
623 ~~in terms of highest full-time job placement and highest average~~  
624 ~~annualized earnings in the year after earning the degree.~~

625 ~~2. The bottom 10 percent of degrees reported by the~~  
626 ~~university in terms of lowest full-time job placement and lowest~~  
627 ~~average annualized earnings in the year after earning the~~  
628 ~~degree.~~

629 Section 20. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
630 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

631 1001.7065 Preeminent state research universities program.—

632 (2) ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE STANDARDS.—The  
633 following academic and research excellence standards are  
634 established for the preeminent state research universities  
635 program and shall be reported annually in the Board of Governors  
636 Accountability Plan:

637 (a) An average weighted grade point average of 4.0 or  
638 higher on a 4.0 scale and an average SAT score of 1200 or higher  
639 on a 1600-point scale or an average ACT score of 25 or higher on  
640 a 36 score scale, using the latest published national  
641 concordance table developed jointly by the College Board and  
642 ACT, Inc., or an average Classic Learning Test score of 83 or  
643 higher on a 120 score scale, for fall semester incoming  
644 freshmen, as reported annually.

645 Section 21. Paragraph (o) of subsection (3) and paragraph  
646 (c) of subsection (4) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, are  
647 amended to read:

648 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
649 school students must receive accurate and timely information



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650 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
651 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
652 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
653 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

654 (3) HEALTH ISSUES.—

655 (o) Emergency opioid antagonist ~~Naloxone~~ use and supply.—

656 1. A public school may purchase a supply of an emergency  
657 ~~the~~ opioid antagonist approved by the United States Food and  
658 Drug Administration (FDA) ~~naloxone~~ from a wholesale distributor  
659 as defined in s. 499.003 or may enter into an arrangement with a  
660 wholesale distributor or manufacturer as defined in s. 499.003  
661 for an FDA-approved emergency opioid antagonist ~~naloxone~~ at  
662 fair-market, free, or reduced prices for use in the event that a  
663 student has an opioid overdose. The FDA-approved emergency  
664 opioid antagonist ~~naloxone~~ must be maintained in a secure  
665 location on the public school's premises.

666 2. A public school ~~district~~ employee who administers an  
667 approved emergency opioid antagonist to a student in compliance  
668 with ss. 381.887 and 768.13 is immune from civil liability under  
669 s. 768.13.

670 (4) DISCIPLINE.—

671 (c) Corporal punishment.—

672 1. In accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ s. 1003.32,  
673 corporal punishment of a public school student may only be  
674 administered by a teacher or school principal within guidelines  
675 of the school principal and according to district school board  
676 policy. Another adult must be present and must be informed in  
677 the student's presence of the reason for the punishment. Upon  
678 request, the teacher or school principal must provide the parent





679 with a written explanation of the reason for the punishment and  
680 the name of the other adult who was present.

681 2. A district school board having a policy authorizing the  
682 use of corporal punishment as a form of discipline shall include  
683 in such policy a requirement that a parent provide consent for  
684 the school to administer corporal punishment. The district  
685 school board policy may require such consent for the school  
686 year, or before each administration. The district school board  
687 shall review its policy on corporal punishment once every 3  
688 years during a district school board meeting held pursuant to s.  
689 1001.372. The district school board shall take public testimony  
690 at the board meeting. If such board meeting is not held in  
691 accordance with this subparagraph, the portion of the district  
692 school board's policy authorizing corporal punishment expires.

693 Section 22. Paragraph (b) of subsection (16) of section  
694 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

695 1002.33 Charter schools.—

696 (16) EXEMPTION FROM STATUTES.—

697 (b) Additionally, a charter school shall be in compliance  
698 with the following statutes:

699 1. Section 286.011, relating to public meetings and  
700 records, public inspection, and criminal and civil penalties.

701 2. Chapter 119, relating to public records.

702 3. Section 1003.03, relating to the maximum class size,  
703 except that the calculation for compliance pursuant to s.  
704 1003.03 shall be the average at the school level.

705 4. Section 1012.22(1)(c), relating to compensation and  
706 salary schedules.

707 5. Section 1012.33(5), relating to workforce reductions.



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- 708           6. Section 1012.335, relating to contracts with  
709 instructional personnel hired on or after July 1, 2011.
- 710           7. Section 1012.34, relating to the substantive  
711 requirements for performance evaluations for instructional  
712 personnel and school administrators.
- 713           8. Section 1006.12, relating to safe-school officers.
- 714           9. Section 1006.07(7), relating to threat management teams.
- 715           10. Section 1006.07(9), relating to School Environmental  
716 Safety Incident Reporting.
- 717           11. Section 1006.07(10), relating to reporting of  
718 involuntary examinations.
- 719           12. Section 1006.1493, relating to the Florida Safe Schools  
720 Assessment Tool.
- 721           13. Section 1006.07(6)(d), relating to adopting an active  
722 assailant response plan.
- 723           14. Section 943.082(4)(b), relating to the mobile  
724 suspicious activity reporting tool.
- 725           15. Section 1012.584, relating to youth mental health  
726 awareness and assistance training.
- 727           16. Section 1001.42(4)(f)2., relating to middle school and  
728 high school start times. A charter school-in-the-workplace is  
729 exempt from this requirement.
- 730           17. Section 1002.20(4)(c), relating to school corporal  
731 punishment.
- 732           Section 23. Section 1002.351, Florida Statutes, is  
733 repealed.
- 734           Section 24. Subsection (6) of section 1002.394, Florida  
735 Statutes, is amended to read:
- 736           1002.394 The Family Empowerment Scholarship Program.—



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737 (6) SCHOLARSHIP PROHIBITIONS.—A student is not eligible for  
738 a Family Empowerment Scholarship while he or she is:

739 (a) Enrolled full time in a public school, including, but  
740 not limited to, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind,  
741 the College-Preparatory Boarding Academy, ~~the Florida School for~~  
742 ~~Competitive Academics~~, the Florida Virtual School, the Florida  
743 Scholars Academy, a developmental research school authorized  
744 under s. 1002.32, or a charter school authorized under this  
745 chapter. For purposes of this paragraph, a 3- or 4-year-old  
746 child who receives services funded through the Florida Education  
747 Finance Program is considered to be a student enrolled in a  
748 public school;

749 (b) Enrolled in a school operating for the purpose of  
750 providing educational services to youth in a Department of  
751 Juvenile Justice commitment program;

752 (c) Receiving any other educational scholarship pursuant to  
753 this chapter. However, an eligible public school student  
754 receiving a scholarship under s. 1002.411 may receive a  
755 scholarship for transportation pursuant to subparagraph  
756 (4) (a)2.;

757 (d) Not having regular and direct contact with his or her  
758 private school teachers pursuant to s. 1002.421(1) (i), unless he  
759 or she is eligible pursuant to paragraph (3) (b) and enrolled in  
760 the participating private school's transition-to-work program  
761 pursuant to subsection (16) or a home education program pursuant  
762 to s. 1002.41;

763 (e) Participating in a private tutoring program pursuant to  
764 s. 1002.43 unless he or she is determined eligible pursuant to  
765 paragraph (3) (b); or



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766 (f) Participating in virtual instruction pursuant to s.  
767 1002.455 that receives state funding pursuant to the student's  
768 participation.

769 Section 25. Subsection (4) of section 1002.395, Florida  
770 Statutes, is amended to read:

771 1002.395 Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program.—

772 (4) SCHOLARSHIP PROHIBITIONS.—A student is not eligible for  
773 a scholarship while he or she is:

774 (a) Enrolled full time in a public school, including, but  
775 not limited to, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind,  
776 the College-Preparatory Boarding Academy, ~~the Florida School for~~  
777 ~~Competitive Academies~~, the Florida Virtual School, the Florida  
778 Scholars Academy, a developmental research school authorized  
779 under s. 1002.32, or a charter school authorized under this  
780 chapter. For purposes of this paragraph, a 3- or 4-year-old  
781 child who receives services funded through the Florida Education  
782 Finance Program is considered a student enrolled full time in a  
783 public school;

784 (b) Enrolled in a school operating for the purpose of  
785 providing educational services to youth in a Department of  
786 Juvenile Justice commitment program;

787 (c) Receiving any other educational scholarship pursuant to  
788 this chapter. However, an eligible public school student  
789 receiving a scholarship under s. 1002.411 may receive a  
790 scholarship for transportation pursuant to subparagraph  
791 (6) (d) 4.;

792 (d) Not having regular and direct contact with his or her  
793 private school teachers pursuant to s. 1002.421(1) (i) unless he  
794 or she is enrolled in a personalized education program;



795 (e) Participating in a home education program as defined in  
796 s. 1002.01(1);

797 (f) Participating in a private tutoring program pursuant to  
798 s. 1002.43 unless he or she is enrolled in a personalized  
799 education program; or

800 (g) Participating in virtual instruction pursuant to s.  
801 1002.455 that receives state funding pursuant to the student's  
802 participation.

803 Section 26. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (19) of  
804 section 1002.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

805 1002.42 Private schools.—

806 (19) FACILITIES.—

807 (c) A private school located in a county with four  
808 incorporated municipalities may construct new facilities, which  
809 may be temporary or permanent, on property purchased from or  
810 owned or leased by a library, community service organization,  
811 museum, performing arts venue, theater, cinema, or church under  
812 s. 170.201, which is or was actively used as such within 5 years  
813 of any executed agreement with a private school; any land owned  
814 by a Florida College System institution or state university; and  
815 any land recently used to house a school or child care facility  
816 licensed under s. 402.305 under its preexisting zoning and land  
817 use designations without rezoning or obtaining a special  
818 exception or a land use change and without complying with any  
819 mitigation requirements or conditions. The new facility must be  
820 located on property used solely for purposes described in this  
821 paragraph and must meet applicable state and local health,  
822 safety, and welfare laws, codes, and rules, including firesafety  
823 and building safety.



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824 Section 27. Paragraphs (e), (m), and (p) of subsection (1)  
825 of section 1002.421, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

826 1002.421 State school choice scholarship program  
827 accountability and oversight.—

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

837 (e) Annually complete and submit to the department a  
838 notarized scholarship compliance statement certifying that all  
839 school employees and contracted personnel with direct student  
840 contact have undergone background screening ~~pursuant to s.~~  
841 ~~435.12~~ and have met the screening standards as provided in s.  
842 1012.315 ~~s. 435.04~~.

843 (m) Require each employee and contracted personnel with  
844 direct student contact, upon employment or engagement to provide  
845 services, to undergo ~~a state and national~~ background screening  
846 ~~under s. 1012.315, pursuant to s. 943.0542, by electronically~~  
847 ~~filing with the Department of Law Enforcement a complete set of~~  
848 ~~fingerprints taken by an authorized law enforcement agency or an~~  
849 ~~employee of the private school, a school district, or a private~~  
850 ~~company who is trained to take fingerprints and deny employment~~  
851 to or terminate an employee if he or she fails to meet the  
852 screening standards under s. 1012.315 ~~s. 435.04~~. ~~Results of the~~



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853 ~~screening shall be provided to the participating private school.~~

854 For purposes of this paragraph:

855 1. An "employee or contracted personnel with direct student  
856 contact" means any employee or contracted personnel who has  
857 unsupervised access to a scholarship student for whom the  
858 private school is responsible.

859 2. The costs of fingerprinting and the background check  
860 shall not be borne by the state.

861 3. Continued employment of an employee or contracted  
862 personnel after notification that he or she has failed the  
863 background screening under this paragraph shall cause a private  
864 school to be ineligible for participation in a scholarship  
865 program.

866 4. An employee or contracted personnel holding a valid  
867 Florida teaching certificate who has been fingerprinted pursuant  
868 to s. 1012.32 is not required to comply with the provisions of  
869 this paragraph.

870 5. All fingerprints submitted to the Department of Law  
871 Enforcement as required by this section must ~~shall~~ be retained  
872 in the Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse as  
873 provided in s. 435.12 ~~by the Department of Law Enforcement in a~~  
874 ~~manner provided by rule and entered in the statewide automated~~  
875 ~~biometric identification system authorized by s. 943.05(2)(b).~~  
876 ~~Such fingerprints shall thereafter be available for all purposes~~  
877 ~~and uses authorized for arrest fingerprints entered in the~~  
878 ~~statewide automated biometric identification system pursuant to~~  
879 ~~s. 943.051.~~

880 6. Employees, contracted personnel, owners, and operators  
881 must be rescreened as required by s. 435.12.



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882           7. Persons who apply for employment are governed by the  
883 laws and rules in effect at the time of application for  
884 employment, provided that the person is continually employed by  
885 the same school.

