

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to education; amending s. 251.001,  
3           F.S.; providing tuition assistance to active members  
4           of the Florida State Guard; providing requirements for  
5           such assistance; amending s. 446.032, F.S.; revising  
6           the submission date for a certain annual report;  
7           amending s. 446.041, F.S.; revising duties of the  
8           Department of Education for the apprenticeship  
9           training program; amending s. 1000.05, F.S.; renaming  
10          the "Florida Educational Equity Act" as the "Florida  
11          Educational Equality Act"; revising terminology;  
12          revising requirements for the Commissioner of  
13          Education to determine whether equal opportunities are  
14          available relating to certain athletics; requiring,  
15          rather than authorizing, public schools and Florida  
16          College System institutions to provide specified  
17          accommodations based on sex; deleting a requirement  
18          that public schools and Florida College System  
19          institutions develop and implement specified  
20          strategies and methods for specified student  
21          participation; revising the functions of the Office of  
22          Equal Educational Opportunity; requiring the State  
23          Board of Education to enforce compliance; removing  
24          duplicative reporting requirements; creating s.  
25          1000.055, F.S.; establishing Title IX investigative

26 | procedures; amending s. 1000.21, F.S.; changing the  
27 | name of "Hillsborough Community College" to  
28 | "Hillsborough State College"; amending s. 1001.64,  
29 | F.S.; requiring the State Board of Education to  
30 | approve the appointment, reappointment, and contract  
31 | extensions of Florida College System institution  
32 | presidents; providing limitations for the  
33 | reappointment of and extension of terms of such  
34 | presidents to 1-year terms; amending s. 1001.706,  
35 | F.S.; deleting a provision requiring the Board of  
36 | Governors to be in compliance with certain provisions  
37 | relating to construction contracts with minority  
38 | business enterprises; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.;  
39 | conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
40 | amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; conforming a cross-  
41 | reference; amending s. 1004.02, F.S.; revising  
42 | terminology; amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; revising the  
43 | requirements for teacher preparation programs to  
44 | include strategies for the effective use of high-  
45 | quality instructional materials to deliver classroom  
46 | instruction; amending s. 1004.42, F.S.; revising the  
47 | principal focus of the Florida State University  
48 | College of Medicine; amending s. 1004.85, F.S.;  
49 | revising the requirements for educator preparation  
50 | institutes to include strategies for the effective use

51 of high-quality instructional materials to deliver  
52 classroom instruction; amending s. 1004.91, F.S.;  
53 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
54 amending s. 1004.933, F.S.; revising the eligibility  
55 criteria for the Graduation Alternative to Traditional  
56 Education (GATE) Program; amending s. 1005.06, F.S.;  
57 providing that certain colleges and schools are not  
58 exempt from licensure by the Commission for  
59 Independent Education; amending s. 1006.60, F.S.;  
60 providing that postsecondary institutions have the  
61 burden to prove by clear and convincing evidence that  
62 a violation of the student code of conduct has taken  
63 place, rather than by a preponderance of the evidence;  
64 providing requirements for clear and convincing  
65 evidence; amending s. 1006.71, F.S.; conforming  
66 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.  
67 1007.25, F.S.; revising the period of time for state  
68 universities and Florida College System institutions  
69 to submit comments for proposed associate in arts  
70 specialized transfer degrees; amending s. 1007.271,  
71 F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the  
72 act; amending s. 1007.34, F.S.; revising the criteria  
73 for preferential selection of a college reach-out  
74 program; revising the requirements for proposals for  
75 such programs; amending s. 1007.35, F.S.; renaming the

76 "Florida Partnership for Minority and Underrepresented  
77 Student Achievement" as the "Florida Partnership for  
78 Underrepresented Student Achievement"; revising  
79 legislative intent; revising the mission of the  
80 partnership; amending s. 1008.37, F.S.; revising the  
81 submission date for a certain annual report; revising  
82 requirements of the report; amending s. 1008.44, F.S.;  
83 revising the requirements for the CAPE Industry  
84 Certification Funding List; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.;  
85 defining the term "nonresident online"; amending s.  
86 1009.22, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made  
87 by the act; amending s. 1009.23, F.S.; revising the  
88 criteria for students who may receive specified  
89 assistance; amending s. 1009.25, F.S.; conforming  
90 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.  
91 1009.26, F.S.; removing the eligibility requirement  
92 that restricts waivers to incoming undergraduate  
93 students; removing the maximum number of new annual  
94 waivers; amending s. 1009.40, F.S.; conforming  
95 provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.  
96 1009.532, F.S.; providing that students are expelled  
97 or are found guilty of a felony charge are ineligible  
98 for the renewal of a Florida Bright Futures  
99 scholarship award; amending s. 1009.536, F.S.;  
100 revising the eligibility criteria for the Florida Gold

101 Seal CAPE Scholars award; authorizing GATE program  
102 students to apply for the Florida Gold Seal CAPE  
103 scholar award within a specified timeframe; repealing  
104 s. 1009.60, F.S., relating to the Minority teacher  
105 education scholars program; repealing s. 1009.605,  
106 F.S., relating to the Florida Fund for Minority  
107 Teachers, Inc.; repealing s. 1009.70, F.S., relating  
108 to the Florida Education Fund; repealing s. 1009.72,  
109 F.S., relating to the Jose Marti Scholarship Challenge  
110 Grant Program; amending 1009.897, F.S.; providing  
111 requirements for the use of funding from the PIPELINE  
112 Fund; amending s. 1009.94, F.S.; conforming provisions  
113 to changes made by the act; amending s. 1011.801,  
114 F.S.; revising eligibility criteria for eligible  
115 students for the Workforce Development Capitalization  
116 Incentive Grant Program; amending s. 1011.802, F.S.;  
117 authorizing state universities to receive a grant  
118 through the Florida Pathways to Career Opportunities  
119 Grant Program; amending s. 1011.84, F.S.; revising the  
120 components for calculating each Florida College System  
121 institutions' apportionment of state fund; revising  
122 Florida College System institution requirements  
123 relating to unencumbered balances in specified  
124 budgets; repealing s. 1011.86, F.S., relating to  
125 Educational leadership enhancement grants; amending s.

126 1012.56, F.S.; requiring professional learning  
 127 certification program courses to include strategies  
 128 for the effective utilization of high-quality  
 129 instructional materials to deliver classroom  
 130 instruction; amending s. 1012.562, F.S.; revising  
 131 specified standards for school leader preparation  
 132 programs; requiring such programs to include  
 133 strategies for the effective utilization of high-  
 134 quality instructional materials to deliver classroom  
 135 instruction; amending s. 1013.46, F.S.; deleting a  
 136 provision authorizing specified entities to set asides  
 137 specified funds for construction contracts with  
 138 minority business enterprises; amending s. 1013.841,  
 139 F.S.; revising the requirements for reserve balances  
 140 and carry forward provisions for Florida College  
 141 System institutions; providing an effective date.

142  
 143 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

144  
 145 **Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 251.001, Florida**  
 146 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

147 251.001 Florida State Guard Act.—

148 (9) REIMBURSEMENT, BENEFIT, AND COMPENSATION.—

149 (a) The division shall reimburse members of the Florida  
 150 State Guard for per diem and travel expenses incurred to attend

151 required training or in the course of active service as provided  
 152 in s. 112.061.

153 (b) Members of the Florida State Guard may be compensated  
 154 for time spent training or in the course of active service at  
 155 rates established by the director, subject to appropriation.

156 (c) A member of the Florida State Guard may not make any  
 157 purchase or enter into any contract or agreement for purchases  
 158 or services as a charge against the state without the authority  
 159 of the director.

160 (d) As a benefit to the active members of the Florida  
 161 State Guard, subject to approval by the director of the Division  
 162 of the State Guard, each state university and Florida College  
 163 System institution shall waive tuition and fees for active  
 164 members of the Florida State Guard to enroll for up to 6 credit  
 165 hours of courses per term on a space-available basis.

166 **Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 446.032, Florida**  
 167 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

168 446.032 General duties of the department for  
 169 apprenticeship training.—The department shall:

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

174 (a) A list of registered apprenticeship and  
 175 preapprenticeship programs, sorted by local educational agency,

176 as defined in s. 1004.02(18), and apprenticeship sponsor, under  
177 s. 446.071.

178 (b) A detailed summary of each local educational agency's  
179 expenditure of funds for apprenticeship and preapprenticeship  
180 programs, including:

181 1. The total amount of funds received for apprenticeship  
182 and preapprenticeship programs.

183 2. The total amount of funds allocated by training  
184 provider, program, and occupation.

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

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

189 (c) The number of apprentices and preapprentices per trade  
190 and occupation.

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

193 (e) Information and resources related to applications for  
194 new apprenticeship programs and technical assistance and  
195 requirements for potential applicants.

196 (f) Documentation of activities conducted by the  
197 department to promote apprenticeship and preapprenticeship  
198 programs through public engagement, community-based  
199 partnerships, and other initiatives and the outcomes of such  
200 activities and their impact on establishing or expanding



201 apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs.

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

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

207 **Section 3. Subsection (12) of section 446.041, Florida**  
208 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

209 446.041 Duties of the department.—The department shall:

210 ~~(12) Ensure that minority and gender diversity are~~  
211 ~~considered in administering this program.~~

212 **Section 4. Subsections (6) through (9) of section 1000.05,**  
213 **Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) through (8),**  
214 **respectively, and subsection (1), paragraph (d) of subsection**  
215 **(2), paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (3), and subsection**  
216 **(5) and present subsection (7) of section 1000.05, Florida**  
217 **Statutes, are amended to read:**

218 1000.05 Discrimination against students and employees in  
219 the Florida K-20 public education system prohibited; equality of  
220 access required.—

221 (1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Educational  
222 Equality Equity Act."

223 (2)

224 (d) Students may be separated by sex for a single-sex  
225 ~~single-gender~~ program, for any portion of a class that deals

226 with human reproduction, or during participation in bodily  
227 contact sports. For the purpose of this section, bodily contact  
228 sports include wrestling, boxing, rugby, ice hockey, football,  
229 basketball, and other sports in which the purpose or major  
230 activity involves bodily contact.

231 (3)

232 (d) A public K-20 educational institution which operates  
233 or sponsors interscholastic, intercollegiate, club, or  
234 intramural athletics shall provide equal athletic opportunity  
235 for members of both sexes.

