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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
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Floor: 1/AD/2R	.	Floor: C
03/13/2026 10:24 AM	.	03/13/2026 12:55 PM
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Senator Calatayud moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Section 413.0114, Florida Statutes, is created  
to read:

413.0114 Consumer disclosure for blind-related services.-

(1) An individual, a business, a nonprofit, or other entity  
offering fee-based services to individuals who are blind or  
visually impaired shall, before entering into a contract or  
accepting payment, disclose in writing whether equivalent or



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12 substantially similar services may be available at no cost  
13 through the Division of Blind Services or another public agency.

14 (2) The written disclosure must:

15 (a) Be provided in plain language and, upon request, in an  
16 accessible format, such as braille, large print, or audio.

17 (b) Include contact information for the Division of Blind  
18 Services.

19 (c) Be signed or electronically acknowledged by the  
20 consumer or his or her representative.

21 (3) A violation of this section constitutes an unfair or  
22 deceptive trade practice under part II of chapter 501 and is  
23 subject to penalties and enforcement as provided therein.

24 (4) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to  
25 implement this section.

26 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 413.208, Florida  
27 Statutes, is amended to read:

28 413.208 Service providers; quality assurance; fitness for  
29 responsibilities; background screening.—

30 (1) Service providers must apply to ~~register with~~ the  
31 division. To qualify for approval, a ~~registration~~, ~~the division~~  
32 ~~must ensure that the~~ service provider must maintain ~~maintains~~ an  
33 internal system of quality assurance, have ~~has~~ proven functional  
34 systems, meet the minimum qualifications, and be ~~is~~ subject to a  
35 due-diligence inquiry as to its fitness to undertake service  
36 responsibilities.

37 (a) The division shall establish minimum qualifications for  
38 service providers. The division shall establish an annual  
39 application period for service providers to submit applications.  
40 The division may approve or deny any service provider



41 application. Beginning January 1, 2027, only service providers  
42 that meet the minimum qualifications established by the division  
43 and that have been approved to provide employment-related  
44 services to individuals with disabilities may participate in the  
45 vocational rehabilitation program.

46 (b) The division shall develop and make publicly available  
47 an annual report of service provider effectiveness, which  
48 includes an evaluation system measuring the effectiveness of all  
49 service providers that are approved by the division to provide  
50 employment-related services to individuals with disabilities.

51 (c) In order to maintain approved status with the division,  
52 service providers must meet minimum standards of effectiveness  
53 in the provision of vocational rehabilitation services,  
54 including placement of individuals in competitive and integrated  
55 employment.

56 (d) Rates for vocational rehabilitation services must be  
57 allocable, reasonable, and necessary, as determined by the  
58 division.

59 Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section  
60 491.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

61 491.005 Licensure by examination.—

62 (3) MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY.—Upon verification of  
63 documentation and payment of a fee not to exceed \$200, as set by  
64 board rule, the department shall issue a license as a marriage  
65 and family therapist to an applicant whom the board certifies  
66 has met all of the following criteria:

67 (c)1. Attained one of the following:

68 a. A minimum of a master's degree in marriage and family  
69 therapy from a program accredited by the Commission on



70 Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education.

71       b. A minimum of a master's degree with a major emphasis in  
72 marriage and family therapy or a closely related field from a  
73 university program accredited by the Council on Accreditation of  
74 Counseling and Related Educational Programs and graduate courses  
75 approved by the board.

76       c. A minimum of a master's degree with an emphasis in  
77 marriage and family therapy or a closely related field, with a  
78 degree conferred before September 1, 2032 ~~2027~~, from an  
79 institutionally accredited college or university and graduate  
80 courses approved by the board.

81       2. If the course title that appears on the applicant's  
82 transcript does not clearly identify the content of the  
83 coursework, the applicant provided additional documentation,  
84 including, but not limited to, a syllabus or catalog description  
85 published for the course. The required master's degree must have  
86 been received in an institution of higher education that, at the  
87 time the applicant graduated, was fully accredited by an  
88 institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for  
89 Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization or  
90 was a member in good standing with Universities Canada, or an  
91 institution of higher education located outside the United  
92 States and Canada which, at the time the applicant was enrolled  
93 and at the time the applicant graduated, maintained a standard  
94 of training substantially equivalent to the standards of  
95 training of those institutions in the United States which are  
96 accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by  
97 the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor  
98 organization. Such foreign education and training must have been



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99 received in an institution or program of higher education  
100 officially recognized by the government of the country in which  
101 it is located as an institution or program to train students to  
102 practice as professional marriage and family therapists or  
103 psychotherapists. The applicant has the burden of establishing  
104 that the requirements of this provision have been met, and the  
105 board shall require documentation, such as an evaluation by a  
106 foreign equivalency determination service, as evidence that the  
107 applicant's graduate degree program and education were  
108 equivalent to an accredited program in this country. An  
109 applicant with a master's degree from a program that did not  
110 emphasize marriage and family therapy may complete the  
111 coursework requirement in a training institution fully  
112 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and  
113 Family Therapy Education recognized by the United States  
114 Department of Education.

115  
116 For the purposes of dual licensure, the department shall license  
117 as a marriage and family therapist any person who meets the  
118 requirements of s. 491.0057. Fees for dual licensure may not  
119 exceed those stated in this subsection.

120 Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (17) and subsections  
121 (21) and (23) of section 1001.42, Florida Statutes, are amended  
122 to read:

123 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The  
124 district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all  
125 powers and perform all duties listed below:

126 (17) PUBLIC INFORMATION AND PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM.—

127 (a) Adopt procedures whereby the general public can be



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128 adequately informed of the educational programs, needs, and  
129 objectives of public education within the district, including  
130 educational opportunities available through approved virtual  
131 instruction program providers under s. 1002.45 or the school  
132 district's virtual instruction program ~~the Florida Virtual~~  
133 ~~School.~~

134 (21) EDUCATIONAL EMERGENCY.—To free schools that have with  
135 a school grade of "D" or "F" or are persistently low-performing  
136 schools as described in s. 1002.333 from contract restrictions  
137 that limit the school district's ~~school's~~ ability to implement  
138 programs and strategies needed to improve student performance, a  
139 district school board may adopt salary incentives or other  
140 strategies that address the selection, placement, compensation,  
141 and expectations of instructional personnel and provide  
142 principals with the autonomy described in s. 1012.28(8). For  
143 purposes of this subsection, an educational emergency exists in  
144 a school district if one or more schools in the district have a  
145 school grade of "D" or "F" or are persistently low-performing  
146 schools as described in s. 1002.333. ~~"F."~~ Notwithstanding  
147 chapter 447, relating to collective bargaining, a district  
148 school board may:

149 (a) Provide salary incentives that differentiate based on a  
150 teacher's certification, subject area taught, or grade level  
151 taught. Such incentives are not subject to collective bargaining  
152 requirements.

153 (b) Notwithstanding s. 1012.2315, relating to assignment of  
154 teachers, adopt strategies to assign high-quality teachers more  
155 equitably across schools in the district to low-performing  
156 schools as a management right. Such strategies are not subject



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157 to collective bargaining requirements.

158 (23) VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION.—Provide students with access to  
159 courses, based on the students' choice, available through the  
160 school district's a virtual instruction program option or an  
161 approved virtual instruction program provider under s. 1002.45,  
162 ~~including the Florida Virtual School and other approved~~  
163 ~~providers,~~ and award credit for successful completion of such  
164 courses.

165 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1001.92, Florida  
166 Statutes, is amended to read:

167 1001.92 State University System Performance-Based  
168 Incentive.—

169 (1) A State University System Performance-Based Incentive  
170 shall be awarded to state universities using performance-based  
171 metrics adopted by the Board of Governors of the State  
172 University System. Beginning with the Board of Governors'  
173 determination of each university's performance improvement and  
174 achievement ratings, and the related distribution of annual  
175 fiscal year appropriation, the performance-based metrics must  
176 include:

177 (a) The 4-year graduation rate and adjusted cohort  
178 graduation rate for engineering programs for first-time-in-  
179 college students;

180 (b) Beginning in fiscal year 2022-2023, the 3-year  
181 graduation rate for associate in arts transfer students;

182 (c) Retention rates;

183 (d) Postgraduation education rates;

184 (e) Degree production;

185 (f) Affordability;



186 (g) Postgraduation employment and salaries, including wage  
187 thresholds that reflect the added value of a baccalaureate  
188 degree;

189 (h) Access rate, based on the percentage of first-year  
190 undergraduate students enrolled during the fall term who  
191 received a Pell Grant during the fall term; and

192 (i) Beginning in fiscal year 2021-2022, the 6-year  
193 graduation rate for students who are awarded a Pell Grant in  
194 their first year.

195

196 The Board of Governors may approve other metrics in a publicly  
197 noticed meeting. The board shall adopt benchmarks to evaluate  
198 each state university's performance on the metrics to measure  
199 the state university's achievement of institutional excellence  
200 or need for improvement and minimum requirements for eligibility  
201 to receive performance funding. Benchmarks and metrics may not  
202 be adjusted after university performance data has been received  
203 by the Board of Governors.

204 Section 6. Paragraph (i) of subsection (3) of section  
205 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

206 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
207 school students must receive accurate and timely information  
208 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
209 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
210 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
211 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

212 (3) HEALTH ISSUES.—

213 (i) *Epinephrine use and supply.*—

214 1. A student who has experienced or is at risk for life-



215 threatening allergic reactions may carry a United States Food  
216 and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved ~~an~~ epinephrine delivery  
217 device ~~auto-injector~~ and self-administer epinephrine by such  
218 FDA-approved delivery device ~~auto-injector~~ while in school,  
219 participating in school-sponsored activities, or in transit to  
220 or from school or school-sponsored activities if the school has  
221 been provided with parental and physician authorization. The  
222 State Board of Education, in cooperation with the Department of  
223 Health, shall adopt rules for such use of FDA-approved  
224 epinephrine delivery devices which must ~~auto-injectors~~ that  
225 ~~shall~~ include provisions to protect the safety of all students  
226 from the misuse or abuse of such delivery devices ~~auto-~~  
227 ~~injectors~~. A school district, county health department, public-  
228 private partner, and their employees and volunteers shall be  
229 indemnified by the parent of a student authorized to carry an  
230 FDA-approved epinephrine delivery device ~~auto-injector~~ for any  
231 and all liability with respect to the student's use of an FDA-  
232 approved epinephrine delivery device ~~auto-injector~~ pursuant to  
233 this paragraph.

