

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to education; providing a short title;
3 amending s. 1000.05, F.S.; removing provisions
4 relating to prohibited training or instruction in
5 specified concepts which constitutes discrimination on
6 the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex;
7 repealing s. 1000.071, F.S., relating to personal
8 titles and pronouns; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.;
9 prohibiting school districts from adopting a procedure
10 that compels or authorizes school personnel to share
11 certain information with a parent under certain
12 circumstances; removing a provision authorizing school
13 districts to adopt procedures that permit school
14 personnel to withhold certain information from a
15 parent under certain circumstances; removing a
16 prohibition against classroom instruction on sexual
17 orientation and gender identity in specified grades;
18 removing an exception; removing a provision requiring
19 student support services to adhere to specified
20 guidelines; amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; removing a
21 requirement for the Board of Governors to include in
22 its review of state university missions a directive to
23 each university regarding its programs for curricula
24 that violate certain provisions; amending s. 1001.92,
25 F.S.; removing provisions relating to a state

26 university losing its eligibility for performance
27 funding if a certain violation is substantiated;
28 amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; requiring instruction in
29 LGBTQ history in public schools; amending s. 1004.04,
30 F.S.; removing provisions relating to teacher
31 preparation program requirements; amending s. 1004.06,
32 F.S.; authorizing and encouraging Florida College
33 System institutions, state universities, and direct-
34 support organizations to develop programs and campus
35 activities based on diversity, equity, and inclusion
36 principles; authorizing the expenditure of state and
37 federal funds to promote such programs and activities;
38 removing a prohibition against such institutions,
39 universities, and organizations expending funds on
40 programs and campus activities that advocate for
41 diversity, equity, and inclusion or that promote or
42 engage in political or social activism; amending s.
43 1004.85, F.S.; removing a requirement that certain
44 instruction be included in postsecondary educator
45 preparation institutes; amending s. 1006.28, F.S.;
46 providing that certain provisions relating to district
47 school board duties and materials made available in
48 schools do not apply to classroom libraries; revising
49 requirements for resolving objections to instructional
50 materials; removing a requirement that any

instructional material that is subject to an objection
be removed within 5 school days; removing a
requirement that a school board discontinue the use of
an instructional material if certain conditions are
met; providing that school libraries may provide
materials and information presenting all points of
view; providing that materials may not be proscribed
or removed due to partisan or doctrinal disapproval;
amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; removing certain
prohibitions for general education courses; amending
ss. 1012.551, 1012.56, and 1012.562, F.S.; removing
requirements for uniform core curricula for specified
teacher preparation programs, professional learning
certificate program courses, and school leader
preparation programs; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Freedom to Learn
Act."

**Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 1000.05, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:**

1000.05 Discrimination against students and employees in
the Florida K-20 public education system prohibited; equality of
access required.—

~~(4)(a) It shall constitute discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex under this section to subject any student or employee to training or instruction that espouses, promotes, advances, inculcates, or compels such student or employee to believe any of the following concepts:~~

~~1. Members of one race, color, national origin, or sex are morally superior to members of another race, color, national origin, or sex.~~

~~2. A person, by virtue of his or her race, color, national origin, or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.~~

~~3. A person's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, national origin, or sex.~~

~~4. Members of one race, color, national origin, or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, national origin, or sex.~~

~~5. A person, by virtue of his or her race, color, national origin, or sex, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, national origin, or sex.~~

~~6. A person, by virtue of his or her race, color, national origin, or sex, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.~~

101 ~~7. A person, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or~~
102 ~~national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel~~
103 ~~guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because~~
104 ~~of actions, in which the person played no part, committed in the~~
105 ~~past by other members of the same race, color, national origin,~~
106 ~~or sex.~~

107 ~~8. Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness,~~
108 ~~neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or~~
109 ~~sexist, or were created by members of a particular race, color,~~
110 ~~national origin, or sex to oppress members of another race,~~
111 ~~color, national origin, or sex.~~

112 ~~(b) Paragraph (a) may not be construed to prohibit~~
113 ~~discussion of the concepts listed therein as part of a larger~~
114 ~~course of training or instruction, provided such training or~~
115 ~~instruction is given in an objective manner without endorsement~~
116 ~~of the concepts.~~

117 **Section 3.** Section 1000.071, Florida Statutes, is
118 repealed.