886           ~~6. The Department of Law Enforcement shall search all~~  
887 ~~arrest fingerprints received under s. 943.051 against the~~  
888 ~~fingerprints retained in the statewide automated biometric~~  
889 ~~identification system under subparagraph 5. Any arrest record~~  
890 ~~that is identified with the retained fingerprints of a person~~  
891 ~~subject to the background screening under this section shall be~~  
892 ~~reported to the employing school with which the person is~~  
893 ~~affiliated. Each private school participating in a scholarship~~  
894 ~~program is required to participate in this search process by~~  
895 ~~informing the Department of Law Enforcement of any change in the~~  
896 ~~employment or contractual status of its personnel whose~~  
897 ~~fingerprints are retained under subparagraph 5. The Department~~  
898 ~~of Law Enforcement shall adopt a rule setting the amount of the~~  
899 ~~annual fee to be imposed upon each private school for performing~~  
900 ~~these searches and establishing the procedures for the retention~~  
901 ~~of private school employee and contracted personnel fingerprints~~  
902 ~~and the dissemination of search results. The fee may be borne by~~  
903 ~~the private school or the person fingerprinted.~~

904           ~~7. Employees and contracted personnel whose fingerprints~~  
905 ~~are not retained by the Department of Law Enforcement under~~  
906 ~~subparagraphs 5. and 6. are required to be refingerprinted and~~  
907 ~~must meet state and national background screening requirements~~  
908 ~~upon reemployment or reengagement to provide services in order~~  
909 ~~to comply with the requirements of this section.~~

910           ~~8. Every 5 years following employment or engagement to~~





911 ~~provide services with a private school, employees or contracted~~  
912 ~~personnel required to be screened under this section must meet~~  
913 ~~screening standards under s. 435.04, at which time the private~~  
914 ~~school shall request the Department of Law Enforcement to~~  
915 ~~forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation~~  
916 ~~for national processing. If the fingerprints of employees or~~  
917 ~~contracted personnel are not retained by the Department of Law~~  
918 ~~Enforcement under subparagraph 5., employees and contracted~~  
919 ~~personnel must electronically file a complete set of~~  
920 ~~fingerprints with the Department of Law Enforcement. Upon~~  
921 ~~submission of fingerprints for this purpose, the private school~~  
922 ~~shall request that the Department of Law Enforcement forward the~~  
923 ~~fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for national~~  
924 ~~processing, and the fingerprints shall be retained by the~~  
925 ~~Department of Law Enforcement under subparagraph 5.~~

926 (p) Require each owner or operator of the private school,  
927 prior to employment or engagement to provide services, to  
928 undergo ~~level 2~~ background screening as provided in s. 1012.315  
929 ~~under chapter 435~~. For purposes of this paragraph, the term  
930 "owner or operator" means an owner, an operator, a  
931 superintendent, or a principal of, or a person with equivalent  
932 decisionmaking authority over, a private school participating in  
933 a scholarship program established pursuant to this chapter. The  
934 fingerprints for the background screening must be electronically  
935 submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement and may be taken  
936 by an authorized law enforcement agency or a private company who  
937 is trained to take fingerprints. However, the complete set of  
938 fingerprints of an owner or operator may not be taken by the  
939 owner or operator. ~~The owner or operator shall provide a copy of~~



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940 ~~the results of the state and national criminal history check to~~  
941 ~~the Department of Education. The cost of the background~~  
942 ~~screening may be borne by the owner or operator.~~

943 ~~1. Every 5 years following employment or engagement to~~  
944 ~~provide services, each owner or operator must meet level 2~~  
945 ~~screening standards as described in s. 435.04, at which time the~~  
946 ~~owner or operator shall request the Department of Law~~  
947 ~~Enforcement to forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of~~  
948 ~~Investigation for level 2 screening. If the fingerprints of an~~  
949 ~~owner or operator are not retained by the Department of Law~~  
950 ~~Enforcement under subparagraph 2., the owner or operator must~~  
951 ~~electronically file a complete set of fingerprints with the~~  
952 ~~Department of Law Enforcement. Upon submission of fingerprints~~  
953 ~~for this purpose, the owner or operator shall request that the~~  
954 ~~Department of Law Enforcement forward the fingerprints to the~~  
955 ~~Federal Bureau of Investigation for level 2 screening, and the~~  
956 ~~fingerprints shall be retained by the Department of Law~~  
957 ~~Enforcement under subparagraph 2.~~

958 ~~2. Fingerprints submitted to the Department of Law~~  
959 ~~Enforcement as required by this paragraph must be retained by~~  
960 ~~the Department of Law Enforcement in a manner approved by rule~~  
961 ~~and entered in the statewide automated biometric identification~~  
962 ~~system authorized by s. 943.05(2)(b). The fingerprints must~~  
963 ~~thereafter be available for all purposes and uses authorized for~~  
964 ~~arrest fingerprints entered in the statewide automated biometric~~  
965 ~~identification system pursuant to s. 943.051.~~

966 ~~3. The Department of Law Enforcement shall search all~~  
967 ~~arrest fingerprints received under s. 943.051 against the~~  
968 ~~fingerprints retained in the statewide automated biometric~~



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969 ~~identification system under subparagraph 2. Any arrest record~~  
970 ~~that is identified with an owner's or operator's fingerprints~~  
971 ~~must be reported to the owner or operator, who must report to~~  
972 ~~the Department of Education. Any costs associated with the~~  
973 ~~search shall be borne by the owner or operator.~~

974 ~~4. An owner or operator who fails the level 2 background~~  
975 ~~screening is not eligible to participate in a scholarship~~  
976 ~~program under this chapter.~~

977 ~~1.5.~~ In addition to the offenses listed in s. 435.04, a  
978 person required to undergo background screening pursuant to this  
979 part or authorizing statutes may not have an arrest awaiting  
980 final disposition for, must not have been found guilty of, or  
981 entered a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of  
982 adjudication, and must not have been adjudicated delinquent for,  
983 and the record must not have been sealed or expunged for, any of  
984 the following offenses or any similar offense of another  
985 jurisdiction:

986 a. Any authorizing statutes, if the offense was a felony.

987 b. This chapter, if the offense was a felony.

988 c. Section 409.920, relating to Medicaid provider fraud.

989 d. Section 409.9201, relating to Medicaid fraud.

990 e. Section 741.28, relating to domestic violence.

991 f. Section 817.034, relating to fraudulent acts through  
992 mail, wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic, or  
993 photooptical systems.

994 g. Section 817.234, relating to false and fraudulent  
995 insurance claims.

996 h. Section 817.505, relating to patient brokering.

997 i. Section 817.568, relating to criminal use of personal



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998 identification information.

999 j. Section 817.60, relating to obtaining a credit card  
1000 through fraudulent means.

1001 k. Section 817.61, relating to fraudulent use of credit  
1002 cards, if the offense was a felony.

1003 l. Section 831.01, relating to forgery.

1004 m. Section 831.02, relating to uttering forged instruments.

1005 n. Section 831.07, relating to forging bank bills, checks,  
1006 drafts, or promissory notes.

1007 o. Section 831.09, relating to uttering forged bank bills,  
1008 checks, drafts, or promissory notes.

1009 p. Section 831.30, relating to fraud in obtaining medicinal  
1010 drugs.

1011 q. Section 831.31, relating to the sale, manufacture,  
1012 delivery, or possession with the intent to sell, manufacture, or  
1013 deliver any counterfeit controlled substance, if the offense was  
1014 a felony.

1015 ~~2.6.~~ At least 30 calendar days before a transfer of  
1016 ownership of a private school, the owner or operator shall  
1017 notify the parent of each scholarship student.

1018 ~~3.7.~~ The owner or operator of a private school that has  
1019 been deemed ineligible to participate in a scholarship program  
1020 pursuant to this chapter may not transfer ownership or  
1021 management authority of the school to a relative in order to  
1022 participate in a scholarship program as the same school or a new  
1023 school. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "relative"  
1024 means father, mother, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother,  
1025 brother, sister, uncle, aunt, cousin, nephew, niece, husband,  
1026 wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law,



1027 brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson,  
1028 stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half  
1029 sister.

1030  
1031 The department shall suspend the payment of funds to a private  
1032 school that knowingly fails to comply with this subsection, and  
1033 shall prohibit the school from enrolling new scholarship  
1034 students, for 1 fiscal year and until the school complies. If a  
1035 private school fails to meet the requirements of this subsection  
1036 or has consecutive years of material exceptions listed in the  
1037 report required under paragraph (q), the commissioner may  
1038 determine that the private school is ineligible to participate  
1039 in a scholarship program.

1040 Section 28. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section  
1041 1002.68, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1042 1002.68 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program  
1043 accountability.—

1044 (4)

1045 (e) Subject to an appropriation, the department shall  
1046 provide for a differential payment to a private prekindergarten  
1047 provider and public school based on the provider's designation.  
1048 The maximum differential payment may not exceed a total of 15  
1049 percent of the base student allocation per full-time equivalent  
1050 student under s. 1002.71 attending in the consecutive program  
1051 year for that program. A private prekindergarten provider or  
1052 public school may not receive a differential payment if it  
1053 receives a designation of "proficient" or lower. ~~Before the~~  
1054 ~~adoption of the methodology, the department shall confer with~~  
1055 ~~the Council for Early Grade Success under s. 1008.2125 before~~



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1056 ~~receiving approval from the State Board of Education for the~~  
1057 ~~final recommendations on the designation system and differential~~  
1058 ~~payments.~~

1059 Section 29. Subsection (4) of section 1002.71, Florida  
1060 Statutes, is amended to read:

1061 1002.71 Funding; financial and attendance reporting.—

1062 (4) Notwithstanding s. 1002.53(3) and subsection (2):

1063 (a) A child who, ~~for any of the prekindergarten programs~~  
1064 ~~listed in s. 1002.53(3),~~ has not completed any of the  
1065 prekindergarten programs listed in s. 1002.53(3) ~~more than 70~~  
1066 ~~percent of the hours authorized to be reported for funding under~~  
1067 ~~subsection (2), or has not expended more than 70 percent of the~~  
1068 ~~funds authorized for the child under s. 1002.66,~~ may withdraw  
1069 from the program for good cause and reenroll in one of the  
1070 programs. The total funding for a child who reenrolls in one of  
1071 the programs for good cause may not exceed one full-time  
1072 equivalent student. Funding for a child who withdraws and  
1073 reenrolls in one of the programs for good cause must ~~shall~~ be  
1074 issued in accordance with the department's uniform attendance  
1075 policy adopted pursuant to paragraph (6) (d).

1076 (b) A child who has not ~~substantially~~ completed any of the  
1077 prekindergarten programs listed in s. 1002.53(3) may withdraw  
1078 from the program due to an extreme hardship that is beyond the  
1079 child's or parent's control, reenroll in one of the summer  
1080 programs, and be reported for funding purposes as a full-time  
1081 equivalent student in the summer program for which the child is  
1082 reenrolled.

1083  
1084 A child may reenroll only once in a prekindergarten program



1085 under this section. A child who reenrolls in a prekindergarten  
1086 program under this subsection may not subsequently withdraw from  
1087 the program and reenroll, unless the child is granted a good  
1088 cause exemption under this subsection. The department shall  
1089 establish criteria specifying whether a good cause exists for a  
1090 child to withdraw from a program under paragraph (a), ~~whether a~~  
1091 ~~child has substantially completed a program under paragraph (b),~~  
1092 and whether an extreme hardship exists which is beyond the  
1093 child's or parent's control under paragraph (b).

1094 Section 30. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section  
1095 1002.945, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1096 1002.945 Gold Seal Quality Care Program.—

1097 (4) In order to obtain and maintain a designation as a Gold  
1098 Seal Quality Care provider, a child care facility, large family  
1099 child care home, or family day care home must meet the following  
1100 additional criteria:

1101 ~~(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if the Department of~~  
1102 ~~Education determines through a formal process that a provider~~  
1103 ~~has been in business for at least 5 years and has no other class~~  
1104 ~~I violations recorded, the department may recommend to the state~~  
1105 ~~board that the provider maintain its Gold Seal Quality Care~~  
1106 ~~status. The state board's determination regarding such~~  
1107 ~~provider's status is final.~~

1108 Section 31. Subsection (2) of section 1003.05, Florida  
1109 Statutes, is amended to read:

1110 1003.05 Assistance to transitioning students from military  
1111 families.—

1112 (2) The Department of Education shall facilitate the  
1113 development and implementation of memoranda of agreement between



1114 school districts and military installations which address  
1115 strategies for assisting students who are the children of active  
1116 duty military personnel in the transition to Florida schools.

1117 (a) The strategies developed by the department must include  
1118 the development and implementation of a training module relating  
1119 to facilitating and expediting the transfer of a K-12 student's  
1120 education records from an out-of-state school.

1121 (b) The department shall provide the training module  
1122 required under paragraph (a) to each district school board to  
1123 provide to each public and charter K-12 school within its  
1124 district. The district school board shall make the training  
1125 available to employees who work directly with military students  
1126 and families.

1127 Section 32. Subsection (3) of section 1003.41, Florida  
1128 Statutes, is amended to read:

1129 1003.41 State academic standards.—

1130 (3) The Commissioner of Education shall, as deemed  
1131 necessary, develop and submit proposed revisions to the  
1132 standards for review and comment by Florida educators, school  
1133 administrators, representatives of the Florida College System  
1134 institutions and state universities who have expertise in the  
1135 content knowledge and skills necessary to prepare a student for  
1136 postsecondary education and careers, a representative from the  
1137 Department of Commerce, business and industry leaders for in-  
1138 demand careers, and the public. The commissioner, after  
1139 considering reviews and comments, shall submit the proposed  
1140 revisions to the State Board of Education for adoption. New and  
1141 revised standards documents submitted for approval to the state  
1142 board must consist only of academic standards and benchmarks.