234 2. A public school may purchase a supply of FDA-approved  
235 epinephrine delivery devices ~~auto-injectors~~ from a wholesale  
236 distributor as defined in s. 499.003 or may enter into an  
237 arrangement with a wholesale distributor or manufacturer as  
238 defined in s. 499.003 for the FDA-approved epinephrine delivery  
239 devices ~~auto-injectors~~ at fair-market, free, or reduced prices  
240 for use in the event a student has an anaphylactic reaction. The  
241 FDA-approved epinephrine delivery devices ~~auto-injectors~~ must be  
242 maintained in a secure location on the public school's premises.  
243 The participating school district shall adopt a protocol



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244 developed by a licensed physician for the administration by  
245 school personnel who are trained to recognize an anaphylactic  
246 reaction and to administer ~~an~~ epinephrine by an FDA-approved  
247 delivery device ~~auto-injection~~. The supply of FDA-approved  
248 epinephrine delivery devices ~~auto-injectors~~ may be provided to  
249 and used by a student authorized to self-administer epinephrine  
250 by FDA-approved delivery device ~~auto-injector~~ under subparagraph  
251 1. or trained school personnel.

252 3. The school district and its employees, agents, and the  
253 physician who provides the standing protocol for school FDA-  
254 approved epinephrine delivery devices ~~auto-injectors~~ are not  
255 liable for any injury arising from the use of such ~~an~~  
256 epinephrine delivery device ~~auto-injector~~ administered by  
257 trained school personnel who follow the adopted protocol and  
258 whose professional opinion is that the student is having an  
259 anaphylactic reaction:

260 a. Unless the trained school personnel's action is willful  
261 and wanton;

262 b. Notwithstanding that the parents or guardians of the  
263 student to whom the epinephrine is administered have not been  
264 provided notice or have not signed a statement acknowledging  
265 that the school district is not liable; and

266 c. Regardless of whether authorization has been given by  
267 the student's parents or guardians or by the student's  
268 physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered  
269 nurse.

270 Section 7. Subsection (17) of section 1002.42, Florida  
271 Statutes, is amended to read:

272 1002.42 Private schools.-



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273 (17) EPINEPHRINE SUPPLY.—

274 (a) A private school may purchase a supply of United States  
275 Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved epinephrine delivery  
276 devices ~~auto-injectors~~ from a wholesale distributor as defined  
277 in s. 499.003 or may enter into an arrangement with a wholesale  
278 distributor or manufacturer as defined in s. 499.003 for the  
279 FDA-approved epinephrine delivery devices ~~auto-injectors~~ at  
280 fair-market, free, or reduced prices for use in the event a  
281 student has an anaphylactic reaction. The FDA-approved  
282 epinephrine delivery devices ~~auto-injectors~~ must be maintained  
283 in a secure location on the private school's premises. The  
284 participating private school shall adopt a protocol developed by  
285 a licensed physician for the administration by private school  
286 personnel who are trained to recognize an anaphylactic reaction  
287 and to administer epinephrine by an FDA-approved epinephrine  
288 delivery device ~~auto-injection~~. The supply of FDA-approved  
289 epinephrine delivery devices ~~auto-injectors~~ may be provided to  
290 and used by a student authorized to self-administer epinephrine  
291 by an FDA-approved delivery device ~~auto-injector~~ under s.  
292 1002.20(3)(i) or trained school personnel.

293 (b) The private school and its employees, agents, and the  
294 physician who provides the standing protocol for school FDA-  
295 approved epinephrine delivery devices ~~auto-injectors~~ are not  
296 liable for any injury arising from the use of an FDA-approved  
297 epinephrine delivery device ~~auto-injector~~ administered by  
298 trained school personnel who follow the adopted protocol and  
299 whose professional opinion is that the student is having an  
300 anaphylactic reaction:

301 1. Unless the trained school personnel's action is willful



302 and wanton;

303 2. Notwithstanding that the parents or guardians of the  
304 student to whom the epinephrine is administered have not been  
305 provided notice or have not signed a statement acknowledging  
306 that the school district is not liable; and

307 3. Regardless of whether authorization has been given by  
308 the student's parents or guardians or by the student's  
309 physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered  
310 nurse.

311 Section 8. Paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section  
312 1002.421, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

313 1002.421 State school choice scholarship program  
314 accountability and oversight.—

315 (1) PRIVATE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY AND OBLIGATIONS.—A private  
316 school participating in an educational scholarship program  
317 established pursuant to this chapter must be a private school as  
318 defined in s. 1002.01 in this state, be registered, and be in  
319 compliance with all requirements of this section in addition to  
320 private school requirements outlined in s. 1002.42, specific  
321 requirements identified within respective scholarship program  
322 laws, and other provisions of Florida law that apply to private  
323 schools, and must:

324 (i) Maintain a physical location in the state at which each  
325 student has regular and direct contact with teachers. Regular  
326 and direct contact with teachers may be satisfied for students  
327 enrolled in a personalized education program or for students  
328 eligible for a scholarship under s. 1002.394(3)(b) if students  
329 have regular and direct contact with teachers at the physical  
330 location at least 2 school days per week and the student



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331 learning plan addresses the remaining instructional time.

332

333 The department shall suspend the payment of funds to a private  
334 school that knowingly fails to comply with this subsection, and  
335 shall prohibit the school from enrolling new scholarship  
336 students, for 1 fiscal year and until the school complies. If a  
337 private school fails to meet the requirements of this subsection  
338 or has consecutive years of material exceptions listed in the  
339 report required under paragraph (q), the commissioner may  
340 determine that the private school is ineligible to participate  
341 in a scholarship program.

342 Section 9. Subsection (3), paragraph (e) of subsection (4),  
343 paragraph (a) of subsection (5), and paragraph (e) of subsection  
344 (6) of section 1002.68, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

345 1002.68 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program  
346 accountability.—

347 ~~(3)(a) For the 2020-2021 program year, the department shall~~  
348 ~~calculate a kindergarten readiness rate for each private~~  
349 ~~prekindergarten provider and public school participating in the~~  
350 ~~Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program based upon learning~~  
351 ~~gains and the percentage of students assessed as ready for~~  
352 ~~kindergarten. The department shall require that each school~~  
353 ~~district administer the statewide kindergarten screening in use~~  
354 ~~before the 2021-2022 school year to each kindergarten student in~~  
355 ~~the school district within the first 30 school days of the 2021-~~  
356 ~~2022 school year. Private schools may administer the statewide~~  
357 ~~kindergarten screening to each kindergarten student in a private~~  
358 ~~school who was enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten~~  
359 ~~Education Program. Learning gains shall be determined using a~~



360 ~~value added measure based on growth demonstrated by the results~~  
361 ~~of the preassessment and postassessment in use before the 2021-~~  
362 ~~2022 program year. However, a provider may not be newly placed~~  
363 ~~on probationary status under this paragraph. A provider~~  
364 ~~currently on probationary status may only be removed from such~~  
365 ~~status if the provider earns the minimum rate, determined~~  
366 ~~pursuant to subsection (5). The methodology for calculating a~~  
367 ~~provider's readiness rate may not include students who are not~~  
368 ~~administered the statewide kindergarten screening.~~

369 ~~(b) For the 2021-2022 program year, kindergarten screening~~  
370 ~~results may not be used in the calculation of readiness rates.~~  
371 ~~Any private prekindergarten provider or public school~~  
372 ~~participating in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program~~  
373 ~~which fails to meet the minimum kindergarten readiness rate for~~  
374 ~~the 2021-2022 program year is subject to the probation~~  
375 ~~requirements of subsection (5).~~

376 ~~(3)(4)~~

377 (e) Subject to an appropriation, the department shall  
378 provide for a differential payment to a private prekindergarten  
379 provider and public school based on the provider's designation.  
380 The maximum differential payment may not exceed a total of 15  
381 percent of the base student allocation per full-time equivalent  
382 student under s. 1002.71 attending in the consecutive program  
383 year for that program. A private prekindergarten provider or  
384 public school may not receive a differential payment if it  
385 receives a designation of "proficient" or lower. ~~Before the~~  
386 ~~adoption of the methodology, the department shall confer with~~  
387 ~~the Council for Early Grade Success under s. 1008.2125 before~~  
388 ~~receiving approval from the State Board of Education for the~~



389 ~~final recommendations on the designation system and differential~~  
390 ~~payments.~~

391 (4) (a) ~~(5) (a)~~ If a public school's or private  
392 prekindergarten provider's program assessment composite score  
393 for its prekindergarten classrooms fails to meet the minimum  
394 program assessment composite score for contracting adopted in  
395 rule by the department, the private prekindergarten provider or  
396 public school may not participate in the Voluntary  
397 Prekindergarten Education Program beginning in the consecutive  
398 program year and thereafter until the public school or private  
399 prekindergarten provider meets the minimum composite score for  
400 contracting. A public school or private prekindergarten provider  
401 may request one program assessment per program year in order to  
402 requalify for participation in the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
403 Education Program, provided that the public school or private  
404 prekindergarten provider is not excluded from participation  
405 under ss. 1002.55(6), 1002.61(10)(b), 1002.63(9)(b), or  
406 paragraph (b) ~~(5) (b)~~ of this section. If a public school or  
407 private prekindergarten provider would like an additional  
408 program assessment completed within the same program year, the  
409 public school or private prekindergarten provider shall be  
410 responsible for the cost of the program assessment.

