

By the Appropriations Committee on Higher Education; and Senator Calatayud

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to higher education; amending s.  
3       11.51, F.S.; authorizing the Office of Program Policy  
4       Analysis and Government Accountability to develop  
5       contracts or agreements with institutions in the State  
6       University System for a specified purpose; amending s.  
7       251.001, F.S.; providing tuition assistance to active  
8       members of the Florida State Guard; amending s.  
9       288.036, F.S.; revising the duties of the Office of  
10      Ocean Economy; amending s. 381.853, F.S.; specifying  
11      that the President of the University of Florida  
12      appoints the members of the scientific advisory  
13      council within the Florida Center for Brain Tumor  
14      Research; amending s. 413.407, F.S.; revising the  
15      qualifications for members of the Assistive Technology  
16      Advisory Council; increasing the maximum term length  
17      for such members; amending s. 446.032, F.S.; revising  
18      the date by which the Department of Education is  
19      required to publish an annual report on apprenticeship  
20      and preapprenticeship programs; amending s. 446.041,  
21      F.S.; requiring the department to take into account  
22      underrepresented groups in administering the  
23      apprenticeship training program, rather than minority  
24      and gender diversity; amending s. 1000.05, F.S.;  
25      renaming the Florida Educational Equity Act as the  
26      "Florida Educational Equality Act"; changing the term  
27      "gender" to "sex"; requiring public schools and  
28      Florida College System institutions to develop and  
29      implement methods and strategies to increase

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30 participation of underrepresented students, rather  
31 than students with certain characteristics, in certain  
32 programs and courses; requiring the Commissioner of  
33 Education and the State Board of Education to utilize  
34 their authority to enforce compliance; amending s.  
35 1000.21, F.S.; renaming Hillsborough Community College  
36 as "Hillsborough College"; creating s. 1001.68, F.S.;  
37 authorizing Florida College System institutions with a  
38 certain number of full-time equivalent students to  
39 enter into cooperative agreements to form a state  
40 college regional consortium service organization;  
41 requiring such organizations to provide at least a  
42 specified number of certain services; requiring that  
43 regional consortium service organizations be governed  
44 by a board of directors consisting of specified  
45 members; amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; deleting a  
46 requirement that state universities provide student  
47 access to certain information; amending s. 1001.7065,  
48 F.S.; revising academic standards for the preeminent  
49 state research university program to include a  
50 specified average Classic Learning Test score;  
51 amending s. 1004.0971, F.S.; revising the definition  
52 of the term "emergency opioid antagonist"; amending s.  
53 1004.933, F.S.; authorizing an institution to enter  
54 into an agreement with an online provider for the  
55 adult education or career instruction portion of the  
56 Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE)  
57 Program; removing the age limit for enrollment in the  
58 program; clarifying that students are not required to

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59 enroll in adult secondary and career education  
60 coursework simultaneously; amending s. 1006.73, F.S.;  
61 revising reporting requirements relating to the  
62 Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network;  
63 amending s. 1007.34, F.S.; expanding the scope of the  
64 college reach-out program to all low-income  
65 educationally disadvantaged and underrepresented  
66 students regardless of minority status; amending s.  
67 1007.35, F.S.; revising legislative findings; renaming  
68 the Florida Partnership for Minority and  
69 Underrepresented Student Achievement as the "Florida  
70 Partnership for Underrepresented Student Achievement";  
71 revising the purposes and duties of the partnership to  
72 focus on all underrepresented students regardless of  
73 minority status; revising duties of the partnership;  
74 amending s. 1009.23, F.S.; authorizing the Florida  
75 College System to allocate a portion of financial aid  
76 fees to assist underrepresented students, rather than  
77 students who are members of a targeted gender or  
78 ethnic minority population; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.;  
79 revising the residency requirement for a grandparent  
80 for an out-of-state fee waiver; revising the residency  
81 criteria for a grandparent in a specified attestation;  
82 amending s. 1009.536, F.S.; clarifying the required  
83 minimum cumulative weighted grade point average for  
84 the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award; authorizing  
85 students to apply for a Florida Gold Seal CAPE  
86 Scholars award within a specified timeframe before or  
87 after completing the GATE Program; amending s.

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1009.897, F.S.; requiring institutions receiving funds through the Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education Fund to allocate funding to health care-related programs; amending s. 1011.804, F.S.; authorizing certain institutions to apply for and use grant funds under the GATE Startup Grant Program for specified purposes; amending s. 1013.30, F.S.; revising the timeframe for updates to state university campus master plans; amending s. 1013.46, F.S.; deleting a provision relating to set asides for construction contracts with minority business enterprises; amending s. 1007.27, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (5) is added to section 11.51, Florida Statutes, to read:

11.51 Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability.—

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

Section 2. Subsection (9) of section 251.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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117 251.001 Florida State Guard Act.—

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

119 (a) The division shall reimburse members of the Florida  
120 State Guard for per diem and travel expenses incurred to attend  
121 required training or in the course of active service as provided  
122 in s. 112.061.

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

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

130 (d) As a benefit to the active members of the Florida State  
131 Guard, subject to approval by the director of the Division of  
132 the State Guard, each state university and Florida College  
133 System institution shall waive tuition and fees for active  
134 members of the Florida State Guard to enroll for up to 6 credit  
135 hours of courses per term on a space-available basis.