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1143 The commissioner shall revise all currently approved standards  
1144 documents based on the requirements of this subsection and  
1145 submit all revised standards documents to the state board for  
1146 approval no later than July 1, 2026.

1147 Section 33. Paragraph (j) of subsection (2) of section  
1148 1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1149 1003.42 Required instruction.—

1150 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public  
1151 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education  
1152 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and  
1153 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the  
1154 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,  
1155 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing  
1156 approved methods of instruction, the following:

1157 (j) The elementary principles of agriculture. This  
1158 component must include, but need not be limited to, the history  
1159 of agriculture both nationally and specifically to this state,  
1160 the economic and societal impact of agriculture, and the various  
1161 agricultural industry sectors. The department, in collaboration  
1162 with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the  
1163 University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural  
1164 Sciences, shall prepare and offer standards and a curriculum for  
1165 the instruction required by this paragraph and may seek input  
1166 from state or nationally recognized agricultural educational  
1167 organizations. The department may contract with state or  
1168 nationally recognized agricultural educational organizations to  
1169 develop training for instructional personnel and grade-  
1170 appropriate classroom resources to support the developed  
1171 curriculum.



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1172  
1173 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards  
1174 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.  
1175 Instructional programming that incorporates the values of the  
1176 recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is  
1177 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or  
1178 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness  
1179 initiative meets the requirements of paragraph (u).

1180 Section 34. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
1181 1003.4201, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1182 1003.4201 Comprehensive system of reading instruction.—Each  
1183 school district must implement a system of comprehensive reading  
1184 instruction for students enrolled in prekindergarten through  
1185 grade 12 and certain students who exhibit a substantial  
1186 deficiency in early literacy.

1187 (2)(a) Components of the reading instruction plan may  
1188 include the following:

1189 1. Additional time per day of evidence-based intensive  
1190 reading instruction for kindergarten through grade 12 students,  
1191 which may be delivered during or outside of the regular school  
1192 day.

1193 2. Highly qualified reading coaches, who must be endorsed  
1194 in reading, to specifically support classroom teachers in making  
1195 instructional decisions based on progress monitoring data  
1196 collected pursuant to s. 1008.25(9) and improve classroom  
1197 teacher delivery of effective reading instruction, reading  
1198 intervention, and reading in the content areas based on student  
1199 need.

1200 3. Professional learning to help instructional personnel



1201 and certified prekindergarten teachers funded in the Florida  
1202 Education Finance Program earn a certification, a credential, an  
1203 endorsement, or an advanced degree in scientifically researched  
1204 and evidence-based reading instruction.

1205 4. Summer reading camps, using only classroom teachers or  
1206 other district personnel who possess a micro-credential as  
1207 specified in s. 1003.485 or are certified or endorsed in reading  
1208 consistent with s. 1008.25(8)(b)3., for all students in  
1209 kindergarten through grade 5 exhibiting a reading deficiency as  
1210 determined by district and state assessments.

1211 5. Intensive reading interventions, which must be delivered  
1212 by instructional personnel who possess a micro-credential as  
1213 defined in s. 1003.485(1) or are certified or endorsed in  
1214 reading as provided in s. 1012.586 and must incorporate  
1215 evidence-based strategies identified by the Just Read, Florida!  
1216 office pursuant to s. 1001.215(7). Instructional personnel who  
1217 possess a micro-credential as defined in s. 1003.485(1) and are  
1218 delivering intensive reading interventions must be supervised by  
1219 an individual certified or endorsed in reading. For the purposes  
1220 of this subparagraph, the term "supervised" means that  
1221 instructional personnel with a micro-credential are able,  
1222 through telecommunication or in person, to communicate and  
1223 consult with, and receive direction from, certified or endorsed  
1224 personnel. Incentives for instructional personnel and certified  
1225 prekindergarten teachers funded in the Florida Education Finance  
1226 Program who possess a reading certification or endorsement as  
1227 specified in s. 1012.586 or micro-credential as specified in s.  
1228 1003.485 and provide educational support to improve student  
1229 literacy.



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- 1230           6. Tutoring in reading.
- 1231           7. A description of how the district prioritizes the  
1232 assignment of highly effective teachers, as identified in s.  
1233 1012.34(2) (e), from kindergarten to grade 2.
- 1234           Section 35. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section  
1235 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1236           1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.-
- 1237           (3) STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA; COURSE AND ASSESSMENT  
1238 REQUIREMENTS.-
- 1239           (h) *One-half credit in personal financial literacy.-*  
1240 Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2023-2024 school  
1241 year, each student must earn one-half credit in personal  
1242 financial literacy and money management. This instruction must  
1243 include discussion of or instruction in all of the following:
- 1244           1. Types of bank accounts offered, opening and managing a  
1245 bank account, and assessing the quality of a depository  
1246 institution's services.
- 1247           2. Balancing a checkbook.
- 1248           3. Basic principles of money management, such as spending,  
1249 credit, credit scores, and managing debt, including retail and  
1250 credit card debt.
- 1251           4. Completing a loan application.
- 1252           5. Receiving an inheritance and related implications.
- 1253           6. Basic principles of personal insurance policies.
- 1254           7. Computing federal income taxes.
- 1255           8. Local tax assessments.
- 1256           9. Computing interest rates by various mechanisms.
- 1257           10. Simple contracts.
- 1258           11. Contesting an incorrect billing statement.



- 1259 12. Types of savings and investments.  
1260 13. State and federal laws concerning finance.  
1261 14. Costs of postsecondary education, including cost of  
1262 attendance, completion of the Free Application for Federal  
1263 Student Aid, scholarships and grants, and student loans.

1264 Section 36. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
1265 1004.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1266 1004.04 Public accountability and state approval for  
1267 teacher preparation programs.—

1268 (4) CONTINUED PROGRAM APPROVAL.—Continued approval of a  
1269 teacher preparation program shall be based upon evidence that  
1270 the program continues to implement the requirements for initial  
1271 approval and upon significant, objective, and quantifiable  
1272 measures of the program and the performance of the program  
1273 completers.

1274 (a) The criteria for continued approval must include each  
1275 of the following:

1276 1. Candidate readiness based on passage rates on educator  
1277 certification examinations under s. 1012.56, as applicable.

1278 2. Evidence of performance in each of the following areas:

1279 a. Performance of students in prekindergarten through grade  
1280 12 who are assigned to in-field program completers on statewide  
1281 assessments using the results of the student learning growth  
1282 formula adopted under s. 1012.34.

1283 b. Results of program completers' annual evaluations in  
1284 accordance with the timeline as set forth in s. 1012.34.

1285 c. Workforce contributions, including placement of program  
1286 completers in instructional positions in Florida public and  
1287 private schools, with additional weight given to production of



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1288 program completers in statewide high-demand ~~critical~~ teacher  
1289 needs shortage areas as identified in s. 1012.07.

1290 3. Results of the program completers' survey measuring  
1291 their satisfaction with preparation for the realities of the  
1292 classroom.

1293 4. Results of the employers' survey measuring satisfaction  
1294 with the program and the program's responsiveness to local  
1295 school districts.

1296 Section 37. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
1297 1004.0971, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1298 1004.0971 Emergency opioid antagonists in Florida College  
1299 System institution and state university housing.—

1300 (1) As used in this section, the term:

1301 (b) "Emergency opioid antagonist" means a naloxone  
1302 ~~hydrochloride or any similarly acting~~ drug that blocks the  
1303 effects of opioids administered from outside the body and that  
1304 is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration  
1305 for the treatment of an opioid overdose.

1306 Section 38. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and paragraph  
1307 (b) of subsection (4) of section 1004.933, Florida Statutes, are  
1308 amended to read:

1309 1004.933 Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education  
1310 (GATE) Program.—

1311 (3) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

1312 (b) "Institution" means any ~~a~~ school district career center  
1313 established under s. 1001.44, a charter technical career center  
1314 established under s. 1002.34, or a Florida College System  
1315 institution identified in s. 1000.21. Any such institution may  
1316 enter into an agreement with an online provider for the adult



1317 education or career instruction portion of the program if such  
1318 provider offers instructional content and services that align  
1319 with the state career and adult education curriculum frameworks.

1320 (4) PAYMENT WAIVER; ELIGIBILITY.—

1321 (b) To be eligible for participation in the GATE Program, a  
1322 student must:

1323 1. Not have earned a standard high school diploma pursuant  
1324 to s. 1003.4282 or a high school equivalency diploma pursuant to  
1325 s. 1003.435 before enrolling in the GATE Program;

1326 2. Have been withdrawn from high school or met the  
1327 requirements in s. 1003.4282(5)(c) or (8)(a);

1328 3. Be a resident of this state as defined in s. 1009.21(1);

1329 4. Be at least 16 ~~to 21~~ years of age at the time of initial  
1330 enrollment, provided that a student who is 16 or 17 years of age  
1331 has withdrawn from school enrollment pursuant to the  
1332 requirements and safeguards in s. 1003.21(1)(c);

1333 5. Select the adult secondary education program and career  
1334 education program of his or her choice at the time of admission  
1335 to the GATE Program, provided that the career education program  
1336 is included on the Master Credentials List under s. 445.004(4).  
1337 The student is not required to enroll in adult secondary and  
1338 career education program coursework simultaneously. The student

1339 may not change the requested pathway after enrollment, except  
1340 that, if necessary for the student, the student may enroll in an  
1341 adult basic education program prior to enrolling in the adult  
1342 secondary education program;

1343 6. Maintain a 2.0 GPA for career and technical education  
1344 coursework; and

1345 7. Notwithstanding s. 1003.435(4), complete the programs



1346 under subparagraph 5. within 3 years after his or her initial  
1347 enrollment unless the institution determines that an extension  
1348 is warranted due to extenuating circumstances.

1349 Section 39. Paragraphs (c) and (f) of subsection (1) of  
1350 section 1005.06, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1351 1005.06 Institutions not under the jurisdiction or purview  
1352 of the commission.—

1353 (1) Except as otherwise provided in law, the following  
1354 institutions are not under the jurisdiction or purview of the  
1355 commission and are not required to obtain licensure:

1356 (c) Any institution that is under the jurisdiction of the  
1357 Department of Education, eligible to participate in the William  
1358 L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program  
1359 and that is a nonprofit independent college or university  
1360 located and chartered in this state and accredited by the  
1361 Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges  
1362 and Schools to grant baccalaureate degrees, or an institution  
1363 authorized under s. 1009.521.

1364 (f) 1. A nonpublic religious postsecondary educational  
1365 institution ~~religious college~~ may operate without licensure  
1366 ~~governmental oversight~~ if the institution ~~college~~ annually  
1367 verifies by sworn affidavit to the commission each of the  
1368 following affirmations ~~that~~:

1369 a.1. The name of the institution includes a religious  
1370 modifier or the name of a religious patriarch, saint, person, or  
1371 symbol of the church.

1372 b. An explanation of the religious modifier, religious  
1373 name, or religious symbol used in the institution's name.

1374 c.2. The institution offers only educational programs that





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1375 prepare students for religious vocations as ministers,  
1376 professionals, or laypersons in the categories of ministry,  
1377 counseling, theology, education, administration, music, fine  
1378 arts, media communications, or social work.

1379 d.3. The titles of degrees issued by the institution cannot  
1380 be confused with secular degree titles. For this purpose, each  
1381 degree title must include a religious modifier that immediately  
1382 precedes, or is included within, any of the following degrees:  
1383 Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Bachelor of Arts,  
1384 Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Science, Doctor  
1385 of Philosophy, and Doctor of Education. The religious modifier  
1386 must be placed on the title line of the degree, on the  
1387 transcript, and whenever the title of the degree appears in  
1388 official school documents or publications.

1389 e. The titles and majors of every degree program offered by  
1390 the institution as they appear on degrees and transcripts issued  
1391 by the institution.

1392 f.4. The duration of all degree programs offered by the  
1393 institution is consistent with the standards of the commission.

1394 g.5. The institution's consumer practices are consistent  
1395 with those required by s. 1005.04.

1396 2. If requested by the commission, the institution must  
1397 submit documentation demonstrating compliance with the  
1398 requirements of this paragraph and with s. 1005.04. The  
1399 institution shall submit such documentation within 30 days after  
1400 the request.

1401 3. The commission shall review for approval or denial, in a  
1402 public meeting, affidavits submitted pursuant to this paragraph.  
1403 The commission shall approve an affidavit unless the affidavit



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1404 is facially invalid, the affidavit is contradicted by the  
1405 institution's public advertisements or by other evidence, or the  
1406 institution has failed to comply with the requirements of  
1407 subparagraph 2. The commission may provide such a religious  
1408 institution a letter stating that the institution has met the  
1409 requirements of state law and is not subject to licensure by the  
1410 commission ~~governmental oversight.~~

1411 a. If a nonpublic religious postsecondary educational  
1412 institution that has been issued a written notice of exemption  
1413 from licensure by the commission subsequently fails to comply  
1414 with the requirements of this paragraph, the commission must  
1415 revoke its approval of the institution's affidavit in a public  
1416 meeting.

1417 b. If an affidavit is denied by the commission, the  
1418 commission may take any of the actions specified in s. 1005.38  
1419 unless the institution applies for a license pursuant to s.  
1420 1005.31(1)(a), ceases operating in this state, or submits  
1421 documentation indicating compliance with this paragraph.