411 (5) (6)

412 (e) A private prekindergarten provider or public school  
413 granted a good cause exemption shall continue to implement its  
414 improvement plan and continue the corrective actions required  
415 under paragraph (4) (b) ~~(5) (b)~~ until the provider or school meets  
416 the minimum performance metric.

417 Section 10. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (4) of



418 section 1002.945, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

419 1002.945 Gold Seal Quality Care Program.—

420 (4) In order to obtain and maintain a designation as a Gold  
421 Seal Quality Care provider, a child care facility, large family  
422 child care home, or family day care home must meet the following  
423 additional criteria:

424 (a) The child care provider must not have had any class I  
425 violations, as defined by rule of the Department of Children and  
426 Families, for which the Department of Children and Families  
427 determines that the child care provider is the primary cause of  
428 the violation within the 2 years preceding its application for  
429 designation as a Gold Seal Quality Care provider. Commission of  
430 a class I violation for which the Department of Children and  
431 Families determines that the child care provider is the primary  
432 cause of the violation shall be grounds for termination of the  
433 designation as a Gold Seal Quality Care provider until the  
434 provider has no class I violations for a period of 2 years.

435 ~~(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if the Department of~~  
436 ~~Education determines through a formal process that a provider~~  
437 ~~has been in business for at least 5 years and has no other class~~  
438 ~~I violations recorded, the department may recommend to the state~~  
439 ~~board that the provider maintain its Gold Seal Quality Care~~  
440 ~~status. The state board's determination regarding such~~  
441 ~~provider's status is final.~~

442 Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 1003.4203, Florida  
443 Statutes, is amended to read:

444 1003.4203 Digital materials, CAPE Digital Tool  
445 certificates, CAPE industry certifications, and technical  
446 assistance.—



447 (2) CAPE DIGITAL TOOL CERTIFICATES.—The department shall  
448 identify, in the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List under  
449 ss. 1003.492 and 1008.44, CAPE Digital Tool certificates that  
450 indicate a student’s digital skills. The department shall notify  
451 each school district when the certificates are available. The  
452 certificates shall be made available to all public elementary  
453 and middle grades students. Targeted skills to be mastered for  
454 the certificate include digital skills that are necessary to the  
455 student’s academic work and skills the student may need in  
456 future employment. CAPE Digital Tool certificates earned by  
457 students are eligible for additional funding pursuant to s.  
458 1011.62(17). Middle grade students may not earn more than two  
459 CAPE Digital Tools certificates per school year.

460 Section 12. Paragraph (f) of subsection (3) and subsection  
461 (10) of section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, are amended to  
462 read:

463 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—

464 (3) STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA; COURSE AND ASSESSMENT  
465 REQUIREMENTS.—

466 (f) *One credit in physical education.*—Physical education  
467 must include the integration of health. Participation in an  
468 interscholastic sport at the junior varsity or varsity level for  
469 two full seasons shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in  
470 physical education. A district school board may not require that  
471 the one credit in physical education be taken during the 9th  
472 grade year. Completion of 2 years of marching band shall satisfy  
473 the one-credit requirement in physical education and ~~or~~ the one-  
474 credit requirement in performing arts. This credit may not be  
475 used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the



476 requirement for adaptive physical education under an individual  
477 education plan (IEP) or 504 plan. Completion of 1.0 credit with  
478 a grade of "C" or better in a dance techniques course, a  
479 significant component of which is activities designed to  
480 maintain or improve health-related fitness and lifelong fitness,  
481 shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education  
482 or the one-credit requirement in performing arts. This credit  
483 may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or  
484 the requirement for adaptive physical education under an IEP or  
485 504 plan. Completion of one semester with a grade of "C" or  
486 better in a marching band class, in a physical activity class  
487 that requires participation in marching band activities as an  
488 extracurricular activity, or in a dance class shall satisfy one-  
489 half credit in physical education or one-half credit in  
490 performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the  
491 personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive  
492 physical education under an IEP or 504 plan. Completion of 2  
493 years in a Reserve Officer Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) class, a  
494 significant component of which is drills, shall satisfy the one-  
495 credit requirement in physical education and the one-credit  
496 requirement in performing arts. This credit may not be used to  
497 satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for  
498 adaptive physical education under an IEP or 504 plan.

499 (10) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CREDIT.—The Department  
500 of Education shall convene a workgroup, ~~no later than December~~  
501 ~~1, 2024,~~ to:

502 (a) Identify best practices in career and technical  
503 education pathways from middle school to high school to aid  
504 middle school students in career planning and facilitate their



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505 transition to high school programs. The career pathway must be  
506 linked to postsecondary programs.

507 (b) Establish three mathematics pathways for students  
508 enrolled in secondary grades by aligning mathematics courses to  
509 programs, postsecondary education, and careers. The workgroup  
510 shall collaborate to identify the three mathematics pathways and  
511 the mathematics course sequence within each pathway that ~~which~~  
512 align to the mathematics skills needed for success in the  
513 corresponding academic programs, postsecondary education, and  
514 careers.

515 1. The mathematics pathways must be identified no later  
516 than September 1, 2026. The Department of Education shall submit  
517 identified mathematics pathways to the Governor, the President  
518 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

519 2. The mathematics pathways must incorporate an applied  
520 algebra course that aligns with established career and technical  
521 education career clusters.

522 3. The Department of Education shall develop applied  
523 algebra courses aligned with the identified mathematics pathways  
524 and the established career and technical education career  
525 clusters by January 1, 2027, with availability for district  
526 implementation in the 2029-2030 school year.

527 a. The applied algebra for engineering and technology  
528 course must incorporate content and contexts that apply to the  
529 following career clusters: energy, engineering and technology  
530 education, and information technology.

531 b. The applied algebra for health science course must  
532 incorporate content and contexts that apply to the health  
533 science career cluster.



534 c. The applied algebra for business and finance course must  
535 incorporate content and contexts that apply to the following  
536 career clusters: business management and administration;  
537 finance; government and public administration; and marketing,  
538 sales, and service.

539 d. The applied algebra for industrial pathways course must  
540 incorporate content and contexts that apply to the following  
541 career clusters: architecture and construction; manufacturing;  
542 and transportation, distribution, and logistics.

543 e. The applied algebra for agriculture and natural  
544 resources course must incorporate content and contexts that  
545 apply to the agriculture, food, and natural resources career  
546 cluster.

547 4. Each mathematics pathway must offer flexibility and the  
548 ability to move between pathways if necessary.

549 5. Mathematics pathways must create clear links between  
550 secondary mathematics and postsecondary mathematics pathways, as  
551 established in State Board of Education rule, and support  
552 student progression into postsecondary academic programs, state  
553 college career and technical education programs, career center  
554 programs, industry certification programs, and high-skill, high-  
555 wage occupations.

556 6. Each applied algebra course must prepare students to  
557 take the statewide, standardized Algebra I end-of-course  
558 assessment required under s. 1008.22.

559 7. Each applied algebra course must meet all requirements  
560 for a mathematics credit required for high school graduation  
561 under s. 1003.4282(3)(b) or for middle grades promotion pursuant  
562 to s. 1003.4156(1)(b).



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563           8. The Department of Education shall collaborate with the  
564 Board of Governors of the State University System to ensure that  
565 each applied algebra course is accepted as a mathematics credit  
566 for state university admissions.

567           9. The Department of Education shall provide professional  
568 learning, instructional resources, and technical assistance to  
569 support district implementation for the 2029-2030 school year.

570           Section 13. Section 1003.437, Florida Statutes, is amended  
571 to read:

572           1003.437 Middle and high school grading system.—The grading  
573 system and interpretation of letter grades used to measure  
574 student success in grade 6 through grade 12 courses for students  
575 in public schools shall be as follows:

576           (1) Grade "A" equals 90 percent through 100 percent, has a  
577 grade point average value of 4, and is defined as "outstanding  
578 progress."

579           (2) Grade "B" equals 80 percent through 89 percent, has a  
580 grade point average value of 3, and is defined as "above average  
581 progress."

582           (3) Grade "C" equals 70 percent through 79 percent, has a  
583 grade point average value of 2, and is defined as "average  
584 progress."

585           (4) Grade "D" equals 60 percent through 69 percent, has a  
586 grade point average value of 1, and is defined as "lowest  
587 acceptable progress."

588           (5) Grade "F" equals zero percent through 59 percent, has a  
589 grade point average value of zero, and is defined as "failure."

590           (6) Grade "I" equals zero percent, has a grade point  
591 average value of zero, and is defined as "incomplete."



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592  
593 The State Board of Education shall establish a statewide uniform  
594 weighted grading system for honors courses and articulated  
595 acceleration mechanisms identified in s. 1007.27. ~~For the~~  
596 ~~purposes of class ranking,~~ District school boards shall use the  
597 ~~may exercise a~~ weighted grading system to calculate weighted  
598 high school grade point averages ~~pursuant to s. 1007.271.~~

599       Section 14. Subsection (5) is added to section 1003.5716,  
600 Florida Statutes, to read:

601       1003.5716 Transition to postsecondary education and career  
602 opportunities.—All students with disabilities who are 3 years of  
603 age to 21 years of age have the right to a free, appropriate  
604 public education. As used in this section, the term “IEP” means  
605 individual education plan.

606       (5)

607       (a) If a related service identified in a student’s IEP is  
608 not provided as scheduled, the school district must notify the  
609 parent or guardian in writing or by electronic means within 10  
610 school days, explain the reason the service was not provided,  
611 and discuss a plan for make-up services.