236 1. The Board of Governors shall determine whether equal  
237 opportunities are available at state universities.

238 2. The Commissioner of Education shall determine whether  
239 equal opportunities are available in school districts and  
240 Florida College System institutions. ~~In determining whether~~  
241 ~~equal opportunities are available in school districts and~~  
242 ~~Florida College System institutions, the Commissioner of~~  
243 ~~Education shall consider, among other factors:~~

244 ~~a. Whether the selection of sports and levels of~~  
245 ~~competition effectively accommodate the interests and abilities~~  
246 ~~of members of both sexes.~~

247 ~~b. The provision of equipment and supplies.~~

248 ~~e. Scheduling of games and practice times.~~

249 ~~d. Travel and per diem allowances.~~

250 ~~e. Opportunities to receive coaching and academic~~

251 ~~tutoring.~~

252 ~~f. Assignment and compensation of coaches and tutors.~~

253 ~~g. Provision of locker room, practice, and competitive~~  
 254 ~~facilities.~~

255 ~~h. Provision of medical and training facilities and~~  
 256 ~~services.~~

257 ~~i. Provision of housing and dining facilities and~~  
 258 ~~services.~~

259 ~~j. Publicity.~~

260

261 Unequal aggregate expenditures for members of each sex or  
 262 unequal expenditures for male and female teams if a public  
 263 school or Florida College System institution operates or  
 264 sponsors separate teams do not constitute nonimplementation of  
 265 this subsection, but the Commissioner of Education shall  
 266 consider the failure to provide necessary funds for teams for  
 267 one sex in assessing equality of opportunity for members of each  
 268 sex.

269 (e) A public school or Florida College System institution  
 270 must ~~may~~ provide separate toilet, locker room, and shower  
 271 facilities on the basis of sex, and gender, ~~but~~ such facilities  
 272 shall be comparable to such facilities provided for students of  
 273 the other sex.

274 ~~(5) Public schools and Florida College System institutions~~  
 275 ~~shall develop and implement methods and strategies to increase~~

276 ~~the participation of students of a particular race, color,~~  
277 ~~national origin, sex, disability, or marital status in programs~~  
278 ~~and courses in which students of that particular race, color,~~  
279 ~~national origin, sex, disability, or marital status have been~~  
280 ~~traditionally underrepresented, including, but not limited to,~~  
281 ~~mathematics, science, computer technology, electronics,~~  
282 ~~communications technology, engineering, and career education.~~

283 ~~(6)-(7)~~ The function ~~functions~~ of the Office of Equal  
284 Educational Opportunity of the Department of Education shall be  
285 to review compliance with ~~include, but are not limited to:~~

286 ~~(a) Requiring all district school boards and Florida~~  
287 ~~College System institution boards of trustees to develop and~~  
288 ~~submit plans for the implementation of this section to the~~  
289 ~~Department of Education.~~

290 ~~(b) Conducting periodic reviews of school districts and~~  
291 ~~Florida College System institutions to determine compliance with~~  
292 ~~this section and, after a finding that a school district or a~~  
293 ~~Florida College System institution is not in compliance with~~  
294 ~~this section, notifying the entity of the steps that it must~~  
295 ~~take to attain compliance and performing followup monitoring.~~

296 ~~(c) Providing technical assistance, including assisting~~  
297 ~~school districts or Florida College System institutions in~~  
298 ~~identifying unlawful discrimination and instructing them in~~  
299 ~~remedies for correction and prevention of such discrimination~~  
300 ~~and performing followup monitoring.~~

301 ~~(d) Conducting studies of the effectiveness of methods and~~  
302 ~~strategies designed to increase the participation of students in~~  
303 ~~programs and courses in which students of a particular race,~~  
304 ~~color, national origin, sex, disability, or marital status have~~  
305 ~~been traditionally underrepresented and monitoring the success~~  
306 ~~of students in such programs or courses, including performing~~  
307 ~~followup monitoring.~~

308 ~~(e) Requiring all district school boards and Florida~~  
309 ~~College System institution boards of trustees to submit data and~~  
310 ~~information necessary to determine compliance with this section.~~  
311 ~~The Commissioner of Education shall prescribe the format and the~~  
312 ~~date for submission of such data and any other educational~~  
313 ~~equity data. If any board does not submit the required~~  
314 ~~compliance data or other required educational equity data by the~~  
315 ~~prescribed date, the commissioner shall notify the board of this~~  
316 ~~fact and, if the board does not take appropriate action to~~  
317 ~~immediately submit the required report, the State Board of~~  
318 ~~Education shall impose monetary sanctions.~~

319 ~~(f) Based upon rules of the State Board of Education,~~  
320 ~~developing and implementing enforcement mechanisms with~~  
321 ~~appropriate penalties to ensure that public K-12 schools and~~  
322 ~~Florida College System institutions comply with Title IX of the~~  
323 ~~Education Amendments of 1972 and subsection (3) of this section.~~  
324 ~~However,~~ The State Board of Education may not force a public  
325 school or Florida College System institution to conduct, nor

326 penalize such entity for not conducting, a program of athletic  
327 activity or athletic scholarship for female athletes unless it  
328 is an athletic activity approved for women by a recognized  
329 association whose purpose is to promote athletics and a  
330 conference or league exists to promote interscholastic or  
331 intercollegiate competition for women in that athletic activity.

332 ~~(g) Reporting to~~ The Commissioner of Education and the  
333 State Board of Education shall use the authority provided  
334 pursuant to s. 1008.32 to enforce compliance with this section  
335 ~~any district school board or Florida College System institution~~  
336 ~~board of trustees found to be out of compliance with rules of~~  
337 ~~the State Board of Education adopted as required by paragraph~~  
338 ~~(f) or paragraph (3) (d). To penalize the board, the State Board~~  
339 ~~of Education shall:~~

340 1. ~~Declare the school district or Florida College System~~  
341 ~~institution ineligible for competitive state grants.~~

342 2. ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.192, direct~~  
343 ~~the Chief Financial Officer to withhold general revenue funds~~  
344 ~~sufficient to obtain compliance from the school district or~~  
345 ~~Florida College System institution.~~

346  
347 ~~The school district or Florida College System institution shall~~  
348 ~~remain ineligible and the funds shall not be paid until the~~  
349 ~~institution comes into compliance or the State Board of~~  
350 ~~Education approves a plan for compliance.~~

351           **Section 5. Section 1000.055, Florida Statutes, is created**  
352 **to read:**

353           1000.055 Sex discrimination; investigation procedures and  
354 rules; protections and requirements applicable to public  
355 postsecondary educational institutions.—

356           (1) For purposes of this section, the term "institutions"  
357 means Florida College System institutions and state  
358 universities.

359           (2) In addition to the applicable provisions of ss.  
360 1000.05 and 1006.60 for institutions, the following protections  
361 and requirements apply to all investigations and adjudication of  
362 complaints involving allegations of sex discrimination under  
363 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 conducted by each  
364 institution in the state:

365           (a) Evaluation of evidence and treatment of parties.—Each  
366 institution shall objectively evaluate all relevant information  
367 and inculpatory evidence and ensure that processes and  
368 procedures adopted by the institution treat both parties  
369 equally.

370           (b) Review of evidence and investigative reports.—At least  
371 10 business days before any disciplinary proceeding, each  
372 institution shall provide the opportunity for all parties to  
373 review and inspect all evidence and relevant information,  
374 investigative reports, evidentiary summaries, and any other  
375 information that will be relied upon by the institution in the

376 disciplinary proceeding or hearing.

377 (c) Investigator model.—The Title IX coordinator or  
378 investigator responsible for investigating allegations of sex  
379 discrimination may not serve as a decisionmaker.

380 (d) Written determination.—The decisionmaker must issue a  
381 written determination regarding the responsibility of the  
382 respondent.

383 (e) Standard of proof.—Institutions have the burden to  
384 prove, by clear and convincing evidence, that a violation has  
385 taken place. Clear and convincing evidence means that the  
386 evidence and information presented supports the finding that it  
387 is highly probable that sex discrimination occurred.

388 (f) Hostile environment harassment.—Hostile environment  
389 harassment is unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable  
390 person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive  
391 that such conduct effectively denies a person equal access to  
392 the person's education program or activity.

393 (g) Public posting of training materials.—All materials  
394 used to train employees, investigators, coordinators,  
395 decisionmakers, and any other person who facilitates informal  
396 resolutions must be made publicly available. Each institution  
397 must make these training materials publicly available on their  
398 website or, if an institution does not maintain a website,  
399 training materials must be made available upon request for  
400 public inspection for members of the public.



401 (h) Retaliation prohibited.—An institution or person may  
402 not intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any  
403 person for the purpose of interfering with any right or  
404 privilege secured by Title IX of the Education Amendments of  
405 1972, or because the person has made a report or complaint,  
406 testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate  
407 in any manner in an investigation, a proceeding, or a hearing  
408 involving allegations of sex discrimination.

409 (3) In addition to the requirements in subsection (2), any  
410 investigation and adjudication of complaints involving  
411 allegations of sex discrimination under Title IX of the  
412 Education Amendments Act of 1972 conducted by an institution  
413 must provide for an in-person hearing. At the hearing, the  
414 decisionmakers must permit each party's advisor to ask the other  
415 party and any witnesses all relevant questions and followup  
416 questions, including questions challenging credibility. Such  
417 cross examination at the live hearing must be conducted  
418 directly, orally, and in real time by the party's advisor of  
419 choice and never by a party personally, notwithstanding the  
420 discretion of the school to permit, at the request of either  
421 party, to allow parties to be located in separate rooms with  
422 technology enabling the decisionmakers and parties to  
423 simultaneously see and hear the party or witness answering  
424 questions.

425 (4) The State Board of Education and the Board of

426 Governors, respectively, shall require each Florida College  
 427 System institution to adopt, by rule, and each state university  
 428 to adopt, by regulation, policies and procedures required by  
 429 this section.

