Journal of the Senate

Number 22—Regular Session **Friday, March 13, 2026**

CONTENTS

CALL TO ORDER

The Senate was called to order by President Albritton at 10:00 a.m. A quorum present—38:

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Gaetz	Pizzo
Avila	Grall	Polsky
Berman	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Jones	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Davis	Osgood	

Excused: Senator Garcia

PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Father Tim Holeda, Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Tallahassee:

Eternal God, creator of heaven and earth, source of all wisdom, justice, truth, and mercy. We stand before you with grateful hearts as today's session of the Florida Senate begins.

You have called these leaders to serve the people of this state, entrusting them with the solemn responsibility to govern wisely and to seek the common good for every resident. Guide these Senators, their staff, and all who support this work. Grant them discernment in their deliberations, integrity in their choices, courage to do what is right, and compassion in addressing the needs of all. Instill in them a deep remembrance of the sacred duty to the people of Florida to place the welfare of those they serve above personal interests, above any conflicts or divisions, and above considerations of self or party. May they lead with selfless dedication, seeking always what is just and true for the flourishing of our state. Help them to honor the dignity of every human person—the unborn, the young, the elderly, the poor, the stranger, and all who face hardship—that their laws and actions may reflect your care for creation and promote justice, peace, and flourishing for our diverse communities. Bless the people of Florida, of every faith and background, that we may live in harmony, respect one another, and build a society grounded in truth, charity, and mutual concern. We offer this prayer in humble trust, seeking your guidance and blessing upon all here today. Amen.

PLEDGE

Senate Pages, Sufeeyan Chagani of Coral Springs; Thomas Duggar of Tallahassee; and Jordy Hindman-Woodward of Tampa, led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

DOCTOR OF THE DAY

The President recognized Dr. Bradley Hawkins of Gulf Breeze, sponsored by Senator Gaetz, as the doctor of the day. Dr. Hawkins specializes in family medicine.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (169580) to House Amendment 1 (376033) and Senate Amendment 3 (374018) to House Amendment 1 (376033), amended Senate Amendment 2 (387786) to House Amendment 1 (376033) with House Amendment 1 (494741) and concurred in the same as amended, and passed SB 628 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

SB 628—A bill to be entitled An act relating to transportation facility designations; providing an honorary designation of a certain transportation facility in a specified county; directing the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (494741) to Senate Amendment 2 (387786)—Remove lines 13-47 and insert:

(10) That portion of S.R. 968/S.W. 1st Street between S.W. 17th Avenue and S.W. 19th Avenue in Miami-Dade County is designated as "Charles Dascal Way."

(11) That portion of Halifax Drive between Granada Blvd. North and John Anderson Drive in Volusia County is designated as "Lowell Lohman Road."

(12) The access road leading to the Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce located at 126 East Orange Avenue in Daytona Beach in Volusia County is designated as "George Mirabal Road."

(13) That portion of U.S. 331 between U.S. 90 and the bridge crossing the Choctawhatchee Bay in Walton County is designated as the "Esteena K. Wells Memorial Highway."

(14) That portion of S.R. 85/N.E. Eglin Parkway between Richbourg Avenue and Florida Place S.E. in Okaloosa County is designated as "Superintendent Pledger V. Sullivan Memorial Highway."

(15) That portion of College Avenue between Copeland Street and South Monroe Street in Leon County is designated as "President John Thrasher Memorial Boulevard."

(16) Notwithstanding s. 334.071(3), Florida Statutes, the entirety of S.R. 80, consisting of the 124 contiguous miles of highway stretching from S.R. A1A/S. Ocean Boulevard in Palm Beach County, continuing westward through Hendry County, and ending at a junction with U.S. 41/Cleveland Avenue in Lee County, is designated as "President Donald J. Trump Highway." This designation shall replace and expand the

designation adopted in ch. 2025-214, Laws of Florida, for that portion of Southern Boulevard between Kirk Road and S. Ocean Boulevard in Palm Beach County.

(17) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect

On motion by Senator Gaetz, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (494741) to Senate Amendment 2 (387786)**.

SB 628 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—31

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Grall	Polsky
Avila	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Martin	Wright
Burton	Massullo	Yarborough
Calatayud	Mayfield	
DiCeglie	McClain	

Nays—4

Berman	Bracy Davis	Osgood
Smith		

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Sharief

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (668106) with House Amendment 1 (680391), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/CS/HB 1389 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Commerce Committee, Housing, Agriculture & Tourism Subcommittee and Representative(s) Redondo, Nix—

CS for CS for HB 1389—A bill to be entitled An act relating to affordable housing; amending ss. 125.01055 and 166.04151, F.S.; requiring counties and municipalities, respectively, to authorize multifamily and mixed-use residential uses as allowable uses for specified property; requiring certain proposed developments to be within specified geographic boundaries; requiring certain counties, municipalities, school districts, and religious institutions to be a party to an application for certain proposed developments; prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively, from restricting the height of certain proposed developments in a certain manner or requiring setbacks or step-backs that are more restrictive than certain zoning regulations as authorized by a specified date; revising the definitions of the terms "commercial use" and "industrial use"; defining the terms "multifamily development" and "mixed-use residential development"; providing exceptions; amending s. 163.31771, F.S.; defining the term "primary dwelling unit"; requiring, rather than authorizing, local governments to adopt certain ordinances relating to accessory dwelling units by a specified date; requiring such ordinances to apply prospectively; prohibiting such ordinances from including certain requirements; providing an exception to certain local governments; removing the requirement that a building permit application include a specified affidavit; prohibiting owners of certain property from being denied a homestead exemption; requiring certain accessory dwelling units to be assessed and taxed separately from the homestead property; authorizing applicants for certain proposed developments to notify, by a specified date, the county or municipality, as applicable, on the applicant's intent to proceed under certain provisions of law; requiring counties and municipalities to allow certain applicants to submit revised applications, written requests, or notices of intent to account for changes made by the act; amending s. 196.1978, F.S.; defining the term "multifamily project"; removing certain provisions relating to taxing authorities; amending s. 333.03, F.S.; providing that specified provisions of law relating to proposed developments do not apply to airport zoning regulations unless the governing body of the airport approves the application; amending s. 420.615, F.S.; authorizing local governments to provide certain incentives to landowners who donate property to provide affordable housing for military families; amending s. 760.22, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "person"; amending s. 760.26, F.S.; prohibiting certain discriminatory practices based on financing of a development, or a proposed development, for affordable housing; amending s. 760.35, F.S.; waiving the state's sovereign immunity for certain causes of action; providing applicability; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to evaluate certain methods to stimulate certain construction and the potential of tiny homes for a specified purpose; requiring the office to consult with certain entities; requiring the office to submit a report to the Legislature by a specified date; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (680391) (with title amendment) to Senate Amendment 1 (668106)—Remove lines 5-495 of the amendment and insert:

Section 1. Paragraphs (a), (d), (n), and (o) of subsection (7) of section 125.01055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

125.01055 Affordable housing.—

(7)(a)*1.* A county must authorize multifamily and mixed-use residential as allowable uses in any area zoned for commercial, industrial, or mixed use~~;, and~~ in portions of any flexibly zoned area such as a planned unit development permitted for commercial, industrial, or mixed use*; on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district; and on property that is more than 3 acres in size and owned by a religious institution, as defined in s. 170.201(2), which has contained a house of public worship for at least 10 years before the proposed development, regardless of the underlying zoning*, if at least 40 percent of the residential units in a proposed multifamily development are rental units that, for a period of at least 30 years, are affordable as defined in s. 420.0004. Notwithstanding any other law, local ordinance, or regulation to the contrary, a county may not require a proposed multifamily development to obtain a zoning or land use change, special exception, conditional use approval, variance, transfer of density or development units, amendment to a development of regional impact, or comprehensive plan amendment for the building height, zoning, and densities authorized under this subsection. For mixed-use residential projects, at least 65 percent of the total square footage must be used for residential purposes. The county may not require that more than 10 percent of the total square footage of such mixed-use residential projects be used for nonresidential purposes. *A proposed development on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district must be within the geographic boundaries of the respective county, municipality, or school district, and the respective county, municipality, or school district must be a party to the application for the proposed development. A proposed development on property owned by a religious institution must be applied for by both the applicant and the religious institution, and the house of public worship must continue to operate on the property after the proposed development is constructed.*

2. A multifamily or mixed-use residential development proposed under this section shall not exclude an assemblage of parcels under common ownership or control separated by no more than 15 feet of land and limited to public pedestrian access. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2030.

(d)1. A county may not restrict the height of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for a commercial or residential building located in its jurisdiction within 1 mile of the proposed development or three stories, whichever is higher. *A county may not restrict height below the height authorized under this paragraph through other dimensional means, such as establishing setbacks or stepbacks by height, or require setbacks or stepbacks that are more restrictive than the minimum permitted in the proposed development.* For purposes of this paragraph, the term “highest currently allowed height” does not include the height of any building that met the requirements of this subsection or the height of any building that has received any bonus, variance, or

other special exception for height provided in the county's land development regulations as an incentive for development.

2. If the proposed development is adjacent to, on two or more sides, a parcel zoned for single-family residential use which is within a single-family residential development with at least 25 contiguous single-family homes, the county may restrict the height of the proposed development to 150 percent of the tallest building on any property adjacent to the proposed development, the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for the property provided in the county's land development regulations, or three stories, whichever is higher, not to exceed 10 stories. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "adjacent to" means those properties sharing more than one point of a property line, but does not include properties separated by a public road.