1422 c. The commission may adopt rules to administer this  
1423 paragraph.

1424 Section 40. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
1425 1006.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1426 1006.09 Duties of school principal relating to student  
1427 discipline and school safety.—

1428 (1)(a)1. Subject to law and to the rules of the State Board  
1429 of Education and the district school board, the principal in  
1430 charge of the school or the principal's designee shall develop  
1431 policies for delegating to any teacher or other member of the  
1432 instructional staff or to any bus driver transporting students



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1433 of the school responsibility for the control and direction of  
1434 students. Each school principal shall fully support the  
1435 authority of his or her teachers and school bus drivers to  
1436 remove disobedient, disrespectful, violent, abusive,  
1437 uncontrollable, or disruptive students from the classroom and  
1438 the school bus and, when appropriate and available, place such  
1439 students in an alternative educational setting. The principal or  
1440 the principal's designee must give full consideration to the  
1441 recommendation for discipline made by a teacher, other member of  
1442 the instructional staff, or a bus driver when making a decision  
1443 regarding student referral for discipline.

1444 2. If the disobedient, disrespectful, violent, abusive,  
1445 uncontrollable, or disruptive behavior continues, the school  
1446 principal must refer the case to the school's child study team  
1447 to schedule a meeting with the parent to identify potential  
1448 remedies.

1449 3. If an initial meeting with the student's parent does not  
1450 resolve the behavioral issues, the child study team must  
1451 implement the following:

1452 a. Frequent attempts by the school, including the student's  
1453 teacher and a school administrator, at communicating with the  
1454 student's family. The attempts may be made in writing or by  
1455 telephone, but must be documented.

1456 b. A student evaluation for alternative education programs.

1457 c. Behavior contracts.

1458  
1459 The child study team may, but is not required to, implement  
1460 other interventions, including referral to other agencies for  
1461 family services or a recommendation for filing a petition for a



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1462 child in need of services pursuant to s. 984.15.

1463 Section 41. Subsection (3) of section 1006.13, Florida  
1464 Statutes, is amended to read:

1465 1006.13 Policy of zero tolerance for crime and  
1466 victimization.—

1467 (3) (a) Zero-tolerance policies must require students found  
1468 to have committed one of the following offenses to be expelled,  
1469 with or without continuing educational services, from the  
1470 student's regular school for a period of not less than 1 full  
1471 year, and to be referred to the criminal justice or juvenile  
1472 justice system.

1473 1. ~~(a)~~ Bringing a firearm or weapon, as defined in chapter  
1474 790, to school, to any school function, or onto any school-  
1475 sponsored transportation or possessing a firearm at school.

1476 2. ~~(b)~~ Making a threat or false report, as defined by ss.  
1477 790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving school or school  
1478 personnel's property, school transportation, or a school-  
1479 sponsored activity.

1480 (b) District school boards may assign the student to a  
1481 disciplinary program for the purpose of continuing educational  
1482 services during the period of expulsion. District school  
1483 superintendents may consider the 1-year expulsion requirement on  
1484 a case-by-case basis and request the district school board to  
1485 modify the requirement by assigning the student to a  
1486 disciplinary program or second chance school if the request for  
1487 modification is in writing and it is determined to be in the  
1488 best interest of the student and the school system. If a student  
1489 committing any of the offenses in this subsection is a student  
1490 who has a disability, the district school board shall comply



1491 with applicable State Board of Education rules.

1492 (c) Before the expiration of an expulsion period, the  
1493 district school superintendent shall determine, based upon the  
1494 determination of the threat management team, whether the  
1495 expulsion period should be extended and, if the expulsion period  
1496 is extended, what educational services will be provided. A  
1497 recommendation to extend the expulsion period must be provided  
1498 to the student and his or her parents in accordance with s.  
1499 1006.08(1).

1500 Section 42. Subsections (5) and (7) of section 1006.73,  
1501 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1502 1006.73 Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network.—

1503 (5) REPORTING.—

1504 ~~(a)~~ By December 31 each year, the host entity shall submit  
1505 a report to the Chancellors of the State University System and  
1506 the Florida College System regarding the implementation and  
1507 operation of all components described in this section,  
1508 including, but not limited to, all of the following:

1509 (a)1. Usage information collected under paragraph (2)(c).

1510 (b)2. Information and associated costs relating to the  
1511 services and functions of the program.

1512 (c)3. The implementation and operation of the automated  
1513 library services.

1514 (d)4. The number and value of grants awarded under  
1515 paragraph (4)(d) and the distribution of those funds.

1516 ~~5. The number and types of courses placed in the Student~~  
1517 ~~Open Access Resources Repository.~~

1518 ~~6. Information on the utilization of the Student Open~~  
1519 ~~Access Resources Repository and utilization of open educational~~



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1520 ~~resources in course sections, by Florida College System~~  
1521 ~~institution and state university.~~

1522 ~~(b) The Chancellors will provide an annual report on the~~  
1523 ~~performance of the host entity in delivering the services and~~  
1524 ~~any recommendations for changes needed to this section to the~~  
1525 ~~Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House~~  
1526 ~~of Representatives, the Board of Governors, and the State Board~~  
1527 ~~of Education. The Board of Governors and the Department of~~  
1528 ~~Education shall include any necessary funding increases in their~~  
1529 ~~annual legislative budget requests.~~

1530 ~~(7) RECOMMENDATION ON OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO BE~~  
1531 ~~INCLUDED WITHIN THE FLORIDA POSTSECONDARY ACADEMIC LIBRARY~~  
1532 ~~NETWORK. By June 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Education and the~~  
1533 ~~Chancellor of the Board of Governors shall provide a joint~~  
1534 ~~recommendation for a process by which school district career~~  
1535 ~~centers operated under s. 1001.44 and charter technical career~~  
1536 ~~centers under s. 1002.34 would access appropriate postsecondary~~  
1537 ~~distance learning, student support services and library assets~~  
1538 ~~described in this section. The recommendation must include an~~  
1539 ~~analysis of the resources necessary to expand access and assets~~  
1540 ~~to centers and their students.~~

1541 Section 43. Effective upon becoming a law, paragraph (b) of  
1542 subsection (1) of section 1007.27, Florida Statutes, is amended,  
1543 and paragraph (d) is added to subsection (2) of that section, to  
1544 read:

1545 1007.27 Articulated acceleration mechanisms.—

1546 (1)

1547 (b) The State Board of Education and the Board of Governors  
1548 shall identify Florida College System institutions, ~~and~~ state



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1549 universities, and national consortia to develop courses that  
1550 align with s. 1007.25 for students in secondary education and  
1551 provide the training required under s. 1007.35(6).

1552 (2)

1553 (d) The department may join or establish a national  
1554 consortium as an alternative method to develop and implement  
1555 advanced placement courses that align with s. 1007.25.

1556 Section 44. Subsection (5), paragraph (j) of subsection  
1557 (6), and subsection (8) of section 1007.35, Florida Statutes,  
1558 are amended to read:

1559 1007.35 Florida Partnership for Minority and  
1560 Underrepresented Student Achievement.—

1561 (5) Each public high school, including, but not limited to,  
1562 schools and alternative sites and centers of the Department of  
1563 Juvenile Justice, shall provide for the administration of the  
1564 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test  
1565 (PSAT/NMSQT), Classic Learning Test (CLT10), or ~~the~~ PreACT to  
1566 all enrolled 10th grade students. However, a written notice must  
1567 ~~shall~~ be provided to each parent which must include the  
1568 opportunity to exempt his or her child from taking the  
1569 PSAT/NMSQT, CLT10, or ~~the~~ PreACT.

1570 (a) Test results will provide each high school with a  
1571 database of student assessment data which certified school  
1572 counselors will use to identify students who are prepared or who  
1573 need additional work to be prepared to enroll and be successful  
1574 in advanced high school courses.

1575 (b) Funding for the PSAT/NMSQT, CLT10, or ~~the~~ PreACT for  
1576 all 10th grade students is ~~shall be~~ contingent upon annual  
1577 funding in the General Appropriations Act.



1578 (c) Public school districts shall ~~must~~ choose either the  
1579 PSAT/NMSQT, CLT10, or ~~the~~ PreACT for districtwide  
1580 administration.

1581 (6) The partnership shall:

1582 (j) Provide information to students, parents, teachers,  
1583 counselors, administrators, districts, Florida College System  
1584 institutions, and state universities regarding the PSAT/NMSQT,  
1585 CLT10, or ~~the~~ PreACT administration, including, but not limited  
1586 to:

1587 1. Test administration dates and times.

1588 2. That participation in the PSAT/NMSQT, CLT10, or ~~the~~  
1589 PreACT is open to all 10th grade students.

1590 3. The value of such tests in providing diagnostic feedback  
1591 on student skills.

1592 4. The value of student scores in predicting the  
1593 probability of success on advanced course examinations.

1594 (8) (a) By September 30 of each year, the partnership shall  
1595 submit to the department a report that contains an evaluation of  
1596 the effectiveness of the delivered services and activities.

1597 Activities and services must be evaluated on their effectiveness  
1598 at raising student achievement and increasing the number of AP  
1599 or other advanced course examinations in low-performing middle  
1600 and high schools. Other indicators that must be addressed in the  
1601 evaluation report include the number of middle and high school  
1602 teachers trained; the effectiveness of the training; measures of  
1603 postsecondary readiness of the students affected by the program;  
1604 levels of participation in the 10th grade PSAT/NMSQT, CLT10, or  
1605 ~~the~~ PreACT testing; and measures of student, parent, and teacher  
1606 awareness of and satisfaction with the services of the





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1607 partnership.

1608 (b) The department shall contribute to the evaluation  
1609 process by providing access, consistent with s. 119.071(5)(a),  
1610 to student and teacher information necessary to match against  
1611 databases containing teacher professional learning data and  
1612 databases containing assessment data for the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT,  
1613 ACT, PreACT, CLT, CLT10, AP, and other appropriate measures. The  
1614 department shall also provide student-level data on student  
1615 progress from middle school through high school and into college  
1616 and the workforce, if available, in order to support  
1617 longitudinal studies. The partnership shall analyze and report  
1618 student performance data in a manner that protects the rights of  
1619 students and parents as required in 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g and s.  
1620 1002.22.

1621 Section 45. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 1008.36,  
1622 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1623 1008.36 Florida School Recognition Program.—

1624 (1) The Legislature finds that there is a need for a  
1625 performance incentive program for outstanding instructional  
1626 personnel ~~faculty and staff~~ in highly productive schools. The  
1627 Legislature further finds that performance-based incentives are  
1628 commonplace in the private sector and should be infused into the  
1629 public sector as a reward for productivity.

1630 (5) School recognition awards must be used for the  
1631 following:

1632 (a) Nonrecurring bonuses to the instructional personnel as  
1633 defined in s. 1012.01(2) ~~faculty and staff~~;

1634 (b) Nonrecurring expenditures for educational equipment or  
1635 materials to assist in maintaining and improving student



1636 performance; or

1637 (c) Temporary personnel for the school to assist in  
1638 maintaining and improving student performance.

1639  
1640 Notwithstanding statutory provisions to the contrary, incentive  
1641 awards are not subject to collective bargaining.

1642 Section 46. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section  
1643 1008.365, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1644 1008.365 Reading Achievement Initiative for Scholastic  
1645 Excellence Act.—

1646 (8) As part of the RAISE Program, the department shall  
1647 establish a tutoring program and develop training in effective  
1648 reading tutoring practices and content, based on evidence-based  
1649 practices grounded in the science of reading and aligned to the  
1650 English Language Arts standards under s. 1003.41, which prepares  
1651 eligible high school students to tutor students in kindergarten  
1652 through grade 3 in schools identified under this section,  
1653 instilling in those students a love of reading and improving  
1654 their literacy skills.

1655 (c) Tutoring may be part of a service-learning course  
1656 adopted pursuant to s. 1003.497. Students may earn up to three  
1657 elective credits for high school graduation based on the  
1658 verified number of hours the student spends tutoring under the  
1659 program. The hours of volunteer service must be documented in  
1660 writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the  
1661 student's parent or guardian, and an administrator or designee  
1662 of the school in which the tutoring occurred. ~~The Unpaid~~ hours  
1663 that a high school student devotes to tutoring may be counted  
1664 toward meeting community service requirements for high school



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1665 graduation and community service requirements for participation  
1666 in the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program as provided in  
1667 s. 1003.497(3)(b). The department shall designate a high school  
1668 student who provides at least 75 verified hours of tutoring  
1669 under the program as a New Worlds Scholar and award the student  
1670 with a pin indicating such designation.

