

By Senator Yarborough

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to school district reporting
3 requirements; amending s. 1012.22, F.S.; requiring
4 district school boards to adopt a policy temporarily
5 removing instructional personnel under specified
6 circumstances; amending s. 1012.797, F.S.; revising
7 requirements for law enforcement to notify specified
8 entities when an employee is arrested for certain
9 offenses; amending s. 1012.799, F.S.; requiring
10 instructional personnel and administrative personnel
11 to self-report certain arrests or judgments within
12 specified timeframes; requiring school districts to
13 comply with confidentiality provisions; providing an
14 effective date.

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

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18 Section 1. Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (1) of
19 section 1012.22, Florida Statutes, to read:

20 1012.22 Public school personnel; powers and duties of the
21 district school board.—The district school board shall:

22 (1) Designate positions to be filled, prescribe
23 qualifications for those positions, and provide for the
24 appointment, compensation, promotion, suspension, and dismissal
25 of employees as follows, subject to the requirements of this
26 chapter:

27 (j) Temporary removal from the classroom.—The district
28 school board shall adopt a policy temporarily removing
29 instructional personnel from the classroom within 24 hours after

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30 a notification by law enforcement or a self-reporting employee
31 of his or her arrest for a felony offense or for a misdemeanor
32 offense listed in s. 435.04(2).

33 Section 2. Section 1012.797, Florida Statutes, is amended
34 to read:

35 1012.797 Notification of certain charges against
36 employees.—Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ s. 985.04(7) or any
37 other law to the contrary, a law enforcement agency shall,
38 within 48 hours, notify the appropriate district school
39 superintendent, charter school governing board, private school
40 owner or administrator, president of the Florida School for the
41 Deaf and the Blind, or university lab schools director or
42 principal, as applicable, when its employee is arrested for a
43 felony or a misdemeanor involving an offense listed in s.
44 435.04(2), the abuse of a minor child, or the sale or possession
45 of a controlled substance. The notification must ~~shall~~ include
46 the specific charge for which the employee of the school
47 district was arrested. Notwithstanding ss. 1012.31(3)(a)1. and
48 1012.796(4), within 24 hours after such notification, the school
49 principal or designee shall notify parents of enrolled students
50 who had direct contact with the employee and include, at a
51 minimum, the name and specific charges against the employee.

52 Section 3. Section 1012.799, Florida Statutes, is amended
53 to read:

54 1012.799 Reporting certain offenses.—

55 (1) Instructional personnel or administrative personnel
56 having knowledge that a sexual battery has been committed by a
57 student upon another student must report the offense to a law
58 enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the school plant or

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59 over the place where the sexual battery occurred if not on the
60 grounds of the school plant.

61 (2) Instructional personnel and administrative personnel
62 shall self-report within 48 hours to a school district
63 authority, as determined by the district superintendent, any
64 arrest for a felony offense or for a misdemeanor offense listed
65 in s. 435.04(2). Such self-report is not considered an admission
66 of guilt and is not admissible for any purpose in any
67 proceeding, civil or criminal, administrative or judicial,
68 investigatory or adjudicatory. In addition, instructional
69 personnel and administrative personnel shall self-report any
70 conviction, finding of guilt, withholding of adjudication,
71 commitment to a pretrial diversion program, or entering of a
72 plea of guilty or nolo contendere for any criminal offense other
73 than a minor traffic violation within 48 hours after the final
74 judgment. When handling sealed and expunged records disclosed
75 under this rule, school districts must comply with the
76 confidentiality provisions of ss. 943.0585(4)(c) and
77 943.059(4)(c).

78 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.