

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to middle school and high school start
 3 times; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; deleting the duty of
 4 district school boards to adopt policies for middle
 5 school and high school start times; deleting a
 6 requirement that instructional days for middle schools
 7 and high schools begin no earlier than specified
 8 times; deleting a requirement that district school
 9 boards inform the community of specified impacts of
 10 sleep deprivation on students and the benefits of
 11 later school start times and discuss related
 12 strategies; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; deleting a
 13 requirement that certain charter schools comply with
 14 middle school and high school start times; providing
 15 an effective date.

16
 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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19 **Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (4) of section**
 20 **1001.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

21 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The
 22 district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all
 23 powers and perform all duties listed below:

24 (4) ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANIZATION, AND OPERATION OF
 25 SCHOOLS.—Adopt and provide for the execution of plans for the

26 establishment, organization, and operation of the schools of the
27 district, including, but not limited to, the following:

28 (f) *Opening and closing of schools; fixing uniform date*~~+~~
29 ~~middle school and high school start times.~~ Adopt policies for
30 the opening and closing of schools and~~7~~ fix uniform dates~~7~~, and
31 ~~middle school and high school start times.~~

32 1~~.~~ The opening date for schools in the district may not be
33 earlier than August 10 of each year.

34 2~~.~~ ~~By July 1, 2026, the instructional day for middle~~
35 ~~schools may not begin earlier than 8 a.m. and the instructional~~
36 ~~day for high schools may not begin earlier than 8:30 a.m. Each~~
37 ~~district school board must inform its community, including~~
38 ~~parents, students, teachers, school administrators, athletic~~
39 ~~coaches, and other stakeholders, about the health, safety, and~~
40 ~~academic impacts of sleep deprivation on middle school and high~~
41 ~~school students and the benefits of a later school start time~~
42 ~~and discuss local strategies to successfully implement the later~~
43 ~~school start times.~~

44 **Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (16) of section**
45 **1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

46 1002.33 Charter schools.—

47 (16) EXEMPTION FROM STATUTES.—

48 (b) Additionally, a charter school shall be in compliance
49 with the following statutes:

50 1. Section 286.011, relating to public meetings and

- 51 records, public inspection, and criminal and civil penalties.
- 52 2. Chapter 119, relating to public records.
- 53 3. Section 1003.03, relating to the maximum class size,
- 54 except that the calculation for compliance pursuant to s.
- 55 1003.03 shall be the average at the school level.
- 56 4. Section 1012.22(1)(c), relating to compensation and
- 57 salary schedules.
- 58 5. Section 1012.33(5), relating to workforce reductions.
- 59 6. Section 1012.335, relating to contracts with
- 60 instructional personnel hired on or after July 1, 2011.
- 61 7. Section 1012.34, relating to the substantive
- 62 requirements for performance evaluations for instructional
- 63 personnel and school administrators.
- 64 8. Section 1006.12, relating to safe-school officers.
- 65 9. Section 1006.07(7), relating to threat management
- 66 teams.
- 67 10. Section 1006.07(9), relating to School Environmental
- 68 Safety Incident Reporting.
- 69 11. Section 1006.07(10), relating to reporting of
- 70 involuntary examinations.
- 71 12. Section 1006.1493, relating to the Florida Safe
- 72 Schools Assessment Tool.
- 73 13. Section 1006.07(6)(d), relating to adopting an active
- 74 assailant response plan.
- 75 14. Section 943.082(4)(b), relating to the mobile

76 | suspicious activity reporting tool.

77 | 15. Section 1012.584, relating to youth mental health
78 | awareness and assistance training.

79 | ~~16. Section 1001.42(4)(f)2., relating to middle school and~~
80 | ~~high school start times. A charter school in the workplace is~~
81 | ~~exempt from this requirement.~~

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