119 **Section 4. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section**
120 **1001.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

121 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The
122 district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all
123 powers and perform all duties listed below:

124 (8) STUDENT WELFARE.—

125 (c)1. In accordance with the rights of parents enumerated

126 in ss. 1002.20 and 1014.04, adopt procedures for notifying a
127 student's parent if there is a change in the student's services
128 or monitoring related to the student's mental, emotional, or
129 physical health or well-being and the school's ability to
130 provide a safe and supportive learning environment for the
131 student. The procedures must reinforce the fundamental right of
132 parents to make decisions regarding the upbringing and control
133 of their children by requiring school district personnel to
134 encourage a student to discuss issues relating to his or her
135 well-being with his or her parent or to facilitate discussion of
136 the issue with the parent. The procedures may not prohibit
137 parents from accessing any of their student's education and
138 health records created, maintained, or used by the school
139 district, as required by s. 1002.22(2).

140 2. A school district may not adopt procedures or student
141 support forms that prohibit school district personnel from
142 notifying a parent about his or her student's mental, emotional,
143 or physical health or well-being, or a change in related
144 services or monitoring, or that encourage or have the effect of
145 encouraging a student to withhold from a parent such
146 information. School district personnel may not discourage or
147 prohibit parental notification of and involvement in critical
148 decisions affecting a student's mental, emotional, or physical
149 health or well-being. A school district may not adopt a
150 procedure that compels or authorizes school personnel to provide

151 such information to a parent if a reasonably prudent person
152 would believe that disclosure would result in harm to the
153 student, including, but not limited to, ~~This subparagraph does~~
154 ~~not prohibit a school district from adopting procedures that~~
155 ~~permit school personnel to withhold such information from a~~
156 ~~parent if a reasonably prudent person would believe that~~
157 ~~disclosure would result in abuse, abandonment, or neglect, as~~
158 ~~those terms are defined in s. 39.01.~~

159 ~~3. Classroom instruction by school personnel or third~~
160 ~~parties on sexual orientation or gender identity may not occur~~
161 ~~in prekindergarten through grade 8, except when required by ss.~~
162 ~~1003.42(2)(c)3. and 1003.46. If such instruction is provided in~~
163 ~~grades 9 through 12, the instruction must be age-appropriate or~~
164 ~~developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with~~
165 ~~state standards. This subparagraph applies to charter schools.~~

166 ~~4. Student support services training developed or provided~~
167 ~~by a school district to school district personnel must adhere to~~
168 ~~student services guidelines, standards, and frameworks~~
169 ~~established by the Department of Education.~~

170 ~~5.~~ At the beginning of the school year, each school
171 district shall notify parents of each health care service
172 offered at their student's school and the option to withhold
173 consent or decline any specific service in accordance with s.
174 1014.06. Parental consent to a health care service does not
175 waive the parent's right to access his or her student's

educational or health records or to be notified about a change in his or her student's services or monitoring as provided by this paragraph.

~~4.6.~~ Before administering a student well-being questionnaire or health screening form to a student in kindergarten through grade 3, the school district must provide the questionnaire or health screening form to the parent and obtain the permission of the parent.

~~5.7.~~ Each school district shall adopt procedures for a parent to notify the principal, or his or her designee, regarding concerns under this paragraph at his or her student's school and the process for resolving those concerns within 7 calendar days after notification by the parent.

a. At a minimum, the procedures must require that within 30 days after notification by the parent that the concern remains unresolved, the school district must either resolve the concern or provide a statement of the reasons for not resolving the concern.

b. If a concern is not resolved by the school district, a parent may:

(I) Request the Commissioner of Education to appoint a special magistrate who is a member of The Florida Bar in good standing and who has at least 5 years' experience in administrative law. The special magistrate shall determine facts relating to the dispute over the school district procedure or

201 practice, consider information provided by the school district,
202 and render a recommended decision for resolution to the State
203 Board of Education within 30 days after receipt of the request
204 by the parent. The State Board of Education must approve or
205 reject the recommended decision at its next regularly scheduled
206 meeting that is more than 7 calendar days and no more than 30
207 days after the date the recommended decision is transmitted. The
208 costs of the special magistrate shall be borne by the school
209 district. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules,
210 including forms, necessary to implement this subparagraph.

211 (II) Bring an action against the school district to obtain
212 a declaratory judgment that the school district procedure or
213 practice violates this paragraph and seek injunctive relief. A
214 court may award damages and shall award reasonable attorney fees
215 and court costs to a parent who receives declaratory or
216 injunctive relief.

