

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to students with autism spectrum
3 disorder; amending s. 1012.582, F.S.; requiring,
4 rather than authorizing, the State Board of Education
5 to adopt certain rules; requiring that such rules
6 include a requirement related to autism spectrum
7 disorder endorsements for certain K-12 teachers;
8 providing an effective date.
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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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12 **Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 1012.582, Florida**
13 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

14 1012.582 Continuing education and inservice training for
15 teaching students with developmental and emotional or behavioral
16 disabilities.—

17 (4) (a) The State Board of Education shall ~~may~~ adopt rules
18 pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this section.

19 (b) Such rules must require a K-12 teacher who teaches a
20 class with at least 50 percent of students having autism
21 spectrum disorder to hold an Autism Spectrum Disorder
22 Endorsement.

23 (c) Such rules must allow for an exception to the Autism
24 Spectrum Disorder Endorsement requirement in paragraph (b) if a
25 teacher holds an Endorsement in Severe or Profound Disabilities,

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26 | has taught students with autism spectrum disorder for a minimum
27 | of 3 years, and has been rated as highly effective in the
28 | preceding 3-year period pursuant to s. 1012.34.

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