3. If the proposed development is on a parcel with a contributing structure or building within a historic district which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places before January 1, 2000, or is on a parcel with a structure or building individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the county may restrict the height of the proposed development to the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for a commercial or residential building located in its jurisdiction within three-fourths of a mile of the proposed development or three stories, whichever is higher. The term "highest currently allowed" in this paragraph includes the maximum height allowed for any building in a zoning district irrespective of any conditions.

(n) As used in this subsection, the term:

1. "Commercial use" means activities associated with the sale, rental, or distribution of products or the performance of services related thereto. The term includes, but is not limited to, such uses or activities as retail sales; wholesale sales; rentals of equipment, goods, or products; offices; restaurants; public lodging establishments as described in s. 509.242(1)(a); food service vendors; sports arenas; theaters; tourist attractions; and other for-profit business activities. A parcel zoned to permit such uses by right without the requirement to obtain a variance or waiver is considered commercial use for the purposes of this section, irrespective of the local land development regulation's listed category or title. The term does not include home-based businesses or cottage food operations undertaken on residential property, public lodging establishments as described in s. 509.242(1)(c), or uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not commercial use, irrespective of how they are operated. *Farms and farm operations as those terms are defined in s. 823.14(3) and uses associated therewith, including the packaging and sale of products raised on the premises, are not commercial use.*

2. "Industrial use" means activities associated with the manufacture, assembly, processing, or storage of products or the performance of services related thereto. The term includes, but is not limited to, such uses or activities as automobile manufacturing or repair, boat manufacturing or repair, junk yards, ~~meat packing facilities, citrus processing and packing facilities, produce processing and packing facilities,~~ electrical generating plants, water treatment plants, sewage treatment plants, and solid waste disposal sites. A parcel zoned to permit such uses by right without the requirement to obtain a variance or waiver is considered industrial use for the purposes of this section, irrespective of the local land development regulation's listed category or title. The term does not include uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not industrial use, irrespective of how they are operated. *Farms and farm operations as those terms are defined in s. 823.14(3) and uses associated therewith, including the packaging and sale of products raised on the premises, are not industrial use.*

3. "Mixed use" means any use that combines multiple types of approved land uses from at least two of the residential use, commercial use, and industrial use categories. The term does not include uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not mixed use, irrespective of how they are operated.

4. "Planned unit development" has the same meaning as provided in s. 163.3202(5)(b).

(o) This subsection does not apply to:

1. Airport-impacted areas as provided in s. 333.03.

2. Property defined as recreational and commercial working waterfront in s. 342.201(2)(b) in any area zoned as industrial.

3. The Wekiva Study Area, as described in s. 369.316.

4. The Everglades Protection Area, as defined in s. 373.4592(2).

5. Areas subject to land development regulations, as defined in s. 163.3164, which are in existence before July 1, 2026, and are intended to retain the open character of land, including, but not limited to, open space districts, open space recreation districts, open use estate districts, open use rural districts, and park and open space districts.

6. Any area of critical state concern, as designated in ss. 380.055, 380.0551, 380.0552, 380.0553, and 380.0555.

7. Any portion of a property encumbered by a recorded conservation easement, as defined in s. 704.06(1).

Section 2. Paragraphs (a), (d), (n), and (o) of subsection (7) of section 166.04151, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

166.04151 Affordable housing.—

(7)(a)*1.* A municipality must authorize multifamily and mixed-use residential as allowable uses in any area zoned for commercial, industrial, or mixed use~~;, and~~ in portions of any flexibly zoned area such as a planned unit development permitted for commercial, industrial, or mixed use*; on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district; and on property that is more than 3 acres in size and owned by a religious institution, as defined in s. 170.201(2), which has contained a house of public worship for at least 10 years before the proposed development, regardless of the underlying zoning*, if at least 40 percent of the residential units in a proposed multifamily development are rental units that, for a period of at least 30 years, are affordable as defined in s. 420.0004. Notwithstanding any other law, local ordinance, or regulation to the contrary, a municipality may not require a proposed multifamily development to obtain a zoning or land use change, special exception, conditional use approval, variance, transfer of density or development units, amendment to a development of regional impact, amendment to a municipal charter, or comprehensive plan amendment for the building height, zoning, and densities authorized under this subsection. For mixed-use residential projects, at least 65 percent of the total square footage must be used for residential purposes. The municipality may not require that more than 10 percent of the total square footage of such mixed-use residential projects be used for nonresidential purposes. *A proposed development on property owned by a county, municipality, or school district must be within the geographic boundaries of the respective county, municipality, or school district, and the respective county, municipality, or school district must be a party to the application for the proposed development. A proposed development on property owned by a religious institution must be applied for by both the applicant and the religious institution, and the house of public worship must continue to operate on the property after the proposed development is constructed.*

2. A multifamily or mixed-use residential development proposed under this section shall not exclude an assemblage of parcels under common ownership or control separated by no more than 15 feet of land and limited to public pedestrian access. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2030.

(d)1. A municipality may not restrict the height of a proposed development authorized under this subsection below the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for a commercial or residential building located in its jurisdiction within 1 mile of the proposed development or three stories, whichever is higher. *A municipality may not restrict height below the height authorized under this paragraph through other dimensional means, such as establishing setbacks or stepbacks by height, or require setbacks or stepbacks that are more restrictive than the minimum permitted in the proposed development.* For purposes of this paragraph, the term "highest currently allowed height" does not include the height of any building that met the re-

quirements of this subsection or the height of any building that has received any bonus, variance, or other special exception for height provided in the municipality's land development regulations as an incentive for development.

2. If the proposed development is adjacent to, on two or more sides, a parcel zoned for single-family residential use that is within a single-family residential development with at least 25 contiguous single-family homes, the municipality may restrict the height of the proposed development to 150 percent of the tallest building on any property adjacent to the proposed development, the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for the property provided in the municipality's land development regulations, or three stories, whichever is higher, not to exceed 10 stories. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "adjacent to" means those properties sharing more than one point of a property line, but does not include properties separated by a public road or body of water, including manmade lakes or ponds. For a proposed development located within a municipality within an area of critical state concern as designated by s. 380.0552 or chapter 28-36, Florida Administrative Code, the term "story" includes only the habitable space above the base flood elevation as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the most current Flood Insurance Rate Map. A story may not exceed 10 feet in height measured from finished floor to finished floor, including space for mechanical equipment. The highest story may not exceed 10 feet from finished floor to the top plate.

3. If the proposed development is on a parcel with a contributing structure or building within a historic district which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places before January 1, 2000, or is on a parcel with a structure or building individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the municipality may restrict the height of the proposed development to the highest currently allowed, or allowed on July 1, 2023, height for a commercial or residential building located in its jurisdiction within three-fourths of a mile of the proposed development or three stories, whichever is higher. The term "highest currently allowed" in this paragraph includes the maximum height allowed for any building in a zoning district irrespective of any conditions.

(n) As used in this subsection, the term:

1. "Commercial use" means activities associated with the sale, rental, or distribution of products or the performance of services related thereto. The term includes, but is not limited to, such uses or activities as retail sales; wholesale sales; rentals of equipment, goods, or products; offices; restaurants; public lodging establishments as described in s. 509.242(1)(a); food service vendors; sports arenas; theaters; tourist attractions; and other for-profit business activities. A parcel zoned to permit such uses by right without the requirement to obtain a variance or waiver is considered commercial use for the purposes of this section, irrespective of the local land development regulation's listed category or title. The term does not include home-based businesses or cottage food operations undertaken on residential property, public lodging establishments as described in s. 509.242(1)(c), or uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not commercial use, irrespective of how they are operated. *Farms and farm operations as those terms are defined in s. 823.14(3) and uses associated therewith, including the packaging and sale of products raised on the premises, are not commercial use.*

2. "Industrial use" means activities associated with the manufacture, assembly, processing, or storage of products or the performance of services related thereto. The term includes, but is not limited to, such uses or activities as automobile manufacturing or repair, boat manufacturing or repair, junk yards, ~~meat packing facilities, citrus processing and packing facilities, produce processing and packing facilities,~~ electrical generating plants, water treatment plants, sewage treatment plants, and solid waste disposal sites. A parcel zoned to permit such uses by right without the requirement to obtain a variance or waiver is considered industrial use for the purposes of this section, irrespective of the local land development regulation's listed category or title. The term does not include uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not industrial use, irrespective of how they are operated. *Farms and farm operations as those terms are defined in s. 823.14(3) and uses associated therewith, including the packaging and sale of products raised on the premises, are not industrial use.*

3. "Mixed use" means any use that combines multiple types of approved land uses from at least two of the residential use, commercial use, and industrial use categories. The term does not include uses that are accessory, ancillary, incidental to the allowable uses, or allowed only on a temporary basis. Recreational uses, such as golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and clubhouses, within an area designated for residential use are not mixed use, irrespective of how they are operated.

4. "Planned unit development" has the same meaning as provided in s. 163.3202(5)(b).

(o) This subsection does not apply to:

1. Airport-impacted areas as provided in s. 333.03.

2. Property defined as recreational and commercial working waterfront in s. 342.201(2)(b) in any area zoned as industrial.

3. The Wekiva Study Area, as described in s. 369.316.

4. The Everglades Protection Area, as defined in s. 373.4592(2).

5. Areas subject to land development regulations, as defined in s. 163.3164, which are in existence before July 1, 2026, and are intended to retain the open character of land, including, but not limited to, open space districts, open space recreation districts, open use estate districts, open use rural districts, and park and open space districts.