217 c. Each school district shall adopt and post on its
218 website policies to notify parents of the procedures required
219 under this subparagraph.

220 d. Nothing contained in this subparagraph shall be
221 construed to abridge or alter rights of action or remedies in
222 equity already existing under the common law or general law.

223 **Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section**
224 **1001.706, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

225 1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

(5) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY.—

(a) The Legislature intends that the Board of Governors shall align the missions of each constituent university with the academic success of its students; the existing and emerging economic development needs of the state; the national reputation of its faculty and its academic and research programs; the quantity of externally generated research, patents, and licenses; and the strategic and accountability plans required in paragraphs (b) and (c). The Board of Governors shall periodically review the mission of each constituent university and make updates or revisions as needed. Upon completion of a review of the mission, the board shall review existing academic programs for alignment with the mission. ~~The board shall include in its review a directive to each constituent university regarding its programs for any curriculum that violates s. 1000.05 or that is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.~~ The mission alignment and strategic plan must consider peer institutions at the constituent universities. The mission alignment and strategic plan must acknowledge that universities that have a national and international impact have the greatest capacity to promote the state's economic development through: new discoveries, patents, licenses, and technologies that generate

state businesses of global importance; research achievements through external grants and contracts that are comparable to nationally recognized and ranked universities; the creation of a resource rich academic environment that attracts high-technology business and venture capital to the state; and this generation's finest minds focusing on solving the state's economic, social, environmental, and legal problems in the areas of life sciences, water, sustainability, energy, and health care. A nationally recognized and ranked university that has a global perspective and impact must be afforded the opportunity to enable and protect the university's competitiveness on the global stage in fair competition with other institutions of other states in the highest Carnegie Classification.

Section 6. Subsection (5) of section 1001.92, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.92 State University System Performance-Based Incentive.—

~~(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if any institution is found to have a substantiated violation of s. 1000.05(4)(a), the institution shall be ineligible to receive performance funding during the next fiscal year following the year in which the violation is substantiated. Substantiated findings are those as determined by a court of law, a standing committee of the Legislature, or the Board of Governors.~~

Section 7. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section

276 **1003.42, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (w) is**
277 **added to that subsection, to read:**

278 1003.42 Required instruction.—

279 (2) Members of the instructional staff of the public
280 schools, subject to the rules of the State Board of Education
281 and the district school board, shall teach efficiently and
282 faithfully, using the books and materials required that meet the
283 highest standards for professionalism and historical accuracy,
284 following the prescribed courses of study, and employing
285 approved methods of instruction, the following:

286 (g)1. The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the
287 systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other
288 groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of
289 humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an
290 investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the
291 ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an
292 examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful
293 person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity
294 in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting
295 democratic values and institutions, including the policy,
296 definition, and historical and current examples of antisemitism,
297 as described in s. 1000.05(7) ~~s. 1000.05(8)~~, and the prevention
298 of antisemitism. Each school district must annually certify and
299 provide evidence to the department, in a manner prescribed by
300 the department, that the requirements of this paragraph are met.

301 The department shall prepare and offer standards and curriculum
302 for the instruction required by this paragraph and may seek
303 input from the Commissioner of Education's Task Force on
304 Holocaust Education or from any state or nationally recognized
305 Holocaust educational organizations. The department may contract
306 with any state or nationally recognized Holocaust educational
307 organizations to develop training for instructional personnel
308 and grade-appropriate classroom resources to support the
309 developed curriculum.

310 2. The second week in November shall be designated as
311 "Holocaust Education Week" in this state in recognition that
312 November is the anniversary of Kristallnacht, widely recognized
313 as a precipitating event that led to the Holocaust.

314 (w) The study of LGBTQ history in Florida and the LGBTQ
315 community's contributions to the United States, which may
316 include important United States Supreme Court cases such as
317 *Obergefell v. Hodges* and *United States v. Windsor*; the Florida
318 Legislative Investigation Committee; and the tragedy at Pulse
319 Nightclub.

320
321 The State Board of Education is encouraged to adopt standards
322 and pursue assessment of the requirements of this subsection.
323 Instructional programming that incorporates the values of the
324 recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and that is
325 offered as part of a social studies, English Language Arts, or

other schoolwide character building and veteran awareness initiative meets the requirements of paragraph (u).