136 Section 3. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 288.036,  
137 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

138 288.036 Ocean economy development.—

139 (3) The Office of Ocean Economy shall:

140 (a) Develop and undertake activities and strategies with a  
141 focus on research and development, technological innovation,  
142 emerging industries, strategic business recruitment, public and  
143 private funding opportunities, and workforce training and  
144 education to promote and stimulate the ocean economy.

145 (b)1. Collaborate ~~Foster relationships~~ and coordinate with

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146 state universities, private universities, career centers, and  
147 Florida College System institutions, including the College of  
148 the Florida Keys, to periodically survey ~~surveying~~ the  
149 development of academic research relating to the ocean economy  
150 across all disciplines and facilitating the transfer of  
151 innovative technology into marketable goods and services. ~~The~~  
152 ~~office shall encourage collaboration between state universities~~  
153 ~~and Florida College System institutions that have overlapping~~  
154 ~~areas of academic research.~~

155 2. Include and update on the office's website information  
156 related to:

157 a. An inventory of current research and current  
158 collaborations, including contact information; and

159 b. Any available resources for research and technology  
160 development, including financial opportunities.

161 (c) Collaborate with relevant industries to identify  
162 economic challenges that may be solved through innovation in the  
163 ocean economy, including commercializing or otherwise  
164 facilitating public access to academic research and resources,  
165 removing governmental barriers, strengthening the workforce, and  
166 maximizing access to financial or other opportunities for growth  
167 and development.

168 (d) Develop and facilitate a pipeline for innovative ideas  
169 and strategies to be created, developed, researched,  
170 commercialized, and financed. This includes promotion and  
171 coordination of industry collaboration, academic research,  
172 accelerator programs, training and technical assistance, and  
173 startup or second-stage funding opportunities.

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

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175       1. Reports and data on the number, growth, and average  
176 wages of jobs included in the ocean economy; the impacts on the  
177 number, growth, and development of businesses in the ocean  
178 economy; and the collaboration, transition, or adoption of  
179 innovation and research into new, viable ideas employed in the  
180 ocean economy.

181       2. A current inventory of programs related to the ocean  
182 economy, an evaluation of additional opportunities to earn  
183 credentials, and the institutions or training providers where  
184 such credentials may be earned.

185       (f) Educate other state and local entities on the interests  
186 of the ocean economy and how such entities may positively  
187 address environmental issues while simultaneously considering  
188 the economic impact of their policies.

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

193       (h) Collaborate with public and private educational and  
194 industry organizations to make recommendations:

195       1. For strengthening employment opportunities in:

196       a. Commercial fishing;

197       b. Fisheries and aquaculture, marine and freshwater;

198       c. Processing and preserving fish, crustaceans, and  
199 mollusks;

200       d. Shipbuilding and repair; and

201       e. Shipping, water transport such as sea and coastal and  
202 inland water transportation of both freight and passengers,  
203 ports, and related services and support activities.

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204       2. Regarding the expansion of existing maritime programs  
205 and the addition of new programs and strategies for a public  
206 awareness campaign.

207       3. To increase the availability of dual enrollment,  
208 preapprenticeship and apprenticeship, and work-study programs at  
209 both public and private institutions.

210       4. For aligning the regulatory framework for fishing and  
211 boat operations with the demand for personnel through  
212 consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

213       (4) By August 1, 2025, and each August 1 thereafter, the  
214 office shall provide to the Board of Governors, the Governor,  
215 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
216 Representatives and post on its website a detailed report on  
217 ~~demonstrating~~ the economic benefits of the office and the  
218 development of emerging ocean economy industries. By August 1,  
219 2026, the report must include the recommendations in paragraph  
220 (3) (h).

221       Section 4. Subsection (4) of section 381.853, Florida  
222 Statutes, is amended to read:

223       381.853 Florida Center for Brain Tumor Research.—

224       (4) There is established within the center a scientific  
225 advisory council that includes biomedical researchers,  
226 physicians, clinicians, and representatives from public and  
227 private universities and hospitals. The council shall meet at  
228 least annually.

229       (a) The council shall consist of members appointed by the  
230 President of the University of Florida, in consultation with the  
231 dean of the University of Florida College of Medicine:

232       1. Two members from the Florida Center for Brain Tumor



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233 Research within the Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain  
234 Institute of the University of Florida ~~appointed by the~~  
235 ~~Governor.~~

236 2. Two members from The Scripps Research Institute, one of  
237 whom must have expertise in basic brain tumor research,  
238 ~~appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.~~

239 3. Two members from other public and private universities  
240 and institutions directly involved in brain tumor research  
241 ~~appointed by the President of the Senate.~~

242 4. One member from the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville who is  
243 directly involved in the treatment of brain tumor patients or  
244 who has expertise in basic brain tumor ~~research appointed by the~~  
245 ~~State Surgeon General.~~

246 5. Two members from the Cleveland Clinic in Florida who are  
247 directly involved in basic brain tumor research ~~appointed by the~~  
248 ~~Governor.~~

249 6. One member from the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and  
250 Research Institute who is directly involved in the treatment of  
251 brain tumor patients or who has expertise in basic brain tumor  
252 research ~~appointed by the Speaker of the House of~~  
253 ~~Representatives.~~

254 7. One member from the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center Orlando  
255 who is directly involved in the treatment of brain tumor  
256 patients or who has expertise in basic brain tumor research  
257 ~~appointed by the President of the Senate.~~

258 (b) Council members shall serve staggered 4-year terms.