430 **Section 6. Paragraph (j) of subsection (5) of section**  
 431 **1000.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

432 1000.21 Systemwide definitions.—As used in the Florida  
 433 Early Learning-20 Education Code:

434 (5) "Florida College System institution" except as  
 435 otherwise specifically provided, includes all of the following  
 436 public postsecondary educational institutions in the Florida  
 437 College System and any branch campuses, centers, or other  
 438 affiliates of the institution:

439 (j) Hillsborough State ~~Community~~ College, which serves  
 440 Hillsborough County.

441 **Section 7. Subsection (19) of section 1001.64, Florida**  
 442 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

443 1001.64 Florida College System institution boards of  
 444 trustees; powers and duties.—

445 (19) Each board of trustees shall appoint, suspend, or  
 446 remove the president of the Florida College System institution.  
 447 The appointment, reappointment, and extension of a term of a  
 448 Florida College System institution president, including  
 449 associated contracts, must be approved by the State Board of  
 450 Education. The reappointment and the extension of a term for

451 such presidents is limited to 1-year terms. The board of  
452 trustees may appoint a search committee. The board of trustees  
453 shall conduct annual evaluations of the president in accordance  
454 with rules of the State Board of Education and submit such  
455 evaluations to the State Board of Education for review. The  
456 evaluation must address the achievement of the performance goals  
457 established by the accountability process implemented pursuant  
458 to s. 1008.45.

459 **Section 8. Paragraph (d) of subsection (7) of section**  
460 **1001.706, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

461 1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

462 (7) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO PROPERTY.—

463 ~~(d) The Board of Governors, or the board's designee, shall~~  
464 ~~ensure compliance with the provisions of s. 287.09451 for all~~  
465 ~~procurement and ss. 255.101 and 255.102 for construction~~  
466 ~~contracts, and rules adopted pursuant thereto, relating to the~~  
467 ~~utilization of minority business enterprises, except that~~  
468 ~~procurements costing less than the amount provided for in~~  
469 ~~CATEGORY FIVE as provided in s. 287.017 shall not be subject to~~  
470 ~~s. 287.09451.~~

471 **Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section**  
472 **1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

473 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
474 school students must receive accurate and timely information  
475 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed

476 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
477 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
478 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

479 (6) EDUCATIONAL CHOICE.—

480 (a) Public educational school choices.—Parents of public  
481 school students may seek any public educational school choice  
482 options that are applicable and available to students throughout  
483 the state. These options may include controlled open enrollment,  
484 single-sex ~~single-gender~~ programs, lab schools, virtual  
485 instruction programs, charter schools, charter technical career  
486 centers, magnet schools, alternative schools, special programs,  
487 auditory-oral education programs, advanced placement, dual  
488 enrollment, International Baccalaureate, International General  
489 Certificate of Secondary Education (pre-AICE), CAPE digital  
490 tools, CAPE industry certifications, early college programs,  
491 Advanced International Certificate of Education, early  
492 admissions, credit by examination or demonstration of  
493 competency, the New World School of the Arts, the Florida School  
494 for the Deaf and the Blind, and the Florida Virtual School.  
495 These options may also include the public educational choice  
496 option of the Opportunity Scholarship Program.

497 **Section 10. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section**  
498 **1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

499 1003.42 Required instruction.—

500 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public

501 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education  
502 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and  
503 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the  
504 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,  
505 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing  
506 approved methods of instruction, the following:

507 (g)1. The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the  
508 systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other  
509 groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of  
510 humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an  
511 investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the  
512 ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an  
513 examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful  
514 person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity  
515 in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting  
516 democratic values and institutions, including the policy,  
517 definition, and historical and current examples of antisemitism,  
518 as described in s. 1000.05(7) ~~s. 1000.05(8)~~, and the prevention  
519 of antisemitism. Each school district must annually certify and  
520 provide evidence to the department, in a manner prescribed by  
521 the department, that the requirements of this paragraph are met.  
522 The department shall prepare and offer standards and curriculum  
523 for the instruction required by this paragraph and may seek  
524 input from the Commissioner of Education's Task Force on  
525 Holocaust Education or from any state or nationally recognized

526 Holocaust educational organizations. The department may contract  
 527 with any state or nationally recognized Holocaust educational  
 528 organizations to develop training for instructional personnel  
 529 and grade-appropriate classroom resources to support the  
 530 developed curriculum.

531 2. The second week in November shall be designated as  
 532 "Holocaust Education Week" in this state in recognition that  
 533 November is the anniversary of Kristallnacht, widely recognized  
 534 as a precipitating event that led to the Holocaust.

535  
 536 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards  
 537 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.  
 538 Instructional programming that incorporates the values of the  
 539 recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is  
 540 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or  
 541 other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness  
 542 initiative meets the requirements of paragraph (u).

543 **Section 11. Subsections (3) and (23) of section 1004.02,**  
 544 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

545 1004.02 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

546 (3) "Adult general education" means comprehensive  
 547 instructional programs designed to improve the employability of  
 548 the state's workforce through adult basic education, adult  
 549 secondary education, English for Speakers of Other Languages,  
 550 academic skills building ~~applied academics for adult education~~

551 ~~instruction~~, and instruction for adults with disabilities.

552 (23) "Academic skills building" ~~Applied academics for~~  
553 ~~adult education~~ or "~~applied academics instruction~~" means adult  
554 general education through which persons attain academic and  
555 workforce readiness skills at the level of functional literacy  
556 ~~(grade levels 6.0-8.9)~~ or higher so that such persons may pursue  
557 technical certificate education or higher-level technical  
558 education.

559 **Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section**  
560 **1004.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

561 1004.04 Public accountability and state approval of ~~for~~  
562 teacher preparation programs.—

563 (2) UNIFORM CORE CURRICULA AND CANDIDATE ASSESSMENT.—

564 (b) The rules to establish uniform core curricula for each  
565 state-approved teacher preparation program must include, but are  
566 not limited to, the following:

567 1. Candidate instruction and assessment in the Florida  
568 Educator Accomplished Practices across content areas.

569 2. The use of state-adopted content standards to guide  
570 curricula and instruction.

571 3. Scientifically researched and evidence-based reading  
572 instructional strategies grounded in the science of reading  
573 which improve reading performance for all students, including  
574 explicit, systematic, and sequential approaches to teaching  
575 phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and text

576 comprehension and multisensory intervention strategies. The  
577 primary instructional strategy for teaching word reading is  
578 phonics instruction for decoding and encoding. Instructional  
579 strategies for foundational skills may not employ the three-  
580 cueing system model of reading or visual memory as a basis for  
581 teaching word reading. Instructional strategies may include  
582 visual information and strategies that improve background and  
583 experiential knowledge, add context, and increase oral language  
584 and vocabulary to support comprehension, but may not be used to  
585 teach word reading.

586 4. Content literacy and mathematics practices.

587 5. Strategies appropriate for the instruction of English  
588 language learners.

589 6. Strategies appropriate for the instruction of students  
590 with disabilities.

591 7. Strategies to differentiate instruction based on  
592 student needs.

593 8. Strategies for the effective use of high-quality  
594 instructional materials to deliver classroom instruction. This  
595 instruction must focus on teaching candidates how to implement  
596 and integrate high-quality instructional materials as provided,  
597 ensuring adherence to the intended instructional design of the  
598 materials. Candidates will learn methods to maximize learning  
599 outcomes by leveraging the structured content, pacing guides,  
600 and assessment tools included in the high-quality instructional



601 materials, without altering or restructuring the curriculum and  
602 ~~practices to support evidence-based content aligned to state~~  
603 ~~standards and grading practices.~~

604 9. Strategies appropriate for the early identification of  
605 a student in crisis or experiencing a mental health challenge  
606 and the referral of such student to a mental health professional  
607 for support.

608 10. Strategies to support the use of technology in  
609 education and distance learning.

610 11. Strategies and practices to support effective,  
611 research-based assessment and grading practices aligned to the  
612 state's academic standards.

613 **Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 1004.42, Florida**  
614 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

615 1004.42 Florida State University College of Medicine.—

616 (1) CREATION.—There is hereby established a 4-year  
617 allopathic medical school within the Florida State University,  
618 to be known as the Florida State University College of Medicine,  
619 with a principal focus on recruiting and training medical  
620 professionals to meet the primary health care needs of the  
621 state, especially the needs of the state's ~~elderly, rural,~~  
622 ~~minority, and other~~ underserved citizens.

623 **Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section**  
624 **1004.85, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

625 1004.85 Postsecondary educator preparation institutes.—

626 (2) (a) Postsecondary institutions that are accredited or  
627 approved as described in State Board of Education rule may seek  
628 approval from the Department of Education to create educator  
629 preparation institutes for the purpose of providing any or all  
630 of the following:

631 1. Professional learning instruction to assist teachers in  
632 improving classroom instruction and in meeting certification or  
633 recertification requirements.

634 2. Instruction to assist potential and existing substitute  
635 teachers in performing their duties.

636 3. Instruction to assist paraprofessionals in meeting  
637 education and training requirements.

638 4. Instruction for baccalaureate degree holders to become  
639 certified teachers as provided in this section in order to  
640 increase routes to the classroom for professionals who hold a  
641 baccalaureate degree and college graduates who were not  
642 education majors.

643 5. Instruction and professional learning for part-time and  
644 full-time nondegreed teachers of career programs under s.  
645 1012.39(1)(c).

646 6. Instruction that does not distort significant  
647 historical events or include a curriculum or instruction that  
648 teaches identity politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on  
649 theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege  
650 are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were

651 created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.  
652 Courses and instruction within the educator preparation  
653 institute must afford candidates the opportunity to think  
654 critically, achieve mastery of academic program content, learn  
655 instructional strategies, and demonstrate competence.

656 7. Strategies for the effective use of high-quality  
657 instructional materials to deliver classroom instruction. This  
658 instruction will focus on teaching candidates how to implement  
659 and integrate high-quality instructional materials as provided,  
660 ensuring adherence to the intended instructional design of the  
661 material. Candidates will learn methods to maximize learning  
662 outcomes by leveraging the structured content, pacing guides,  
663 and assessment tools included in the high-quality instructional  
664 materials, without altering or restructuring the curriculum.

665 **Section 15. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 1004.91,**  
666 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

667 1004.91 Requirements for career education program basic  
668 skills.—

669 (1) The State Board of Education shall adopt, by rule,  
670 standards of basic skill mastery for completion of certificate  
671 career education programs. Each school district and Florida  
672 College System institution that conducts programs that confer  
673 career and technical certificates shall provide academic skills  
674 building ~~applied academies~~ instruction through which students  
675 receive the basic skills instruction required pursuant to this

676 section.

