LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate Comm: RCS 03/18/2025 House

The Committee on Criminal Justice (McClain) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1006.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read

1006.28 Duties of district school board, district school superintendent; and school principal regarding K-12 instructional materials.-

(1) DEFINITIONS.-

(a) As used in this section, the term:

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11	1. "Adequate instructional materials" means a sufficient
12	number of student or site licenses or sets of materials that are
13	available in bound, unbound, kit, or package form and may
14	consist of hardbacked or softbacked textbooks, electronic
15	content, consumables, learning laboratories, manipulatives,
16	electronic media, and computer courseware or software that serve
17	as the basis for instruction in the core subject areas of
18	mathematics, language arts, social studies, science, reading,
19	and literature.
20	2. "Harmful to minors" means any reproduction, imitation,
21	characterization, description, exhibition, presentation, or
22	representation, of whatever kind or form, depicting nudity,
23	sexual conduct, or sexual excitement when it:
24	(a) Predominantly appeals to prurient, shameful, or morbid
25	interest; and
26	(b) Is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the
27	adult community as a whole with respect to what is suitable
28	material or conduct for minors.
29	3.2. "Instructional materials" has the same meaning as in
30	s. 1006.29(2).
31	4.3. "Library media center" means any collection of books,
32	ebooks, periodicals, or videos maintained and accessible on the
33	site of a school, including in classrooms.
34	(b) As used in this section and s. 1006.283, the term
35	"resident" means a person who has maintained his or her
36	residence in this state for the preceding year, has purchased a
37	home that is occupied by him or her as his or her residence, or
38	has established a domicile in this state pursuant to s. 222.17.
39	(c) As used in this section and ss. 1006.283, 1006.32,
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40 1006.35, 1006.37, 1006.38, 1006.40, and 1006.42, the term 41 "purchase" includes purchase, lease, license, and acquire.

(2) DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.—The district school board has the constitutional duty and responsibility to select and provide adequate instructional materials for all students in accordance with the requirements of this part. The district school board also has the following specific duties and responsibilities:

(a) Courses of study; adoption.—Adopt courses of study, including instructional materials, for use in the schools of the district.

50 1. Each district school board is responsible for the 51 content of all instructional materials and any other materials 52 used in a classroom, made available in a school or classroom 53 library, or included on a reading list, whether adopted and 54 purchased from the state-adopted instructional materials list, 55 adopted and purchased through a district instructional materials 56 program under s. 1006.283, or otherwise purchased or made 57 available.

2. Each district school board must adopt a policy regarding 58 59 an objection by a parent or a resident of the county to the use 60 of a specific material, which clearly describes a process to 61 handle all objections and provides for resolution. The objection 62 form, as prescribed by State Board of Education rule, and the 63 district school board's process must be easy to read and 64 understand and be easily accessible on the homepage of the 65 school district's website. The objection form must also identify 66 the school district point of contact and contact information for 67 the submission of an objection. The process must provide the parent or resident the opportunity to proffer evidence to the 68

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69 district school board that: 70 a. An instructional material does not meet the criteria of 71 s. 1006.31(2) or s. 1006.40(3)(c) if it was selected for use in a course or otherwise made available to students in the school 72 73 district but was not subject to the public notice, review, 74 comment, and hearing procedures under s. 1006.283(2)(b)8., 9., 75 and 11. 76 b. Any material used in a classroom, made available in a school or classroom library, or included on a reading list 77 78 contains content which: 79 (I) Is pornographic or prohibited under s. 847.012; 80 (II) Is considered harmful to minors as defined by this section or depicts or describes sexual conduct as defined in s. 81 82 847.001(19), unless such material is specifically authorized as 83 part of a health education course required under s. 1003.46; as 84 part of comprehensive health education required under s. 1003.42(2)(o)1.g. or 3.; or as approved through for a course 85 required by s. 1003.46 or s. 1003.42(2)(o)1.g. or 3., or 86 87 identified by State Board of Education rule for specific 88 educational purposes.+ 89 (A) Upon receipt of an objection under this sub-sub-90 subparagraph regarding material that is harmful to minors, the 91 material must be removed within 5 school days; the material must 92 remain unavailable throughout the objection review process; and 93 the school board may not consider potential literary, artistic, 94 political, or scientific value as a basis for retaining the 95 material. 96 (B) The State Board of Education shall monitor district 97 compliance with the requirements of this sub-subparagraph

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through regular audits and reporting. Upon finding that a