259 (c) Council members shall serve without compensation, and  
260 each organization represented shall cover all expenses of its  
261 representative.

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262 Section 5. Paragraphs (d) and (f) of subsection (1) of  
263 section 413.407, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

264 413.407 Assistive Technology Advisory Council.—There is  
265 created the Assistive Technology Advisory Council, responsible  
266 for ensuring consumer involvement in the creation, application,  
267 and distribution of technology-related assistance to and for  
268 persons who have disabilities. The council shall fulfill its  
269 responsibilities through statewide policy development, state and  
270 federal legislative initiatives, advocacy at the state and  
271 federal levels, planning of statewide resource allocations,  
272 policy-level management, and reviews of consumer responsiveness  
273 and the adequacy of program service delivery and by performing  
274 the functions listed in this section.

275 (1)

276 (d) Members of the council must be geographically  
277 representative of the state and reflect the ~~diversity of the~~  
278 state's population with respect to ~~race, ethnicity, gender, age,~~  
279 type of disability~~7~~ and type of disability-related services and  
280 devices received.

281 (f)1. Each member of the council shall serve for a term of  
282 not more than 5 ~~3~~ years, except that a member appointed to fill  
283 a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which  
284 a predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder  
285 of such term.

286 2. A member of the council may not serve more than two  
287 consecutive terms; however, any appointment under subparagraph  
288 1., if for less than 18 months, is not considered a term for the  
289 purposes of this section.

290 3. A member who has served two consecutive terms and has

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291 been retired from the council for at least 3 years may be  
292 reappointed to the council on the same basis as a new member.

293 Section 6. Subsection (2) of section 446.032, Florida  
294 Statutes, is amended to read:

295 446.032 General duties of the department for apprenticeship  
296 training.—The department shall:

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

301 (a) A list of registered apprenticeship and  
302 preapprenticeship programs, sorted by local educational agency,  
303 as defined in s. 1004.02(18), and apprenticeship sponsor, under  
304 s. 446.071.

305 (b) A detailed summary of each local educational agency's  
306 expenditure of funds for apprenticeship and preapprenticeship  
307 programs, including:

308 1. The total amount of funds received for apprenticeship  
309 and preapprenticeship programs.

310 2. The total amount of funds allocated by training  
311 provider, program, and occupation.

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

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

316 (c) The number of apprentices and preapprentices per trade  
317 and occupation.

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

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320 (e) Information and resources related to applications for  
321 new apprenticeship programs and technical assistance and  
322 requirements for potential applicants.

323 (f) Documentation of activities conducted by the department  
324 to promote apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs through  
325 public engagement, community-based partnerships, and other  
326 initiatives and the outcomes of such activities and their impact  
327 on establishing or expanding apprenticeship and  
328 preapprenticeship programs.

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

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

334 Section 7. Subsection (12) of section 446.041, Florida  
335 Statutes, is amended to read:

336 446.041 Duties of the department.—The department shall:

337 (12) Ensure that underrepresented groups ~~minority and~~  
338 ~~gender diversity~~ are considered in administering this program.

339 Section 8. Subsection (1), paragraph (d) of subsection (2),  
340 paragraph (e) of subsection (3), subsection (5), and subsection  
341 (7) of section 1000.05, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

342 1000.05 Discrimination against students and employees in  
343 the Florida K-20 public education system prohibited; equality of  
344 access required.—

345 (1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Educational  
346 Equality ~~Equity~~ Act."

347 (2)

348 (d) Students may be separated by sex for a single-sex

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349 ~~single-gender~~ program, for any portion of a class that deals  
350 with human reproduction, or during participation in bodily  
351 contact sports. For the purpose of this section, bodily contact  
352 sports include wrestling, boxing, rugby, ice hockey, football,  
353 basketball, and other sports in which the purpose or major  
354 activity involves bodily contact.

355 (3)

356 (e) A public school or Florida College System institution  
357 may provide separate toilet, locker room, and shower facilities  
358 on the basis of sex ~~gender~~, but such facilities shall be  
359 comparable to such facilities provided for students of the other  
360 sex.

361 (5) Public schools and Florida College System institutions  
362 shall develop and implement methods and strategies to increase  
363 the participation of underrepresented students ~~of a particular~~  
364 ~~race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or marital status~~  
365 in programs and courses in which students ~~of that particular~~  
366 ~~race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or marital status~~  
367 have been traditionally underrepresented, including, but not  
368 limited to, mathematics, science, computer technology,  
369 electronics, communications technology, engineering, and career  
370 education.

371 (7) The functions of the Office of Equal Educational  
372 Opportunity of the Department of Education shall include, but  
373 are not limited to:

374 (a) Requiring all district school boards and Florida  
375 College System institution boards of trustees to develop and  
376 submit plans for the implementation of this section to the  
377 Department of Education.