6. Any area of critical state concern, as designated in ss. 380.055, 380.0551, 380.0552, 380.0553, and 380.0555.

7. Any portion of a property encumbered by a recorded conservation easement, as defined in s. 704.06(1).

Section 3. *The amendments made by this act to ss. 125.01055(7)(n) and 166.04151(7)(n), Florida Statutes, are intended to be remedial and clarifying in nature and apply retroactively to January 1, 2024.*

Section 4. *An applicant for a proposed development authorized under s. 125.01055(7), Florida Statutes, or s. 166.04151(7), Florida Statutes, who submitted an application, a written request, or a notice of intent to use such provisions to the county or municipality and which application, written request, or notice of intent has been received by the county or municipality, as applicable, before July 1, 2026, may notify the county or municipality by July 1, 2026, of its intent to proceed under the provisions of s. 125.01055(7), Florida Statutes, or s. 166.04151(7), Florida Statutes, as they existed at the time of submittal. A county or municipality, as applicable, shall allow an applicant who submitted such an application, written request, or notice of intent before July 1, 2026, the opportunity to submit a revised application, written request, or notice of intent to account for the changes made by this act.*

Section 5. Paragraphs (a) and (o) of subsection (3) of section 196.1978, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

196.1978 Affordable housing property exemption.—

(3)(a) As used in this subsection, the term:

1. "Corporation" means the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

2. "Multifamily project" shall include a development authorized under this subsection that is held under common ownership or control, approved and developed in compliance with the same site plan approval or development agreement or order, but shall exclude individual detached single-family residences, as well as parcels separated by more than 200 feet of land.

3. ~~2.~~ "Newly constructed" means an improvement to real property which was substantially completed within 5 years before the date of an applicant's first submission of a request for a certification notice pursuant to this subsection.

4. ~~3.~~ "Substantially completed" has the same meaning as in s. 192.042(1).

(o)1. Beginning with the 2025 tax roll, a taxing authority may elect, upon adoption of an ordinance or resolution approved by a two-thirds vote of the governing body, not to exempt property under sub-sub-paragraph (d)1.a. located in a county specified pursuant to sub-paragraph 2., subject to the conditions of this paragraph.

2. A taxing authority must make a finding in the ordinance or resolution that *annual housing reports* ~~the most recently~~ published *by the* Shimberg Center for Housing Studies ~~Annual Report, prepared~~ pursuant to s. 420.6075~~,~~ *identify* ~~identifies~~ that a county that is part of the jurisdiction of the taxing authority is within a metropolitan statistical area or region where*, for each of the previous 3 years,* the number of affordable and available units in the metropolitan statistical area or region is greater than the number of renter households in the metropolitan statistical area or region for the category entitled "0-120 percent AMI."

3. An election made pursuant to this paragraph may apply only to the ad valorem property tax levies imposed within a county specified pursuant to subparagraph 2. by the taxing authority making the election.

4. The ordinance or resolution must take effect on the January 1 immediately succeeding adoption and shall expire on the second January 1 after the January 1 in which the ordinance or resolution takes effect. The ordinance or resolution may be renewed prior to its expiration pursuant to this paragraph.

5. The taxing authority proposing to make an election under this paragraph must advertise the ordinance or resolution or renewal thereof pursuant to the requirements of s. 50.011(1) prior to adoption.

6. The taxing authority must provide to the property appraiser the adopted ordinance or resolution or renewal thereof by the effective date of the ordinance or resolution or renewal thereof.

7. Notwithstanding an ordinance or resolution or renewal thereof adopted pursuant to this paragraph, property in a multifamily project that received an exemption pursuant to sub-subparagraph (d)1.a. before the adoption or renewal of such ordinance or resolution may continue to receive such exemption for each subsequent consecutive year that the same owner or each successive owner applies for and is granted the exemption.

8. Notwithstanding an ordinance or a resolution or a renewal thereof adopted pursuant to this paragraph, the owner of a property in a multifamily project that was issued a building permit on or after July 1, 2026, for the development of the multifamily project within 4 years before the effective date of such ordinance or resolution may apply for and be granted the exemption under sub-subparagraph (d)1.a. after meeting the requirements of this subsection and may continue to receive such exemption for each subsequent consecutive year that the same owner or each successive owner applies for and is granted the exemption.

Section 6. *The amendments made by this act to s. 196.1978, Florida Statutes, first apply to the 2027 property tax roll.*

Section 7. Subsection (5) of section 333.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

333.03 Requirement to adopt airport zoning regulations.—

(5) Sections 125.01055(7) and 166.04151(7) do not apply to any of the following*, unless the respective application is approved by the governing body of the airport*:

(a) A proposed development near a runway within one-quarter of a mile laterally from the runway edge and within an area that is the width of one-quarter of a mile extending at right angles from the end of the runway for a distance of 10,000 feet of any existing airport runway or planned airport runway identified in the local government's airport master plan.

(b) A proposed development within any airport noise zone identified in the federal land use compatibility table or in a land-use zoning or airport noise regulation adopted by the local government.

(c) A proposed development that exceeds maximum height restrictions identified in the political subdivision's airport zoning regulation adopted pursuant to this section.

Section 8. Subsection (8) of section 760.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

760.22 Definitions.—As used in ss. 760.20-760.37, the term:

(8) "Person" includes one or more individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, labor organizations, legal representatives, mutual companies, joint-stock companies, trusts, unincorporated organizations, trustees, trustees in bankruptcy, receivers, ~~and~~ fiduciaries*, agencies, governmental entities, and other legal or commercial entities*.

Section 9. Section 760.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

760.26 Prohibited discrimination in land use decisions and in permitting of development.—It is unlawful to discriminate in land use decisions or in the permitting of development based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, familial status, *or* religion, or, except as otherwise provided by law, *based on* the source of financing of a development or proposed development*, including, but not limited to, financing of a development or on a proposed development for housing that is affordable as defined in s. 420.0004*.

Section 10. Subsection (4) of section 760.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

760.35 Civil actions and relief; administrative procedures.—

(4) If the court finds that a *person has engaged in a* discriminatory housing practice ~~has occurred~~, it *must* ~~shall~~ issue an order prohibiting the practice and providing affirmative relief from the effects of the practice, including injunctive and other equitable relief, actual and punitive damages, and reasonable attorney fees and costs. *In accordance with s. 13, Art. X of the State Constitution, the state, for itself and its agencies or political subdivisions, waives sovereign immunity for a cause of action based upon the application of this section. Such waiver is limited only to actions brought under this section.*

Section 11. Subsection (1) of section 420.615, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.615 Affordable housing land donation density bonus incentives.—

(1) A local government may provide density bonus incentives pursuant to ~~the provisions of~~ this section to any landowner who voluntarily donates fee simple interest in real property to the local government for the purpose of assisting the local government in providing affordable housing*, including housing that is affordable for military families receiving the basic allowance for housing*. Donated real property must be determined by the local government to be appropriate for use as affordable housing and must be subject to deed restrictions to ensure that the property will be used for affordable housing.

Section 12. *The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall evaluate the efficacy of using mezzanine finance, or second-position short-term debt, to stimulate the construction of owner-occupied housing that is affordable as defined in s. 420.0004(3), Florida Statutes, in this state. OPPAGA shall also evaluate the potential of tiny homes in meeting the need for affordable housing in this state. OPPAGA shall consult with the Florida Housing Finance Corporation and the Shimberg Center for Housing Studies at the University of Florida in conducting its evaluation. By December 31, 2027, OPPAGA shall submit a report of its findings to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Such report must include recommendations for the structuring of a model mezzanine finance program.*

Section 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 501-565 of the amendment and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to affordable housing; amending ss. 125.01055 and 166.04151, F.S.; requiring counties and municipalities, respec-

tively, to authorize multifamily and mixed-use residential uses as allowable uses for specified property; providing requirements for certain proposed developments; specifying that certain proposed developments shall not exclude an assemblage of certain parcels; providing for the expiration of certain provisions; prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively, from restricting the height of certain proposed developments through other dimensional means and from requiring certain setbacks or stepbacks; revising the definitions of the terms "commercial use" and "industrial use"; revising applicability; providing retroactive applicability; authorizing applicants for certain proposed developments to notify the county or municipality, as applicable, by a specified date of intent to proceed under certain provisions; requiring counties and municipalities to allow certain applicants to submit revised applications, written requests, and notices of intent to account for changes made by the act; amending s. 196.1978, F.S.; creating a definition for "multifamily project"; revising a specified finding that a taxing authority must make in order to elect not to exempt certain property from certain ad valorem taxation; authorizing certain property owners in a multifamily project to apply for and continue to receive an exemption; amending s. 333.03, F.S.; providing an exception to the inapplicability of certain provisions; amending s. 760.22, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "person"; amending s. 760.26, F.S.; revising a prohibition on discriminatory practices in land use decisions and in permitting of development to include housing that is affordable; amending s. 760.35, F.S.; waiving the state's sovereign immunity for certain causes of action based upon housing discrimination; providing applicability; amending s. 420.615, F.S.; authorizing a local government to provide a density bonus incentive to landowners who make certain real property donations to assist in the provision of affordable housing for military families; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to evaluate the efficacy of using mezzanine finance and the potential of tiny homes for specified purposes; requiring the office to consult with certain entities; requiring the office to submit a certain report to the Legislature by a specified date; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Calatayud, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (680391) to Senate Amendment 1 (668106)**.