1671 Section 47. Subsection (2) of section 1008.37, Florida  
1672 Statutes, is amended to read:

1673 1008.37 Postsecondary feedback of information to high  
1674 schools.-

1675 (2) The Commissioner of Education shall report, by high  
1676 school, to the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors,  
1677 and the Legislature, no later than May 31 ~~April 30~~ of each year,  
1678 on the number of prior year Florida high school graduates who  
1679 enrolled for the first time in public postsecondary education in  
1680 this state during the summer, fall, or spring term of the  
1681 previous academic year, ~~indicating the number of students whose~~  
1682 ~~scores on the common placement test indicated the need for~~  
1683 ~~developmental education under s. 1008.30 or for applied~~  
1684 ~~academics for adult education under s. 1004.91.~~

1685 Section 48. Present paragraph (g) of subsection (20) of  
1686 section 1009.26, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph  
1687 (h), a new paragraph (g) is added to that subsection, and  
1688 paragraphs (a) and (c) of that subsection are amended, to read:

1689 1009.26 Fee waivers.-

1690 (20)(a) Beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year, a state  
1691 university shall waive the out-of-state fee for a student who:

1692 1. Has a grandparent who has established a domicile in this  
1693 state pursuant to s. 222.17 for at least 5 years preceding an



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1694 application for the fee waiver ~~is a legal resident as defined in~~  
1695 ~~s. 1009.21(1)~~. For purposes of this subsection, the term  
1696 "grandparent" means a person who has a legal relationship to a  
1697 student's parent as the natural or adoptive parent or legal  
1698 guardian of the student's parent.

1699       2. Earns a high school diploma comparable to a Florida  
1700 standard high school diploma, or its equivalent, or completes a  
1701 home education program.

1702       3.a. Achieves an SAT combined score no lower than the 89th  
1703 national percentile on the SAT;

1704       b. Achieves an ACT score concordant to the required SAT  
1705 score in sub-subparagraph a., using the latest published  
1706 national concordance table developed jointly by the College  
1707 Board and ACT, Inc.; or

1708       c. If a state university accepts the Classic Learning Test  
1709 (CLT) for admission purposes, achieves a CLT score concordant to  
1710 the required SAT score specified in sub-subparagraph a., using  
1711 the latest published scoring comparison developed by Classic  
1712 Learning Initiatives.

1713       4. Beginning with students who initially enroll in the 2022  
1714 fall academic term and thereafter, enrolls as a full-time  
1715 undergraduate student at a state university in the fall academic  
1716 term immediately following high school graduation.

1717       (c) Before waiving the out-of-state fee, the state  
1718 university shall require the student or the student's parent, if  
1719 the student is a dependent child, to provide a written  
1720 declaration pursuant to s. 92.525(2) attesting to the student's  
1721 familial relationship to a grandparent who meets the residency  
1722 requirement of subparagraph (a)1. ~~is a legal resident~~ and any



1723 other corroborating documentation required by regulation of the  
1724 Board of Governors. A state university is not required to  
1725 independently verify the statements contained in each  
1726 declaration if the signatory declares it to be true under the  
1727 penalties of perjury as required by s. 92.525(2). However, the  
1728 state university may refer any signed declaration suspected of  
1729 containing fraudulent representations to law enforcement.

1730 (g) A state university student granted an out-of-state fee  
1731 waiver under this subsection shall be considered a resident  
1732 student for purposes of calculating the systemwide total  
1733 enrollment of nonresident students as limited by regulation of  
1734 the Board of Governors.

1735 Section 49. Subsection (2) of section 1009.536, Florida  
1736 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (6) is added to that  
1737 section, to read:

1738 1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida  
1739 Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards.—The Florida Gold Seal Vocational  
1740 Scholars award and the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award are  
1741 created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to  
1742 recognize and reward academic achievement and career preparation  
1743 by high school students who wish to continue their education.

1744 (2) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal CAPE  
1745 Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility  
1746 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program,  
1747 and the student:

1748 (a) Earns a minimum of 3 ~~5~~ postsecondary credit hours  
1749 through CAPE industry certifications approved pursuant to s.  
1750 1008.44 which articulate for college credit; ~~and~~

1751 (b) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average



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1752 of 2.5, as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, on all subjects  
1753 required for a standard high school diploma, excluding elective  
1754 courses; and

1755 (c) Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service or,  
1756 beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023  
1757 academic year and thereafter, 100 hours of paid work, approved  
1758 by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic  
1759 school, or the Department of Education for home education  
1760 program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both.  
1761 Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be  
1762 included in a student's total required paid work hours. The  
1763 student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional  
1764 area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her  
1765 personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about  
1766 the area. The student must, through papers or other  
1767 presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.  
1768 Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not  
1769 limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a  
1770 nonprofit community service organization, or activities on  
1771 behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer  
1772 service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the  
1773 document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or  
1774 guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the  
1775 student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

1776 (6) Before or within 3 months after completion of the GATE  
1777 Program as provided in s. 1004.933, a student may apply for the  
1778 Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award.

1779 Section 50. Section 1009.635, Florida Statutes, is created  
1780 to read:



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1781 1009.635 Rural Incentive for Professional Educators.—  
1782 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Rural Incentive for Professional  
1783 Educators (RIPE) Program is established within the Department of  
1784 Education to support the recruitment and retention of qualified  
1785 instructional personnel in rural communities. The program shall  
1786 provide financial assistance for the repayment of student loans  
1787 for eligible participants who establish permanent residency and  
1788 employment in rural areas of opportunity.  
1789 (2) ELIGIBILITY.—An individual is eligible to participate  
1790 in the RIPE Program if he or she does all of the following:  
1791 (a) Establishes permanent residency on or after July 1,  
1792 2025, in a rural area of opportunity as designated pursuant to  
1793 s. 288.0656. The address on an individual's state-issued  
1794 identification card or driver license is evidence of residence.  
1795 (b) Secures full-time employment as a teacher or  
1796 administrator in a private school as defined in s. 1002.01, or  
1797 as instructional or administrative personnel as those terms are  
1798 defined in s. 1012.01(2) and (3), respectively, in the public  
1799 school district located within the same rural area of  
1800 opportunity as he or she resides.  
1801 (c) Holds an associate degree, bachelor's degree,  
1802 postgraduate degree, or certificate from an accredited  
1803 institution earned before establishing residency.  
1804 (d) Has an active student loan balance incurred for the  
1805 completion of the qualifying degree or certificate.  
1806 (3) LOAN REPAYMENT.—Eligible participants may receive up to  
1807 \$15,000 in total student loan repayment assistance over 5 years,  
1808 disbursed in annual payments not to exceed \$3,000 per year.  
1809 Payments shall be made directly to the lender servicing the



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1810 participant's student loan.

1811 (4) AWARD DISTRIBUTION.—Before disbursement of an award,  
1812 the department shall verify that the participant:

1813 (a) Has maintained continuous employment with the school  
1814 district in an instructional or administrative position;

1815 (b) Has received a rating of effective or highly effective  
1816 pursuant to s. 1012.34; and

1817 (c) Has not been placed on probation, had his or her  
1818 certificate suspended or revoked, or been placed on the  
1819 disqualification list pursuant to s. 1012.796.

1820 (5) ADMINISTRATION.—The program shall be administered by  
1821 the Office of Student Financial Assistance within the Department  
1822 of Education, which shall:

1823 (a) Develop application procedures requiring documentation,  
1824 including proof of residency, verification of employment,  
1825 official academic transcripts, and details of outstanding  
1826 student loans; and

1827 (b) Monitor compliance with program requirements.

1828 (6) RULEMAKING.—The State Board of Education shall adopt  
1829 rules no later than January 31, 2026, to administer this  
1830 section.

1831 Section 51. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section  
1832 1009.8962, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1833 1009.8962 Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE)  
1834 Fund.—

1835 (3) As used in this section, the term:

1836 (b) "Institution" means a school district career center  
1837 under s. 1001.44; a charter technical career center under s.  
1838 1002.34; a Florida College System institution; a state





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1839 university; an independent nonprofit college or university  
1840 located and chartered in this state and accredited by an agency  
1841 or association that is recognized by the database created and  
1842 maintained by the United States Department of Education to grant  
1843 baccalaureate degrees; or an independent school, college, or  
1844 university with an accredited program as defined in s. 464.003  
1845 which is located in this state and licensed by the Commission  
1846 for Independent Education pursuant to s. 1005.31, or an  
1847 institution authorized under s. 1009.521, which has a nursing  
1848 education program that meets or exceeds the following:

1849       1. For a certified nursing assistant program, a completion  
1850 rate of at least 70 percent for the prior year.

1851       2. For a licensed practical nurse, associate of science in  
1852 nursing, and bachelor of science in nursing program, a first-  
1853 time passage rate on the National Council of State Boards of  
1854 Nursing Licensing Examination of at least 75 percent for the  
1855 prior year based on a minimum of 10 testing participants.

1856       Section 52. Present subsection (4) of section 1009.897,  
1857 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (5), and a new  
1858 subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

1859       1009.897 Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and  
1860 Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE)  
1861 Fund.—

1862       (4) Each institution that receives funds through the  
1863 PIPELINE Fund shall allocate the funds to its health care  
1864 industry-related programs.

1865       Section 53. Section 1011.58, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

1866       Section 54. Section 1011.59, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

1867       Section 55. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section



1868 1011.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:  
1869 1011.71 District school tax.—  
1870 (5) A school district may expend, subject to s. 200.065, up  
1871 to \$200 per unweighted full-time equivalent student from the  
1872 revenue generated by the millage levy authorized by subsection  
1873 (2) to fund, in addition to expenditures authorized in  
1874 paragraphs (2)(a)-(j), expenses for the following:  
1875 (b) Payment of the cost of premiums, as defined in s.  
1876 627.403, for property and casualty insurance necessary to insure  
1877 school district educational and ancillary plants. As used in  
1878 this paragraph, casualty insurance has the same meaning as in s.  
1879 624.605(1)(b), (d), (f), (g), (h), and (m) ~~s. 624.605(1)(d),~~  
1880 ~~(f), (g), (h), and (m)~~. Operating revenues that are made  
1881 available through the payment of property and casualty insurance  
1882 premiums from revenues generated under this subsection may be  
1883 expended only for nonrecurring operational expenditures of the  
1884 school district.  
1885 Section 56. Subsections (3) and (6) of section 1011.804,  
1886 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
1887 1011.804 GATE Startup Grant Program.—  
1888 (3) The department may solicit proposals from institutions  
1889 without programs that meet the requirements of s. 1004.933(2).  
1890 Such institutions must be located in or serve a rural area of  
1891 opportunity as designated by the Governor. Additionally,  
1892 institutions that meet program requirements and are located in  
1893 or serve a rural area of opportunity may apply for grant funds  
1894 specifically for marketing and outreach efforts to expand  
1895 student participation in the GATE Program.  
1896 (6) Grant funds may be used for planning activities and



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1897 other expenses associated with the creation of the GATE Program,  
1898 such as expenses related to program instruction, instructional  
1899 equipment, supplies, instructional personnel, ~~and~~ student  
1900 services, and outreach and marketing efforts to recruit and  
1901 enroll eligible students. Institutions with existing programs  
1902 that meet the requirements of s. 1004.933(2) and that are  
1903 located in or serve a rural area of opportunity may apply for  
1904 grant funds exclusively for marketing and outreach purposes to  
1905 expand student participation in the GATE Program. Grant funds  
1906 may not be used for indirect costs. Grant recipients must submit  
1907 an annual report in a format prescribed by the department. The  
1908 department shall consolidate such annual reports and include the  
1909 reports in the report required by s. 1004.933(5).

1910 Section 57. Section 1012.07, Florida Statutes, is amended  
1911 to read:

1912 1012.07 Identification of high-demand ~~critical~~ teacher  
1913 needs shortage areas.—The term "high-demand ~~critical~~ teacher  
1914 needs shortage area" means high-need content areas and high-  
1915 priority location areas identified by the State Board of  
1916 Education. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules  
1917 pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 necessary to annually  
1918 identify high-demand ~~critical~~ teacher needs shortage areas. The  
1919 state board must consider current and emerging educational  
1920 requirements and workforce demands in determining high-demand  
1921 ~~critical~~ teacher needs shortage areas. School grade levels may  
1922 also be designated critical teacher shortage areas. Individual  
1923 district school boards may identify and submit other high-demand  
1924 ~~critical~~ teacher needs shortage areas. Such submissions must be  
1925 aligned to current and emerging educational requirements and



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1926 workforce demands in order to be approved by the State Board of  
1927 Education. High-priority location areas must be in high-density,  
1928 low-economic urban schools; low-density, low-economic rural  
1929 schools; and schools that earned a grade of "F" or three  
1930 consecutive grades of "D" pursuant to s. 1008.34. The State  
1931 Board of Education shall develop strategies to address high-  
1932 demand ~~critical~~ teacher needs ~~shortage~~ areas.

1933 Section 58. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section  
1934 1012.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1935 1012.22 Public school personnel; powers and duties of the  
1936 district school board.—The district school board shall:

1937 (1) Designate positions to be filled, prescribe  
1938 qualifications for those positions, and provide for the  
1939 appointment, compensation, promotion, suspension, and dismissal  
1940 of employees as follows, subject to the requirements of this  
1941 chapter:

1942 (c) *Compensation and salary schedules.*—

1943 1. Definitions.—As used in this paragraph:

1944 a. "Adjustment" means an addition to the base salary  
1945 schedule that is not a bonus and becomes part of the employee's  
1946 permanent base salary and shall be considered compensation under  
1947 s. 121.021(22).

1948 b. "Grandfathered salary schedule" means the salary  
1949 schedule or schedules adopted by a district school board before  
1950 July 1, 2014, pursuant to subparagraph 4.