677 (2) Students who enroll in a program offered for career  
678 credit of 450 hours or more shall complete an entry-level  
679 examination within the first 6 weeks after admission into the  
680 program. The State Board of Education shall designate  
681 examinations that are currently in existence, the results of  
682 which are comparable across institutions, to assess student  
683 mastery of basic skills. Any student found to lack the required  
684 level of basic skills for such program shall be referred to  
685 academic skills building ~~applied-academics~~ instruction or  
686 another adult general education program for a structured program  
687 of basic skills instruction. Such instruction may include  
688 English for speakers of other languages. A student may not  
689 receive a career or technical certificate of completion without  
690 first demonstrating the basic skills required in the state  
691 curriculum frameworks for the career education program.

692 **Section 16. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section**  
693 **1004.933, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

694 1004.933 Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education  
695 (GATE) Program.—

696 (4) PAYMENT WAIVER; ELIGIBILITY.—

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

699 1. Not have earned a standard high school diploma pursuant  
700 to s. 1003.4282 or a high school equivalency diploma pursuant to

701 s. 1003.435 before enrolling in the GATE Program;

702 2. Have been withdrawn from high school;

703 3. Be a resident of this state as defined in s.

704 1009.21(1);

705 4. Be 16 to 21 years of age at the time of initial

706 enrollment, provided that a student who is 16 or 17 years of age

707 has withdrawn from school enrollment pursuant to the

708 requirements and safeguards in s. 1003.21(1)(c);

709 5. Select the adult secondary education program and career

710 education program of his or her choice at the time of admission

711 to the GATE Program, provided that the career education program

712 is included on the Master Credentials List under s. 445.004(4).

713 The student may not change the requested pathway after

714 enrollment, except that, if necessary for the student, the

715 student may enroll in an adult basic education program prior to

716 enrolling in the adult secondary education program;

717 6. Maintain a 2.0 GPA for career and technical education

718 coursework; ~~and~~

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

720 under subparagraph 5. within 3 years after his or her initial

721 enrollment unless the institution determines that an extension

722 is warranted due to extenuating circumstances; and

723 8. Complete at least 300 hours of volunteer service, paid

724 work experience, or a combination of the two, before

725 participation in the program as approved by the GATE program

726 provider or the Department of Education. The hours of service or  
727 paid work must be documented in writing and the document must be  
728 signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian if the  
729 student is under 18 years of age, and a representative of the  
730 organization for which the student performed the volunteer  
731 service or paid work.

732 **Section 17. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section**  
733 **1005.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

734 1005.06 Institutions not under the jurisdiction or purview  
735 of the commission.—

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

739 (b) Any college or, school, ~~or course~~ licensed or approved  
740 for establishment and operation by another agency of the state.  
741 Colleges or schools approved by another state agency to offer  
742 one or more courses or programs under ~~part I of~~ chapter 464,  
743 chapter 466, ~~or~~ chapter 475, or any other chapter of the Florida  
744 Statutes shall not qualify for exemption from the commission's  
745 jurisdiction under this subsection ~~requiring licensing or~~  
746 ~~approval as defined in this chapter.~~

747 **Section 18. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section**  
748 **1006.60, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

749 1006.60 Codes of conduct; disciplinary measures; rules or  
750 regulations.—

751 (3) The codes of conduct shall be published on the Florida  
 752 College System institution's or state university's website,  
 753 protect the rights of all students, and, at minimum, provide the  
 754 following due process protections to students and student  
 755 organizations:

756 (b) The right to a presumption that no violation occurred.  
 757 The institution or university has the burden to prove, by clear  
 758 and convincing ~~a preponderance of the~~ evidence, that a violation  
 759 has taken place. Clear and convincing ~~Preponderance of the~~  
 760 evidence means that the evidence and information presented  
 761 supports the finding that it is highly probable and  
 762 substantially more likely to be true than untrue that sex  
 763 discrimination occurred ~~than not that the violation of the code~~  
 764 ~~of conduct was committed by the student or student organization.~~

765 **Section 19. Paragraph (g) of subsection (1) of section**  
 766 **1006.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

767 1006.71 Gender equity in intercollegiate athletics.—

768 (1) GENDER EQUITY PLAN.—

769 (g)1. If a Florida College System institution is not in  
 770 compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and  
 771 the Florida Educational Equality ~~Equity~~ Act, the State Board of  
 772 Education shall:

773 a. Declare the Florida College System institution  
 774 ineligible for competitive state grants.

775 b. Withhold funds sufficient to obtain compliance.

776  
 777 The Florida College System institution shall remain ineligible  
 778 and the funds shall not be paid until the Florida College System  
 779 institution comes into compliance or the Commissioner of  
 780 Education approves a plan for compliance.

781 2. If a state university is not in compliance with Title  
 782 IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Florida  
 783 Educational Equality ~~Equity~~ Act, the Board of Governors shall:

784 a. Declare the state university ineligible for competitive  
 785 state grants.

786 b. Withhold funds sufficient to obtain compliance.

787  
 788 The state university shall remain ineligible and the funds shall  
 789 not be paid until the state university comes into compliance or  
 790 the Board of Governors approves a plan for compliance.

791 **Section 20. Paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of section**  
 792 **1007.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

793 1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites;  
 794 other degree requirements.—

795 (9)

796 (b) An associate in arts specialized transfer degree must  
 797 include 36 semester hours of general education coursework and  
 798 require 60 semester hours or more of college credit. Specialized  
 799 transfer degrees are designed for Florida College System  
 800 institution students who need supplemental lower-level



801 coursework in preparation for transfer to another institution.  
802 The State Board of Education shall establish criteria for the  
803 review and approval of new specialized transfer degrees. The  
804 approval process must require:

805 1. A Florida College System institution to submit a notice  
806 of its intent to propose a new associate in arts specialized  
807 degree program to the Division of Florida Colleges. The notice  
808 must include the recommended credit hours, the rationale for the  
809 specialization, the demand for students entering the field, and  
810 the coursework being proposed to be included beyond the 60  
811 semester hours required for the general transfer degree, if  
812 applicable. Notices of intent may be submitted by a Florida  
813 College System institution at any time.

814 2. The Division of Florida Colleges to forward the notice  
815 of intent within 10 business days after receipt to all Florida  
816 College System institutions and to the Chancellor of the State  
817 University System, who shall forward the notice to all state  
818 universities. State universities and Florida College System  
819 institutions shall have 30 ~~60~~ days after receipt of the notice  
820 to submit comments to the proposed associate in arts specialized  
821 transfer degree.

822 3. After the submission of comments pursuant to  
823 subparagraph 2., the requesting Florida College System  
824 institution to submit a proposal that, at a minimum, includes:

825 a. Evidence that the coursework for the associate in arts

826 specialized transfer degree includes demonstration of competency  
827 in a foreign language pursuant to s. 1007.262 and demonstration  
828 of civic literacy competency as provided in subsection (5).

829 b. Demonstration that all required coursework will count  
830 toward the associate in arts degree or the baccalaureate degree.

831 c. An analysis of demand and unmet need for students  
832 entering the specialized field of study at the baccalaureate  
833 level.

834 d. Justification for the program length if it exceeds 60  
835 credit hours, including references to the common prerequisite  
836 manual or other requirements for the baccalaureate degree. This  
837 includes documentation of alignment between the exit  
838 requirements of a Florida College System institution and the  
839 admissions requirements of a baccalaureate program at a state  
840 university to which students would typically transfer.

841 e. Articulation agreements for graduates of the associate  
842 in arts specialized transfer degree.

843 f. Responses to the comments received under subparagraph  
844 2.

845 **Section 21. Subsection (2) of section 1007.271, Florida**  
846 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

847 1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—

848 (2) For the purpose of this section, an eligible secondary  
849 student is a student who is enrolled in any of grades 6 through  
850 12 in a Florida public school or in a Florida private school

851 that is in compliance with s. 1002.42(2) and provides a  
852 secondary curriculum pursuant to s. 1003.4282. Students who are  
853 eligible for dual enrollment pursuant to this section may enroll  
854 in dual enrollment courses conducted during school hours, after  
855 school hours, and during the summer term. However, if the  
856 student is projected to graduate from high school before the  
857 scheduled completion date of a postsecondary course, the student  
858 may not register for that course through dual enrollment. The  
859 student may apply to the postsecondary institution and pay the  
860 required registration, tuition, and fees if the student meets  
861 the postsecondary institution's admissions requirements under s.  
862 1007.263. Instructional time for dual enrollment may vary from  
863 900 hours; however, the full-time equivalent student membership  
864 value shall be subject to the provisions in s. 1011.61(4). A  
865 student enrolled as a dual enrollment student is exempt from the  
866 payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees. Academic  
867 skills building ~~Applied academics~~ for adult education  
868 instruction, developmental education, and other forms of  
869 precollegiate instruction, as well as physical education courses  
870 that focus on the physical execution of a skill rather than the  
871 intellectual attributes of the activity, are ineligible for  
872 inclusion in the dual enrollment program. Recreation and leisure  
873 studies courses shall be evaluated individually in the same  
874 manner as physical education courses for potential inclusion in  
875 the program.

HB 1307

2025

876           **Section 22. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) and paragraph**  
877 **(c) of subsection (7) of section 1007.34, Florida Statutes, are**  
878 **amended to read:**

879           1007.34 College reach-out program.—

880           (5) In selecting proposals for approval, the State Board  
881 of Education shall give preference to:

882           (d) A program that includes innovative approaches,  
883 provides a great variety of activities, and includes a large  
884 percentage of low-income educationally disadvantaged ~~minority~~  
885 students in the college reach-out program.

886           (7) A proposal must contain the following information:

887           (c) An identification of existing programs for enhancing  
888 the academic performance of ~~minority and~~ low-income  
889 educationally disadvantaged students for enrollment in  
890 postsecondary education.