CS for CS for HB 1389 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—35

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Grall	Polsky
Berman	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Simon
Bracy Davis	Jones	Smith
Bradley	Leek	Truenow
Brodeur	Martin	Trumbull
Burgess	Massullo	Wright
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Sharief

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (253600) with House Amendment 1 (451889), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/CS/HB 1451 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Commerce Committee, Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee and Representative(s) Busatta—

CS for CS for HB 1451—A bill to be entitled An act relating to utility services; amending s. 180.19, F.S.; requiring certain public meetings as a condition precedent to the effectiveness of a new or an extended agreement under which a municipality will provide specified utility services in other municipalities or unincorporated areas; specifying the matters to be addressed at such public meetings; requiring such agreements to be written; requiring annual public customer meetings; defining the terms "appointed representative" and "governing body"; amending s. 180.191, F.S.; revising provisions relating to permissible rates, fees, and charges imposed by municipal water and sewer utilities on customers located outside the municipal boundaries; creating s. 180.192, F.S.; requiring municipalities that provide specified utility services to report certain information by a specified date, and annually thereafter, to the Florida Public Service Commission; providing penalties; requiring the commission to compile such information and submit a report by a specified date, and annually thereafter, to the Governor and the Legislature; providing construction; providing for state preemption over the subject of certain regional utilities authorities; providing effective dates.

House Amendment 1 (451889) (with title amendment) to Senate Amendment 1 (253600)—Remove lines 5-153 of the amendment and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (3) is added to section 180.19, Florida Statutes, to read:

180.19 Use by other municipalities and by individuals outside corporate limits.—

(3)(a) A new agreement, or an extension, renewal, or material amendment of an existing agreement, to provide electric, water, natural gas, or sewer utility service by a municipality to any other municipality or the owners or association of owners of lots or lands outside of its corporate limits or within the limits of any other municipality at retail must be in writing. Such agreement may not become effective before an appointed representative of the municipality that provides the service or intends to provide the service, in conjunction with the governing body of each municipality and unincorporated area served or to be served, has participated in a public meeting. Such meeting is not required to be a separate public meeting, but it must be held within each municipality and unincorporated area served or to be served for purposes of providing information and soliciting public input on:

1. The nature of the services to be provided or changes to the services being provided;

2. The rates, fees, and charges to be imposed for the services provided or intended to be provided, including any differential with the rates, fees, and charges imposed for the same services on customers located within the boundaries of the serving municipality, the basis for the differential, and the length of time that the differential is expected to exist;

3. The extent to which revenues generated from the provision of the services will be used to fund or finance nonutility government functions or services; and

4. Any other matter deemed relevant by the parties to the agreement.

(b) Rates, fees, and charges imposed for water or sewer utility services provided pursuant to subsection (1) must comply with s. 180.191.

(c) A representative of each municipality that provides electric, water, natural gas, or sewer utility services pursuant to subsection (1), in conjunction with the governing body of each municipality and unincorporated area in which it provides services, shall annually conduct a public customer meeting. Such meeting is not required to be a separate public meeting, but must be held within each municipality and unincorporated area for purposes of soliciting public input on utility-related matters, including fees, rates, charges, and services.

(d) As used in this subsection, the term:

1. "Appointed representative" means an executive-level leadership employee of a municipality, or of such municipality's related and separate utility authority, board, or commission, specifically appointed by the governing body to serve as its representative for the purposes of this subsection.

2. "Governing body" means:

a. A governing body of a municipality in which services are provided or proposed to be extended; or

b. A board of county commissioners of a county in which services are provided or proposed to be extended, if services are provided or proposed to be extended in an unincorporated area within the county.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 180.191, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

180.191 Limitation on rates charged consumer outside city limits.—

(1) Any municipality within *this* ~~the~~ state operating a water or sewer utility outside of the boundaries of such municipality shall charge consumers outside the boundaries rates, fees, and charges determined in one of the following manners:

(a) It may charge the same rates, fees, and charges as consumers inside the municipal boundaries. ~~However, in addition thereto, the municipality may add a surcharge of not more than 25 percent of such rates, fees, and charges to consumers outside the boundaries.~~ Fixing of such rates, fees, and charges in this manner *may* ~~shall~~ not require a public hearing except as may be provided for service to consumers inside the municipality.

(b) It may charge rates, fees, and charges that are just and equitable and which are based on the same factors used in fixing the rates, fees, and charges for consumers inside the municipal boundaries. ~~In addition thereto, the municipality may add a surcharge not to exceed 25 percent of such rates, fees, and charges for said services to consumers outside the boundaries. However, the total of all~~ Such rates, fees, and charges for the services to consumers outside the boundaries *may* ~~shall~~ not be more than *25* ~~50~~ percent in excess of the *rates, fees, and charges* ~~total amount~~ the municipality charges consumers served within the municipality for corresponding service. ~~No~~ Such rates, fees, and charges *may not* ~~shall~~ be fixed until after a public hearing at which all of the users of the water or sewer systems; owners, tenants, or occupants of property served or to be served thereby; and all others interested shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed rates, fees, and charges. Any change or revision of such rates, fees, or charges may be made in the same manner as such rates, fees, or charges were originally established, but if such change or revision is to be made substantially pro rata as to all classes of service, both inside and outside the municipality, *a* ~~no~~ hearing or notice *is not* ~~shall be~~ required.

(c) In addition to the rates, fees, and charges authorized under this section, a municipality may continue to impose a surcharge on consumers outside the municipal boundaries if the surcharge was in effect before March 1, 2026, but only to the extent necessary to comply with the terms of bond covenants in effect as of July 1, 2024. Such surcharges must be phased out by July 1, 2029, or upon the retirement, expiration, or refinancing of the applicable debt obligation, whichever occurs earlier.

Section 3. Effective July 1, 2026, section 180.192, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

180.192 Reporting requirements related to municipal utility service.—

(1) By January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, each municipality that provides electric, water, natural gas, or sewer utility services outside of its municipal boundaries shall provide a report to the Florida Public Service Commission which identifies, for each type of utility service provided by the municipality:

(a) The number and percentage of customers that receive utility services provided by the municipality at a location outside the boundaries of the municipality;

(b) The volume and percentage of sales made to such customers, and the gross revenues generated from such sales;

(c) Whether the rates, fees, and charges imposed on customers that receive services at a location outside the municipality's boundaries are different than the rates, fees, and charges imposed on customers within the boundaries of the municipality, and, if so, the amount and percentage of the differential; and

(d) The percentage of revenues generated from the provision of utility services that were used to fund or finance nonutility government functions or services of the municipality, and the percentage of the municipality's nonutility budget that was funded by such revenues.

A municipality that fails to file the report required by this subsection is subject to the penalties provided in ss. 366.095 and 367.161.

(2) By March 31, 2027, and annually thereafter, the commission shall compile the information provided pursuant to subsection (1) and submit a report containing that information to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(3) Notwithstanding s. 367.171, the commission shall have jurisdiction over all utilities identified in subsection (1) for the limited purpose of enforcing the requirements of this section. This section does not otherwise modify or extend the authority of the commission provided by law with respect to any municipal utility that is required to comply with subsection (1).

Section 4. *(1) The subject of a regional utilities authority created by the Legislature through charter amendment after January 1, 2023, is expressly preempted to the state.*

(2) This section shall take effect upon this act becoming a law.

Section 5. *The Legislature finds and declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.*

Section 6. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2027.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 159-198 of the amendment and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to utility services; amending s. 180.19, F.S.; requiring that a new agreement, or an extension, renewal, or material amendment of an existing agreement, made by a municipal utility to certain entities to provide certain utility services at retail be in writing; requiring that certain public meetings be held as a condition precedent to the effectiveness of a new or extended agreement under which a municipality will provide specified utility services in other municipalities or unincorporated areas; specifying requirements for such public meetings; requiring that rates, fees, and charges imposed for water or sewer utility services comply with specified provisions; requiring a representative from certain municipalities to annually conduct public customer meetings; providing requirements for such meetings; defining the terms "appointed representative" and "governing body"; amending s. 180.191, F.S.; revising provisions relating to permissible rates, fees, and charges imposed by municipal water and sewer utilities on consumers located outside the municipal boundaries; authorizing a municipality to continue to impose a surcharge on certain consumers for a specified purpose; requiring the phase-out of such surcharges by the earlier of a specified date or the retirement, expiration, or refinancing of the applicable debt obligation; creating s. 180.192, F.S.; requiring municipalities that provide specified utility services to report certain information by a specified date, and annually thereafter, to the Florida Public Service Commission; providing requirements for such information; providing penalties; requiring the commission to compile such information and submit a report by a specified date, and annually thereafter, to the Governor and the Legislature; authorizing commission jurisdiction over specified utilities; providing construction; preempting to the state the subject of a regional utilities authority; providing a declaration of an important state interest; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator Martin, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (451889) to Senate Amendment 1 (253600)**.