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378 (b) Conducting periodic reviews of school districts and  
379 Florida College System institutions to determine compliance with  
380 this section and, after a finding that a school district or a  
381 Florida College System institution is not in compliance with  
382 this section, notifying the entity of the steps that it must  
383 take to attain compliance and performing followup monitoring.

384 (c) Providing technical assistance, including assisting  
385 school districts or Florida College System institutions in  
386 identifying unlawful discrimination and instructing them in  
387 remedies for correction and prevention of such discrimination  
388 and performing followup monitoring.

389 (d) Conducting studies of the effectiveness of methods and  
390 strategies designed to increase the participation of students in  
391 programs and courses in which students of a particular race,  
392 color, national origin, sex, disability, or marital status have  
393 been traditionally underrepresented and monitoring the success  
394 of students in such programs or courses, including performing  
395 followup monitoring.

396 (e) Requiring all district school boards and Florida  
397 College System institution boards of trustees to submit data and  
398 information necessary to determine compliance with this section.  
399 The Commissioner of Education shall prescribe the format and the  
400 date for submission of such data and any other educational  
401 equity data. If any board does not submit the required  
402 compliance data or other required educational equity data by the  
403 prescribed date, the commissioner shall notify the board of this  
404 fact and, if the board does not take appropriate action to  
405 immediately submit the required report, the State Board of  
406 Education shall impose monetary sanctions.

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407 (f) Based upon rules of the State Board of Education,  
408 developing and implementing enforcement mechanisms with  
409 appropriate penalties to ensure that public K-12 schools and  
410 Florida College System institutions comply with Title IX of the  
411 Education Amendments of 1972 and subsection (3) of this section.  
412 However, the State Board of Education may not force a public  
413 school or Florida College System institution to conduct, nor  
414 penalize such entity for not conducting, a program of athletic  
415 activity or athletic scholarship for female athletes unless it  
416 is an athletic activity approved for women by a recognized  
417 association whose purpose is to promote athletics and a  
418 conference or league exists to promote interscholastic or  
419 intercollegiate competition for women in that athletic activity.

420 ~~(g) Reporting to The Commissioner of Education any district~~  
421 ~~school board or Florida College System institution board of~~  
422 ~~trustees found to be out of compliance with rules of the State~~  
423 ~~Board of Education adopted as required by paragraph (f) or~~  
424 ~~paragraph (3) (d). To penalize the board, the State Board of~~  
425 ~~Education shall:~~

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

428 ~~2. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.192, direct the~~  
429 ~~Chief Financial Officer to withhold general revenue funds~~  
430 ~~sufficient to obtain compliance from the school district or~~  
431 ~~Florida College System institution.~~

432  
433 ~~The school district or Florida College System institution shall~~  
434 ~~remain ineligible and the funds shall not be paid until the~~  
435 ~~institution comes into compliance or the State Board of~~

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436 ~~Education approves a plan for compliance.~~

437

438 The Commissioner of Education and the State Board of Education  
439 shall use their authority under s. 1008.32 to enforce compliance  
440 with this subsection.

441 Section 9. Paragraph (j) of subsection (5) of section  
442 1000.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

443 1000.21 Systemwide definitions.—As used in the Florida  
444 Early Learning-20 Education Code:

445 (5) "Florida College System institution" except as  
446 otherwise specifically provided, includes all of the following  
447 public postsecondary educational institutions in the Florida  
448 College System and any branch campuses, centers, or other  
449 affiliates of the institution:

450 (j) Hillsborough ~~Community~~ College, which serves  
451 Hillsborough County.

452 Section 10. Section 1001.68, Florida Statutes, is created  
453 to read:

454 1001.68 State college regional consortium service  
455 organizations.—In order to create effectiveness and efficiency  
456 of small institutions in the Florida College System which serve  
457 rural communities:

458 (1) Colleges with 5,000 or fewer full-time equivalent  
459 students may enter into cooperative agreements to form a  
460 regional consortium service organization. Each regional  
461 consortium service organization shall, at a minimum, provide  
462 three of the following services: grant procurement;  
463 institutional research and reporting; risk management;  
464 professional development for faculty and staff; leadership



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465 support; information technology and cybersecurity training;  
466 faculty and staff recruitment; workforce development programs;  
467 cooperative purchasing; administrative services; or enrollment  
468 management services.

469 (2) Each regional consortium service organization must be  
470 governed by a board of directors composed of the presidents of  
471 the respective member colleges.

