

By the Committee on Education Pre-K - 12; and Senator Calatayud

581-02037-26

20261036c1

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to school counselors; amending s.  
3       1012.55, F.S.; providing that school counselors are  
4       exempt from specified certification requirements,  
5       unless required for employment by a school district;  
6       providing an effective date.

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

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10       Section 1. Present subsection (6) of section 1012.55,  
11       Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (7), and a new  
12       subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

13       1012.55 Positions for which certificates required.—

14       (6) A person employed as a school counselor is exempt from  
15       the educator certification requirements in s. 1012.56(2)(g) and  
16       (h), relating to the mastery of general and subject area  
17       knowledge. Such exemption does not preclude a school district  
18       from requiring the person to demonstrate mastery of general and  
19       subject area knowledge as a condition of employment.

20       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.