CS for CS for HB 1451 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—30

Mr. President	Bernard	Brodeur
Arrington	Boyd	Burgess
Avila	Bradley	Burton

Calatayud	Jones	Rodriguez
DiCeglie	Leek	Rouson
Gaetz	Martin	Simon
Grall	Massullo	Truenow
Gruters	Mayfield	Trumbull
Harrell	McClain	Wright
Hooper	Passidomo	Yarborough

Nays—6

Berman	Osgood	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Polsky	Smith

Vote after roll call:

Yea to Nay—Arrington

By direction of the President, the Senate proceeded to—

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR

CS for CS for SB 7038—A bill to be entitled An act relating to education; amending s. 251.001, F.S.; requiring each Florida College System institution and state university to waive tuition and fees for members of the Florida State Guard if certain conditions are met; creating s. 413.0114, F.S.; requiring entities that offer fee-based services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired to disclose in writing whether the service may be obtained elsewhere at no cost; providing requirements for the disclosure; authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 413.208, F.S.; requiring certain service providers to apply to, rather than register with, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; requiring the division to establish minimum qualifications for service providers; requiring the division to establish an annual application period; authorizing the division to approve or deny any service provider application; providing that, as of a specified date, only certain service providers may participate in the vocational rehabilitation program; requiring the division to develop and make publicly available a certain annual report; requiring service providers to meet certain standards to maintain approved status; requiring that the rates for vocational rehabilitation services meet certain criteria; amending s. 491.005, F.S.; revising the date for a requirement to obtain a license as a marriage and family therapist; amending s. 1001.7065, F.S.; revising academic and research excellence standards; amending s. 1001.92, F.S.; revising certain performance-based metrics; amending s. 1003.437, F.S.; requiring the State Board of Education to establish a uniform weighted grading system for specified courses and articulated acceleration mechanisms; requiring district school boards to use the system for a specified purpose; creating s. 1004.0983, F.S.; requiring state universities and Florida College System institutions to adopt and implement specified policies and procedures relating to safety; specifying requirements for such policies and procedures; requiring state universities and Florida College System institutions to annually review and update the policies and procedures; authorizing the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to adopt regulations and rules, respectively; amending s. 1005.06, F.S.; revising the list of institutions that are not under the jurisdiction of the Commission for Independent Education; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; revising the timeframe for Florida College System institutions and state universities to submit comments in response to a specified notice of intent; amending s. 1007.271, F.S.; revising the list of postsecondary institutions that are eligible to participate in a dual enrollment program; amending s. 1008.30, F.S.; deleting a requirement for the State Board of Education to adopt rules; authorizing school district career centers to use alternative methods adopted by the board in lieu of common placement tests to assess students in basic communication and computation skills; authorizing Florida College System institutions to request approval of institution-specific alternative methods; making conforming changes; amending s. 1008.44, F.S.; deleting a provision limiting how supplemental funding may be earned for the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List; amending s. 1008.47, F.S.; revising the timeframe for a public postsecondary institution to seek and obtain accreditation; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; providing that a person may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes due to incarceration; providing that a person may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes due to his or her parent serving outside this state in certain capacities; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; providing that a fee waiver only applies to a full-time undergraduate student, beginning with a specified academic year; revising requirements for a fee waiver; amending s. 1009.30, F.S.; requiring that certain postsecondary institutions be reimbursed for public school students under the Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program; amending s. 1009.536, F.S.; revising student eligibility requirements for the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards; authorizing a student to apply for the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award within a specified timeframe; amending s. 1009.893, F.S.; authorizing a student to defer an award under the Benacquisto Scholarship Program; amending s. 1009.983, F.S.; authorizing a specified designee with certain credentials to serve as director of the direct-support organization for the Florida Prepaid College Foundation, Inc.; amending s. 1009.986, F.S.; revising the membership of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the academic acceleration options supplement in the Florida Education Finance Program to include a method for calculating additional full-time equivalent membership based on a specified course and test score; providing specified bonuses; amending s. 1011.84, F.S.; revising the components to be considered by the Legislature in determining an apportionment of state funds to a Florida College System institution; deleting obsolete provisions; amending s. 1013.841, F.S.; requiring all Florida College System institutions, rather than only certain institutions, to maintain a specified carry forward balance; providing that a Florida College System institution may retain an annual reserve amount exceeding the carry forward balance; deleting obsolete provisions; authorizing the inclusion in a carry forward spending plan of the retention of a carry forward balance as a reserve fund for a specified use; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for SB 7038**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for HB 1279** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Calatayud, the rules were waived and—

CS for CS for HB 1279—A bill to be entitled An act relating to education; creating s. 413.0114, F.S.; requiring certain persons and entities to complete a written consumer disclosure for blind-related services; providing that specified violations constitute unfair or deceptive trade practices and are subject to specified penalties and enforcement; authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 413.208, F.S.; requiring certain service providers to apply to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; requiring the division to establish qualifications for certain service providers and an application process and period for such service providers; authorizing the division to approve or deny such service providers; providing division and service provider requirements relating to such process; providing reporting and evaluation system requirements for the division relating to service provider effectiveness; providing requirements for rates for vocational rehabilitation services; amending s. 491.005, F.S.; revising the date for a specified requirement to obtain a license as a marriage and family therapist; amending s. 1001.7065, F.S.; requiring preeminent state research universities to maintain certain enrollment ratios; providing that such universities are ineligible for specified funding under certain circumstances beginning on a specified date; amending s. 1001.92, F.S.; revising state university performance-based metrics for the award of a State University System Performance-Based Incentive; amending s. 1003.437, F.S.; requiring the State Board of Education to establish a uniform weighted grading system for specified courses and articulated acceleration mechanisms; requiring district school boards to use such system for specified purposes; amending s. 1004.06, F.S.; revising construction for the prohibition of certain expenditures; creating s. 1004.072, F.S.; providing limitations for student enrollment in a state university; amending s. 1004.343, F.S.; revising the date the University of South Florida Trafficking in Persons - Risk to Resilience Lab must begin submitting a specified report relating to human trafficking; requiring consultation with the Department of Law Enforcement in the submission of such report; extending the date of the scheduled repeal of the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human Trafficking Data; amending s. 1004.39, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the College of Law at Florida International University and removing a specified association from certain provisions; amending s. 1004.40, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the College of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and removing a specified association from certain provisions; amending s. 1005.06, F.S.; revising the list

of institutions that are not under the jurisdiction of the Commission for Independent Education; providing construction; amending s. 1006.71, F.S.; deleting a requirement that public postsecondary educational institutions develop a gender equity plan; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; revising the number of days public postsecondary educational institutions have to submit comments for certain proposed degrees; prohibiting such institutions from imposing certain institution-wide graduation requirements; amending s. 1007.271, F.S.; revising postsecondary institution eligibility for participation in dual enrollment programs; revising provisions relating to the calculation of student grade point averages; amending s. 1008.47, F.S.; revising the period of time in which a public postsecondary institution must seek and obtain specified accreditation; revising the accrediting agencies such institutions may seek accreditation from; providing that certain provisions apply to programmatic accreditors for postsecondary education institutions; amending s. 1009.25, F.S.; revising the requirements for a student to meet the definition of "homeless children and youths"; providing that certain distance learning students are ineligible for specified fee exemptions; amending s. 1009.40, F.S.; requiring a person to be a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United States to receive state financial aid awards and tuition assistance grants; amending s. 1009.895, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference to changes made by the act; amending s. 1009.983, F.S.; authorizing a specified designee with certain credentials to serve as director of the direct-support organization for the Florida Prepaid College Foundation, Inc.; amending s. 1009.986, F.S.; revising the membership of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the academic acceleration options supplement within the Florida Education Finance Program to include a method for calculating additional full-time equivalent membership based on advanced courses and test scores; providing specified bonuses; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for SB 7038** and read the second time by title.

Senator Calatayud moved the following amendment which was adopted:

Amendment 1 (476262) (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 substantially similar services may be available at no cost through the Division of Blind Services or another public agency.

(2) The written disclosure must:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(a) The division shall establish minimum qualifications for service providers. The division shall establish an annual application period for service providers to submit applications. The division may approve or deny any service provider application. Beginning January 1, 2027, only service providers that meet the minimum qualifications established by the division and that have been approved to provide employment-related services to individuals with disabilities may participate in the vocational rehabilitation program.

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

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

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

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

491.005 Licensure by examination.—

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

(c)1. Attained one of the following:

a. A minimum of a master's degree in marriage and family therapy from a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education.

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

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

2. If the course title that appears on the applicant's transcript does not clearly identify the content of the coursework, the applicant provided additional documentation, including, but not limited to, a syllabus or catalog description published for the course. The required master's degree must have been received in an institution of higher education that, at the time the applicant graduated, was fully accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization or was a member in good standing with Universities Canada, or an institution of higher education located outside the United States and Canada which, at the time the applicant was enrolled and at the time the applicant graduated, maintained a standard of training substantially equivalent to the standards of training of those institutions in the United States which are accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor organization. Such foreign education and training must have been received in an institution or program of higher education officially recognized by the government of the country in which it is located as an institution or program to train students to practice as professional marriage and family therapists or psychotherapists. The applicant has the burden of establishing that the requirements of this provision have been met, and the board shall require documentation, such as an evaluation by a foreign equivalency determination service, as evidence that the applicant's graduate degree program and education were equivalent to an accredited program in this country. An applicant with a master's degree

from a program that did not emphasize marriage and family therapy may complete the coursework requirement in a training institution fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education recognized by the United States Department of Education.

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

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

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

(17) PUBLIC INFORMATION AND PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM.—

(a) Adopt procedures whereby the general public can be adequately informed of the educational programs, needs, and objectives of public education within the district, including educational opportunities available through *approved virtual instruction program providers under s. 1002.45 or the school district's virtual instruction program* ~~the Florida Virtual School~~.

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

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

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

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

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

1001.92 State University System Performance-Based Incentive.—

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

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

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

(c) Retention rates;

(d) Postgraduation education rates;

(e) Degree production;

(f) Affordability;

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) HEALTH ISSUES.—

(i) *Epinephrine use and supply.*—

1. A student who has experienced or is at risk for life-threatening allergic reactions may carry *a United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved* ~~an~~ epinephrine *delivery device* ~~auto-injector~~ and self-administer epinephrine by *such FDA-approved delivery device* ~~auto-injector~~ while in school, participating in school-sponsored activities, or in transit to or from school or school-sponsored activities if the school has been provided with parental and physician authorization. The State Board of Education, in cooperation with the Department of Health, shall adopt rules for such use of *FDA-approved* epinephrine *delivery devices which must* ~~auto-injectors that shall~~ include provisions to protect the safety of all students from the misuse or abuse of *such delivery devices* ~~auto-injectors~~. A school district, county health department, public-private partner, and their employees and volunteers shall be indemnified by the parent of a student authorized to carry an *FDA-approved* epinephrine *delivery device* ~~auto-injector~~ for any and all liability with respect to the student's use of an *FDA-approved* epinephrine *delivery device* ~~auto-injector~~ pursuant to this paragraph.