612       (b) A parent or guardian has the right to access, upon  
613 request, all service provider logs or progress notes within 15  
614 school days after such service is provided. The school district  
615 shall inform parents of this right at each IEP meeting.

616  
617       Section 15. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 1004.343,  
618 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

619       1004.343 Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human  
620 Trafficking Data.—



621 (5) Beginning January 31, 2027 ~~July 1, 2025~~, and annually  
622 thereafter, the University of South Florida Trafficking in  
623 Persons - Risk to Resilience Lab, in consultation with the  
624 Department of Law Enforcement, shall submit an annual report and  
625 analysis on its findings to the Governor, the Attorney General,  
626 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
627 Representatives.

628 (6) This section is repealed July 1, 2027 ~~2026~~, unless  
629 reviewed and reenacted by the Legislature before that date.

630 Section 16. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section  
631 1004.39, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

632 1004.39 College of Law at Florida International  
633 University.-

634 (3) The College of Law at Florida International University,  
635 to the extent consistent with the standards required by a ~~the~~  
636 ~~American Bar Association or any other~~ nationally recognized  
637 association for the accreditation of colleges of law, shall  
638 develop a law library collection utilizing electronic formats  
639 and mediums.

640 (4) The College of Law at Florida International University  
641 shall develop and institute a program that is consistent with  
642 sound legal education principles as determined by a ~~the American~~  
643 ~~Bar Association or any other~~ nationally recognized association  
644 for the accreditation of colleges of law and that, to the extent  
645 consistent with such sound legal education principles, is  
646 structured to serve the legal needs of traditionally underserved  
647 portions of the population by providing an opportunity for  
648 participation in a legal clinic program or pro bono legal  
649 service.



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650           (5) The Florida International University Board of Trustees  
651 and the Board of Governors may accept grants, donations, gifts,  
652 and moneys available for this purpose, including moneys for  
653 planning and constructing the college. The Florida International  
654 University Board of Trustees may procure and accept any federal  
655 funds that are available for the planning, creation, and  
656 establishment of the college of law. If a ~~the American Bar~~  
657 ~~Association or any other~~ nationally recognized association for  
658 the accreditation of colleges of law issues a third disapproval  
659 of an application for provisional approval or for full approval  
660 or fails to grant, within 5 years following the graduation of  
661 the first class, a provisional approval, to the College of Law  
662 at Florida International University, the Board of Governors  
663 shall make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature  
664 as to whether the college of law will cease operations at the  
665 end of the full academic year subsequent to the receipt by the  
666 college of law of any such third disapproval, or whether the  
667 college of law will continue operations and any conditions for  
668 continued operations. If the college of law ceases operations  
669 pursuant to this section, the following conditions apply:

670           (a) The authority for the College of Law at Florida  
671 International University and the authority of the Florida  
672 International University Board of Trustees and the Board of  
673 Governors provided in this section shall terminate upon the  
674 cessation of operations of the College of Law at Florida  
675 International University. The College of Law at Florida  
676 International University shall receive no moneys allocated for  
677 the planning, construction, or operation of the college of law  
678 after its cessation of operations other than moneys to be



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679 expended for the cessation of operations of the college of law.  
680 Any moneys allocated to the College of Law at Florida  
681 International University not expended prior to or scheduled to  
682 be expended after the date of the cessation of the college of  
683 law shall be appropriated for other use by the Legislature of  
684 the State of Florida.

685 (b) Any buildings of the College of Law at Florida  
686 International University constructed from the expenditure of  
687 capital outlay funds appropriated by the Legislature shall be  
688 owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust  
689 Fund and managed by the Florida International University Board  
690 of Trustees upon the cessation of the college of law.

691 Section 17. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section  
692 1004.40, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

693 1004.40 College of Law at Florida Agricultural and  
694 Mechanical University.—

695 (3) The College of Law at Florida Agricultural and  
696 Mechanical University, to the extent consistent with the  
697 standards required by a ~~the American Bar Association or any~~  
698 ~~other~~ nationally recognized association for the accreditation of  
699 colleges of law, shall develop a law library collection  
700 utilizing electronic formats and mediums.

701 (4) The College of Law at Florida Agricultural and  
702 Mechanical University shall develop and institute a program that  
703 is consistent with sound legal education principles as  
704 determined by a ~~the American Bar Association or any other~~  
705 nationally recognized association for the accreditation of  
706 colleges of law and that, to the extent consistent with such  
707 sound legal education principles, is structured to serve the



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708 legal needs of traditionally underserved portions of the  
709 population by providing an opportunity for participation in a  
710 legal clinic program or pro bono legal service.

711 (5) The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University  
712 Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors may accept grants,  
713 donations, gifts, and moneys available for this purpose,  
714 including moneys for planning and constructing the college. The  
715 Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees  
716 may procure and accept any federal funds that are available for  
717 the planning, creation, and establishment of the college of law.  
718 If a ~~the American Bar Association or any other~~ nationally  
719 recognized association for the accreditation of colleges of law  
720 issues a third disapproval of an application for provisional  
721 approval or for full approval or fails to grant, within 5 years  
722 following the graduation of the first class, a provisional  
723 approval, to the College of Law at Florida Agricultural and  
724 Mechanical University, the Board of Governors shall make  
725 recommendations to the Governor and Legislature as to whether  
726 the college of law will cease operations at the end of the full  
727 academic year subsequent to the receipt by the college of law of  
728 any such third disapproval, or whether the college of law will  
729 continue operations and any conditions for continued operations.  
730 If the college of law ceases operations of the college of law  
731 pursuant to this section, the following conditions apply:

732 (a) The authority for the College of Law at Florida  
733 Agricultural and Mechanical University and the authority of the  
734 Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees  
735 and the Board of Governors provided in this section shall  
736 terminate upon the cessation of operations of the College of Law



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737 at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. The College  
738 of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University shall  
739 receive no moneys allocated for the planning, construction, or  
740 operation of the college of law after its cessation of  
741 operations other than moneys to be expended for the cessation of  
742 operations of the college of law. Any moneys allocated to the  
743 College of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University  
744 not expended prior to or scheduled to be expended after the date  
745 of the cessation of the college of law shall be appropriated for  
746 other use by the Legislature of the State of Florida.

747 (b) Any buildings of the College of Law at Florida  
748 Agricultural and Mechanical University constructed from the  
749 expenditure of capital outlay funds appropriated by the  
750 Legislature shall be owned by the Board of Trustees of the  
751 Internal Improvement Trust Fund and managed by the Florida  
752 Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees upon  
753 the cessation of the college of law.

754 Section 18. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
755 1005.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

756 1005.06 Institutions not under the jurisdiction or purview  
757 of the commission.—

758 (1) Except as otherwise provided in law, the following  
759 institutions are not under the jurisdiction or purview of the  
760 commission and are not required to obtain licensure:

761 (b) Any college or school, ~~or course~~ licensed or approved  
762 as an institution for establishment and operation by another  
763 state agency. A college or school, or any of its programs or  
764 courses, does not qualify for exemption from the commission's  
765 jurisdiction under this paragraph solely because another state



766 agency licenses or approves one or more of its programs or  
767 courses. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit  
768 or affect the exemptions for contract training, continuing  
769 education, or professional development programs or courses under  
770 paragraph (d), even if such programs or courses are approved  
771 under chapter 466 for establishment and operation under part I  
772 of chapter 464, chapter 466, or chapter 475, or any other  
773 chapter of the Florida Statutes requiring licensing or approval  
774 as defined in this chapter.

775 Section 19. Section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, is amended  
776 to read:

777 1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For the  
778 protection and safety of school personnel, property, students,  
779 and visitors, each district school board and school district  
780 superintendent shall partner with law enforcement agencies or  
781 security agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school  
782 officers at each school facility within the district, including  
783 charter schools. A district school board must collaborate with  
784 charter school governing boards to facilitate charter school  
785 access to all safe-school officer options available under this  
786 section. Notwithstanding any local ordinance or development  
787 order, the school district or charter school may implement any  
788 combination of the options in subsections (1)-(4) to best meet  
789 the needs of the school district and charter schools.

790 (1) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER.—A school district may  
791 establish school resource officer programs through a cooperative  
792 agreement with law enforcement agencies.

793 (a) School resource officers shall undergo criminal  
794 background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation



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795 and be certified law enforcement officers, as defined in s.  
796 943.10(1), who are employed by a law enforcement agency as  
797 defined in s. 943.10(4). The powers and duties of a law  
798 enforcement officer shall continue throughout the employee's  
799 tenure as a school resource officer.

800 (b) School resource officers shall abide by district school  
801 board policies and shall consult with and coordinate activities  
802 through the school principal, but shall be responsible to the  
803 law enforcement agency in all matters relating to employment,  
804 subject to agreements between a district school board and a law  
805 enforcement agency. The agreements shall identify the entity  
806 responsible for maintaining records relating to training.  
807 Activities conducted by the school resource officer which are  
808 part of the regular instructional program of the school shall be  
809 under the direction of the school principal.

810 (2) SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER.—A school district may commission  
811 one or more school safety officers for the protection and safety  
812 of school personnel, property, and students within the school  
813 district. The district school superintendent may recommend, and  
814 the district school board may appoint, one or more school safety  
815 officers.

816 (a) School safety officers shall undergo criminal  
817 background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation  
818 and be law enforcement officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1),  
819 certified under chapter 943 and employed by either a law  
820 enforcement agency or by the district school board. If the  
821 officer is employed by the district school board, the district  
822 school board is the employing agency for purposes of chapter  
823 943, and must comply with that chapter.



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824 (b) A school safety officer has and shall exercise the  
825 power to make arrests for violations of law on district school  
826 board property or on property owned or leased by a charter  
827 school under a charter contract, as applicable, and to arrest  
828 persons, whether on or off such property, who violate any law on  
829 such property under the same conditions that deputy sheriffs are  
830 authorized to make arrests. A school safety officer has the  
831 authority to carry weapons when performing his or her official  
832 duties.