1951 c. "Instructional personnel" means instructional personnel  
1952 as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d), excluding substitute  
1953 teachers.

1954 d. "Performance salary schedule" means the salary schedule



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1955 or schedules adopted by a district school board pursuant to  
1956 subparagraph 5.

1957 e. "Salary schedule" means the schedule or schedules used  
1958 to provide the base salary for district school board personnel.

1959 f. "School administrator" means a school administrator as  
1960 defined in s. 1012.01(3)(c).

1961 g. "Supplement" means an annual addition to the base salary  
1962 for the term of the negotiated supplement as long as the  
1963 employee continues his or her employment for the purpose of the  
1964 supplement. A supplement does not become part of the employee's  
1965 continuing base salary but shall be considered compensation  
1966 under s. 121.021(22).

1967 2. Cost-of-living adjustment.—A district school board may  
1968 provide a cost-of-living salary adjustment if the adjustment:

1969 a. Does not discriminate among comparable classes of  
1970 employees based upon the salary schedule under which they are  
1971 compensated.

1972 b. Does not exceed 50 percent of the annual adjustment  
1973 provided to instructional personnel rated as effective.

1974 3. Advanced degrees.—A district school board may use  
1975 advanced degrees in setting a salary schedule for instructional  
1976 personnel or school administrators if the advanced degree is  
1977 held in the individual's area of certification.

1978 4. Grandfathered salary schedule.—

1979 a. The district school board shall adopt a salary schedule  
1980 or salary schedules to be used as the basis for paying all  
1981 school employees hired before July 1, 2014. Instructional  
1982 personnel on annual contract as of July 1, 2014, shall be placed  
1983 on the performance salary schedule adopted under subparagraph 5.



1984 Instructional personnel on continuing contract or professional  
1985 service contract may opt into the performance salary schedule if  
1986 the employee relinquishes such contract and agrees to be  
1987 employed on an annual contract under s. 1012.335. Such an  
1988 employee shall be placed on the performance salary schedule and  
1989 may not return to continuing contract or professional service  
1990 contract status. Any employee who opts into the performance  
1991 salary schedule may not return to the grandfathered salary  
1992 schedule.

1993       b. In determining the grandfathered salary schedule for  
1994 instructional personnel, a district school board must base a  
1995 portion of each employee's compensation upon performance  
1996 demonstrated under s. 1012.34 and shall provide differentiated  
1997 pay for both instructional personnel and school administrators  
1998 based upon district-determined factors, including, but not  
1999 limited to, additional responsibilities, school demographics,  
2000 high-demand teacher needs ~~critical shortage~~ areas, and level of  
2001 job performance difficulties.

2002       5. Performance salary schedule.—By July 1, 2014, the  
2003 district school board shall adopt a performance salary schedule  
2004 that provides annual salary adjustments for instructional  
2005 personnel and school administrators based upon performance  
2006 determined under s. 1012.34. Employees hired on or after July 1,  
2007 2014, or employees who choose to move from the grandfathered  
2008 salary schedule to the performance salary schedule shall be  
2009 compensated pursuant to the performance salary schedule once  
2010 they have received the appropriate performance evaluation for  
2011 this purpose.

2012       a. Base salary.—The base salary shall be established as



2013 follows:

2014 (I) The base salary for instructional personnel or school  
2015 administrators who opt into the performance salary schedule  
2016 shall be the salary paid in the prior year, including  
2017 adjustments only.

2018 (II) Instructional personnel or school administrators new  
2019 to the district, returning to the district after a break in  
2020 service without an authorized leave of absence, or appointed for  
2021 the first time to a position in the district in the capacity of  
2022 instructional personnel or school administrator shall be placed  
2023 on the performance salary schedule.

2024 b. Salary adjustments.—Salary adjustments for highly  
2025 effective or effective performance shall be established as  
2026 follows:

2027 (I) The annual salary adjustment under the performance  
2028 salary schedule for an employee rated as highly effective must  
2029 be at least 25 percent greater than the highest annual salary  
2030 adjustment available to an employee of the same classification  
2031 through any other salary schedule adopted by the district.

2032 (II) The annual salary adjustment under the performance  
2033 salary schedule for an employee rated as effective must be equal  
2034 to at least 50 percent and no more than 75 percent of the annual  
2035 adjustment provided for a highly effective employee of the same  
2036 classification.

2037 (III) A salary schedule shall not provide an annual salary  
2038 adjustment for an employee who receives a rating other than  
2039 highly effective or effective for the year.

2040 c. Salary supplements.—In addition to the salary  
2041 adjustments, each district school board shall provide for salary



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2042 supplements for activities that must include, but are not  
2043 limited to:

2044 (I) Assignment to a Title I eligible school.

2045 (II) Assignment to a school that earned a grade of "F" or  
2046 three consecutive grades of "D" pursuant to s. 1008.34 such that  
2047 the supplement remains in force for at least 1 year following  
2048 improved performance in that school.

2049 (III) Certification and teaching in high-demand ~~critical~~  
2050 teacher needs shortage areas. Statewide high-demand ~~critical~~  
2051 teacher needs shortage areas shall be identified by the State  
2052 Board of Education under s. 1012.07. However, the district  
2053 school board may identify other areas of high-demand needs  
2054 ~~critical shortage~~ within the school district for purposes of  
2055 this sub-sub-subparagraph and may remove areas identified by the  
2056 state board which do not apply within the school district.

2057 (IV) Assignment of additional academic responsibilities.  
2058

2059 If budget constraints in any given year limit a district school  
2060 board's ability to fully fund all adopted salary schedules, the  
2061 performance salary schedule shall not be reduced on the basis of  
2062 total cost or the value of individual awards in a manner that is  
2063 proportionally greater than reductions to any other salary  
2064 schedules adopted by the district. Any compensation for  
2065 longevity of service awarded to instructional personnel who are  
2066 on any other salary schedule must be included in calculating the  
2067 salary adjustments required by sub-subparagraph b.

2068 Section 59. Section 1012.315, Florida Statutes, is amended  
2069 to read:

2070 1012.315 Screening standards.-





2071           (1) A person is ineligible for educator certification or  
2072 employment in any position that requires direct contact with  
2073 students in a district school system, a charter school, or a  
2074 private school that participates in a state scholarship program  
2075 under chapter 1002 if the person which includes being an owner  
2076 or operator of a private school that participates in a  
2077 scholarship program under chapter 1002:

2078           (a)~~(1)~~ Is on the disqualification list maintained by the  
2079 department under s. 1001.10(4)(b);

2080           (b)~~(2)~~ Is registered as a sex offender as described in 42  
2081 U.S.C. s. 9858f(c)(1)(C);

2082           (c)~~(3)~~ Is ineligible based on a security background  
2083 investigation under s. 435.04(2). ~~Beginning January 1, 2025, or~~  
2084 ~~a later date as determined by the Agency for Health Care~~  
2085 ~~Administration,~~ The Agency for Health Care Administration shall  
2086 determine the eligibility of employees in any position that  
2087 requires direct contact with students in a district school  
2088 system, a charter school, or a private school that participates  
2089 in a state scholarship program under chapter 1002;

2090           (d)~~(4)~~ Would be ineligible for an exemption under s.  
2091 435.07(4)(c); or

2092           (e)~~(5)~~ Has been convicted or found guilty of, has had  
2093 adjudication withheld for, or has pled guilty or nolo contendere  
2094 to:

2095           1.~~(a)~~ Any criminal act committed in another state or under  
2096 federal law which, if committed in this state, constitutes a  
2097 disqualifying offense under s. 435.04(2).

2098           2.~~(b)~~ Any delinquent act committed in this state or any  
2099 delinquent or criminal act committed in another state or under



2100 federal law which, if committed in this state, qualifies an  
2101 individual for inclusion on the Registered Juvenile Sex Offender  
2102 List under s. 943.0435(1)(h)1.d.

2103 (2) Notwithstanding ss. 435.01 and 435.07, a person who  
2104 undergoes screening pursuant to this chapter or s. 1002.421 may  
2105 not seek an exemption.

2106 (3) Persons who apply for certification or employment are  
2107 governed by the law and rules in effect at the time of  
2108 application for issuance of the initial certificate or  
2109 employment, provided that continuity of certificates or  
2110 employment is maintained.

2111 Section 60. Section 1012.77, Florida Statutes, is amended  
2112 to read:

2113 1012.77 Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for Education  
2114 Program.—

2115 ~~(1) The Legislature recognizes that Florida continues to~~  
2116 ~~face teacher shortages and that fewer young people consider~~  
2117 ~~teaching as a career.~~ It is the intent of the Legislature to  
2118 promote the positive and rewarding aspects of being a teacher,  
2119 to encourage more individuals to become teachers, and to provide  
2120 annual sabbatical support for outstanding Florida teachers to  
2121 serve as goodwill ambassadors for education. The Legislature  
2122 further wishes to honor the memory of Christa McAuliffe, who  
2123 epitomized the challenge and inspiration that teaching can be.

2124 (2) The Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for Education Program  
2125 is established to provide salary, travel, and other related  
2126 expenses annually for an outstanding Florida teacher to promote  
2127 the positive aspects of teaching as a career. The goals of the  
2128 program are to:



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- 2129           (a) Enhance the stature of teachers and the teaching  
2130 profession.
- 2131           (b) Promote the importance of quality education and  
2132 teaching for our future.
- 2133           (c) Inspire and attract talented people to become teachers.
- 2134           (d) Provide information regarding Florida's scholarship and  
2135 loan programs related to teaching.
- 2136           (e) Promote the teaching profession within community and  
2137 business groups.
- 2138           (f) Provide information to retired military personnel and  
2139 other individuals who might consider teaching as a second  
2140 career.
- 2141           (g) Work with and represent the Department of Education, as  
2142 needed.
- 2143           (h) Work with and encourage the efforts of school and  
2144 district teachers of the year.
- 2145           (i) Support the activities of the Florida Future Educator  
2146 of America Program.
- 2147           (j) Represent Florida teachers at business, trade,  
2148 education, and other conferences and meetings.
- 2149           (k) Promote the teaching profession in other ways related  
2150 to the teaching responsibilities, background experiences, and  
2151 aspirations of the Ambassador for Education.
- 2152           (3) The Teacher of the Year shall serve as the Ambassador  
2153 for Education. If the Teacher of the Year is unable to serve as  
2154 the Ambassador for Education, the first runner-up shall serve in  
2155 his or her place. The Department of Education shall establish  
2156 application and selection procedures for determining an annual  
2157 teacher of the year. Applications and selection criteria shall



2158 be developed and distributed annually by the Department of  
2159 Education to all eligible entities identified in subsection (4)  
2160 school districts. The Commissioner of Education shall establish  
2161 a selection committee which assures representation from teacher  
2162 organizations, administrators, and parents to select the Teacher  
2163 of the Year and Ambassador for Education from among the district  
2164 teachers of the year.

2165 (4) Eligible entities to submit to the Department of  
2166 Education a nominee for the Teacher of the Year and Ambassador  
2167 for Education are:

2168 (a) Florida school districts, including lab schools as  
2169 defined in s. 1002.32.

2170 (b) Charter school consortia with at least 30 member  
2171 schools and an approved professional learning system on file  
2172 with the department.

2173 (5) (a) ~~(4) (a)~~ The Commissioner of Education shall pay an  
2174 annual salary, fringe benefits, travel costs, and other costs  
2175 associated with administering the program.

2176 (b) The Ambassador for Education shall serve for 1 year,  
2177 from July 1 to June 30, and shall be assured of returning to his  
2178 or her teaching position upon completion of the program. The  
2179 ambassador will not have a break in creditable or continuous  
2180 service or employment for the period of time in which he or she  
2181 participates in the program.

2182 Section 61. Subsection (3) of section 1013.30, Florida  
2183 Statutes, is amended to read:

2184 1013.30 University campus master plans and campus  
2185 development agreements.-

2186 (3) Each university board of trustees shall prepare and



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2187 adopt a campus master plan for the university and maintain a  
2188 copy of the plan on the university's website. The master plan  
2189 must identify general land uses and address the need for and  
2190 plans for provision of roads, parking, public transportation,  
2191 solid waste, drainage, sewer, potable water, and recreation and  
2192 open space during the coming 10 to 20 years. The plans must  
2193 contain elements relating to future land use, intergovernmental  
2194 coordination, capital improvements, recreation and open space,  
2195 general infrastructure, housing, and conservation. Each element  
2196 must address compatibility with the surrounding community. The  
2197 master plan must identify specific land uses, general location  
2198 of structures, densities and intensities of use, and contain  
2199 standards for onsite development, site design, environmental  
2200 management, and the preservation of historic and archaeological  
2201 resources. The transportation element must address reasonable  
2202 transportation demand management techniques to minimize offsite  
2203 impacts where possible. Data and analyses on which the elements  
2204 are based must include, at a minimum: the characteristics of  
2205 vacant lands; projected impacts of development on onsite and  
2206 offsite infrastructure, public services, and natural resources;  
2207 student enrollment projections; student housing needs; and the  
2208 need for academic and support facilities. Master plans must be  
2209 updated at least every 10 ~~5~~ years.