472 Section 11. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section  
473 1001.706, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

474 1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

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

476 (d) The Board of Governors shall annually require a state  
477 university prior to registration to provide each enrolled  
478 student electronic access to the economic security report of  
479 employment and earning outcomes prepared by the Department of  
480 Commerce pursuant to s. 445.07. ~~In addition, the Board of~~  
481 ~~Governors shall require a state university to provide each~~  
482 ~~student electronic access to the following information each year~~  
483 ~~prior to registration using the data described in s. 1008.39:~~

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

487 ~~2. The bottom 10 percent of degrees reported by the~~  
488 ~~university in terms of lowest full-time job placement and lowest~~  
489 ~~average annualized earnings in the year after earning the~~  
490 ~~degree.~~

491 Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
492 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

493 1001.7065 Preeminent state research universities program.—

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494 (2) ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE STANDARDS.—The  
495 following academic and research excellence standards are  
496 established for the preeminent state research universities  
497 program and shall be reported annually in the Board of Governors  
498 Accountability Plan:

499 (a) An average weighted grade point average of 4.0 or  
500 higher on a 4.0 scale and an average SAT score of 1200 or higher  
501 on a 1600-point scale or an average ACT score of 25 or higher on  
502 a 36 score scale, using the latest published national  
503 concordance table developed jointly by the College Board and  
504 ACT, Inc., or an average Classic Learning Test score of 83 or  
505 higher on a 120 score scale, for fall semester incoming  
506 freshmen, as reported annually.

507 Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
508 1004.0971, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

509 1004.0971 Emergency opioid antagonists in Florida College  
510 System institution and state university housing.—

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

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

517 Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and paragraph  
518 (b) of subsection (4) of section 1004.933, Florida Statutes, are  
519 amended to read:

520 1004.933 Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education  
521 (GATE) Program.—

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

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523 (b) "Institution" means any a school district career center  
524 established under s. 1001.44, a charter technical career center  
525 established under s. 1002.34, or a Florida College System  
526 institution identified in s. 1000.21. Any such institution may  
527 enter into an agreement with an online provider for the adult  
528 education or career instruction portion of the program if such  
529 provider offers instructional content and services that align  
530 with the state career and adult education curriculum frameworks.

531 (4) PAYMENT WAIVER; ELIGIBILITY.—

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

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

537 2. Have been withdrawn from high school;

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

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

543 5. Select the adult secondary education program and career  
544 education program of his or her choice at the time of admission  
545 to the GATE Program, provided that the career education program  
546 is included on the Master Credentials List under s. 445.004(4).  
547 The student is not required to enroll in adult secondary and  
548 career education program coursework simultaneously. The student  
549 may not change the requested pathway after enrollment, except  
550 that, if necessary for the student, the student may enroll in an  
551 adult basic education program prior to enrolling in the adult

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552 secondary education program;

553 6. Maintain a 2.0 GPA for career and technical education  
554 coursework; and

555 7. Notwithstanding s. 1003.435(4), complete the programs  
556 under subparagraph 5. within 3 years after his or her initial  
557 enrollment unless the institution determines that an extension  
558 is warranted due to extenuating circumstances.

559 Section 15. Subsections (5) and (7) of section 1006.73,  
560 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

561 1006.73 Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network.—

562 (5) REPORTING.—

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

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

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

571 (c)3. The implementation and operation of the automated  
572 library services.

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

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

577 ~~6. Information on the utilization of the Student Open  
578 Access Resources Repository and utilization of open educational  
579 resources in course sections, by Florida College System  
580 institution and state university.~~

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581 ~~(b) The Chancellors will provide an annual report on the~~  
582 ~~performance of the host entity in delivering the services and~~  
583 ~~any recommendations for changes needed to this section to the~~  
584 ~~Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House~~  
585 ~~of Representatives, the Board of Governors, and the State Board~~  
586 ~~of Education. The Board of Governors and the Department of~~  
587 ~~Education shall include any necessary funding increases in their~~  
588 ~~annual legislative budget requests.~~

589 ~~(7) RECOMMENDATION ON OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO BE~~  
590 ~~INCLUDED WITHIN THE FLORIDA POSTSECONDARY ACADEMIC LIBRARY~~  
591 ~~NETWORK. By June 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Education and the~~  
592 ~~Chancellor of the Board of Governors shall provide a joint~~  
593 ~~recommendation for a process by which school district career~~  
594 ~~centers operated under s. 1001.44 and charter technical career~~  
595 ~~centers under s. 1002.34 would access appropriate postsecondary~~  
596 ~~distance learning, student support services and library assets~~  
597 ~~described in this section. The recommendation must include an~~  
598 ~~analysis of the resources necessary to expand access and assets~~  
599 ~~to centers and their students.~~

600 Section 16. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) and paragraph  
601 (c) of subsection (7) of section 1007.34, Florida Statutes, are  
602 amended to read:

603 1007.34 College reach-out program.—

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

606 (d) A program that includes innovative approaches, provides  
607 a great variety of activities, and includes a large percentage  
608 of low-income educationally disadvantaged and underrepresented  
609 ~~minority~~ students in the college reach-out program.

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

611 (c) An identification of existing programs for enhancing  
612 the academic performance of ~~minority and~~ low-income  
613 educationally disadvantaged and underrepresented students for  
614 enrollment in postsecondary education.

615 Section 17. Section 1007.35, Florida Statutes, is amended  
616 to read:

617 1007.35 Florida Partnership for ~~Minority and~~  
618 Underrepresented Student Achievement.—

619 (1) This section may be referred to by the popular name the  
620 “Florida Partnership for ~~Minority and~~ Underrepresented Student  
621 Achievement Act.”

622 (2) (a) The Legislature recognizes the importance of not  
623 only access to college but also success in college for all  
624 students. It is the intent of the Legislature that every student  
625 enrolled in a public secondary school has access to high-  
626 quality, rigorous academics, with a particular focus on access  
627 to advanced courses. The Legislature also recognizes the  
628 importance of other career pathways, such as vocational and  
629 trade schools, and the importance of incentivizing the  
630 availability of high school programs to prepare students for  
631 those career paths.