833 (c) School safety officers must complete mental health  
834 crisis intervention training using a curriculum developed by a  
835 national organization with expertise in mental health crisis  
836 intervention. The training shall improve officers' knowledge and  
837 skills as first responders to incidents involving students with  
838 emotional disturbance or mental illness, including de-escalation  
839 skills to ensure student and officer safety.

840 (d) A district school board may enter into mutual aid  
841 agreements with one or more law enforcement agencies as provided  
842 in chapter 23. A school safety officer's salary may be paid  
843 jointly by the district school board and the law enforcement  
844 agency, as mutually agreed to.

845 (3) SCHOOL GUARDIAN.—

846 (a) At the school district's or the charter school  
847 governing board's discretion, as applicable, pursuant to s.  
848 30.15, a school district or charter school governing board may  
849 participate in the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach  
850 Scott Beigel Guardian Program to meet the requirement of  
851 establishing a safe-school officer. The following individuals  
852 may serve as a school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned



853 activities for purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory  
854 completion of the requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and  
855 certification by a sheriff:

856 1. A school district employee or personnel, as defined  
857 under s. 1012.01, or a charter school employee, as provided  
858 under s. 1002.33(12)(a), who volunteers to serve as a school  
859 guardian in addition to his or her official job duties; or

860 2. An employee of a school district or a charter school who  
861 is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school  
862 guardian.

863 (b) Before appointing an individual as a school guardian,  
864 the school district or charter school shall contact the  
865 Department of Law Enforcement and review all information  
866 maintained under s. 30.15(1)(k)3.c. related to the individual.

867 (c) The department shall provide to the Department of Law  
868 Enforcement any information relating to a school guardian  
869 received pursuant to subsection (5).

870 (4) SCHOOL SECURITY GUARD.—A school district or charter  
871 school governing board may contract with a security agency as  
872 defined in s. 493.6101(18) to employ as a school security guard  
873 an individual who holds a Class "D" and Class "G" license  
874 pursuant to chapter 493, provided the following training and  
875 contractual conditions are met:

876 (a) An individual who serves as a school security guard,  
877 for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section,  
878 must:

879 1. Demonstrate completion of 144 hours of required training  
880 conducted by a sheriff pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.

881 2. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a



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882 psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the  
883 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the  
884 evaluation to the sheriff's office and school district, charter  
885 school governing board, or employing security agency, as  
886 applicable. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to  
887 provide the sheriff's office, school district, charter school  
888 governing board, or employing security agency with mental health  
889 and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

890 3. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent  
891 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.  
892 112.0455 and the sheriff's office, school district, charter  
893 school governing board, or employing security agency, as  
894 applicable.

895 4. Be approved to work as a school security guard by the  
896 sheriff of each county in which the school security guard will  
897 be assigned to a school before commencing work at any school in  
898 that county. The sheriff's approval authorizes the security  
899 agency to assign the school security guard to any school in the  
900 county, and the sheriff's approval is not limited to any  
901 particular school.

902 5. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon  
903 inspection, and firearm qualification conducted by a sheriff  
904 pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.e. on at least an annual basis and  
905 provide documentation to the sheriff's office, school district,  
906 charter school governing board, or employing security agency, as  
907 applicable.

908 (b) The contract between a security agency and a school  
909 district or a charter school governing board regarding  
910 requirements applicable to school security guards serving in the



911 capacity of a safe-school officer for purposes of satisfying the  
912 requirements of this section shall define the entity or entities  
913 responsible for maintaining records relating to training,  
914 inspection, and firearm qualification.

915 (c) School security guards serving in the capacity of a  
916 safe-school officer pursuant to this subsection are in support  
917 of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of s. 790.115, and  
918 must aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant  
919 incidents on school premises.

920 (d) The Office of Safe Schools shall provide the Department  
921 of Law Enforcement any information related to a school security  
922 guard that the office receives pursuant to subsection (5).

923 (5) NOTIFICATION.—The district school superintendent or  
924 charter school administrator, or a respective designee shall  
925 notify the county sheriff and the Office of Safe Schools  
926 immediately after, but no later than 72 hours after:

927 (a) A safe-school officer is dismissed for misconduct or is  
928 otherwise disciplined.

929 (b) A safe-school officer discharges his or her firearm in  
930 the exercise of the safe-school officer's duties, other than for  
931 training purposes.

932 (6) CRISIS INTERVENTION TRAINING.—Each safe-school officer  
933 who is also a sworn law enforcement officer shall complete  
934 mental health crisis intervention training using a curriculum  
935 developed by a national organization with expertise in mental  
936 health crisis intervention. The training must improve the  
937 officer's knowledge and skills as a first responder to incidents  
938 involving students with emotional disturbance or mental illness,  
939 including de-escalation skills to ensure student and officer



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940 safety.

941 (7) LIMITATIONS.—An individual must satisfy the background  
942 screening, psychological evaluation, and drug test requirements  
943 and be approved by the sheriff before participating in any  
944 training required by s. 30.15(1)(k), which may be conducted only  
945 by a sheriff.

946 (8) EXEMPTION.—Any information that would identify whether  
947 a particular individual has been appointed as a safe-school  
948 officer pursuant to this section held by a law enforcement  
949 agency, school district, or charter school is exempt from s.  
950 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

951  
952 If a district school board, through its adopted policies,  
953 procedures, or actions, denies a charter school access to any  
954 safe-school officer options pursuant to this section, the school  
955 district must assign a school resource officer or school safety  
956 officer to the charter school. Under such circumstances, the  
957 charter school's share of the costs of the school resource  
958 officer or school safety officer may not exceed the safe school  
959 allocation funds provided to the charter school pursuant to s.  
960 1011.62(12) and shall be retained by the school district.

961 Section 20. Paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of section  
962 1007.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

963 1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites;  
964 other degree requirements.—

965 (9)

966 (b) An associate in arts specialized transfer degree must  
967 include 36 semester hours of general education coursework and  
968 require 60 semester hours or more of college credit. Specialized



969 transfer degrees are designed for Florida College System  
970 institution students who need supplemental lower-level  
971 coursework in preparation for transfer to another institution.  
972 The State Board of Education shall establish criteria for the  
973 review and approval of new specialized transfer degrees. The  
974 approval process must require:

975       1. A Florida College System institution to submit a notice  
976 of its intent to propose a new associate in arts specialized  
977 degree program to the Division of Florida Colleges. The notice  
978 must include the recommended credit hours, the rationale for the  
979 specialization, the demand for students entering the field, and  
980 the coursework being proposed to be included beyond the 60  
981 semester hours required for the general transfer degree, if  
982 applicable. Notices of intent may be submitted by a Florida  
983 College System institution at any time.

984       2. The Division of Florida Colleges to forward the notice  
985 of intent within 10 business days after receipt to all Florida  
986 College System institutions and to the Chancellor of the State  
987 University System, who shall forward the notice to all state  
988 universities. State universities and Florida College System  
989 institutions shall have 30 ~~60~~ days after receipt of the notice  
990 to submit comments to the proposed associate in arts specialized  
991 transfer degree.

992       3. After the submission of comments pursuant to  
993 subparagraph 2., the requesting Florida College System  
994 institution to submit a proposal that, at a minimum, includes:

995       a. Evidence that the coursework for the associate in arts  
996 specialized transfer degree includes demonstration of competency  
997 in a foreign language pursuant to s. 1007.262 and demonstration



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998 of civic literacy competency as provided in subsection (5).  
999       b. Demonstration that all required coursework will count  
1000 toward the associate in arts degree or the baccalaureate degree.  
1001       c. An analysis of demand and unmet need for students  
1002 entering the specialized field of study at the baccalaureate  
1003 level.  
1004       d. Justification for the program length if it exceeds 60  
1005 credit hours, including references to the common prerequisite  
1006 manual or other requirements for the baccalaureate degree. This  
1007 includes documentation of alignment between the exit  
1008 requirements of a Florida College System institution and the  
1009 admissions requirements of a baccalaureate program at a state  
1010 university to which students would typically transfer.  
1011       e. Articulation agreements for graduates of the associate  
1012 in arts specialized transfer degree.  
1013       f. Responses to the comments received under subparagraph 2.  
1014 Section 21. Subsections (1) and (16) of section 1007.271,  
1015 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
1016       1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—  
1017       (1) The dual enrollment program is the enrollment of an  
1018 eligible secondary student in this state or home education  
1019 student in this state in a postsecondary course creditable  
1020 toward high school completion and a career certificate or an  
1021 associate or baccalaureate degree. Postsecondary institutions  
1022 that are eligible to participate in the dual enrollment program  
1023 are Florida public postsecondary institutions and eligible not-  
1024 for-profit independent colleges and universities pursuant to s.  
1025 1011.62(1)(i). A student ~~who is~~ enrolled in postsecondary  
1026 instruction that is not creditable toward a high school diploma



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1027 may not be classified as a dual enrollment student.

1028 (16) Students who ~~meet the eligibility requirements of this~~  
1029 ~~section and who choose to~~ participate in dual enrollment  
1030 programs are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition,  
1031 and laboratory fees.

1032 Section 22. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
1033 1008.2125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1034 1008.2125 The Council for Early Grade Success.—

1035 (1) The Council for Early Grade Success, a council as  
1036 defined in s. 20.03(7), is created within the Department of  
1037 Education to oversee the coordinated screening and progress  
1038 monitoring program under s. 1008.25(9) for students in the  
1039 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program through grade 3 and,  
1040 except as otherwise provided in this section, shall operate  
1041 consistent with s. 20.052.