891           **Section 23. Subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection**  
892 **(2), subsections (3) and (4), and paragraphs (a), (b), and (h)**  
893 **of subsection (6) of section 1007.35, Florida Statutes, are**  
894 **amended to read:**

895           1007.35 Florida Partnership for ~~Minority and~~  
896 Underrepresented Student Achievement.—

897           (1) This section may be referred to by the popular name  
898 the "Florida Partnership for ~~Minority and~~ Underrepresented  
899 Student Achievement Act."

900           (2)(a) The Legislature recognizes the importance of not

901 only access to college but also success in college for all  
 902 students. It is the intent of the Legislature that every student  
 903 enrolled in a public secondary school has access to high-  
 904 quality, rigorous academics, with a particular focus on access  
 905 to advanced courses. The Legislature also recognizes the  
 906 importance of other career pathways, including vocational and  
 907 trade schools and incentivizes the availability of high school  
 908 programs to prepare students for those career paths.

909 (3) There is created the Florida Partnership for ~~Minority~~  
 910 ~~and~~ Underrepresented Student Achievement. The Department of  
 911 Education may contract for operation of the partnership.

912 (4) The mission of the partnership is to prepare, inspire,  
 913 and connect students to postsecondary success and opportunity,  
 914 with a particular focus on ~~minority students and~~ students who  
 915 are underrepresented in postsecondary education, as defined by  
 916 state board rule.

917 (6) The partnership shall:

918 (a) Provide teacher training and professional development  
 919 ~~learning~~ to enable teachers of advanced courses to have the  
 920 necessary content knowledge and instructional skills to prepare  
 921 students for success on assessments developed pursuant to s.  
 922 1007.27(2) and mastery of postsecondary general education core  
 923 courses.

924 (b) Provide to middle school teachers and administrators  
 925 professional development ~~learning~~ that will enable them to

926 educate middle school students at the level necessary to prepare  
 927 the students to enter high school ready to participate in  
 928 advanced courses.

929 (h) Work with school districts to identify ~~minority and~~  
 930 underrepresented students for participation in advanced courses.

931 **Section 24. Subsection (2) of section 1008.37, Florida**  
 932 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

933 1008.37 Postsecondary feedback of information to high  
 934 schools.—

935 (2) The Commissioner of Education shall report, by high  
 936 school, to the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors,  
 937 and the Legislature, no later than May 31 ~~April 30~~ of each year,  
 938 on the number of prior year Florida high school graduates who  
 939 enrolled for the first time in public postsecondary education in  
 940 this state during the summer, fall, or spring term of the  
 941 previous academic year, ~~indicating the number of students whose~~  
 942 ~~scores on the common placement test indicated the need for~~  
 943 ~~developmental education under s. 1008.30 or for applied~~  
 944 ~~academics for adult education under s. 1004.91.~~

945 **Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 1008.44, Florida**  
 946 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

947 1008.44 CAPE Industry Certification Funding List.—

948 (1) The State Board of Education shall adopt, at least  
 949 annually, based upon recommendations by the Commissioner of  
 950 Education, the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List that

951 assigns additional full-time equivalent membership to  
952 certifications identified in the Master Credentials List under  
953 s. 445.004(4) that meets a statewide, regional, or local demand  
954 and courses that lead to such certifications, in accordance with  
955 s. 1011.62(1)(o). ~~Additional full-time equivalent membership~~  
956 ~~funding for regional and local demand certifications may only be~~  
957 ~~earned in those areas with regional or local demand as~~  
958 ~~identified by the Credentials Review Committee.~~ The CAPE  
959 Industry Certification Funding List may include the following  
960 certificates, and certifications, and courses:

961 (a) CAPE industry certifications identified as credentials  
962 of value that meet the framework of quality under s. 445.004(4),  
963 that must be applied in the distribution of funding to school  
964 districts under s. 1011.62(1)(o). The CAPE Industry  
965 Certification Funding List shall incorporate by reference the  
966 industry certifications on the career pathways list approved for  
967 the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award.

968 (b) CAPE Digital Tool certificates selected by the  
969 department under s. 1003.4203(2) that do not articulate for  
970 college credit. The certificates must be made available to  
971 students in elementary school and middle school grades and, if  
972 earned by a student, must be eligible for additional full-time  
973 equivalent membership under s. 1011.62(1)(o)1. The department  
974 shall annually review available assessments that meet the  
975 requirements for inclusion on the list.

976 (c) CAPE Acceleration Industry Certifications that  
977 articulate for 15 or more college credit hours under s.  
978 1003.4203(4). Such certifications must, if successfully  
979 completed, be eligible for additional full-time equivalent  
980 membership under s. 1011.62(1)(o)1.

981 (d) The Commissioner of Education shall conduct a review  
982 of the methodology used to determine additional full-time  
983 equivalent membership weights assigned in s. 1011.62(1)(o) and,  
984 if necessary, recommend revised weights. The weights must factor  
985 in the prioritization of critical shortages of labor market  
986 demand and middle-level to high-level wage earning outcomes as  
987 identified by the Credentials Review Committee under s. 445.004.  
988 The results of the review and the commissioner's recommendations  
989 must be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate,  
990 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than  
991 December 1, 2023.

992 **Section 26. Paragraphs (f) and (g) of subsection (1) of**  
993 **section 1009.21, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as**  
994 **subsections (g) and (h), respectively, and a new paragraph (f)**  
995 **is added to that subsection, to read:**

996 1009.21 Determination of resident status for tuition  
997 purposes.—Students shall be classified as residents or  
998 nonresidents for the purpose of assessing tuition in  
999 postsecondary educational programs offered by charter technical  
1000 career centers or career centers operated by school districts,



1001 in Florida College System institutions, and in state  
 1002 universities.

1003 (1) As used in this section, the term:

1004 (f) "Nonresident online" means a person who is admitted to  
 1005 a Florida College System institution or state university as an  
 1006 online student and does not qualify for in-state tuition or fee  
 1007 rates.

1008 **Section 27. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section**  
 1009 **1009.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1010 1009.22 Workforce education postsecondary student fees.—

1011 (3) (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, fees for  
 1012 students who are nonresidents for tuition purposes must offset  
 1013 the full cost of instruction. Residency of students shall be  
 1014 determined as required in s. 1009.21. Fee-nonexempt students  
 1015 enrolled in academic skills building ~~applied academics~~ for adult  
 1016 education instruction shall be charged fees equal to the fees  
 1017 charged for adult general education programs. Each Florida  
 1018 College System institution that conducts developmental education  
 1019 and applied academics for adult education instruction in the  
 1020 same class section may charge a single fee for both types of  
 1021 instruction.

1022 **Section 28. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section**  
 1023 **1009.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1024 1009.23 Florida College System institution student fees.—

1025 (8)

1026 (c) Up to 25 percent or \$600,000, whichever is greater, of  
1027 the financial aid fees collected may be used to assist students  
1028 who demonstrate academic merit or who participate in athletics,  
1029 public service, cultural arts, and other extracurricular  
1030 programs as determined by the institution; ~~or who are identified~~  
1031 ~~as members of a targeted gender or ethnic minority population.~~  
1032 The financial aid fee revenues allocated for athletic  
1033 scholarships and any fee exemptions provided to athletes  
1034 pursuant to s. 1009.25(2) must be distributed equitably as  
1035 required by s. 1000.05(3)(d). A minimum of 75 percent of the  
1036 balance of these funds for new awards shall be used to provide  
1037 financial aid based on absolute need, and the remainder of the  
1038 funds shall be used for academic merit purposes and other  
1039 purposes approved by the boards of trustees. Such other purposes  
1040 shall include the payment of child care fees for students with  
1041 financial need. The State Board of Education shall develop  
1042 criteria for making financial aid awards. Each college shall  
1043 report annually to the Department of Education on the revenue  
1044 collected pursuant to this paragraph, the amount carried  
1045 forward, the criteria used to make awards, the amount and number  
1046 of awards for each criterion, and a delineation of the  
1047 distribution of such awards. The report shall include an  
1048 assessment by category of the financial need of every student  
1049 who receives an award, regardless of the purpose for which the  
1050 award is received. Awards that are based on financial need shall

1051 be distributed in accordance with a nationally recognized system  
1052 of need analysis approved by the State Board of Education. An  
1053 award for academic merit requires a minimum overall grade point  
1054 average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or the equivalent for both initial  
1055 receipt of the award and renewal of the award.

1056 **Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 1009.25, Florida**  
1057 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1058 1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

1059 (1) The following students are exempt from the payment of  
1060 tuition and fees, including lab fees, at a school district that  
1061 provides workforce education programs, Florida College System  
1062 institution, or state university:

1063 (a) A student enrolled in a dual enrollment or early  
1064 admission program pursuant to s. 1007.271.

1065 (b) A student enrolled in an approved apprenticeship  
1066 program, as defined in s. 446.021.

1067 (c) A student who was the subject of a shelter proceeding,  
1068 a dependency proceeding, or a termination of parental rights  
1069 proceeding, and:

1070 1. Is, or was at the time he or she reached 18 years of  
1071 age, in out-of-home care.

1072 2. Is, or was at the time he or she reached 18 years of  
1073 age, in the custody of a relative or nonrelative pursuant to s.  
1074 39.5085 or s. 39.6225.

1075 3. After spending at least 6 months in the custody of the

1076 department after reaching 16 years of age, was placed in a  
1077 guardianship by the court.

1078 4. After reaching 14 years of age and thereafter spending  
1079 at least 18 months in out-of-home care, was reunited with his or  
1080 her parent or parents who were the subject of the dependency  
1081 proceeding before he or she reaches 18 years of age, including a  
1082 student who is reunited under s. 39.8155. For a student to be  
1083 eligible under this subparagraph, the student must be Pell  
1084 Grant-eligible, and the entity imposing the tuition and fees  
1085 must verify such eligibility.

1086 5. Was adopted from the department after May 5, 1997.

1087 6. Was placed in a permanent guardianship, regardless of  
1088 whether the caregiver participates or participated in the  
1089 Relative Caregiver Program under s. 39.5085, and remains in such  
1090 guardianship until the student either reaches 18 years of age  
1091 or, if before reaching 18 years of age, he or she enrolls in an  
1092 eligible institution.

1093

1094 Such exemption includes fees associated with enrollment in  
1095 academic skills building ~~applied academics~~ for adult education  
1096 instruction. The exemption remains valid until the student  
1097 reaches 28 years of age.