Section 8. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 1004.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.04 Public accountability and state approval for teacher preparation programs.—

(2) UNIFORM CORE CURRICULA AND CANDIDATE ASSESSMENT.—

~~(c) Teacher preparation program courses:~~

~~1. May not distort significant historical events or include a curriculum or instruction that teaches identity politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.~~

~~2. Must afford candidates the opportunity to think critically, achieve mastery of academic program content, learn instructional strategies, and demonstrate competence.~~

Section 9. Subsection (4) of section 1004.06, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (3), and subsections (2) and (3) of that section are amended to read:

1004.06 Prohibited expenditures.—

(2) A Florida College System institution, state university, Florida College System institution direct-support organization, or state university direct-support organization may, and is encouraged to, develop programs and campus

activities anchored in the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Programs and campus activities may ~~not~~ expend ~~any~~ state or federal funds to promote, support, or maintain any such programs or campus activities ~~that:~~

~~(a) Violate s. 1000.05; or~~

~~(b) Advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion, or promote or engage in political or social activism, as defined by rules of the State Board of Education and regulations of the Board of Governors.~~

Student fees to support student-led organizations are permitted ~~notwithstanding any speech or expressive activity by such organizations which would otherwise violate this subsection,~~ provided that the public funds must be allocated to student-led organizations pursuant to written policies or regulations of each Florida College System institution or state university, as applicable. Use of institution facilities by student-led organizations is permitted ~~notwithstanding any speech or expressive activity by such organizations which would otherwise violate this subsection,~~ provided that such use must be granted to student-led organizations pursuant to written policies or regulations of each Florida College System institution or state university, as applicable.

~~(3) Subsection (2) does not prohibit programs, campus activities, or functions required for compliance with general or~~

~~federal laws or regulations; for obtaining or retaining institutional or discipline-specific accreditation with the approval of either the State Board of Education or the Board of Governors; or for access programs for military veterans, Pell Grant recipients, first generation college students, nontraditional students, "2+2" transfer students from the Florida College System, students from low-income families, or students with unique abilities.~~

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1004.85, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.85 Postsecondary educator preparation institutes.—

(2) (a) Postsecondary institutions that are accredited or approved as described in State Board of Education rule may seek approval from the Department of Education to create educator preparation institutes for the purpose of providing any or all of the following:

1. Professional learning instruction to assist teachers in improving classroom instruction and in meeting certification or recertification requirements.

2. Instruction to assist potential and existing substitute teachers in performing their duties.

3. Instruction to assist paraprofessionals in meeting education and training requirements.

4. Instruction for baccalaureate degree holders to become certified teachers as provided in this section in order to

401 increase routes to the classroom for professionals who hold a
402 baccalaureate degree and college graduates who were not
403 education majors.

404 5. Instruction and professional learning for part-time and
405 full-time nondegreed teachers of career programs under s.
406 1012.39(1)(c).

407 ~~6. Instruction that does not distort significant~~
408 ~~historical events or include a curriculum or instruction that~~
409 ~~teaches identity politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on~~
410 ~~theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege~~
411 ~~are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were~~
412 ~~created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.~~
413 ~~Courses and instruction within the educator preparation~~
414 ~~institute must afford candidates the opportunity to think~~
415 ~~critically, achieve mastery of academic program content, learn~~
416 ~~instructional strategies, and demonstrate competence.~~

417 **Section 11. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (2) of**
418 **section 1006.28, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

419 1006.28 Duties of district school board, district school
420 superintendent; and school principal regarding K-12
421 instructional materials.—

422 (2) DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.—The district school board has
423 the constitutional duty and responsibility to select and provide
424 adequate instructional materials for all students in accordance
425 with the requirements of this part. The district school board

also has the following specific duties and responsibilities:

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

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

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

a. An instructional material does not meet the criteria of

s. 1006.31(2) or s. 1006.40(3)(c) if it was selected for use in a course or otherwise made available to students in the school district but was not subject to the public notice, review, comment, and hearing procedures under s. 1006.283(2)(b)8., 9., and 11.

b. Any material used in a classroom, made available in a school ~~or classroom~~ library, or included on a reading list contains content which:

(I) Is pornographic or prohibited under s. 847.012;

(II) ~~Depicts or describes sexual conduct as defined in s. 847.001(19), unless such material is for a course required by s. 1003.46 or s. 1003.42(2)(c)1.g. or 3., or identified by State Board of Education rule;~~

~~(III)~~ Is not suited to student needs and their ability to comprehend the material presented; or

(III) ~~(IV)~~ Is inappropriate for the grade level and age group for which the material is used.