1042 (a) The council shall be responsible for reviewing the  
1043 implementation of, training for, and outcomes from the  
1044 coordinated screening and progress monitoring program to provide  
1045 recommendations to the department that support grade 3 students  
1046 reading at or above grade level. The council, at a minimum,  
1047 shall:

1048 1. Provide recommendations on the implementation of the  
1049 coordinated screening and progress monitoring program, including  
1050 reviewing any procurement solicitation documents and criteria  
1051 before being published.

1052 2. Develop training plans and timelines for such training.

1053 3. Identify appropriate personnel, processes, and  
1054 procedures required for the administration of the coordinated  
1055 screening and progress monitoring program.



1056 4. Provide input on the methodology for calculating a  
1057 provider's or school's performance metric and designations under  
1058 s. 1002.68(3) ~~s. 1002.68(4)~~.

1059 5. Work with the department to review the methodology for  
1060 determining a child's kindergarten readiness.

1061 6. Review data on age-appropriate learning gains by grade  
1062 level that a student would need to attain in order to  
1063 demonstrate proficiency in reading by grade 3.

1064 7. Continually review anonymized data from the results of  
1065 the coordinated screening and progress monitoring program for  
1066 students in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program  
1067 through grade 3 to help inform recommendations to the department  
1068 that support practices that will enable grade 3 students to read  
1069 at or above grade level.

1070 Section 23. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4), paragraphs (b)  
1071 and (d) of subsection (5), and paragraph (a) of subsection (9)  
1072 of section 1008.25, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1073 1008.25 Public school student progression; student support;  
1074 coordinated screening and progress monitoring; reporting  
1075 requirements.—

1076 (4) ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT.—

1077 (c) A student who has a substantial reading deficiency as  
1078 determined in paragraph (5)(a) or a substantial mathematics  
1079 deficiency as determined in paragraph (6)(a) must be covered by  
1080 a federally required student plan, such as an individual  
1081 education plan or an individualized progress monitoring plan, or  
1082 both, as necessary. The individualized progress monitoring plan  
1083 must be developed within 45 days after the results of the  
1084 coordinated screening and progress monitoring system become



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1085 available. The plan must, at a minimum, include:

1086 1. The student's specific, identified reading or  
1087 mathematics skill deficiency.

1088 2. Goals and benchmarks for student growth in reading or  
1089 mathematics.

1090 3. A description of the specific measures that will be used  
1091 to evaluate and monitor the student's reading or mathematics  
1092 progress.

1093 4. For a substantial reading deficiency, the specific  
1094 evidence-based literacy instruction grounded in the science of  
1095 reading which the student will receive.

1096 5. Strategies, resources, and materials that will be  
1097 provided to the student's parent to support the student to make  
1098 reading or mathematics progress. For a student with a  
1099 substantial reading deficiency, resources must include  
1100 information about the student's eligibility for the New Worlds  
1101 Reading Initiative under s. 1003.485.

1102 6. Any additional services the student's teacher deems  
1103 available and appropriate to accelerate the student's reading or  
1104 mathematics skill development.

1105 (5) READING DEFICIENCY AND PARENTAL NOTIFICATION.—

1106 (b) A Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program student  
1107 who exhibits a substantial deficiency in early literacy skills  
1108 based upon the results of the administration of the midyear or  
1109 final coordinated screening and progress monitoring under  
1110 subsection (9) shall be referred to the local school district  
1111 and may be eligible to receive instruction in early literacy  
1112 skills before participating in kindergarten. A Voluntary  
1113 Prekindergarten Education Program student who scores below the



1114 25th ~~10th~~ percentile on the final administration of the  
1115 coordinated screening and progress monitoring under subsection  
1116 (9) shall be referred to the local school district and is  
1117 eligible to receive early literacy skill instructional support  
1118 through a summer bridge program the summer before participating  
1119 in kindergarten. The summer bridge program must meet  
1120 requirements adopted by the department and shall consist of 4  
1121 hours of instruction per day for a minimum of 100 total hours. A  
1122 student with an individual education plan who has been retained  
1123 pursuant to paragraph (2) (g) and has demonstrated a substantial  
1124 deficiency in early literacy skills must receive instruction in  
1125 early literacy skills.

1126 (d) The parent of any student who exhibits a substantial  
1127 deficiency in reading, as described in paragraph (a), must be  
1128 immediately notified in writing of the following:

1129 1. That his or her child has been identified as having a  
1130 substantial deficiency in reading, including a description and  
1131 explanation, in terms understandable to the parent, of the exact  
1132 nature of the student's difficulty in learning and lack of  
1133 achievement in reading.

1134 2. A description of the current services that are provided  
1135 to the child.

1136 3. A description of the proposed intensive interventions  
1137 and supports that will be provided to the child that are  
1138 designed to remediate the identified area of reading deficiency.

1139 4. The student progression requirements under paragraph  
1140 (2) (h) and that if the child's reading deficiency is not  
1141 remediated by the end of grade 3, the child must be retained  
1142 unless he or she is exempt from mandatory retention for good



1143 cause.

1144 5. Strategies, including multisensory strategies and  
1145 programming, through a read-at-home plan the parent can use in  
1146 helping his or her child succeed in reading. The read-at-home  
1147 plan must provide access to the resources identified in  
1148 paragraph (e).

1149 6. That the statewide, standardized English Language Arts  
1150 assessment is not the sole determiner of promotion and that  
1151 additional evaluations, portfolio reviews, and assessments are  
1152 available to the child to assist parents and the school district  
1153 in knowing when a child is reading at or above grade level and  
1154 ready for grade promotion.

1155 7. The district's specific criteria and policies for a  
1156 portfolio as provided in subparagraph (7)(b)4. and the evidence  
1157 required for a student to demonstrate mastery of Florida's  
1158 academic standards for English Language Arts. A school must  
1159 immediately begin collecting evidence for a portfolio when a  
1160 student in grade 3 is identified as being at risk of retention  
1161 or upon the request of the parent, whichever occurs first.

1162 8. The district's specific criteria and policies for  
1163 midyear promotion. Midyear promotion means promotion of a  
1164 retained student at any time during the year of retention once  
1165 the student has demonstrated ability to read at grade level.

1166 9. Information about the student's eligibility for the New  
1167 Worlds Reading Initiative under s. 1003.485 and the New Worlds  
1168 Scholarship Accounts under s. 1002.411 and information on parent  
1169 training modules and other reading engagement resources  
1170 available through the initiative.

1171



1172 After initial notification, the school shall apprise the parent  
1173 at least monthly of the student's progress in response to the  
1174 intensive interventions and supports and the student's  
1175 eligibility for the New Worlds Reading Initiative under s.  
1176 1003.485. Such communications must be in writing and must  
1177 explain any additional interventions or supports that will be  
1178 implemented to accelerate the student's progress if the  
1179 interventions and supports already being implemented have not  
1180 resulted in improvement. Upon the request of the parent, the  
1181 teacher or school administrator shall meet to discuss the  
1182 student's progress. The parent may request more frequent  
1183 notification of the student's progress, more frequent  
1184 interventions or supports, and earlier implementation of the  
1185 additional interventions or supports described in the initial  
1186 notification.

1187 (9) COORDINATED SCREENING AND PROGRESS MONITORING SYSTEM.—

1188 (a) The Department of Education, in collaboration with the  
1189 Office of Early Learning, shall procure and require the use of a  
1190 statewide, standardized coordinated screening and progress  
1191 monitoring system for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
1192 Program and public schools. The system must:

1193 1. Measure student progress in meeting the appropriate  
1194 expectations in early literacy and mathematics skills and in  
1195 English Language Arts and mathematics standards as required by  
1196 ss. 1002.67(1)(a) and 1003.41 and identify the educational  
1197 strengths and needs of students.

1198 2. For students in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
1199 Program through grade 3, measure student performance in oral  
1200 language development, phonological and phonemic awareness,



1201 knowledge of print and letters, decoding, fluency, vocabulary,  
1202 and comprehension, as applicable by grade level, and, at a  
1203 minimum, provide interval level and norm-referenced data that  
1204 measures equivalent levels of growth.

1205         3. Be a valid, reliable, and developmentally appropriate  
1206 computer-based direct instrument that provides screening and  
1207 diagnostic capabilities for monitoring student progress;  
1208 identifies students who have a substantial deficiency in reading  
1209 or mathematics, including identifying students with  
1210 characteristics of dyslexia, dyscalculia, and other learning  
1211 disorders; and informs instruction. Any student identified by  
1212 the system as having characteristics of dyslexia or dyscalculia  
1213 shall undergo further screening. Beginning with the 2023-2024  
1214 school year, the coordinated screening and progress monitoring  
1215 system must be computer-adaptive.

1216         4. Provide data for Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
1217 Program accountability as required under s. 1002.68.

1218         5. Provide Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program  
1219 providers, school districts, schools, teachers, and parents with  
1220 data and resources that enhance differentiated instruction and  
1221 parent communication.

1222         6. Provide baseline data to the department of each  
1223 student's readiness for kindergarten. The determination of  
1224 kindergarten readiness must be based on the results of each  
1225 student's initial progress monitoring assessment in  
1226 kindergarten. The methodology for determining a student's  
1227 readiness for kindergarten must be developed by the department  
1228 and aligned to the methodology adopted pursuant to s. 1002.68(3)  
1229 ~~s. 1002.68(4)~~.



1230           7. Assess how well educational goals and curricular  
1231 standards are met at the provider, school, district, and state  
1232 levels and provide information to the department to aid in the  
1233 development of educational programs, policies, and supports for  
1234 providers, districts, and schools.