1098 (d) A student enrolled in an employment and training  
1099 program under the welfare transition program. The local  
1100 workforce development board shall pay the state university,

1101 Florida College System institution, or school district for costs  
1102 incurred for welfare transition program participants.

1103 (e) A student who meets the definition of homeless  
1104 children and youths in s. 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless  
1105 Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. s. 11434a(2). This includes a student  
1106 who would otherwise meet the requirements of this paragraph, as  
1107 determined by a college or university, but for his or her  
1108 residence in college or university dormitory housing. The State  
1109 Board of Education may adopt rules and the Board of Governors  
1110 may adopt regulations regarding documentation and procedures to  
1111 implement this paragraph. Such rules and regulations must  
1112 consider documentation of a student's circumstance to be  
1113 adequate if such documentation meets the standards under 20  
1114 U.S.C. s. 1087uu-2(a). Any student who is determined to be a  
1115 homeless child or youth for a preceding award year is presumed  
1116 to be a homeless child or youth for each subsequent year unless  
1117 the student informs the institution that the student's  
1118 circumstances have changed or the institution has specific  
1119 conflicting information about the student's independence, and  
1120 has informed the student of this information.

1121 (f) A student who is a proprietor, owner, or worker of a  
1122 company whose business has been at least 50 percent negatively  
1123 financially impacted by the buyout of property around Lake  
1124 Apopka by the State of Florida. Such student may receive a fee  
1125 exemption only if the student has not received compensation

1126 | because of the buyout, the student is designated a Florida  
1127 | resident for tuition purposes, pursuant to s. 1009.21, and the  
1128 | student has applied for and been denied financial aid, pursuant  
1129 | to s. 1009.40, which would have provided, at a minimum, payment  
1130 | of all student fees. The student is responsible for providing  
1131 | evidence to the postsecondary education institution verifying  
1132 | that the conditions of this paragraph have been met, including  
1133 | supporting documentation provided by the Department of Revenue.  
1134 | The student must be currently enrolled in, or begin coursework  
1135 | within, a program area by fall semester 2000. The exemption is  
1136 | valid for a period of 4 years after the date that the  
1137 | postsecondary education institution confirms that the conditions  
1138 | of this paragraph have been met.

1139 | (g) Pursuant to s. 402.403, child protection and child  
1140 | welfare personnel as defined in s. 402.402 who are enrolled in  
1141 | an accredited bachelor's degree or master's degree in social  
1142 | work program, provided that the student attains at least a grade  
1143 | of "B" in all courses for which tuition and fees are exempted.

1144 | **Section 30. Subsection (20) of section 1009.26, Florida**  
1145 | **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1146 | 1009.26 Fee waivers.—

1147 | (20) (a) Beginning with the 2025-2026 ~~2022-2023~~ academic  
1148 | year, a state university shall waive the out-of-state fee for a  
1149 | full-time undergraduate student who:

1150 | 1. Has a grandparent who is a legal resident as defined in

1151 s. 1009.21(1). For purposes of this subsection, the term  
1152 "grandparent" means a person who has a legal relationship to a  
1153 student's parent as the natural or adoptive parent or legal  
1154 guardian of the student's parent.

1155 2. Earns a high school diploma comparable to a Florida  
1156 standard high school diploma, or its equivalent, or completes a  
1157 home education program.

1158 3.a. Achieves an SAT combined score no lower than the 89th  
1159 national percentile on the SAT;

1160 b. Achieves an ACT score concordant to the required SAT  
1161 score in sub-subparagraph a., using the latest published  
1162 national concordance table developed jointly by the College  
1163 Board and ACT, Inc.; or

1164 c. If a state university accepts the Classic Learning Test  
1165 (CLT) for admission purposes, achieves a CLT score concordant to  
1166 the required SAT score specified in sub-subparagraph a., using  
1167 the latest published scoring comparison developed by Classic  
1168 Learning Initiatives.

1169 ~~4. Beginning with students who initially enroll in the~~  
1170 ~~2022 fall academic term and thereafter, enrolls as a full-time~~  
1171 ~~undergraduate student at a state university in the fall academic~~  
1172 ~~term immediately following high school graduation.~~

1173 (b) The waiver under this subsection is applicable for up  
1174 to 110 percent of the number of required credit hours of the  
1175 degree program for which the student is enrolled.

1176 (c) Before waiving the out-of-state fee, the state  
1177 university shall require the student or the student's parent, if  
1178 the student is a dependent child, to provide a written  
1179 declaration pursuant to s. 92.525(2) attesting to the student's  
1180 familial relationship to a grandparent who is a legal resident  
1181 and any other corroborating documentation required by regulation  
1182 of the Board of Governors. A state university is not required to  
1183 independently verify the statements contained in each  
1184 declaration if the signatory declares it to be true under the  
1185 penalties of perjury as required by s. 92.525(2). However, the  
1186 state university may refer any signed declaration suspected of  
1187 containing fraudulent representations to law enforcement.

1188 (d) Each state university annually shall report to the  
1189 Board of Governors the number and value of all fee waivers  
1190 granted under this subsection during the previous 12-month  
1191 period.

1192 (e) Beginning with students who initially enroll for the  
1193 2022-2023 academic year or thereafter, a state university shall,  
1194 within the nonresident student enrollment systemwide, prioritize  
1195 the enrollment of a student who is granted a fee waiver under  
1196 this subsection over an out-of-state student who is not eligible  
1197 for an out-of-state fee waiver if the students have  
1198 substantially similar academic and other credentials used in  
1199 determining admission to the state university.

1200 ~~(f) Fee waivers granted pursuant to this subsection may~~



1201 ~~not exceed 350 students systemwide each academic year.~~

1202 (f) ~~(g)~~ The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations to  
 1203 administer this subsection.

1204 **Section 31. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section**  
 1205 **1009.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1206 1009.40 General requirements for student eligibility for  
 1207 state financial aid awards and tuition assistance grants.—

1208 (1) (a) The general requirements for eligibility of  
 1209 students for state financial aid awards and tuition assistance  
 1210 grants consist of the following:

1211 1. Achievement of the academic requirements of and  
 1212 acceptance at a state university or Florida College System  
 1213 institution; a nursing diploma school approved by the Florida  
 1214 Board of Nursing; a Florida college or university which is  
 1215 accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the State  
 1216 Board of Education; a Florida institution the credits of which  
 1217 are acceptable for transfer to state universities; a career  
 1218 center; or a private career institution accredited by an  
 1219 accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of Education.

1220 2. Residency in this state for no less than 1 year  
 1221 preceding the award of aid or a tuition assistance grant for a  
 1222 program established pursuant to s. 1009.50, s. 1009.505, s.  
 1223 1009.51, s. 1009.52, s. 1009.521, s. 1009.53, ~~s. 1009.60~~, s.  
 1224 1009.62, ~~s. 1009.72~~, s. 1009.73, s. 1009.75, s. 1009.77, s.  
 1225 1009.89, or s. 1009.894. Residency in this state must be for

1226 purposes other than to obtain an education. Resident status for  
1227 purposes of receiving state financial aid awards shall be  
1228 determined in the same manner as resident status for tuition  
1229 purposes pursuant to s. 1009.21.

1230 3. Submission of certification attesting to the accuracy,  
1231 completeness, and correctness of information provided to  
1232 demonstrate a student's eligibility to receive state financial  
1233 aid awards or tuition assistance grants. Falsification of such  
1234 information shall result in the denial of a pending application  
1235 and revocation of an award or grant currently held to the extent  
1236 that no further payments shall be made. Additionally, students  
1237 who knowingly make false statements in order to receive state  
1238 financial aid awards or tuition assistance grants commit a  
1239 misdemeanor of the second degree subject to the provisions of s.  
1240 837.06 and shall be required to return all state financial aid  
1241 awards or tuition assistance grants wrongfully obtained.

1242 **Section 32. Subsection (6) is added to section 1009.532,**  
1243 **Florida Statutes, to read:**

1244 1009.532 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;  
1245 student eligibility requirements for renewal awards.-

1246 (6) A student who is expelled from a college or  
1247 university, or is found guilty of, or entered a plea of nolo  
1248 contendere to, a felony charge is no longer eligible for renewal  
1249 and shall have his or her scholarship permanently revoked.

1250 **Section 33. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and subsection**

1251 **(2) of section 1009.536, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1252 1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida  
1253 Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards.—The Florida Gold Seal Vocational  
1254 Scholars award and the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award are  
1255 created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to  
1256 recognize and reward academic achievement and career preparation  
1257 by high school students who wish to continue their education.

1258 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal  
1259 Vocational Scholars award if he or she meets the general  
1260 eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures  
1261 Scholarship Program and:

1262 (c)1. For a student earning a Florida Gold Seal Vocational  
1263 award, earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average  
1264 of 3.0, as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, on all subjects  
1265 required for a standard high school diploma, excluding elective  
1266 courses.

1267 2. For a student earning a Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars  
1268 award, earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average  
1269 of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

1270 (2)(a) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal CAPE  
1271 Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility  
1272 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program,  
1273 and the student:

1274 1.(a) Earns a minimum of 3 ~~5~~ postsecondary credits ~~credit~~  
1275 ~~hours~~ through CAPE industry certifications approved pursuant to

1276 s. 1008.44 which articulate for college credit, ~~and~~  
1277 2.~~(b)~~ Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service or,  
1278 beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023  
1279 academic year and thereafter, 100 hours of paid work, approved  
1280 by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic  
1281 school, or the Department of Education for home education  
1282 program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both.  
1283 Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be  
1284 included in a student's total required paid work hours. The  
1285 student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional  
1286 area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her  
1287 personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about  
1288 the area. The student must, through papers or other  
1289 presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.  
1290 Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not  
1291 limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a  
1292 nonprofit community service organization, or activities on  
1293 behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer  
1294 service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the  
1295 document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or  
1296 guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the  
1297 student performed the volunteer service or paid work.  
1298 (b) Before or within 3 months after completion of the GATE  
1299 program, as provided in s. 1004.933, a student may apply for the  
1300 Florida Gold Seal CAPE scholar award.