632 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide  
633 assistance to all public secondary schools, with a primary focus  
634 on low-performing middle and high schools.

635 ~~(c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the~~  
636 ~~partnership created in this section accomplish its mission~~  
637 ~~primarily through strengthening the content knowledge of~~  
638 ~~teachers and providing instructional resources, including~~

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639 ~~materials and strategies, which enable teachers to provide~~  
640 ~~instruction to students who have diverse learning styles.~~

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

644 (4) The mission of the partnership is to prepare, inspire,  
645 and connect students to postsecondary success and opportunity,  
646 with a particular focus on minority students and students who  
647 are underrepresented in postsecondary education.

648 (5) Each public high school, including, but not limited to,  
649 schools and alternative sites and centers of the Department of  
650 Juvenile Justice, shall provide for the administration of the  
651 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test  
652 (PSAT/NMSQT), or the PreACT to all enrolled 10th grade students.  
653 However, a written notice shall be provided to each parent which  
654 must include the opportunity to exempt his or her child from  
655 taking the PSAT/NMSQT or the PreACT.

656 (a) Test results will provide each high school with a  
657 database of student assessment data which certified school  
658 counselors will use to identify students who are prepared or who  
659 need additional work to be prepared to enroll and be successful  
660 in advanced high school courses.

661 (b) Funding for the PSAT/NMSQT or the PreACT for all 10th  
662 grade students shall be contingent upon annual funding in the  
663 General Appropriations Act.

664 (c) Public school districts must choose either the  
665 PSAT/NMSQT or the PreACT for districtwide administration.

666 (6) The partnership shall:

667 (a) ~~Provide teacher training and professional learning to~~

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668 ~~enable teachers of advanced courses to have the necessary~~  
669 ~~content knowledge and instructional skills to prepare students~~  
670 ~~for success on assessments developed pursuant to s. 1007.27(2)~~  
671 ~~and mastery of postsecondary general education core courses.~~

672 ~~(b) Provide to middle school teachers and administrators~~  
673 ~~professional learning that will enable them to educate middle~~  
674 ~~school students at the level necessary to prepare the students~~  
675 ~~to enter high school ready to participate in advanced courses.~~

676 ~~(c) Provide teacher training and materials that are aligned~~  
677 ~~with the state standards and are consistent with best theory and~~  
678 ~~practice regarding multiple learning styles and research on~~  
679 ~~learning, instructional strategies, instructional design, and~~  
680 ~~classroom assessment. Curriculum materials must be based on~~  
681 ~~current, accepted, and essential academic knowledge.~~

682 ~~(d) Provide assessment of individual strengths and~~  
683 ~~weaknesses as related to potential success in advanced courses~~  
684 ~~and readiness for college.~~

685 (b)~~(e)~~ Provide college entrance exam preparation through a  
686 variety of means that may include, but are not limited to,  
687 training teachers to provide courses at schools; training  
688 community organizations to provide courses at community centers,  
689 faith-based organizations, and businesses; and providing online  
690 courses.

691 ~~(f) Consider ways to incorporate Florida College System~~  
692 ~~institutions in the mission of preparing all students for~~  
693 ~~postsecondary success.~~

694 (c)~~(g)~~ Provide a plan for communication and coordination of  
695 efforts with the Florida Virtual School's provision of online  
696 advanced courses.



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

699        (e)~~(i)~~ Work with school districts to provide information to  
700 students and parents that explains available opportunities for  
701 students to take advanced courses and that explains enrollment  
702 procedures that students must follow to enroll in such courses.  
703 Such information must also explain the value of such courses as  
704 they relate to:

705            1. Preparing the student for postsecondary level  
706 coursework.

707            2. Enabling the student to gain access to postsecondary  
708 education opportunities.

709            3. Qualifying for scholarships and other financial aid  
710 opportunities.

711        (f)~~(j)~~ Provide information to students, parents, teachers,  
712 counselors, administrators, districts, Florida College System  
713 institutions, and state universities regarding PSAT/NMSQT or the  
714 PreACT administration, including, but not limited to:

715            1. Test administration dates and times.

716            2. That participation in the PSAT/NMSQT or the PreACT is  
717 open to all 10th grade students.

718            3. The value of such tests in providing diagnostic feedback  
719 on student skills.

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

722        ~~(k) Cooperate with the department to provide information to~~  
723 ~~administrators, teachers, and counselors, whenever possible,~~  
724 ~~about partnership activities, opportunities, and priorities.~~

725        (g)~~(l)~~ Partner with the Florida College System institutions

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726 and state universities identified by the State Board of  
727 Education and Board of Governors pursuant to s. 1007.25(3) to  
728 develop advanced courses ~~and provide teacher training.~~

729 (7) By May 31 of each year, the Department of Education  
730 shall approve a plan of delivery of services for the subsequent  
731 academic year.

