

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

581-02037-26

20261036c1

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to school counselors; amending s. 1012.55, F.S.; providing that school counselors are exempt from specified certification requirements, unless required for employment by a school district; providing an effective date.

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

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

1012.55 Positions for which certificates required.—

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

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