

By Senator Burgess

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to educator preparation; providing
3 legislative intent; establishing the Task Force for
4 Educator Preparation; providing the purpose for the
5 task force; providing for the composition of the task
6 force; requiring the Department of Education to
7 provide administrative support for the task force;
8 providing the duties of the task force; requiring the
9 task force to provide a specified report to the
10 Governor and the Legislature by a specified date;
11 providing for expiration of the task force; providing
12 an effective date.

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

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16 Section 1. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to
17 revise educator preparation, certification, and professional
18 learning development by 2028, to modernize and reform the
19 program, and to properly prepare educators to meet the
20 challenges of educating students in the 21st century.

21 (2) There is established the Task Force for Educator
22 Preparation to make recommendations regarding educator training,
23 assessment, certification, and professional learning. The task
24 force shall be composed of the following members:

25 (a) Two members from a state university initial teacher
26 preparation program, appointed by the President of the Senate
27 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

28 (b) Two members from private postsecondary institution
29 initial teacher preparation programs, appointed by the Governor

23-01562A-25

20251590__

30 and the President of the Senate.

31 (c) Two members from a Florida College System institution
32 initial teacher preparation program or educator preparation
33 institute, appointed by the Governor and the Speaker of the
34 House of Representatives.

35 (d) Two school district representatives with responsibility
36 for district alternative certification programs, appointed by
37 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
38 Representatives.

39 (e) Three teachers with active certifications, with at
40 least one from a charter school, and at least one who has served
41 as a mentor. The Governor, the President of the Senate, and the
42 Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint one
43 teacher.

44 (f) Two district school superintendents, appointed by the
45 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
46 Representatives.

47 (g) A Department of Education representative with expertise
48 in educator quality, appointed by the Governor.

49 (3) The Department of Education shall provide
50 administrative support for the task force.

51 (4) The task force shall:

52 (a) Evaluate the effectiveness of teacher training
53 programs, including:

54 1. The uniform core curricula in initial teacher
55 preparation programs, including evidence-based practices in
56 mathematics and literacy instruction, classroom management, and
57 the use of data to analyze student performance for personalized
58 instruction.

23-01562A-25

20251590__

59 2. Preparation under school district alternative
60 certification pathways or educator preparation institutes.

61 3. The effectiveness of teacher apprenticeship programs.

62 4. Improvements to field experiences for student teachers.

63 (b) Analyze existing Florida teacher certification
64 standards and procedures, including:

65 1. Gaps or inefficiencies in current certification
66 pathways.

67 2. Appropriate educator certification for elementary,
68 middle, and secondary school grades.

69 3. The effectiveness of certification exams and
70 alternatives to ensure teachers meet competency standards.

71 (c) Evaluate educator professional learning, including:

72 1. Ongoing professional learning requirements for teachers.

73 2. Mentor teachers and teaching coaches.

74 3. Collaboration with teacher preparation programs.

75 (5) The task force shall issue a report with
76 recommendations for improvements to the Governor, the President
77 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
78 no later than December 1, 2025, at which time the task force
79 shall expire.

80 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.