732 (8)(a) By September 30 of each year, the partnership shall  
733 submit to the department a report that contains an evaluation of  
734 the effectiveness of the delivered services and activities.  
735 Activities and services must be evaluated on their effectiveness  
736 at raising student achievement and increasing the number of AP  
737 or other advanced course examinations in low-performing middle  
738 and high schools. Other indicators that must be addressed in the  
739 evaluation report include the number of middle and high school  
740 teachers trained; the effectiveness of the training; measures of  
741 postsecondary readiness of the students affected by the program;  
742 levels of participation in 10th grade PSAT/NMSQT or the PreACT  
743 testing; and measures of student, parent, and teacher awareness  
744 of and satisfaction with the services of the partnership.

745 (b) The department shall contribute to the evaluation  
746 process by providing access, consistent with s. 119.071(5)(a),  
747 to student and teacher information necessary to match against  
748 databases containing teacher professional learning data and  
749 databases containing assessment data for the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT,  
750 ACT, PreACT, AP, and other appropriate measures. The department  
751 shall also provide student-level data on student progress from  
752 middle school through high school and into college and the  
753 workforce, if available, in order to support longitudinal  
754 studies. The partnership shall analyze and report student

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755 performance data in a manner that protects the rights of  
756 students and parents as required in 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g and s.  
757 1002.22.

758 (9) (a) Funding for the partnership shall be contingent upon  
759 annual funding in the General Appropriations Act.

760 (b) The participating partner, if one is chosen, is  
761 required to match at least one-third of the allocation provided  
762 to the partnership in the General Appropriations Act in  
763 materials and services to the program.

764 (10) Nothing in this section shall prohibit any  
765 organization from partnering with the state to improve the  
766 college readiness of students.

767 Section 18. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section  
768 1009.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

769 1009.23 Florida College System institution student fees.—

770 (8) (c) Up to 25 percent or \$600,000, whichever is greater,  
771 of the financial aid fees collected may be used to assist  
772 students who demonstrate academic merit; who participate in  
773 athletics, public service, cultural arts, and other  
774 extracurricular programs as determined by the institution; or  
775 who are identified as members of an underrepresented ~~a targeted~~  
776 ~~gender or ethnic minority~~ population. The financial aid fee  
777 revenues allocated for athletic scholarships and any fee  
778 exemptions provided to athletes pursuant to s. 1009.25(2) must  
779 be distributed equitably as required by s. 1000.05(3)(d). A  
780 minimum of 75 percent of the balance of these funds for new  
781 awards shall be used to provide financial aid based on absolute  
782 need, and the remainder of the funds shall be used for academic  
783 merit purposes and other purposes approved by the boards of

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784 trustees. Such other purposes shall include the payment of child  
785 care fees for students with financial need. The State Board of  
786 Education shall develop criteria for making financial aid  
787 awards. Each college shall report annually to the Department of  
788 Education on the revenue collected pursuant to this paragraph,  
789 the amount carried forward, the criteria used to make awards,  
790 the amount and number of awards for each criterion, and a  
791 delineation of the distribution of such awards. The report shall  
792 include an assessment by category of the financial need of every  
793 student who receives an award, regardless of the purpose for  
794 which the award is received. Awards that are based on financial  
795 need shall be distributed in accordance with a nationally  
796 recognized system of need analysis approved by the State Board  
797 of Education. An award for academic merit requires a minimum  
798 overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or the  
799 equivalent for both initial receipt of the award and renewal of  
800 the award.

801 Section 19. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (20) of  
802 section 1009.26, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

803 1009.26 Fee waivers.—

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

806 1. Has a grandparent who has established a domicile in this  
807 state pursuant to s. 222.17 for at least 5 years preceding an  
808 application for the fee waiver ~~is a legal resident as defined in~~  
809 ~~s. 1009.21(1)~~. For purposes of this subsection, the term  
810 "grandparent" means a person who has a legal relationship to a  
811 student's parent as the natural or adoptive parent or legal  
812 guardian of the student's parent.

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813           2. Earns a high school diploma comparable to a Florida  
814 standard high school diploma, or its equivalent, or completes a  
815 home education program.

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

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

822           c. If a state university accepts the Classic Learning Test  
823 (CLT) for admission purposes, achieves a CLT score concordant to  
824 the required SAT score specified in sub-subparagraph a., using  
825 the latest published scoring comparison developed by Classic  
826 Learning Initiatives.

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

831           (c) Before waiving the out-of-state fee, the state  
832 university shall require the student or the student's parent, if  
833 the student is a dependent child, to provide a written  
834 declaration pursuant to s. 92.525(2) attesting to the student's  
835 familial relationship to a grandparent who meets the residency  
836 requirement of subparagraph (a)1. ~~is a legal resident~~ and any  
837 other corroborating documentation required by regulation of the  
838 Board of Governors. A state university is not required to  
839 independently verify the statements contained in each  
840 declaration if the signatory declares it to be true under the  
841 penalties of perjury as required by s. 92.525(2). However, the

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842 state university may refer any signed declaration suspected of  
843 containing fraudulent representations to law enforcement.

844 Section 20. Subsection (2) of section 1009.536, Florida  
845 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (6) is added to that  
846 section, to read:

847 1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida  
848 Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards.—The Florida Gold Seal Vocational  
849 Scholars award and the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award are  
850 created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to  
851 recognize and reward academic achievement and career preparation  
852 by high school students who wish to continue their education.