99 district has failed to comply with these requirements, the State Board of Education must provide written notice of noncompliance 100 101 to the district and require the district to submit a corrective 102 action plan within 30 days after receiving such notice; may 103 withhold the transfer of state funds, discretionary grant funds, 104 discretionary lottery funds, or any other funds specified by the 105 Legislature until the school district complies with the 106 requirements; and may impose additional sanctions or 107 requirements as conditions for the continued receipt of state 108 funds. 109 (III) Is not suited to student needs and their ability to 110 comprehend the material presented; or 111 (IV) Is inappropriate for the grade level and age group for 112 which the material is used. 113 114 A resident of the county who is not the parent or quardian 115 of a student with access to school district materials may not 116 object to more than one material per month. The State Board of 117 Education may adopt rules to implement this provision. Any 118 material that is subject to an objection on the basis of sub-119 sub-subparagraph b.(I) or sub-subparagraph b.(II) must be 120 removed within 5 school days after receipt of the objection and 121 remain unavailable to students of that school until the 122 objection is resolved. Parents shall have the right to read 123 passages from any material that is subject to an objection. If 124 the school board denies a parent the right to read passages due 125 to content that meets the requirements under sub-subsubparagraph b.(I), the school district shall discontinue the 126

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127 use of the material in the school district. If the district 128 school board finds that any material meets the requirements 129 under sub-subparagraph a. or that any other material contains 130 prohibited content under sub-sub-subparagraph b.(I), the school 131 district shall discontinue use of the material. If the district 132 school board finds that any other material contains prohibited 133 content under sub-sub-subparagraphs b.(II)-(IV), the school 134 district shall discontinue use of the material for any grade 135 level or age group for which such use is inappropriate or 136 unsuitable.

137 3. Each district school board must establish a process by 138 which the parent of a public school student or a resident of the 139 county may contest the district school board's adoption of a 140 specific instructional material. The parent or resident must 141 file a petition, on a form provided by the school board, within 142 30 calendar days after the adoption of the instructional 143 material by the school board. The school board must make the 144 form available to the public and publish the form on the school 145 district's website. The form must be signed by the parent or 146 resident, include the required contact information, and state 147 the objection to the instructional material based on the criteria of s. 1006.31(2) or s. 1006.40(3)(c). Within 30 days 148 149 after the 30-day period has expired, the school board must, for 150 all petitions timely received, conduct at least one open public 151 hearing before an unbiased and qualified hearing officer. The 152 hearing officer may not be an employee or agent of the school 153 district. The hearing is not subject to the provisions of 154 chapter 120; however, the hearing must provide sufficient procedural protections to allow each petitioner an adequate and 155



156 fair opportunity to be heard and present evidence to the hearing 157 officer. The school board's decision after convening a hearing 158 is final and not subject to further petition or review.

4. Meetings of committees convened for the purpose of ranking, eliminating, or selecting instructional materials for 161 recommendation to the district school board must be noticed and open to the public in accordance with s. 286.011. Any committees convened for such purposes must include parents of students who will have access to such materials.

165 5. Meetings of committees convened for the purpose of 166 resolving an objection by a parent or resident to specific 167 materials must be noticed and open to the public in accordance with s. 286.011. Any committees convened for such purposes must 169 include parents of students who will have access to such 170 materials.

6. If a parent disagrees with the determination made by the 171 172 district school board on the objection to the use of a specific 173 material, a parent may request the Commissioner of Education to 174 appoint a special magistrate who is a member of The Florida Bar 175 in good standing and who has at least 5 years' experience in 176 administrative law. The special magistrate shall determine facts 177 relating to the school district's determination, consider information provided by the parent and the school district, and render a recommended decision for resolution to the State Board of Education within 30 days after receipt of the request by the parent. The State Board of Education must approve or reject the recommended decision at its next regularly scheduled meeting that is more than 7 calendar days and no more than 30 days after the date the recommended decision is transmitted. The costs of

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185 the special magistrate shall be borne by the school district.
186 The State Board of Education shall adopt rules, including forms,
187 necessary to implement this subparagraph.

188 Section 2. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 189 made by this act to section 1006.28, Florida Statutes, in a 190 reference thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 191 1014.05, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

192 1014.05 School district notifications on parental rights.193 (1) Each district school board shall, in consultation with
194 parents, teachers, and administrators, develop and adopt a
195 policy to promote parental involvement in the public school
196 system. Such policy must include:

197 (c) Procedures, pursuant to s. 1006.28(2)(a)2., for a 198 parent to object to instructional materials and other materials 199 used in the classroom. Such objections may be based on beliefs regarding morality, sex, and religion or the belief that such 200 201 materials are harmful. For purposes of this section, the term 202 "instructional materials" has the same meaning as in s. 203 1006.29(2) and may include other materials used in the 204 classroom, including workbooks and worksheets, handouts, software, applications, and any digital media made available to 205 206 students.

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Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

211 Delete everything before the enacting clause 212 and insert:

A bill to be entitled

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2025 Bill No. SB 1692



214 An act relating to material that is harmful to minors; 215 amending 1006.28, F.S.,; defining the term "harmful to minors"; revising the list of materials used in a 216 217 classroom which are subject to the objection process 218 by parents or residents; reenacting s. 1014.05(1)(c), 219 F.S., relating to school district notifications on 220 parental rights to incorporate the amendment to s. 221 1006.28, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an 2.2.2 effective date.