2210 Section 62. Subsection (3) of section 1013.62, Florida  
2211 Statutes, is amended to read:

2212 1013.62 Charter schools capital outlay funding.—

2213 (3) If the school board levies the discretionary millage  
2214 authorized in s. 1011.71(2), the department must ~~shall~~ use the  
2215 following calculation methodology to determine the amount of



2216 revenue that a school district must distribute to each eligible  
2217 charter school:

2218 (a) Reduce the total discretionary millage revenue by the  
2219 school district's annual debt service obligation incurred as of  
2220 March 1, 2017, which has not been subsequently retired, and:

2221 1. Beginning in the 2025-2026 fiscal year, for any district  
2222 with an active project or an outstanding participation  
2223 requirement balance, any amount of participation requirement  
2224 pursuant to s. 1013.64(2)(a)8. that is being satisfied by  
2225 revenues raised by the discretionary millage; or

2226 2. For construction projects for which Special Facilities  
2227 Construction Account funding is sought beginning in the 2025-  
2228 2026 fiscal year, the value of 1 mill from the revenue generated  
2229 pursuant to s. 1013.64(2)(a)8.b.

2230 (b) Divide the school district's adjusted discretionary  
2231 millage revenue by the district's total capital outlay full-time  
2232 equivalent membership and the total number of full-time  
2233 equivalent students of each eligible charter school to determine  
2234 a capital outlay allocation per full-time equivalent student.

2235 (c) Multiply the capital outlay allocation per full-time  
2236 equivalent student by the total number of full-time equivalent  
2237 students of each eligible charter school to determine the  
2238 capital outlay allocation for each charter school.

2239 (d) If applicable, reduce the capital outlay allocation  
2240 identified in paragraph (c) by the total amount of state funds  
2241 allocated to each eligible charter school in subsection (2) to  
2242 determine the maximum calculated capital outlay allocation. The  
2243 amount of funds a school district must distribute to charter  
2244 schools shall be as follows:



2245 1. For fiscal year 2023-2024, the amount is 20 percent of  
2246 the amount calculated under this paragraph.

2247 2. For fiscal year 2024-2025, the amount is 40 percent of  
2248 the amount calculated under this paragraph.

2249 3. For fiscal year 2025-2026, the amount is 60 percent of  
2250 the amount calculated under this paragraph.

2251 4. For fiscal year 2026-2027, the amount is 80 percent of  
2252 the amount calculated under this paragraph.

2253 5. For fiscal year 2027-2028, and each fiscal year  
2254 thereafter, the amount is 100 percent of the amount calculated  
2255 under this paragraph.

2256 (e) School districts shall distribute capital outlay funds  
2257 to eligible charter schools no later than February 1 of each  
2258 year, as required by this subsection, based on the amount of  
2259 funds received by the district school board. School districts  
2260 shall distribute any remaining capital outlay funds, as required  
2261 by this subsection, upon the receipt of such funds until the  
2262 total amount calculated pursuant to this subsection is  
2263 distributed.

2264  
2265 By October 1 of each year, each school district shall certify to  
2266 the department the amount of debt service that ~~and participation~~  
2267 ~~requirement that complies with the requirement of paragraph (a)~~  
2268 ~~and~~ can be reduced from the total discretionary millage revenue.  
2269 Each school district shall also certify the amount of the  
2270 participation requirement that complies with paragraph (a), or  
2271 certify the value of 1 mill from revenue generated pursuant to  
2272 s. 1013.64(2)(a)8.b. which can be reduced from the total  
2273 discretionary millage revenue, as applicable. The Auditor



2274 General shall verify compliance with the requirements of  
2275 paragraph (a) and s. 1011.71(2)(e) during scheduled operational  
2276 audits of school districts.

2277 Section 63. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
2278 1013.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2279 1013.64 Funds for comprehensive educational plant needs;  
2280 construction cost maximums for school district capital  
2281 projects.—Allocations from the Public Education Capital Outlay  
2282 and Debt Service Trust Fund to the various boards for capital  
2283 outlay projects shall be determined as follows:

2284 (2)(a) The department shall establish, as a part of the  
2285 Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund, a  
2286 separate account, in an amount determined by the Legislature, to  
2287 be known as the "Special Facility Construction Account." The  
2288 Special Facility Construction Account shall be used to provide  
2289 necessary construction funds to school districts which have  
2290 urgent construction needs but which lack sufficient resources at  
2291 present, and cannot reasonably anticipate sufficient resources  
2292 within the period of the next 3 years, for these purposes from  
2293 currently authorized sources of capital outlay revenue. A school  
2294 district requesting funding from the Special Facility  
2295 Construction Account shall submit one specific construction  
2296 project, not to exceed one complete educational plant, to the  
2297 Special Facility Construction Committee. A district may not  
2298 receive funding for more than one approved project in any 3-year  
2299 period ~~or while any portion of the district's participation~~  
2300 ~~requirement is outstanding.~~ The first year of the 3-year period  
2301 shall be the first year a district receives an appropriation.  
2302 The department shall encourage a construction program that





2303 reduces the average size of schools in the district. The request  
2304 must meet the following criteria to be considered by the  
2305 committee:

2306 1. The project must be deemed a critical need and must be  
2307 recommended for funding by the Special Facility Construction  
2308 Committee. Before developing construction plans for the proposed  
2309 facility, the district school board must request a  
2310 preapplication review by the Special Facility Construction  
2311 Committee or a project review subcommittee convened by the chair  
2312 of the committee to include two representatives of the  
2313 department and two staff members from school districts not  
2314 eligible to participate in the program. A school district may  
2315 request a preapplication review at any time; however, if the  
2316 district school board seeks inclusion in the department's next  
2317 annual capital outlay legislative budget request, the  
2318 preapplication review request must be made before February 1.  
2319 Within 90 days after receiving the preapplication review  
2320 request, the committee or subcommittee must meet in the school  
2321 district to review the project proposal and existing facilities.  
2322 To determine whether the proposed project is a critical need,  
2323 the committee or subcommittee shall consider, at a minimum, the  
2324 capacity of all existing facilities within the district as  
2325 determined by the Florida Inventory of School Houses; the  
2326 district's pattern of student growth; the district's existing  
2327 and projected capital outlay full-time equivalent student  
2328 enrollment as determined by the demographic, revenue, and  
2329 education estimating conferences established in s. 216.136; the  
2330 district's existing satisfactory student stations; the use of  
2331 all existing district property and facilities; grade level



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2332 configurations; and any other information that may affect the  
2333 need for the proposed project.

2334         2. The construction project must be recommended in the most  
2335 recent survey or survey amendment cooperatively prepared by the  
2336 district and the department, and approved by the department  
2337 under the rules of the State Board of Education. If a district  
2338 employs a consultant in the preparation of a survey or survey  
2339 amendment, the consultant may not be employed by or receive  
2340 compensation from a third party that designs or constructs a  
2341 project recommended by the survey.

2342         3. The construction project must appear on the district's  
2343 approved project priority list under the rules of the State  
2344 Board of Education.

2345         4. The district must have selected and had approved a site  
2346 for the construction project in compliance with s. 1013.36 and  
2347 the rules of the State Board of Education.

2348         5. The district shall have developed a district school  
2349 board adopted list of facilities that do not exceed the norm for  
2350 net square feet occupancy requirements under the State  
2351 Requirements for Educational Facilities, using all possible  
2352 programmatic combinations for multiple use of space to obtain  
2353 maximum daily use of all spaces within the facility under  
2354 consideration.

2355         6. Upon construction, the total cost per student station,  
2356 including change orders, must not exceed the cost per student  
2357 station as provided in subsection (6) unless approved by the  
2358 Special Facility Construction Committee. At the discretion of  
2359 the committee, costs that exceed the cost per student station  
2360 for special facilities may include legal and administrative



2361 fees, the cost of site improvements or related offsite  
2362 improvements, the cost of complying with public shelter and  
2363 hurricane hardening requirements, cost overruns created by a  
2364 disaster as defined in s. 252.34(2), costs of security  
2365 enhancements approved by the school safety specialist, and  
2366 unforeseeable circumstances beyond the district's control.

2367 7. There shall be an agreement signed by the district  
2368 school board stating that it will advertise for bids within 30  
2369 days of receipt of its encumbrance authorization from the  
2370 department.

2371 8.a.(I) For construction projects for which Special  
2372 Facilities Construction Account funding is sought before the  
2373 2019-2020 fiscal year, the district shall, at the time of the  
2374 request and for a continuing period necessary to meet the  
2375 district's participation requirement, levy the maximum millage  
2376 against its nonexempt assessed property value as allowed in s.  
2377 1011.71(2) or shall raise an equivalent amount of revenue from  
2378 the school capital outlay surtax authorized under s. 212.055(6).

2379 (II) Beginning with construction projects for which Special  
2380 Facilities Construction Account funding is sought in the 2019-  
2381 2020 fiscal year, the district shall, for a minimum of 3 years  
2382 before submitting the request and for a continuing period  
2383 necessary to meet its participation requirement, levy the  
2384 maximum millage against the district's nonexempt assessed  
2385 property value as authorized under s. 1011.71(2) or shall raise  
2386 an equivalent amount of revenue from the school capital outlay  
2387 surtax authorized under s. 212.055(6).

2388 (III) Beginning with the 2025-2026 fiscal year, any  
2389 district with an a-new-or active project or an outstanding



2390 participation requirement balance, funded under ~~the provisions~~  
2391 ~~of~~ this subsection, shall be required to budget no more than the  
2392 value of 1 mill per year to the project until the district's  
2393 participation requirement relating to the local discretionary  
2394 capital improvement millage or the equivalent amount of revenue  
2395 from the school capital outlay surtax is satisfied.

2396 b. For construction projects for which Special Facilities  
2397 Construction Account funding is sought beginning in the 2025-  
2398 2026 fiscal year, the district shall, for a minimum of 3 years  
2399 before submitting the request and for the initial year of the  
2400 appropriation and the 2 years following the initial  
2401 appropriation, levy the maximum millage against the district's  
2402 nonexempt assessed property value as authorized under s.  
2403 1011.71(2) or shall raise an equivalent amount of revenue from  
2404 the school capital outlay surtax authorized under s. 212.055(6).  
2405 The district is not required to budget the funds toward the  
2406 project, but must use the funds as authorized pursuant to s.  
2407 1011.71 or s. 212.055(6), as applicable.

2408 9. If a contract has not been signed 90 days after the  
2409 advertising of bids, the funding for the specific project must  
2410 ~~shall~~ revert to the Special Facility New Construction Account to  
2411 be reallocated to other projects on the list. However, an  
2412 additional 90 days may be granted by the commissioner.

2413 10. The department shall certify the inability of the  
2414 district to fund the survey-recommended project over a  
2415 continuous 3-year period using projected capital outlay revenue  
2416 derived from s. 9(d), Art. XII of the State Constitution, as  
2417 amended, paragraph (3)(a) of this section, and s. 1011.71(2).

2418 11.a. For projects funded before the 2025-2026 fiscal year,



2419 the district shall have on file with the department an adopted  
2420 resolution acknowledging its commitment to satisfy its  
2421 participation requirement, which is equivalent to all  
2422 unencumbered and future revenue acquired from s. 9(d), Art. XII  
2423 of the State Constitution, as amended, paragraph (3)(a) of this  
2424 section, and s. 1011.71(2), in the year of the initial  
2425 appropriation and for the 2 years immediately following the  
2426 initial appropriation.

2427 b. For projects funded during the 2025-2026 fiscal year and  
2428 thereafter, the district shall have on file with the department  
2429 an adopted resolution acknowledging its commitment to comply  
2430 with the requirements of this paragraph.

2431 12. Phase I plans must be approved by the district school  
2432 board as being in compliance with the building and life safety  
2433 codes before June 1 of the year the application is made.

2434 Section 64. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
2435 1009.531, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2436 1009.531 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;  
2437 student eligibility requirements for initial awards.-

2438 (1) In order to be eligible for an initial award from any  
2439 of the scholarships under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship  
2440 Program, a student must:

2441 (b) Earn a standard Florida high school diploma pursuant to  
2442 s. 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282 or a high school  
2443 equivalency diploma pursuant to s. 1003.435 unless:

2444 1. The student completes a home education program according  
2445 to s. 1002.41;

2446 2. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-  
2447 Florida school while living with a parent or guardian who is on,



2448 or, within 12 months before the student's high school  
2449 graduation, has retired from, military or public service  
2450 assignment away from Florida; or

2451 3. The student earns a high school diploma from a Florida  
2452 private school operating pursuant to s. 1002.42.

2453 Section 65. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
2454 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon  
2455 this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1,  
2456 2025.