2. A public school may purchase a supply of *FDA-approved* epinephrine *delivery devices* ~~auto-injectors~~ from a wholesale distributor as defined in s. 499.003 or may enter into an arrangement with a wholesale distributor or manufacturer as defined in s. 499.003 for the *FDA-approved* epinephrine *delivery devices* ~~auto-injectors~~ at fair-market, free, or reduced prices for use in the event a student has an anaphylactic reaction. The *FDA-approved* epinephrine *delivery devices* ~~auto-injectors~~ must be maintained in a secure location on the public school's premises. The participating school district shall adopt a protocol developed by a licensed physician for the administration by school personnel who are trained to recognize an anaphylactic reaction and to administer ~~an~~ epinephrine *by an FDA-approved delivery device* ~~auto-injection~~. The supply of *FDA-approved* epinephrine *delivery devices* ~~auto-injectors~~ may be provided to and used by a student authorized to self-administer epinephrine by *FDA-approved delivery device* ~~auto-injector~~ under subparagraph 1. or trained school personnel.

3. The school district and its employees, agents, and the physician who provides the standing protocol for school *FDA-approved* epinephrine *delivery devices* ~~auto-injectors~~ are not liable for any injury arising from the use of *such* ~~an~~ epinephrine *delivery device* ~~auto-injector~~ administered by trained school personnel who follow the adopted protocol

and whose professional opinion is that the student is having an anaphylactic reaction:

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

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

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

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

1002.42 Private schools.—

(17) EPINEPHRINE SUPPLY.—

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

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

1. Unless the trained school personnel's action is willful and wanton;

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

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

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

1002.421 State school choice scholarship program accountability and oversight.—

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

(i) Maintain a physical location in the state at which each student has regular and direct contact with teachers. Regular and direct contact with teachers may be satisfied for students enrolled in a personalized education program *or for students eligible for a scholarship under s. 1002.394(3)(b)* if students have regular and direct contact with teachers at the physical location at least 2 school days per week and the student learning plan addresses the remaining instructional time.

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

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

1002.68 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program accountability.—

~~(3)(a) For the 2020-2021 program year, the department shall calculate a kindergarten readiness rate for each private prekindergarten provider and public school participating in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program based upon learning gains and the percentage of students assessed as ready for kindergarten. The department shall require that each school district administer the statewide kindergarten screening in use before the 2021-2022 school year to each kindergarten student in the school district within the first 30 school days of the 2021-2022 school year. Private schools may administer the statewide kindergarten screening to each kindergarten student in a private school who was enrolled in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program. Learning gains shall be determined using a value-added measure based on growth demonstrated by the results of the preassessment and postassessment in use before the 2021-2022 program year. However, a provider may not be newly placed on probationary status under this paragraph. A provider currently on probationary status may only be removed from such status if the provider earns the minimum rate, determined pursuant to subsection (5). The methodology for calculating a provider's readiness rate may not include students who are not administered the statewide kindergarten screening.~~

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

(3)~~(4)~~

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

(4)(a)~~(5)(a)~~ If a public school's or private prekindergarten provider's program assessment composite score for its prekindergarten classrooms fails to meet the minimum program assessment composite score for contracting adopted in rule by the department, the private prekindergarten provider or public school may not participate in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program beginning in the consecutive program year and thereafter until the public school or private prekindergarten provider meets the minimum composite score for contracting. A public school or private prekindergarten provider may request one program assessment per program year in order to requalify for participation in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, provided that the public school or private prekindergarten provider is not excluded from participation under ss. 1002.55(6), 1002.61(10)(b), 1002.63(9)(b), or paragraph *(b)* ~~(5)(b) of this section~~. If a public school or

private prekindergarten provider would like an additional program assessment completed within the same program year, the public school or private prekindergarten provider shall be responsible for the cost of the program assessment.

(5)~~(6)~~

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

Section 10. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (4) of section 1002.945, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.945 Gold Seal Quality Care Program.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—

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

(f) *One credit in physical education.*—Physical education must include the integration of health. Participation in an interscholastic sport at the junior varsity or varsity level for two full seasons shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education. A district school board may not require that the one credit in physical education be taken during the 9th grade year. Completion of 2 years of marching band shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education *and* ~~or~~ the one-credit requirement in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an individual education plan (IEP) or 504 plan. *Completion of 1.0 credit with a grade of "C" or better in a dance techniques course, a significant component of which is activities designed to maintain or improve health-related fitness and lifelong fitness, shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education or the one-credit requirement in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an IEP or 504 plan.* Completion of one semester with a grade of "C" or better in a marching band class, in a physical activity class that requires participation in marching band activities as an extracurricular activity, or in a dance class shall satisfy one-half credit in physical education or one-half credit in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an IEP or 504 plan. Completion of 2 years in a Reserve Officer Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) class, a significant component of which is drills, shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education and the one-credit requirement in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an IEP or 504 plan.

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

(a) Identify best practices in career and technical education pathways from middle school to high school to aid middle school students in career planning and facilitate their transition to high school programs. The career pathway must be linked to postsecondary programs.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5. Mathematics pathways must create clear links between secondary mathematics and postsecondary mathematics pathways, as established in State Board of Education rule, and support student progression into postsecondary academic programs, state college career and technical

education programs, career center programs, industry certification programs, and high-skill, high-wage occupations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(5)

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

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

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

1004.343 Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human Trafficking Data.—

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

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

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

1004.39 College of Law at Florida International University.—

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

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

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

(a) The authority for the College of Law at Florida International University and the authority of the Florida International University Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors provided in this section shall terminate upon the cessation of operations of the College of Law at Florida International University. The College of Law at Florida International University shall receive no moneys allocated for the planning, construction, or operation of the college of law after its cessation of operations other than moneys to be expended for the cessation of operations of the college of law. Any moneys allocated to the College of Law at Florida International University not expended prior to or scheduled to be expended after the date of the cessation of the college of law shall be appropriated for other use by the Legislature of the State of Florida.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(a) The authority for the College of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and the authority of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors provided in this section shall terminate upon the cessation of operations of the College of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. The College of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University shall receive no moneys allocated for the planning, construction, or operation of the college of law after its cessation of operations other than moneys to be expended for the cessation of operations of the college of law. Any moneys allocated to the College of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University not expended prior to or scheduled to be expended after the date of the cessation of the college of law shall be appropriated for other use by the Legislature of the State of Florida.

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

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

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

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

(b) Any college *or*~~,~~ school~~, or course~~ licensed or approved *as an institution for establishment and operation by another state agency. A college or school, or any of its programs or courses, does not qualify for exemption from the commission's jurisdiction under this paragraph solely because another state agency licenses or approves one or more of its programs or courses. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit or affect the exemptions for contract training, continuing education, or professional development programs or courses under paragraph (d), even if such programs or courses are approved under chapter 466* ~~for establishment and operation under part I of chapter 464, chapter 466, or chapter 475, or any other chapter of the Florida Statutes requiring licensing or approval as defined in this chapter~~.

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

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

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

(a) School resource officers shall undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation and be certified law enforcement officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1), who are employed by a law enforcement agency as defined in s. 943.10(4). The powers and duties of a law enforcement officer shall continue throughout the employee's tenure as a school resource officer.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) SCHOOL GUARDIAN.—

(a) At the school district's or the charter school governing board's discretion, as applicable, pursuant to s. 30.15, a school district or charter school governing board may participate in the Chris Hixon,

Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program to meet the requirement of establishing a safe-school officer. The following individuals may serve as a school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory completion of the requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and certification by a sheriff:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the evaluation to the sheriff's office and school district, charter school governing board, or employing security agency, as applicable. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to provide the sheriff's office, school district, charter school governing board, or employing security agency with mental health and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

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

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

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

(b) The contract between a security agency and a school district or a charter school governing board regarding requirements applicable to school security guards serving in the capacity of a safe-school officer for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section shall define the entity or entities responsible for maintaining records relating to training, inspection, and firearm qualification.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(9)

(b) An associate in arts specialized transfer degree must include 36 semester hours of general education coursework and require 60 semester hours or more of college credit. Specialized transfer degrees are designed for Florida College System institution students who need supplemental lower-level coursework in preparation for transfer to another institution. The State Board of Education shall establish criteria for the review and approval of new specialized transfer degrees. The approval process must require:

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

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

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

a. Evidence that the coursework for the associate in arts specialized transfer degree includes demonstration of competency in a foreign language pursuant to s. 1007.262 and demonstration of civic literacy competency as provided in subsection (5).

b. Demonstration that all required coursework will count toward the associate in arts degree or the baccalaureate degree.

c. An analysis of demand and unmet need for students entering the specialized field of study at the baccalaureate level.

d. Justification for the program length if it exceeds 60 credit hours, including references to the common prerequisite manual or other requirements for the baccalaureate degree. This includes documentation of alignment between the exit requirements of a Florida College System institution and the admissions requirements of a baccalaureate program at a state university to which students would typically transfer.

e. Articulation agreements for graduates of the associate in arts specialized transfer degree.

f. Responses to the comments received under subparagraph 2.

Section 21. Subsections (1) and (16) of section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—

(1) The dual enrollment program is the enrollment of an eligible secondary student *in this state* or home education student *in this state* in a postsecondary course creditable toward high school completion and a career certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree. *Postsecondary institutions that are eligible to participate in the dual enrollment program are Florida public postsecondary institutions and eligible not-for-profit independent colleges and universities pursuant to s. 1011.62(1)(i).* A student ~~who is~~ enrolled in postsecondary instruction that is not creditable toward a high school diploma may not be classified as a dual enrollment student.