1235           Section 24. Subsection (2) of section 1008.47, Florida  
1236 Statutes, is amended to read:

1237           1008.47 Postsecondary education institution accreditation.—

1238           (2) ACCREDITATION.—

1239           (a) ~~By September 1, 2022,~~ The Board of Governors or the  
1240 State Board of Education, as applicable, shall identify and  
1241 determine the accrediting agencies or associations best suited  
1242 to serve as an accreditor for public postsecondary institutions.  
1243 Such accrediting agencies or associations must be recognized by  
1244 the database created and maintained by the United States  
1245 Department of Education. Within 3 years ~~In the year~~ following  
1246 reaffirmation or fifth-year review by its accrediting agencies  
1247 or associations, each public postsecondary institution must seek  
1248 and obtain accreditation from an accrediting agency or  
1249 association identified by the Board of Governors or State Board  
1250 of Education, respectively, before its next reaffirmation or  
1251 fifth-year review date. The requirements in this section are  
1252 limited to a one-time change in accreditation. The requirements  
1253 of this subsection are not applicable to those professional,  
1254 graduate, departmental, or certificate programs at public  
1255 postsecondary institutions that have specific accreditation  
1256 requirements or best practices, including, but not limited to,  
1257 law, pharmacy, engineering, or other similarly situated  
1258 educational programs.



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1259 (b) Once a public postsecondary institution is required to  
1260 seek and obtain accreditation from an agency or association  
1261 identified pursuant to paragraph (a), the institution shall seek  
1262 accreditation from an ~~a regional~~ accrediting agency or  
1263 association and provide quarterly reports of its progress to the  
1264 Board of Governors or State Board of Education, as applicable.  
1265 If each ~~regional~~ accreditation agency or association identified  
1266 pursuant to paragraph (a) has refused to grant candidacy status  
1267 to an institution, the institution must seek and obtain  
1268 accreditation from any accrediting agency or association that is  
1269 different from its current accrediting agency or association and  
1270 is recognized by the database created and maintained by the  
1271 United States Department of Education. If a public postsecondary  
1272 institution is not granted candidacy status before its next  
1273 reaffirmation or fifth-year review date, the institution may  
1274 remain with its current accrediting agency or association.

1275 (c) This subsection expires December 31, 2032.

1276 Section 25. Subsection (7) of section 1009.21, Florida  
1277 Statutes, is amended to read:

1278 1009.21 Determination of resident status for tuition  
1279 purposes.—Students shall be classified as residents or  
1280 nonresidents for the purpose of assessing tuition in  
1281 postsecondary educational programs offered by charter technical  
1282 career centers or career centers operated by school districts,  
1283 in Florida College System institutions, and in state  
1284 universities.

1285 (7) A person may ~~shall~~ not lose his or her resident status  
1286 for tuition purposes solely by reason of his or her serving, or,  
1287 if such person is a dependent child, by reason of his or her



1288 parent's or parents' serving outside this state as active duty  
1289 or civilian personnel:

1290 (a) In the Armed Forces ~~outside this state.~~

1291 (b) On assignment for the United States Department of State  
1292 or Department of Defense.

1293 (c) Teaching at a Department of Defense Dependent School.

1294 Section 26. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section  
1295 1009.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1296 1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

1297 (1) The following students are exempt from the payment of  
1298 tuition and fees, including lab fees, at a school district that  
1299 provides workforce education programs, Florida College System  
1300 institution, or state university:

1301 (e) A student who meets the definition of homeless children  
1302 and youths in s. 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance  
1303 Act, 42 U.S.C. s. 11434a(2), as previously determined by a  
1304 public school in this state. This includes a student who would  
1305 otherwise meet the requirements of this paragraph, as determined  
1306 by a college or university, but for his or her residence in  
1307 college or university dormitory housing. The State Board of  
1308 Education may adopt rules and the Board of Governors may adopt  
1309 regulations regarding documentation and procedures to implement  
1310 this paragraph. Such rules and regulations must consider  
1311 documentation of a student's circumstance to be adequate if such  
1312 documentation meets the standards under 20 U.S.C. s. 1087uu-  
1313 2(a). Any student who is determined to be a homeless child or  
1314 youth for a preceding award year is presumed to be a homeless  
1315 child or youth for each subsequent year unless the student  
1316 informs the institution that the student's circumstances have



1317 changed or the institution has specific conflicting information  
1318 about the student's independence, and has informed the student  
1319 of this information. A distance learning student residing out-  
1320 of-state is ineligible for the exemption in this paragraph.

1321 Section 27. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
1322 1009.893, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1323 1009.893 Benacquisto Scholarship Program.—

1324 (4) In order to be eligible for an initial award under the  
1325 scholarship program, a student must meet the requirements of  
1326 paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).

1327 (a) A student who is a resident of this state, as  
1328 determined in s. 1009.40 and rules of the State Board of  
1329 Education, must:

1330 1. Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its  
1331 equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s. 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282,  
1332 or s. 1003.435 unless:

1333 a. The student completes a home education program according  
1334 to s. 1002.41; or

1335 b. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-  
1336 Florida school while living with a parent who is on military or  
1337 public service assignment out of this state;

1338 2. Be accepted by and enroll in a Florida public or  
1339 independent postsecondary educational institution that is  
1340 regionally accredited; and

1341 3. Be enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree program  
1342 at an eligible regionally accredited Florida public or  
1343 independent postsecondary educational institution during the  
1344 fall academic term following high school graduation. A student  
1345 may defer the initial scholarship award for up to 1 year.



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1346 Section 28. Subsection (5) of section 1009.983, Florida  
1347 Statutes, is amended to read:

1348 1009.983 Direct-support organization; authority.—

1349 (5) The chair of the board or a designee who possesses  
1350 knowledge, skill, and experience in the areas of accounting,  
1351 risk management, or investment management shall serve as a  
1352 director of the direct-support organization. The chair and the  
1353 executive director of the board shall jointly name, at a  
1354 minimum, four other individuals to serve as directors of the  
1355 organization.

1356 Section 29. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section  
1357 1009.986, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1358 1009.986 Florida ABLE program.—

1359 (3) DIRECT-SUPPORT ORGANIZATION; FLORIDA ABLE, INC.—

1360 (d)1. The board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc., shall  
1361 consist of:

1362 a. The chair of the Florida Prepaid College Board, ~~or a his~~  
1363 ~~or her~~ designee who possesses knowledge, skill, and experience  
1364 in the areas of accounting, risk management, or investment  
1365 management.

1366 b. Up to three individuals who possess knowledge, skill,  
1367 and experience in the areas of accounting, risk management, or  
1368 investment management, one of whom may be a current member of  
1369 the Florida Prepaid College Board, who shall be appointed by the  
1370 Florida Prepaid College Board.

1371 c. One individual who possesses knowledge, skill, and  
1372 experience in the areas of accounting, risk management, or  
1373 investment management, who shall be appointed by the Governor.

1374 d. Two individuals who are advocates of persons with



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1375 disabilities, one of whom shall be appointed by the President of  
1376 the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of  
1377 the House of Representatives. At least one of the individuals  
1378 appointed under this sub-subparagraph must be an advocate of  
1379 persons with developmental disabilities, as that term is defined  
1380 in s. 393.063.

1381         2.a. The term of the appointees under sub-subparagraph 1.b.  
1382 shall be up to 3 years as determined by the Florida Prepaid  
1383 College Board. Such appointees may be reappointed.

1384         b. The term of the appointees under sub-subparagraphs 1.c.  
1385 and d. shall be 3 years. Such appointees may be reappointed.

1386         3. Unless authorized by the board of directors of Florida  
1387 ABLE, Inc., an individual director has no authority to control  
1388 or direct the operations of Florida ABLE, Inc., or the actions  
1389 of its officers and employees.

1390         4. The board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.:

1391             a. Shall meet at least quarterly and at other times upon  
1392 the call of the chair.

1393             b. May use any method of telecommunications to conduct, or  
1394 establish a quorum at, its meetings or the meetings of a  
1395 subcommittee or other subdivision if the public is given proper  
1396 notice of the telecommunications meeting and provided reasonable  
1397 access to observe and, if appropriate, to participate.

1398             c. Shall annually elect a board member to serve as chair.

1399         5. A majority of the total current membership of the board  
1400 of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc., constitutes a quorum of the  
1401 board.

1402         6. Members of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.,  
1403 and the board's subcommittees or other subdivisions shall serve



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1404 without compensation; however, the members may be reimbursed for  
1405 reasonable, necessary, and actual travel expenses pursuant to s.  
1406 112.061.

1407 Section 30. Present paragraphs (h) and (i) of subsection  
1408 (17) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
1409 paragraphs (i) and (j), respectively, and a new paragraph (h) is  
1410 added to that subsection, to read:

1411 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual  
1412 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each  
1413 district for operation of schools is not determined in the  
1414 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing  
1415 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as  
1416 follows:

1417 (17) ACADEMIC ACCELERATION OPTIONS SUPPLEMENT.—The academic  
1418 acceleration options supplement is created to assist school  
1419 districts in providing academic acceleration options, career-  
1420 themed courses, and courses that lead to digital tool  
1421 certificates and industry certifications for prekindergarten  
1422 through grade 12 students and shall be allocated annually in the  
1423 General Appropriations Act.

1424 (h) Calculation of additional full-time equivalent  
1425 membership based on Florida advanced courses and tests scores of  
1426 students.—A value of 0.16 full-time equivalent student  
1427 membership shall be calculated for each student in a Florida  
1428 advanced course who achieves a minimum score on an assessment  
1429 identified by the Department of Education pursuant to s.  
1430 1007.27(2) and added to the total full-time equivalent student  
1431 membership in basic programs for grades 9 through 12 in the  
1432 subsequent fiscal year. Each district shall allocate at least 80



1433 percent of the funds provided to the district for advanced  
1434 course instruction, in accordance with this paragraph, to the  
1435 high school that generates the funds. The school district shall  
1436 distribute to each classroom teacher who provided the advanced  
1437 course instruction:

1438 1. A bonus in the amount of \$50 for each student taught by  
1439 the Florida advanced course teacher in each Florida advanced  
1440 course who achieves a minimum score on an assessment identified  
1441 by the Department of Education pursuant to s. 1007.27(2).