2457  
2458 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

2459 And the title is amended as follows:

2460 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
2461 and insert:

2462 A bill to be entitled  
2463 An act relating to education; amending s. 11.45, F.S.;  
2464 deleting the Florida School for Competitive Academics  
2465 from the list of entities subject to certain audit  
2466 requirements; amending s. 11.51, F.S.; authorizing the  
2467 Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government  
2468 Accountability to develop contracts or agreements with  
2469 institutions in the State University System for a  
2470 specified purpose; amending s. 110.211, F.S.;  
2471 authorizing recruiting within the career service  
2472 system to include the use of certain apprenticeship  
2473 programs; providing that open competition is not  
2474 required under certain circumstances relating to the  
2475 career service system; amending s. 125.901, F.S.;  
2476 revising the composition and terms of membership of



2477 certain councils; amending s. 216.251, F.S.; deleting  
2478 the Florida School for Competitive Academics from  
2479 specified classification and pay plans; amending s.  
2480 288.036, F.S.; revising the duties of the Office of  
2481 Ocean Economy; amending s. 435.12, F.S.; revising the  
2482 dates for a screening schedule; amending s. 446.032,  
2483 F.S.; revising the date by which the Department of  
2484 Education is required to publish an annual report on  
2485 apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs;  
2486 amending s. 447.203, F.S.; deleting the Florida School  
2487 for Competitive Academics from the definition of a  
2488 public employer; amending s. 1000.04, F.S.; deleting  
2489 the Florida School for Competitive Academics from the  
2490 components of Florida's Early Learning-20 education  
2491 system; amending s. 1000.21, F.S.; renaming  
2492 Hillsborough Community College as "Hillsborough  
2493 College"; amending s. 1000.40, F.S.; revising the  
2494 scheduled repeal date of the Interstate Compact on  
2495 Educational Opportunity for Military Children;  
2496 amending s. 1001.03, F.S.; renaming critical teacher  
2497 shortage areas as "high-demand teacher needs areas";  
2498 amending s. 1001.20, F.S.; deleting oversight of the  
2499 Florida School for Competitive Academics from the  
2500 duties of the Office of Inspector General within the  
2501 department; requiring the state board to adopt rules;  
2502 amending s. 1001.451, F.S.; revising the services  
2503 required to be provided by regional consortium service  
2504 organizations when such services are found to be  
2505 necessary and appropriate by such organizations'



2506 boards of directors; revising the allocation that  
2507 certain regional consortium service organizations are  
2508 eligible to receive from the General Appropriations  
2509 Act; requiring each regional consortium service  
2510 organization to submit an annual report to the  
2511 Department of Education; requiring that unexpended  
2512 amounts in certain funds be carried forward; requiring  
2513 each regional consortium service organization to  
2514 provide quarterly financial reports to member  
2515 districts; requiring member districts to designate a  
2516 district to serve as a fiscal agent for certain  
2517 purposes; providing for compensation of the fiscal  
2518 agent district; requiring regional consortium service  
2519 organizations to retain all funds received from grants  
2520 or contracted services to cover indirect or  
2521 administrative costs associated with the provision of  
2522 such services; requiring the regional consortium  
2523 service organization board of directors to determine  
2524 products and services provided by the organization;  
2525 requiring a regional consortium service organization  
2526 board of directors to recommend the establishment of  
2527 positions and appointments to a fiscal agent district;  
2528 requiring that personnel be employed under specified  
2529 personnel policies; authorizing the regional  
2530 consortium service organization board of directors to  
2531 recommend a salary schedule for personnel; authorizing  
2532 regional consortium service organizations to purchase  
2533 or lease property and facilities essential to their  
2534 operations; providing for the distribution of revenue





2535 if a regional consortium service organization is  
2536 dissolved; deleting a provision requiring applications  
2537 for incentive grants; authorizing regional consortium  
2538 service organization boards of directors to contract  
2539 to provide services to nonmember districts; requiring  
2540 that a fund balance be established for specified  
2541 purposes; deleting a requirement for the use of  
2542 certain funds; authorizing a regional consortium  
2543 service organization to administer a specified  
2544 program; creating s. 1001.4511, F.S.; creating the  
2545 Regional Consortia Service Organization Supplemental  
2546 Services Program; providing the purpose of the  
2547 program; authorizing funds to be used for specified  
2548 purposes; requiring each regional consortium service  
2549 organization to report the distribution of funds  
2550 annually to the Legislature; providing for the  
2551 carryforward of funds; amending s. 1001.452, F.S.;  
2552 deleting a provision requiring the Commissioner of  
2553 Education to determine whether school districts have  
2554 maximized efforts to include minority persons and  
2555 persons of lower socioeconomic status on their school  
2556 advisory councils; creating s. 1001.68, F.S.;  
2557 authorizing Florida College System institutions with a  
2558 certain number of full-time equivalent students to  
2559 enter into cooperative agreements to form a state  
2560 college regional consortium service organization;  
2561 requiring such organizations to provide at least a  
2562 specified number of certain services; requiring that  
2563 regional consortium service organizations be governed



2564 by a board of directors consisting of specified  
2565 members; amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; deleting a  
2566 requirement that state universities provide student  
2567 access to certain information; amending s. 1001.7065,  
2568 F.S.; revising academic standards for the preeminent  
2569 state research university program to include a  
2570 specified average Classic Learning Test score;  
2571 amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; authorizing public schools  
2572 to purchase or enter into arrangements for certain  
2573 emergency opioid antagonists, rather than only for  
2574 naloxone; requiring that district school board  
2575 policies authorizing corporal punishment include a  
2576 requirement that parental consent be provided before  
2577 the administration of corporal punishment; amending s.  
2578 1002.33, F.S.; requiring a charter school to comply  
2579 with provisions relating to corporal punishment;  
2580 repealing s. 1002.351, F.S., relating to the Florida  
2581 School for Competitive Academics; amending s.  
2582 1002.394, F.S.; deleting the Florida School for  
2583 Competitive Academics from Family Empowerment  
2584 Scholarship prohibitions; amending s. 1002.395, F.S.;  
2585 deleting the Florida School for Competitive Academics  
2586 from Florida Tax Credit Scholarship prohibitions;  
2587 amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; authorizing certain private  
2588 schools to construct new facilities on property that  
2589 meets specified criteria; amending s. 1002.421, F.S.;  
2590 revising the background screening requirements for  
2591 certain private school personnel; amending s. 1002.68,  
2592 F.S.; deleting a provision requiring the department to



2593 confer with the Council for Early Grade Success before  
2594 receiving a certain approval; amending s. 1002.71,  
2595 F.S.; revising the conditions under which a student  
2596 may withdraw from a prekindergarten program and  
2597 reenroll in another program; amending s. 1002.945,  
2598 F.S.; revising the criteria required for a child care  
2599 facility, large family child care home, or family day  
2600 care home to obtain and maintain a designation as a  
2601 Gold Seal Quality Care provider; amending s. 1003.05,  
2602 F.S.; requiring that strategies addressed in specified  
2603 memoranda of agreement between school districts and  
2604 military installations include the development and  
2605 implementation of a specified training module;  
2606 requiring the Department of Education to provide the  
2607 training module to each district school board;  
2608 requiring each district school board to provide such  
2609 module to each public and charter K-12 school in its  
2610 district; requiring district school boards to make  
2611 certain training available to certain employees;  
2612 amending s. 1003.41, F.S.; requiring that certain  
2613 standards documents contain only academic standards  
2614 and benchmarks; requiring the Commissioner of  
2615 Education to revise currently approved standards  
2616 documents and submit them to the state board by a  
2617 specified date; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; revising  
2618 required instruction on the principles of agriculture;  
2619 requiring the department to collaborate with specified  
2620 entities to develop associated standards and a  
2621 curriculum; authorizing the department to contract



2622 with certain agricultural education organizations;  
2623 amending s. 1003.4201, F.S.; authorizing the inclusion  
2624 of intensive reading interventions in a school  
2625 district comprehensive reading instruction plan;  
2626 requiring that intensive reading interventions be  
2627 delivered by instructional personnel who possess a  
2628 micro-credential or are certified or endorsed in  
2629 reading; requiring that such interventions incorporate  
2630 certain strategies; requiring that instructional  
2631 personnel with a micro-credential be supervised by an  
2632 individual certified or endorsed in reading; defining  
2633 the term "supervised"; authorizing the inclusion in  
2634 the reading instruction plans of a description of how  
2635 school districts prioritize the assignment of highly  
2636 effective teachers; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.;

2637 adding components to required instruction on financial  
2638 literacy; amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; conforming  
2639 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.  
2640 1004.0971, F.S.; revising the definition of the term  
2641 "emergency opioid antagonist"; amending s. 1004.933,  
2642 F.S.; authorizing an institution to enter into an  
2643 agreement with an online provider for the adult  
2644 education or career instruction portion of the  
2645 Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE)  
2646 Program; deleting the age limit for enrollment in the  
2647 program; clarifying that students are not required to  
2648 enroll in adult secondary and career education  
2649 coursework simultaneously; amending s. 1005.06, F.S.;

2650 authorizing certain institutions to operate without



2651 licensure; specifying affirmations required as a part  
2652 of an affidavit; requiring submission of requested  
2653 documentation in a specified timeframe; requiring the  
2654 Commission for Independent Education to review such  
2655 affidavit in a public meeting; specifying commission  
2656 actions for noncompliance; authorizing the commission  
2657 to adopt rules; amending s. 1006.09, F.S.; expanding  
2658 the duties of school principals relating to student  
2659 discipline and school safety; amending s. 1006.13,  
2660 F.S.; requiring district school superintendents to  
2661 provide a determination to extend the expulsion period  
2662 for students; providing requirements for such  
2663 determination; requiring such determination be  
2664 provided to students and parents; amending s. 1006.73,  
2665 F.S.; revising reporting requirements relating to the  
2666 Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network;  
2667 amending s. 1007.27, F.S.; requiring the state board  
2668 to identify national consortia to develop certain  
2669 courses; authorizing the department to join or  
2670 establish a national consortium as an additional  
2671 alternative method to develop and implement advanced  
2672 placement courses; amending s. 1007.35, F.S.; revising  
2673 which examinations public high schools are required to  
2674 administer; revising the examinations about which a  
2675 partnership must provide information to specified  
2676 individuals and entities; revising the examinations  
2677 for which the department must provide the learning  
2678 data from to a certain partnership; amending s.  
2679 1008.36, F.S.; revising the recipients of school



2680 recognition bonus funds; amending s. 1008.365, F.S.;

2681 revising the types of tutoring hours that may be

2682 counted toward meeting the community service

2683 requirements for the Bright Futures Scholarship

2684 Program; amending s. 1008.37, F.S.; revising the date

2685 by which the Commissioner of Education must deliver a

2686 report to specified entities; revising the

2687 requirements of the report; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.;

2688 revising the residency requirement for a grandparent

2689 for a student's out-of-state fee waiver; revising the

2690 residency criteria for a grandparent in a specified

2691 attestation; providing applicability; amending s.

2692 1009.536, F.S.; clarifying the required minimum

2693 cumulative weighted grade point average for the

2694 Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award; authorizing

2695 students to apply for a Florida Gold Seal CAPE

2696 Scholars award within a specified timeframe before or

2697 after completing the GATE Program; creating s.

2698 1009.635, F.S.; establishing the Rural Incentive for

2699 Professional Educators Program within the Department

2700 of Education; requiring the program to provide

2701 financial assistance for the repayment of student

2702 loans to eligible participants who establish permanent

2703 residency and employment in rural communities;

2704 providing that eligible participants may receive up to

2705 a certain amount in total student loan repayment

2706 assistance over a certain timeframe; requiring the

2707 department to verify certain information of

2708 participants in the program before it disburses



2709 awards; providing that the program is administered  
2710 through the Office of Student Financial Assistance  
2711 within the department; requiring the department to  
2712 develop procedures and monitor compliance; requiring  
2713 the State Board of Education to adopt rules by a  
2714 certain date; amending s. 1009.8962, F.S.; revising  
2715 the definition of the term "institution"; amending s.  
2716 1009.897, F.S.; requiring institutions receiving funds  
2717 through the Prepping Institutions, Programs,  
2718 Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing  
2719 Education Fund to allocate funding to health care-  
2720 related programs; repealing s. 1011.58, F.S., relating  
2721 to legislative budget requests of the Florida School  
2722 for Competitive Academics; repealing s. 1011.59, F.S.,  
2723 relating to funds for the Florida School for  
2724 Competitive Academics; amending s. 1011.71, F.S.;  
2725 revising the types of casualty insurance premiums that  
2726 may be paid by a district school tax; amending s.  
2727 1011.804, F.S.; authorizing certain institutions to  
2728 apply for and use grant funds under the GATE Startup  
2729 Grant Program for specified purposes; amending ss.  
2730 1012.07 and 1012.22, F.S.; conforming provisions to  
2731 changes made by the act; amending s. 1012.315, F.S.;  
2732 revising the background screening requirements for  
2733 certain private school personnel; providing that  
2734 certain background screening requirements remain in  
2735 place for a specified period of time for certain  
2736 personnel; amending s. 1012.77, F.S.; conforming a  
2737 provision to a change made by the act; specifying



2738 entities eligible to submit nominees for the Teacher  
2739 of the Year and Ambassador for Education awards;  
2740 amending s. 1013.30, F.S.; revising the timeframe for  
2741 updates to state university campus master plans;  
2742 amending s. 1013.62, F.S.; revising the calculation  
2743 methodology to determine the amount of revenue that a  
2744 school district must distribute to each eligible  
2745 charter school; amending s. 1013.64, F.S.; revising  
2746 conditions under which a school district may receive  
2747 funding on an approved construction project; providing  
2748 appropriations for specified purposes; amending s.  
2749 1009.531, F.S.; revising eligibility requirements for  
2750 students who earn a high school diploma from a non-  
2751 Florida school under certain circumstances; providing  
2752 effective dates.