~~A resident of the county who is not the parent or guardian of a student with access to school district materials may not object to more than one material per month. The State Board of Education may adopt rules to implement this provision. Any material that is subject to an objection on the basis of sub-subparagraph b.(I) or sub-sub-subparagraph b.(II) must be removed within 5 school days after receipt of the objection and~~

~~remain unavailable to students of that school until the objection is resolved. Parents shall have the right to read passages from any material that is subject to an objection. If the school board denies a parent the right to read passages due to content that meets the requirements under sub-sub-~~
~~subparagraph b.(I), the school district shall discontinue the use of the material in the school district. If the district school board finds that any material meets the requirements under sub-subparagraph a. or that any other material contains prohibited content under sub-sub-subparagraph b.(I), the school district shall discontinue use of the material. If the district school board finds that any other material contains prohibited content under sub-sub-subparagraphs b.(II)-(IV), the school district shall discontinue use of the material for any grade level or age group for which such use is inappropriate or unsuitable.~~

3. Each district school board must establish a process by which the parent of a public school student ~~or a resident of the county~~ may contest the district school board's adoption of a specific instructional material. The parent ~~or resident~~ must file a petition, on a form provided by the school board, within 30 calendar days after the adoption of the instructional material by the school board. The school board must make the form available to the public and publish the form on the school district's website. The form must be signed by the parent ~~or~~

501 ~~resident~~, include the required contact information, and state
502 the objection to the instructional material based on the
503 criteria of s. 1006.31(2) or s. 1006.40(3)(c). Within 30 days
504 after the 30-day period has expired, the school board must, for
505 all petitions timely received, conduct at least one open public
506 hearing before an unbiased and qualified hearing officer. The
507 hearing officer may not be an employee or agent of the school
508 district. The hearing is not subject to the provisions of
509 chapter 120; however, the hearing must provide sufficient
510 procedural protections to allow each petitioner an adequate and
511 fair opportunity to be heard and present evidence to the hearing
512 officer. The school board's decision after convening a hearing
513 is final and not subject to further petition or review.

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

520 5. Meetings of committees convened for the purpose of
521 resolving an objection by a parent ~~or resident~~ to specific
522 materials must be noticed and open to the public in accordance
523 with s. 286.011. Any committees convened for such purposes must
524 include parents of students who will have access to such
525 materials.

526 6. If a parent disagrees with the determination made by
527 the district school board on the objection to the use of a
528 specific material, a parent may request the Commissioner of
529 Education to appoint a special magistrate who is a member of The
530 Florida Bar in good standing and who has at least 5 years'
531 experience in administrative law. The special magistrate shall
532 determine facts relating to the school district's determination,
533 consider information provided by the parent and the school
534 district, and render a recommended decision for resolution to
535 the State Board of Education within 30 days after receipt of the
536 request by the parent. The State Board of Education must approve
537 or reject the recommended decision at its next regularly
538 scheduled meeting that is more than 7 calendar days and no more
539 than 30 days after the date the recommended decision is
540 transmitted. The costs of the special magistrate shall be borne
541 by the school district. The State Board of Education shall adopt
542 rules, including forms, necessary to implement this
543 subparagraph.

544 (d) *School library media services; establishment and*
545 *maintenance.*—Establish and maintain a program of school library
546 media services for all public schools in the district, including
547 school library media centers, or school library media centers
548 open to the public, and, in addition such traveling or
549 circulating libraries as may be needed for the proper operation
550 of the district school system. School librarians, media

specialists, and other personnel involved in the selection of school district library materials must complete the training program developed pursuant to s. 1006.29(6) before reviewing and selecting age-appropriate materials and library resources. Upon written request, a school district shall provide access to any material or book specified in the request that is maintained in a district school system library and is available for review.

1. Each book made available to students through a school district library media center or included in a recommended or assigned school or grade-level reading list must be selected by a school district employee who holds a valid educational media specialist certificate, regardless of whether the book is purchased, donated, or otherwise made available to students.

2. Each district school board shall adopt procedures for developing library media center collections and post the procedures on the website for each school within the district. School libraries may provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials may not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval. The procedures must:

a. Require that book selections meet the criteria in s. 1006.40(3)(c).

b. Require consultation of reputable, professionally recognized reviewing periodicals and school community stakeholders.

576 c. Provide for library media center collections, including
577 classroom libraries, based on reader interest, support of state
578 academic standards and aligned curriculum, and the academic
579 needs of students and faculty.