1442 2. An additional bonus of \$500 to each Florida advanced  
1443 course teacher in a school designated with a grade of "D" or "F"  
1444 who has at least one student who achieves a minimum score on an  
1445 assessment identified by the Department of Education pursuant to  
1446 s. 1007.27(2), regardless of the number of classes taught or of  
1447 the number of students who achieve a minimum score on an  
1448 assessment identified by the Department of Education pursuant to  
1449 s. 1007.27(2).

1450 Section 31. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
1451 1011.69, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1452 1011.69 Equity in School-Level Funding Act.—

1453 (4) After providing Title I, Part A, Basic funds to schools  
1454 above the 75 percent poverty threshold, which may include high  
1455 schools above the 50 percent threshold as permitted by federal  
1456 law, school districts shall provide any remaining Title I, Part  
1457 A, Basic funds directly to all eligible schools as provided in  
1458 this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, an eligible  
1459 school is a school that is eligible to receive Title I funds,  
1460 including a charter school. The threshold for identifying  
1461 eligible schools may not exceed the threshold established by a



1462 school district for the 2016-2017 school year or the statewide  
1463 percentage of economically disadvantaged students, as determined  
1464 annually.

1465 (a) Prior to the allocation of Title I funds to eligible  
1466 schools, a school district may withhold funds only as follows:

1467 1. One percent for parent involvement, in addition to the  
1468 one percent the district must reserve under federal law for  
1469 allocations to eligible schools for parent involvement;

1470 2. A necessary and reasonable amount for administration  
1471 which includes the district's indirect cost rate, not to exceed  
1472 a total of 10 percent;

1473 3. A reasonable and necessary amount to provide:

1474 a. Homeless programs;

1475 b. Delinquent and neglected programs;

1476 c. Prekindergarten programs and activities;

1477 d. Private school equitable services; and

1478 e. Transportation for foster care children to their school  
1479 of origin or choice programs; and

1480 4. A necessary and reasonable amount, not to exceed 1  
1481 percent, for eligible schools to provide educational services in  
1482 accordance with the approved Title I plan. Such educational  
1483 services may include the provision of STEM curricula,  
1484 instructional materials, and related learning technologies that  
1485 support academic achievement in science, technology,  
1486 engineering, and mathematics in Title I schools, including, but  
1487 not limited to, technologies related to drones, coding,  
1488 animation, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, data science,  
1489 the engineering design process, mobile development, and  
1490 robotics. Funds may be reserved under this subparagraph only to



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1491 the extent that all required reservations under federal law have  
1492 been met and that such reservation does not reduce school-level  
1493 allocations below the levels required under federal law.

1494 Section 32. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

1495

1496 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

1497 And the title is amended as follows:

1498 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
1499 and insert:

1500

1501 An act relating to education; creating s. 413.0114,  
1502 F.S.; requiring entities that offer fee-based services  
1503 to individuals who are blind or visually impaired to  
1504 disclose in writing whether the services may be  
1505 obtained elsewhere at no cost; specifying requirements  
1506 for the disclosure; providing penalties for  
1507 violations; authorizing the State Board of Education  
1508 to adopt rules; amending s. 413.208, F.S.; requiring  
1509 certain service providers to apply to, rather than  
1510 register with, the Division of Vocational  
1511 Rehabilitation; requiring the division to establish  
1512 minimum qualifications for service providers;  
1513 requiring the division to establish an annual  
1514 application period; authorizing the division to  
1515 approve or deny any service provider application;  
1516 providing that, as of a specified date, only certain  
1517 service providers may participate in the vocational  
1518 rehabilitation program; requiring the division to  
1519 develop and make publicly available a certain annual



1520 report; requiring service providers to meet certain  
1521 standards to maintain approved status; requiring that  
1522 the rates for vocational rehabilitation services meet  
1523 certain criteria; amending s. 491.005, F.S.; revising  
1524 the date for a requirement to obtain a license as a  
1525 marriage and family therapist; amending s. 1001.42,  
1526 F.S.; revising public information requirements  
1527 relating to virtual instruction options; removing  
1528 certain schools from specified contract restrictions;  
1529 revising the conditions considered an educational  
1530 emergency; revising virtual instruction requirements;  
1531 amending s. 1001.92, F.S.; revising certain  
1532 performance-based metrics; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.;  
1533 authorizing a student to carry a United States Food  
1534 and Drug Administration-approved epinephrine delivery  
1535 device; making conforming changes; amending s.  
1536 1002.42, F.S.; authorizing private schools to purchase  
1537 a supply of Food and Drug Administration-approved  
1538 epinephrine delivery devices, rather than epinephrine  
1539 auto-injectors; making conforming changes; amending s.  
1540 1002.421, F.S.; revising circumstances under which  
1541 regular and direct contact with teachers is satisfied  
1542 for certain scholarship students; amending s. 1002.68,  
1543 F.S.; deleting obsolete provisions relating to  
1544 calculation of kindergarten readiness rates; revising  
1545 cross-references and program accountability provisions  
1546 for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program;  
1547 amending s. 1002.945, F.S.; requiring the Department  
1548 of Children and Families to determine whether a child



1549 care provider is the primary cause of certain class I  
1550 violations; deleting an exception; amending s.  
1551 1003.4203, F.S.; requiring that the Department of  
1552 Education make CAPE Digital Tool certificates  
1553 available to middle grades students; limiting the  
1554 number of such certificates a middle grades student  
1555 may earn each school year; amending s. 1003.4282,  
1556 F.S.; providing that completion of 2 years of marching  
1557 band satisfies specified credit requirements;  
1558 authorizing a dance techniques course to satisfy  
1559 specified graduation credit requirements; revising  
1560 requirements for mathematics pathways established by a  
1561 Department of Education workgroup; requiring the  
1562 department to develop identified mathematics pathways  
1563 and applied algebra courses by specified dates;  
1564 requiring the department to collaborate with the Board  
1565 of Governors of the State University System to ensure  
1566 the courses are accepted as mathematics credits for  
1567 state university admissions; amending s. 1003.437,  
1568 F.S.; requiring the State Board of Education to  
1569 establish a uniform weighted grading system for  
1570 specified courses and articulated acceleration  
1571 mechanisms; requiring district school boards to use  
1572 the system for a specified purpose; amending s.  
1573 1003.5716, F.S.; requiring school districts to provide  
1574 notice and a make-up plan when a related service in a  
1575 student's individual education program is not provided  
1576 as scheduled; authorizing parents or guardians to  
1577 access certain service logs and progress notes within



1578 a specified timeframe; amending s. 1004.343, F.S.;

1579 revising the date the University of South Florida

1580 Trafficking in Persons - Risk to Resilience Lab must

1581 begin submitting a specified report relating to human

1582 trafficking; requiring consultation with the

1583 Department of Law Enforcement in the submission of

1584 such report; extending the date of the scheduled

1585 repeal of the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous

1586 Human Trafficking Data; amending s. 1004.39, F.S.;

1587 revising provisions relating to the College of Law at

1588 Florida International University; deleting a specified

1589 association from certain provisions; amending s.

1590 1004.40, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the

1591 College of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical

1592 University; deleting a specified association from

1593 certain provisions; amending s. 1005.06, F.S.;

1594 revising the list of institutions that are not under

1595 the jurisdiction of the Commission for Independent

1596 Education; amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; revising

1597 requirements for safe-school officers; authorizing

1598 charter schools to implement safe-school officer

1599 options notwithstanding certain local ordinances or

1600 development orders; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.;

1601 revising the timeframe for Florida College System

1602 institutions and state universities to submit comments

1603 in response to a specified notice of intent; amending

1604 s. 1007.271, F.S.; revising the list of postsecondary

1605 institutions that are eligible to participate in a

1606 dual enrollment program; amending s. 1008.2125, F.S.;



1607 conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 1008.25,  
1608 F.S.; requiring specified parent resources to include  
1609 information about eligibility for the New Worlds  
1610 Reading Initiative; revising the score threshold for  
1611 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program summer  
1612 bridge eligibility; requiring certain monthly written  
1613 communications to include specified eligibility  
1614 information; conforming a cross-reference; amending s.  
1615 1008.47, F.S.; revising the timeframe for a public  
1616 postsecondary institution to seek and obtain  
1617 accreditation; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; providing  
1618 that a person may not lose his or her resident status  
1619 for tuition purposes due to his or her parent serving  
1620 outside this state in certain capacities; amending s.  
1621 1009.25, F.S.; revising the requirements for a student  
1622 to meet the definition of "homeless children and  
1623 youths"; providing that certain distance learning  
1624 students are ineligible for specified fee exemptions;  
1625 amending s. 1009.893, F.S.; authorizing a student to  
1626 defer an award under the Benacquisto Scholarship  
1627 Program; amending s. 1009.983, F.S.; authorizing a  
1628 specified designee with certain credentials to serve  
1629 as director of the direct-support organization for the  
1630 Florida Prepaid College Foundation, Inc.; amending s.  
1631 1009.986, F.S.; revising the membership of the board  
1632 of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.; amending s.  
1633 1011.62, F.S.; revising the academic acceleration  
1634 options supplement in the Florida Education Finance  
1635 Program to include a method for calculating additional



1636 full-time equivalent membership based on a specified  
1637 course and test score; requiring school districts to  
1638 allocate at least a specified percentage of certain  
1639 funds for a certain purpose; providing specified  
1640 bonuses; amending s. 1011.69, F.S.; revising a  
1641 category of Title I funds that a school district may  
1642 withhold; authorizing a school district to reserve  
1643 funds for certain STEM-related educational services;  
1644 providing an effective date.  
1645