1301           **Section 34.** Section 1009.60, 1009.605, 1009.70, and  
 1302 1009.72, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

1303           **Section 35. Subsection (4) of section 1009.897, Florida**  
 1304 **Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (5), and a new subsection**  
 1305 **(4) is added to that section, to read:**

1306           1009.897 Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and  
 1307 Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE)  
 1308 Fund.—

1309           (4) Each institution that receives funds through the  
 1310 PIPELINE Fund must allocate the funds to its health care  
 1311 industry-related programs.

1312           **Section 36. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section**  
 1313 **1009.94, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1314           1009.94 Student financial assistance database.—

1315           (2) For purposes of this section, financial assistance  
 1316 includes:

1317           (c) Any financial assistance provided under s. 1009.50, s.  
 1318 1009.505, s. 1009.51, s. 1009.52, s. 1009.53, s. 1009.55, ~~s.~~  
 1319 ~~1009.60~~, s. 1009.62, ~~s. 1009.70~~, s. 1009.701, ~~s. 1009.72~~, s.  
 1320 1009.73, s. 1009.74, s. 1009.77, or s. 1009.89.

1321           **Section 37. Section 1011.801, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
 1322 **to read:**

1323           1011.801 Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive  
 1324 Grant Program.—The Legislature recognizes that the need for  
 1325 school districts and Florida College System institutions to be

1326 able to respond to emerging local or statewide economic  
1327 development needs is critical to the workforce development  
1328 system. The Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant  
1329 Program is created to provide grants to school districts and  
1330 Florida College System institutions to fund some or all of the  
1331 costs associated with the creation or expansion of career and  
1332 technical education programs that lead to industry  
1333 certifications included on the CAPE Industry Certification  
1334 Funding List. The programs may serve secondary students or  
1335 postsecondary students ~~if the postsecondary career and technical~~  
1336 ~~education program also serves secondary students.~~

1337 (1) Funds awarded for a workforce development  
1338 capitalization incentive grant may be used for instructional  
1339 equipment, laboratory equipment, supplies, personnel, student  
1340 services, or other expenses associated with the creation or  
1341 expansion of a career and technical education program ~~that~~  
1342 ~~serves secondary students.~~ Expansion of a program may include  
1343 either the expansion of enrollments in a program or expansion  
1344 into new areas of specialization within a program. No grant  
1345 funds may be used for recurring instructional costs or for  
1346 institutions' indirect costs.

1347 (2) The Department of Education shall administer the  
1348 program. The State Board of Education may adopt rules for  
1349 program administration. The State Board of Education shall  
1350 consider the statewide geographic dispersion of grant funds in

1351 ranking the applications and shall give priority to applications  
1352 from education agencies that are making maximum use of their  
1353 workforce development funding by offering high-performing, high-  
1354 demand programs.

1355 **Section 38. Subsection (1) of section 1011.802, Florida**  
1356 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1357 1011.802 Florida Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant  
1358 Program.—

1359 (1) Subject to appropriations provided in the General  
1360 Appropriations Act, the Florida Pathways to Career Opportunities  
1361 Grant Program is created to provide grants to high schools,  
1362 career centers, charter technical career centers, Florida  
1363 College System institutions, state universities, and other  
1364 entities authorized to sponsor an apprenticeship or  
1365 preapprenticeship program, as defined in s. 446.021(6) and (5),  
1366 respectively, to establish, expand, and operate new and existing  
1367 apprenticeship or preapprenticeship programs. An individual  
1368 applicant may not receive more than 10 percent of the total  
1369 amount appropriated.

1370 **Section 39. Paragraphs (b) and (e) of subsection (3) of**  
1371 **section 1011.84, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1372 1011.84 Procedure for determining state financial support  
1373 and annual apportionment of state funds to each Florida College  
1374 System institution district.—The procedure for determining state  
1375 financial support and the annual apportionment to each Florida

1376 College System institution district authorized to operate a  
 1377 Florida College System institution under the provisions of s.  
 1378 1001.61 shall be as follows:

1379 (3) DETERMINING THE APPORTIONMENT FROM STATE FUNDS.—

1380 (b) The apportionment to each Florida College System  
 1381 institution from the Florida College System Program Fund shall  
 1382 be determined annually in the General Appropriations Act. In  
 1383 determining each college's apportionment, the Legislature shall  
 1384 consider the following components:

1385 1. Base budget, which includes the state appropriation to  
 1386 the Florida College System Program Fund in the current year plus  
 1387 the related student tuition and out-of-state fees assigned in  
 1388 the current General Appropriations Act.

1389 2. The cost-to-continue allocation, which consists of  
 1390 incremental changes to the base budget, including salaries,  
 1391 price levels, and other related costs allocated through a  
 1392 funding model developed by the Florida College System presidents  
 1393 in consultation with the Department of Education and approved by  
 1394 the Legislature. The model must recognize a minimum level of  
 1395 funding per FTE and ~~which may recognize~~ differing economic  
 1396 factors arising from the individual educational approaches of  
 1397 the various Florida College System institutions, including, but  
 1398 not limited to:

1399 a. Program offerings, weighting workforce FTE to account  
 1400 for priorities and costs.



1401        b. Completions of credentials, including certificates,  
1402 certifications, and degrees.

1403        c. The size of the college.

1404        d. Economies of scale.

1405        ~~a. Direct Instructional Funding, including class size,~~  
1406 ~~faculty productivity factors, average faculty salary, ratio of~~  
1407 ~~full-time to part-time faculty, costs of programs, and~~  
1408 ~~enrollment factors.~~

1409        ~~b. Academic Support, including small colleges factor,~~  
1410 ~~multicampus factor, and enrollment factor.~~

1411        ~~c. Student Services Support, including headcount of~~  
1412 ~~students as well as FTE count and enrollment factors.~~

1413        ~~d. Library Support, including volume and other~~  
1414 ~~materials/audiovisual requirements.~~

1415        ~~e. Special Projects.~~

1416        ~~f. Operations and Maintenance of Plant, including square~~  
1417 ~~footage and utilization factors.~~

1418        ~~g. Comparable wage factor.~~

1419        3. Students enrolled in a recreation and leisure program  
1420 and students enrolled in a lifelong learning program who may not  
1421 be counted as full-time equivalent enrollments for purposes of  
1422 enrollment workload adjustments.

1423        ~~4. Operating costs of new facilities adjustments, which~~  
1424 ~~shall be provided, from funds available, for each new facility~~  
1425 ~~that is owned by the college and is recommended in accordance~~

HB 1307

2025

1426 ~~with s. 1013.31.~~

1427 4.5. New and improved program enhancements, which shall be  
1428 determined by the Legislature.

1429

1430 ~~Student fees in the base budget plus student fee revenues~~  
1431 ~~generated by increases in fee rates shall be deducted from the~~  
1432 ~~sum of the components determined in subparagraphs 1.-5. The~~  
1433 ~~amount remaining shall be the net annual state apportionment to~~  
1434 ~~each college.~~

1435 (e) If at any time the unencumbered balance in the general  
1436 fund of the Florida College System institution board of trustees  
1437 approved operating budget goes below 7 5 percent for a Florida  
1438 College System institution ~~with a final FTE less than 15,000 for~~  
1439 ~~the prior year, or below 7 percent for a Florida College System~~  
1440 ~~institution with a final FTE of 15,000 or greater for the prior~~  
1441 ~~year~~, the president shall provide written notification to the  
1442 State Board of Education. By September 30 of each year, the  
1443 chief financial officer of each Florida College System  
1444 institution shall certify the unexpended amount of state funds  
1445 remaining in the general fund of an institution as of June 30 of  
1446 the previous fiscal year.

1447 **Section 40.** Section 1011.86, Florida Statutes, is  
1448 repealed.

1449 **Section 41. Paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section**  
1450 **1012.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

HB 1307

2025

1451 1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—  
1452 (8) PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.—  
1453 (b) Professional learning certification program courses:  
1454 1. May not distort significant historical events or  
1455 include curriculum or instruction that teaches identity  
1456 politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on theories that  
1457 systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent  
1458 in the institutions of the United States and were created to  
1459 maintain social, political, and economic inequities.

1460 2. Must afford candidates the opportunity to think  
1461 critically, achieve mastery of academic program content, learn  
1462 instructional strategies, and demonstrate competence.

1463 3. Must include strategies for the effective use of high-  
1464 quality instructional materials to deliver classroom  
1465 instruction. This instruction will focus on teaching candidates  
1466 how to implement and integrate high-quality instructional  
1467 materials as provided, ensuring adherence to the intended  
1468 instructional design of the materials. Candidates will learn  
1469 methods to maximize learning outcomes by leveraging the  
1470 structured content, pacing guides, and assessment tools included  
1471 in the high-quality instructional materials, without altering or  
1472 restructuring the curriculum.

1473 **Section 42. Section 1012.562, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
1474 **to read:**

1475 1012.562 Public accountability and state approval of

1476 school leader preparation programs.—The Department of Education  
1477 shall establish a process for the approval of Level I and Level  
1478 II school leader preparation programs that will enable aspiring  
1479 school leaders to obtain their certificates in educational  
1480 leadership under s. 1012.56. School leader preparation programs  
1481 must be competency-based, aligned to the educational ~~principal~~  
1482 leadership standards adopted by the state board, and open to  
1483 individuals employed by public schools, including charter  
1484 schools and virtual schools. Level I programs lead to initial  
1485 certification in educational leadership for the purpose of  
1486 preparing individuals to serve as school administrators. Level  
1487 II programs build upon Level I training and lead to renewal  
1488 certification as a school principal.

1489 (1) PURPOSE.—The purpose of school leader preparation  
1490 programs is to:

1491 (a) Increase the supply of effective school leaders in the  
1492 public schools of this state.

1493 (b) Produce school leaders who are prepared to lead the  
1494 state's diverse student population in meeting high standards for  
1495 academic achievement.

1496 (c) Enable school leaders to facilitate the development  
1497 and retention of effective and highly effective classroom  
1498 teachers.

1499 (d) Produce leaders with the competencies and skills  
1500 necessary to achieve the state's education goals.

HB 1307

2025

1501 (e) Sustain the state system of school improvement and  
1502 education accountability.