580 d. Provide for the regular removal or discontinuance of
581 books based on, at a minimum, physical condition, rate of recent
582 circulation, alignment to state academic standards and relevancy
583 to curriculum, out-of-date content, and required removal
584 pursuant to subparagraph (a)2.

585 3. Each elementary school must publish on its website, in
586 a searchable format prescribed by the department, a list of all
587 materials maintained and accessible in the school library media
588 center ~~or a classroom library~~ or required as part of a school or
589 grade-level reading list.

590 4. Each district school board shall adopt and publish on
591 its website the process for a parent to limit his or her
592 student's access to materials in the school ~~or classroom~~
593 library.

594 **Section 12. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section**
595 **1007.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

596 1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites;
597 other degree requirements.—

598 (3) The chair of the State Board of Education and the
599 chair of the Board of Governors, or their designees, shall
600 jointly appoint faculty committees to review and recommend to

the Articulation Coordinating Committee for approval by the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors statewide general education core course options for inclusion in the statewide course numbering system established under s. 1007.24. Faculty committees shall, by July 1, 2024, and by July 1 every 4 years thereafter, review and submit recommendations to the Articulation Coordinating Committee and the commissioner for the removal, alignment, realignment, or addition of general education core courses that satisfy the requirements of this subsection.

~~(c) General education core courses may not distort significant historical events or include a curriculum that teaches identity politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.~~

Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1012.551, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.551 Teacher preparation core principles, standards, and content.—

(2) The uniform core curricula for each state-approved teacher preparation program must meet, at a minimum, the following standards:

~~(a) May not distort significant historical events or include curriculum or instruction that teaches identity~~

~~politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.~~

Section 14. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (b), and paragraph (a) of subsection (7) and present paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of that section are amended to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

(7) TYPES AND TERMS OF CERTIFICATION.—

(a) The Department of Education shall issue a professional certificate for a period not to exceed 5 years to any applicant who fulfills one of the following:

1. Meets all the applicable requirements outlined in subsection (2).

2. For a professional certificate covering grades 6 through 12:

a. Meets the applicable requirements of paragraphs (2)(a)–(h).

b. Holds a master's or higher degree in the area of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

c. Teaches a high school course in the subject of the advanced degree.

d. Is rated highly effective as determined by the teacher's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34, based in part

on student performance as measured by a statewide, standardized assessment or an Advanced Placement, Advanced International Certificate of Education, or International Baccalaureate examination.

e. Achieves a passing score on the Florida professional education competency examination required by state board rule.

3. Meets the applicable requirements of paragraphs (2) (a)-(h) and completes a professional learning certification program approved by the department pursuant to paragraph (8) (b) ~~(8) (e)~~ or an educator preparation institute approved by the department pursuant to s. 1004.85. An applicant who completes one of these programs and is rated highly effective as determined by his or her performance evaluation under s. 1012.34 is not required to take or achieve a passing score on the professional education competency examination in order to be awarded a professional certificate.

At least 1 year before an individual's temporary certificate is set to expire, the department shall electronically notify the individual of the date on which his or her certificate will expire and provide a list of each method by which the qualifications for a professional certificate can be completed.

(8) PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.—

~~(b) Professional learning certification program courses:~~

~~1. May not distort significant historical events or~~

~~include curriculum or instruction that teaches identity politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.~~

~~2. Must afford candidates the opportunity to think critically, achieve mastery of academic program content, learn instructional strategies, and demonstrate competence.~~

Section 15. Subsection (4) of section 1012.562, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.562 Public accountability and state approval of school leader preparation programs.—The Department of Education shall establish a process for the approval of Level I and Level II school leader preparation programs that will enable aspiring school leaders to obtain their certificates in educational leadership under s. 1012.56. School leader preparation programs must be competency-based, aligned to the principal leadership standards adopted by the state board, and open to individuals employed by public schools, including charter schools and virtual schools. Level I programs lead to initial certification in educational leadership for the purpose of preparing individuals to serve as school administrators. Level II programs build upon Level I training and lead to renewal certification as a school principal.

~~(4) PROGRAM PROHIBITIONS; REQUIREMENTS.—~~

~~(a) School leader preparation programs may not distort significant historical events or include curriculum or instruction that teaches identity politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.~~

~~(b) School leader preparation programs must afford candidates the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of program content, including instructional leadership strategies, coaching development, school safety, and continuous improvement efforts.~~

Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.