853 (2) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal CAPE  
854 Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility  
855 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program,  
856 and the student:

857 (a) Earns a minimum of 3 ~~5~~ postsecondary credit hours  
858 through CAPE industry certifications approved pursuant to s.  
859 1008.44 which articulate for college credit; ~~and~~

860 (b) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average  
861 of 2.5, as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, on all subjects  
862 required for a standard high school diploma, excluding elective  
863 courses; and

864 (c) Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service or,  
865 beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023  
866 academic year and thereafter, 100 hours of paid work, approved  
867 by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic  
868 school, or the Department of Education for home education  
869 program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both.

870 Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be

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871 included in a student's total required paid work hours. The  
872 student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional  
873 area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her  
874 personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about  
875 the area. The student must, through papers or other  
876 presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.  
877 Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not  
878 limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a  
879 nonprofit community service organization, or activities on  
880 behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer  
881 service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the  
882 document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or  
883 guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the  
884 student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

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

888 Section 21. Present subsection (4) of section 1009.897,  
889 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (5), and a new  
890 subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

891 1009.897 Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and  
892 Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE)  
893 Fund.—

894 (4) Each institution that receives funds through the  
895 PIPELINE Fund shall allocate the funds to its health care  
896 industry-related programs.

897 Section 22. Subsections (3) and (6) of section 1011.804,  
898 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

899 1011.804 GATE Startup Grant Program.—

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900 (3) The department may solicit proposals from institutions  
901 without programs that meet the requirements of s. 1004.933(2).  
902 Such institutions must be located in or serve a rural area of  
903 opportunity as designated by the Governor. Additionally,  
904 institutions that meet program requirements and are located in  
905 or serve a rural area of opportunity may apply for grant funds  
906 specifically for marketing and outreach efforts to expand  
907 student participation in the GATE Program.

908 (6) Grant funds may be used for planning activities and  
909 other expenses associated with the creation of the GATE Program,  
910 such as expenses related to program instruction, instructional  
911 equipment, supplies, instructional personnel, ~~and~~ student  
912 services, and outreach and marketing efforts to recruit and  
913 enroll eligible students. Institutions with existing programs  
914 that meet the requirements of s. 1004.933(2) and that are  
915 located in or serve a rural area of opportunity may apply for  
916 grant funds exclusively for marketing and outreach purposes to  
917 expand student participation in the GATE Program. Grant funds  
918 may not be used for indirect costs. Grant recipients must submit  
919 an annual report in a format prescribed by the department. The  
920 department shall consolidate such annual reports and include the  
921 reports in the report required by s. 1004.933(5).

922 Section 23. Subsection (3) of section 1013.30, Florida  
923 Statutes, is amended to read:

924 1013.30 University campus master plans and campus  
925 development agreements.—

926 (3) Each university board of trustees shall prepare and  
927 adopt a campus master plan for the university and maintain a  
928 copy of the plan on the university's website. The master plan



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929 must identify general land uses and address the need for and  
930 plans for provision of roads, parking, public transportation,  
931 solid waste, drainage, sewer, potable water, and recreation and  
932 open space during the coming 10 to 20 years. The plans must  
933 contain elements relating to future land use, intergovernmental  
934 coordination, capital improvements, recreation and open space,  
935 general infrastructure, housing, and conservation. Each element  
936 must address compatibility with the surrounding community. The  
937 master plan must identify specific land uses, general location  
938 of structures, densities and intensities of use, and contain  
939 standards for onsite development, site design, environmental  
940 management, and the preservation of historic and archaeological  
941 resources. The transportation element must address reasonable  
942 transportation demand management techniques to minimize offsite  
943 impacts where possible. Data and analyses on which the elements  
944 are based must include, at a minimum: the characteristics of  
945 vacant lands; projected impacts of development on onsite and  
946 offsite infrastructure, public services, and natural resources;  
947 student enrollment projections; student housing needs; and the  
948 need for academic and support facilities. Master plans must be  
949 updated at least every 10 ~~5~~ years.

950 Section 24. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section  
951 1013.46, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

952 1013.46 Advertising and awarding contracts;  
953 prequalification of contractor.—

954 (1)

955 ~~(c) As an option, any county, municipality, or board may~~  
956 ~~set aside up to 10 percent of the total amount of funds~~  
957 ~~allocated for the purpose of entering into construction capital~~

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958 ~~project contracts with minority business enterprises, as defined~~  
959 ~~in s. 287.094. Such contracts shall be competitively bid only~~  
960 ~~among minority business enterprises. The set-aside shall be used~~  
961 ~~to redress present effects of past discriminatory practices and~~  
962 ~~shall be subject to periodic reassessment to account for~~  
963 ~~changing needs and circumstances.~~

964 Section 25. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
965 1007.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

966 1007.27 Articulated acceleration mechanisms.—

967 (1)

968 (b) The State Board of Education and the Board of Governors  
969 shall identify Florida College System institutions and state  
970 universities to develop courses that align with s. 1007.25 for  
971 students in secondary education ~~and provide the training~~  
972 ~~required under s. 1007.35(6).~~

973 Section 26. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.