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

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

1008.2125 The Council for Early Grade Success.—

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

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

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

2. Develop training plans and timelines for such training.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4) ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT.—

(c) A student who has a substantial reading deficiency as determined in paragraph (5)(a) or a substantial mathematics deficiency as determined in paragraph (6)(a) must be covered by a federally required student plan, such as an individual education plan or an individualized progress monitoring plan, or both, as necessary. The individualized progress monitoring plan must be developed within 45 days after the results of the coordinated screening and progress monitoring system become available. The plan must, at a minimum, include:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(5) READING DEFICIENCY AND PARENTAL NOTIFICATION.—

(b) A Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in early literacy skills based upon the results of the administration of the midyear or final coordinated screening and progress monitoring under subsection (9) shall be referred to the local school district and may be eligible to receive instruction in early literacy skills before participating in kindergarten. A Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program student who scores below the *25th* ~~10th~~ percentile on the final administration of the coordinated screening and progress monitoring under subsection (9) shall be referred to the local school district and is eligible to receive early literacy skill instructional support through a summer bridge program the summer before participating in kindergarten. The summer bridge program must meet requirements adopted by the department and shall consist of 4 hours of instruction per day for a minimum of 100 total hours. A student with an individual education plan who has been retained pursuant to paragraph (2)(g) and has demonstrated a substantial deficiency in early literacy skills must receive instruction in early literacy skills.

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

1. That his or her child has been identified as having a substantial deficiency in reading, including a description and explanation, in terms

understandable to the parent, of the exact nature of the student's difficulty in learning and lack of achievement in reading.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(9) COORDINATED SCREENING AND PROGRESS MONITORING SYSTEM.—

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

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

2. For students in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program through grade 3, measure student performance in oral language development, phonological and phonemic awareness, knowledge of print and letters, decoding, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension, as applicable by grade level, and, at a minimum, provide interval level and norm-referenced data that measures equivalent levels of growth.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1008.47 Postsecondary education institution accreditation.—

(2) ACCREDITATION.—

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

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

(c) This subsection expires December 31, 2032.

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

1009.21 Determination of resident status for tuition purposes.—Students shall be classified as residents or nonresidents for the purpose

of assessing tuition in postsecondary educational programs offered by charter technical career centers or career centers operated by school districts, in Florida College System institutions, and in state universities.

(7) A person *may* ~~shall~~ not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes solely by reason of *his or her* serving, or, if such person is a dependent child, by reason of his or her parent's or parents' serving *outside this state as active duty or civilian personnel:*~~,~~

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

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

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

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

1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

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

(e) A student who meets the definition of homeless children and youths in s. 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. s. 11434a(2)*, as previously determined by a public school in this state*. This includes a student who would otherwise meet the requirements of this paragraph, as determined by a college or university, but for his or her residence in college or university dormitory housing. The State Board of Education may adopt rules and the Board of Governors may adopt regulations regarding documentation and procedures to implement this paragraph. Such rules and regulations must consider documentation of a student's circumstance to be adequate if such documentation meets the standards under 20 U.S.C. s. 1087uu-2(a). Any student who is determined to be a homeless child or youth for a preceding award year is presumed to be a homeless child or youth for each subsequent year unless the student informs the institution that the student's circumstances have changed or the institution has specific conflicting information about the student's independence, and has informed the student of this information. *A distance learning student residing out-of-state is ineligible for the exemption in this paragraph.*

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

1009.893 Benacquisto Scholarship Program.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1009.983 Direct-support organization; authority.—

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

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

1009.986 Florida ABLE program.—

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

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

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

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

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

d. Two individuals who are advocates of persons with disabilities, one of whom shall be appointed by the President of the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. At least one of the individuals appointed under this sub-subparagraph must be an advocate of persons with developmental disabilities, as that term is defined in s. 393.063.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6. Members of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc., and the board's subcommittees or other subdivisions shall serve without compensation; however, the members may be reimbursed for reasonable, necessary, and actual travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061.

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

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

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

(h) Calculation of additional full-time equivalent membership based on Florida advanced courses and tests scores of students.—A value of 0.16 full-time equivalent student membership shall be calculated for each student in a Florida advanced course who achieves a minimum score on an assessment identified by the Department of Education pursuant to s. 1007.27(2) and added to the total full-time equivalent student membership in basic programs for grades 9 through 12 in the subsequent fiscal year. Each district shall allocate at least 80 percent of the funds provided to the district for advanced course instruction, in accordance with this paragraph, to the high school that generates the funds. The school district shall distribute to each classroom teacher who provided the advanced course instruction:

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

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

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

1011.69 Equity in School-Level Funding Act.—

(4) After providing Title I, Part A, Basic funds to schools above the 75 percent poverty threshold, which may include high schools above the 50 percent threshold as permitted by federal law, school districts shall provide any remaining Title I, Part A, Basic funds directly to all eligible schools as provided in this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, an eligible school is a school that is eligible to receive Title I funds, including a charter school. The threshold for identifying eligible schools may not exceed the threshold established by a school district for the 2016-2017 school year or the statewide percentage of economically disadvantaged students, as determined annually.

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

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

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

3. A reasonable and necessary amount to provide:

a. Homeless programs;

b. Delinquent and neglected programs;

c. Prekindergarten programs and activities;

d. Private school equitable services; and

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

4. A necessary and reasonable amount, not to exceed 1 percent, for eligible schools to provide educational services in accordance with the approved Title I plan. *Such educational services may include the provision of STEM curricula, instructional materials, and related learning technologies that support academic achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in Title I schools, including, but not limited to, technologies related to drones, coding, animation, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, data science, the engineering design process, mobile development, and robotics. Funds may be reserved under this subparagraph only to the extent that all required reservations under federal law have been met and that such reservation does not reduce school-level allocations below the levels required under federal law.*

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

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert: An act relating to education; creating s. 413.0114, F.S.; requiring entities that offer fee-based services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired to disclose in writing whether the services may be obtained elsewhere at no cost; specifying requirements for the disclosure; providing penalties for violations; authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 413.208, F.S.; requiring certain service providers to apply to, rather than register with, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; requiring the division to establish minimum qualifications for service providers; requiring the division to establish an annual application period; authorizing the division to approve or deny any service provider application; providing that, as of a specified date, only certain service providers may participate in the vocational rehabilitation program; requiring the division to develop and make publicly available a certain annual report; requiring service providers to meet certain standards to maintain approved status; requiring that the rates for vocational rehabilitation services meet certain criteria; amending s. 491.005, F.S.; revising the date for a requirement to obtain a license as a marriage and family therapist; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; revising public information requirements relating to virtual instruction options; removing certain schools from specified contract restrictions; revising the conditions considered an educational emergency; revising virtual instruction requirements; amending s. 1001.92, F.S.; revising certain performance-based metrics; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; authorizing a student to carry a United States Food and Drug Administration-approved epinephrine delivery device; making conforming changes; amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; authorizing private schools to purchase a supply of Food and Drug Administration-approved epinephrine delivery devices, rather than epinephrine auto-injectors; making conforming changes; amending s. 1002.421, F.S.; revising circumstances under which regular and direct contact with teachers is satisfied for certain scholarship students; amending s. 1002.68, F.S.; deleting obsolete provisions relating to calculation of kindergarten readiness rates; revising cross-references and program accountability provisions for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program; amending s. 1002.945, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and Families to determine whether a child care provider is the primary cause of certain class I violations; deleting an exception; amending s. 1003.4203, F.S.; requiring that the Department of Education make CAPE Digital Tool certificates available to middle grades students; limiting the number of such certificates a middle grades student may earn each school year; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; providing that completion of 2 years of marching band satisfies specified credit requirements; authorizing a dance techniques course to satisfy specified graduation credit requirements; revising requirements for mathematics pathways established by a Department of Education workgroup; requiring the department to develop identified mathematics pathways and applied algebra courses by specified dates; requiring the department to collaborate with the Board of Governors of the State University System to ensure the courses are accepted as mathematics credits for state university admissions; amending s. 1003.437, F.S.; requiring the State Board of Education to establish a uniform weighted grading system for specified courses and articulated acceleration mechanisms; requiring district school boards to use the system for a specified purpose; amending s. 1003.5716, F.S.; requiring school districts to provide notice and a make-up plan when a related service in a student's individual education program is not provided as scheduled; authorizing parents or guardians to access certain service logs and progress notes within a specified timeframe; amending s. 1004.343, F.S.; revising the date the University of South Florida Trafficking in Persons - Risk to Resilience Lab must begin submitting a specified report relating to human trafficking; requiring consultation with the