1503 (2) LEVEL I PROGRAMS.—

1504 (a) Initial approval of a Level I program shall be for a  
1505 period of 5 years. A postsecondary institution, school district,  
1506 charter school, or charter management organization may submit to  
1507 the department in a format prescribed by the department an  
1508 application to establish a Level I school leader preparation  
1509 program. To be approved, a Level I program must:

1510 1. Provide competency-based training aligned to the  
1511 state's educational leadership standards and assistant principal  
1512 descriptors ~~principal leadership standards~~ adopted by the State  
1513 Board of Education.

1514 2. If the program is provided by a postsecondary  
1515 institution, partner with at least one school district.

1516 3. Describe the qualifications that will be used to  
1517 determine program admission standards, including a candidate's  
1518 instructional expertise and leadership potential.

1519 4. Describe how the training provided through the program  
1520 will be aligned to the personnel evaluation criteria under s.  
1521 1012.34.

1522 (b) Renewal of a Level I program's approval shall be for a  
1523 period of 5 years and shall be based upon evidence of the  
1524 program's continued ability to meet the requirements of  
1525 paragraph (a). A postsecondary institution or school district

1526 must submit an institutional program evaluation plan in a format  
1527 prescribed by the department for a Level I program to be  
1528 considered for renewal. The plan must include:

1529 1. The percentage of personnel who complete the program  
1530 and are placed in school leadership positions in public schools  
1531 within the state.

1532 2. Results from the personnel evaluations required under  
1533 s. 1012.34 for personnel who complete the program.

1534 3. The passage rate of personnel who complete the program  
1535 on the Florida Education Leadership Examination.

1536 4. The impact personnel who complete the program have on  
1537 student learning as measured by the formulas developed by the  
1538 commissioner pursuant to s. 1012.34(7).

1539 5. Strategies for continuous improvement of the program.

1540 6. Strategies for involving personnel who complete the  
1541 program, other school personnel, community agencies, business  
1542 representatives, and other stakeholders in the program  
1543 evaluation process.

1544 7. Additional data included at the discretion of the  
1545 postsecondary institution or school district.

1546 (c) A Level I program must guarantee the high quality of  
1547 personnel who complete the program for the first 2 years after  
1548 program completion or the person's initial certification as a  
1549 school leader, whichever occurs first. If a person who completed  
1550 the program is evaluated at less than highly effective or

1551 effective under s. 1012.34 and the person's employer requests  
1552 additional training, the Level I program must provide additional  
1553 training at no cost to the person or his or her employer. The  
1554 training must include the creation of an individualized plan  
1555 agreed to by the employer that includes specific learning  
1556 outcomes. The Level I program is not responsible for the  
1557 person's employment contract with his or her employer.

1558 (3) LEVEL II PROGRAMS.—Initial approval and subsequent  
1559 renewal of a Level II program shall be for a period of 5 years.  
1560 A school district, charter school, or charter management  
1561 organization may submit to the department in a format prescribed  
1562 by the department an application to establish a Level II school  
1563 leader preparation program or for program renewal. To be  
1564 approved or renewed, a Level II program must:

1565 (a) Demonstrate that personnel accepted into the Level II  
1566 program have:

1567 1. Obtained their certificate in educational leadership  
1568 under s. 1012.56.

1569 2. Earned a highly effective or effective designation  
1570 under s. 1012.34.

1571 3. Satisfactorily performed instructional leadership  
1572 responsibilities as measured by the evaluation system in s.  
1573 1012.34.

1574 (b) Demonstrate that the Level II program:

1575 1. Provides competency-based training aligned to the

1576 state's educational leadership standards and school principal  
1577 descriptors ~~the principal leadership standards~~ adopted by the  
1578 State Board of Education.

1579 2. Provides training aligned to the personnel evaluation  
1580 criteria under s. 1012.34 and professional learning program in  
1581 s. 1012.986.

1582 3. Provides individualized instruction using a customized  
1583 learning plan for each person enrolled in the program that is  
1584 based on data from self-assessment, selection, and appraisal  
1585 instruments.

1586 4. Conducts program evaluations and implements program  
1587 improvements using input from personnel who completed the  
1588 program and employers and data gathered pursuant to paragraph  
1589 (2) (b).

1590 (c) Gather and monitor the data specified in paragraph  
1591 (2) (b).

1592 (4) PROGRAM PROHIBITIONS; REQUIREMENTS.—

1593 (a) School leader preparation programs may not distort  
1594 significant historical events or include curriculum or  
1595 instruction that teaches identity politics, violates s. 1000.05,  
1596 or is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism,  
1597 oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of  
1598 the United States and were created to maintain social,  
1599 political, and economic inequities.

1600 (b) School leader preparation programs must afford



1601 candidates the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of program  
 1602 content, including instructional leadership strategies, coaching  
 1603 development, school safety, and continuous improvement efforts.

1604 (c) School leader preparation programs must afford  
 1605 candidates instruction that includes strategies for the  
 1606 effective use of high-quality instructional materials to deliver  
 1607 classroom instruction. This instruction will focus on teaching  
 1608 candidates how to lead and provide coaching on the  
 1609 implementation of high-quality instructional materials as  
 1610 provided, ensuring adherence to the intended instructional  
 1611 design of the materials. Candidates will learn leadership  
 1612 practices to maximize student learning outcomes through the use  
 1613 of high-quality instructional materials without altering or  
 1614 restructuring the curriculum.

1615 (5) RULES.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules  
 1616 to administer this section.

1617 **Section 43. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section**  
 1618 **1013.46, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1619 1013.46 Advertising and awarding contracts;  
 1620 prequalification of contractor.—

1621 (1)

1622 ~~(c) As an option, any county, municipality, or board may~~  
 1623 ~~set aside up to 10 percent of the total amount of funds~~  
 1624 ~~allocated for the purpose of entering into construction capital~~  
 1625 ~~project contracts with minority business enterprises, as defined~~

1626 ~~in s. 287.094. Such contracts shall be competitively bid only~~  
1627 ~~among minority business enterprises. The set aside shall be used~~  
1628 ~~to redress present effects of past discriminatory practices and~~  
1629 ~~shall be subject to periodic reassessment to account for~~  
1630 ~~changing needs and circumstances.~~

1631 **Section 44. Section 1013.841, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
1632 **to read:**

1633 1013.841 End of year balance of Florida College System  
1634 institution funds.—

1635 (1) Unexpended amounts in any fund in any Florida College  
1636 System institution current year state operating budget shall be  
1637 carried forward and included as the balance forward for that  
1638 fund in the approved operating budget for the following year.

1639 (2) (a) Each Florida College System institution ~~with a~~  
1640 ~~final FTE less than 15,000 for the prior year~~ shall maintain a  
1641 minimum carry forward balance of at least 7 5 percent of its  
1642 state operating budget; however, a Florida College System  
1643 institution may retain and report to the State Board of  
1644 Education an annual reserve balance exceeding that amount. If a  
1645 Florida College System institution fails to maintain a 7 5  
1646 percent balance in state operating funds, the president shall  
1647 provide written notification to the State Board of Education.

1648 (b) Each Florida College System institution ~~with a final~~  
1649 ~~FTE less than 15,000 for the prior year~~ that retains a state  
1650 operating fund carry forward balance in excess of the 7 5

1651 percent minimum shall submit a spending plan for its excess  
1652 carry forward balance. The spending plan shall include all  
1653 excess carry forward funds from state operating funds. The  
1654 spending plan shall be submitted to the Florida College System  
1655 institution's board of trustees for approval by September 30,  
1656 2020, and each September 30 thereafter. The State Board of  
1657 Education shall review and publish each Florida College System  
1658 institution's carry forward spending plan by November 15, 2020,  
1659 and each November 15 thereafter.

1660 ~~(3)(a) Each Florida College System institution with a~~  
1661 ~~final FTE of 15,000 or greater for the prior year shall maintain~~  
1662 ~~a minimum carry forward balance of at least 7 percent of its~~  
1663 ~~state operating budget. If a Florida College System institution~~  
1664 ~~fails to maintain a 7 percent balance in state operating funds,~~  
1665 ~~the institution shall submit a plan to the State Board of~~  
1666 ~~Education to attain the minimum balance.~~

1667 ~~(b) Each Florida College System institution with a final~~  
1668 ~~FTE of 15,000 or greater for the prior year that retains a state~~  
1669 ~~operating fund carry forward balance in excess of the 7 percent~~  
1670 ~~minimum shall submit a spending plan for its excess carry~~  
1671 ~~forward balance. The spending plan shall include all excess~~  
1672 ~~carry forward funds from state operating funds. The spending~~  
1673 ~~plan shall be submitted to the Florida College System~~  
1674 ~~institution's board of trustees for approval by September 30,~~  
1675 ~~2020, and each September 30 thereafter. The State Board of~~

1676 ~~Education shall review and publish each Florida College System~~  
1677 ~~institution's carry forward spending plan by November 15, 2020,~~  
1678 ~~and each November 15 thereafter.~~

1679 (3)~~(4)~~ A Florida College System institution identified in  
1680 paragraph (2) (b)~~(3) (b)~~ must include in its carry forward  
1681 spending plan the estimated cost per planned expenditure and a  
1682 timeline for completion of the expenditure. A carry forward  
1683 spending plan may include retention of the carry forward balance  
1684 as a reserve fund to be used for authorized expenses in  
1685 subsequent years. Authorized expenditures in a carry forward  
1686 spending plan may include:

1687 (a) Commitment of funds to a public education capital  
1688 outlay project for which an appropriation was previously  
1689 provided, which requires additional funds for completion, and  
1690 which is included in the list required by s. 1001.03(18) (d);

1691 (b) Completion of a renovation, repair, or maintenance  
1692 project that is consistent with s. 1013.64(1) or replacement of  
1693 a minor facility;

1694 (c) Completion of a remodeling or infrastructure project,  
1695 if such project is survey recommended pursuant to s. 1013.31;

1696 (d) Completion of a repair or replacement project  
1697 necessary due to damage caused by a natural disaster for  
1698 buildings included in the inventory required pursuant to s.  
1699 1013.31;

1700 (e) Operating expenditures that support the Florida

1701 College System institution's mission;  
 1702 (f) Any purpose approved by the state board or specified  
 1703 in the General Appropriations Act; and  
 1704 (g) A commitment of funds to a contingency reserve for  
 1705 expenses incurred as a result of a state of emergency declared  
 1706 by the Governor pursuant to s. 252.36.  
 1707 **Section 45.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.