Department of Law Enforcement in the submission of such report; extending the date of the scheduled repeal of the Statewide Data Repository for Anonymous Human Trafficking Data; amending s. 1004.39, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the College of Law at Florida International University; deleting a specified association from certain provisions; amending s. 1004.40, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the College of Law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University; deleting a specified association from certain provisions; amending s. 1005.06, F.S.; revising the list of institutions that are not under the jurisdiction of the Commission for Independent Education; amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; revising requirements for safe-school officers; authorizing charter schools to implement safe-school officer options notwithstanding certain local ordinances or development orders; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; revising the timeframe for Florida College System institutions and state universities to submit comments in response to a specified notice of intent; amending s. 1007.271, F.S.; revising the list of postsecondary institutions that are eligible to participate in a dual enrollment program; amending s. 1008.2125, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 1008.25, F.S.; requiring specified parent resources to include information about eligibility for the New Worlds Reading Initiative; revising the score threshold for Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program summer bridge eligibility; requiring certain monthly written communications to include specified eligibility information; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 1008.47, F.S.; revising the timeframe for a public postsecondary institution to seek and obtain accreditation; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; providing that a person may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes due to his or her parent serving outside this state in certain capacities; amending s. 1009.25, F.S.; revising the requirements for a student to meet the definition of "homeless children and youths"; providing that certain distance learning students are ineligible for specified fee exemptions; amending s. 1009.893, F.S.; authorizing a student to defer an award under the Benacquisto Scholarship Program; amending s. 1009.983, F.S.; authorizing a specified designee with certain credentials to serve as director of the direct-support organization for the Florida Prepaid College Foundation, Inc.; amending s. 1009.986, F.S.; revising the membership of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising the academic acceleration options supplement in the Florida Education Finance Program to include a method for calculating additional full-time equivalent membership based on a specified course and test score; requiring school districts to allocate at least a specified percentage of certain funds for a certain purpose; providing specified bonuses; amending s. 1011.69, F.S.; revising a category of Title I funds that a school district may withhold; authorizing a school district to reserve funds for certain STEM-related educational services; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Calatayud, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for HB 1279**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Grall	Polsky
Berman	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bernard	Harrell	Rouson
Boyd	Hooper	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Jones	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—1

Davis

Consideration of **CS for CS for SB 7036**, **CS for CS for SB 208**, **CS for CS for SB 1260**, and **SB 7034** was deferred.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 484, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 484—A bill to be entitled An act relating to data centers; creating s. 112.231, F.S.; defining terms; prohibiting an agency from entering into a nondisclosure agreement or other contract that restricts the agency from disclosing certain information to the public; providing that an agreement or contract, or a provision of an agreement or contract, is void and unenforceable under certain circumstances; providing civil penalties; authorizing the state attorney or Attorney General to bring an action to collect a fine; providing applicability; creating s. 163.326, F.S.; providing legislative findings; specifying that local governments maintain authority to exercise power and responsibility over comprehensive planning and land development regulations related to large load customers; prohibiting a large load customer from being considered an electric substation; amending s. 288.075, F.S.; defining the term "data center"; requiring an economic development agency to disclose business activities related to the location, relocation, or expansion of a data center; providing applicability; reenacting s. 288.076(3) and (7), F.S., relating to return on investment reporting for economic development programs, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 288.075, F.S., in references thereto; creating s. 366.043, F.S.; providing legislative findings; defining terms; requiring the Florida Public Service Commission to develop minimum tariff and service requirements for large load customers; requiring that such requirements ensure that large load customers bear their costs of service and that such costs are not shifted to the general body of ratepayers; requiring certain measures to minimize the risk of nonpayment of such costs; requiring that such minimum tariff and service requirements include certain provisions designed to prevent a public utility from providing electric service to a large load customer that is a foreign entity; prohibiting a customer from separating a certain electrical load into multiple smaller connections for a specified purpose; authorizing the commission to include certain measures in minimum tariff and service requirements; prohibiting any tariff, contractual provision, service requirement, or other public utility policy from preventing or hindering the curtailment or interruption of electric service to a large load customer for certain purposes; prohibiting a public utility from knowingly providing electric service to a large load customer that is a foreign entity; requiring the commission to adopt rules by a specified date; specifying a deadline for utilities to file a tariff in compliance with the final rule; amending s. 373.203, F.S.; defining terms; creating s. 373.262, F.S.; providing legislative intent; prohibiting the governing board of a water management district or the Department of Environmental Protection from issuing a permit for the consumptive use of water to a large-scale data center under certain circumstances; requiring that such permit be issued to a large-scale data center applicant if the applicant establishes that the proposed use of water satisfies certain requirements; requiring the governing board or the department to require the use of reclaimed water for a large-scale data center applicant's allocation when certain requirements are met; specifying requirements for certain permit applications; prohibiting the approval of permit applications without a hearing; amending s. 373.239, F.S.; requiring that consumptive use permit modifications proposed by a large-scale data center be treated in a specified manner; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (383957) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Effective upon becoming a law, section 163.326, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

163.326 Large load customer considerations.—

(1) The Legislature finds that certain land uses, including facilities with substantial electric or other utility demands, such as data centers and other large load customers as defined in s. 366.043(2), may present unique planning, infrastructure, and compatibility considerations. The Legislature intends that such considerations shall be addressed through

local comprehensive planning and land development regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter, including provisions related to infrastructure capacity, land use compatibility, environmental impacts, and the efficient provision of public facilities and services.

(2) Local governments shall maintain the authority to exercise the powers and responsibilities for comprehensive planning and land development regulation granted by law with respect to large load customers. A large load customer may not be considered an electric substation for the purposes of s. 163.3208.

Section 2. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (1) of section 288.075, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (b), (c), and (d), respectively, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) is amended, and a new paragraph (a) is added to subsection (1) of that section, to read:

288.075 Confidentiality of records.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Data center" has the same meaning as in s. 373.203.

(2) PLANS, INTENTIONS, AND INTERESTS.—

(a)1. If a private corporation, partnership, or person requests in writing before an economic incentive agreement is signed that an economic development agency maintain the confidentiality of information concerning plans, intentions, or interests of such private corporation, partnership, or person to locate, relocate, or expand any of its business activities in this state, the information is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution for 12 months after the date an economic development agency receives a request for confidentiality or until the information is otherwise disclosed, whichever occurs first.

2. An economic development agency may extend the period of confidentiality specified in subparagraph 1. for up to an additional 12 months upon written request from the private corporation, partnership, or person who originally requested confidentiality under this section and upon a finding by the economic development agency that such private corporation, partnership, or person is still actively considering locating, relocating, or expanding its business activities in this state. Such a request for an extension in the period of confidentiality must be received prior to the expiration of any confidentiality originally provided under subparagraph 1. *This subparagraph does not apply to information described in subparagraph 1. relating to data centers.*

If a final project order for a signed economic development agreement is issued, then the information will remain confidential and exempt for 180 days after the final project order is issued, until a date specified in the final project order, or until the information is otherwise disclosed, whichever occurs first. However, such period of confidentiality may not extend beyond the period of confidentiality established in subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2.

Section 3. Section 366.043, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

366.043 Large load tariffs for public electric utilities.—

(1) The Legislature finds that the provision of safe and reliable electric services, provided at fair, just, and reasonable rates, is essential to the welfare of the ratepayers of this state. The Legislature further finds that when one class of electric service customer requires uniquely large electrical loads at a single location, it imposes a disproportionate risk on the other ratepayers of this state and makes it necessary for the commission to develop and enforce rate structures and other policies for such customers which ensure such risk is mitigated as much as possible and prevent shifting the costs of serving large load customers to the general body of ratepayers.

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Controlled by" means having the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of a company, whether through ownership of securities, by contract, or otherwise. A person or an entity that directly or indirectly has the right to vote 25 percent or more of the voting interests of the company or that is entitled to 25 percent or more of its profits is presumed to control the entity.

(b) "Foreign country of concern" has the same meaning as in s. 692.201.

(c) "Foreign entity" means an entity that is:

1. Owned or controlled by the government of a foreign country of concern; or

2. A partnership, an association, a corporation, an organization, or other combination of persons organized under the laws of or having its principal place of business in a foreign country of concern, or a subsidiary of such entity.

(d) "Large load customer" means a customer with an anticipated monthly peak load of 50 megawatts or more, calculated as the highest average load over a 15-minute interval at a single location. The term does not include a load aggregated across multiple locations owned by the same customer. However, the term includes all customers or other entities that have entered into a colocation or similar agreement at a single location that otherwise meets the anticipated monthly peak load provided in this paragraph.

(e) "Public utility" has the same meaning as in s. 366.02, except that the term does not include a gas utility.

(3) The following minimum tariff and service requirements for large load customers are required in public utility tariffs:

(a) The minimum tariff and service requirements must reasonably ensure that each large load customer bears its own full cost of service and that such cost is not shifted to the general body of ratepayers. Such cost of service includes, but is not limited to, connection, incremental transmission, incremental generation, and other infrastructure costs; operations and maintenance expenses; and any other costs required to serve a large load customer. The risk of nonpayment of such costs may not be borne by the general body of ratepayers.

(b) The minimum tariff and service requirements must include provisions reasonably designed to prevent a public utility from providing electric service to a customer that would otherwise qualify as a large load customer if that customer is a foreign entity.

(4) A customer may not separate an electrical load at a single location into multiple smaller connections to avoid being classified as a large load customer.

(5) To effectuate the requirements of subsection (3), the commission may approve public utility tariffs that include utility industry-accepted ratemaking and other financial tools, including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Contributions in aid of construction or other required customer infrastructure investments that may be returned, in whole or in part, to such customers over time.

(b) Demand charges, including minimum demand charges.

(c) Incremental generation charges.

(d) Financial guarantees.

(e) Minimum load factors.

(f) Take-or-pay provisions or similar provisions requiring payment for contracted capacity, regardless of a large load customer's actual electricity use or demand.

(g) Minimum period of service contract requirements, including early termination fees or other fees for violation of such contracts.

(6) Any tariff, contractual provision, service requirement, or other public utility policy relating to large load customers may not prevent or otherwise hinder the curtailment or interruption of electric service to a large load customer where such curtailment or interruption is intended to ensure grid stability, reduce the likelihood or breadth of wider service

outages, or ensure public safety during an emergency or other exceptional circumstance.

(7) A public utility may not knowingly provide electric service to a customer that would otherwise qualify as a large load customer if that customer is a foreign entity.

(8) No later than October 1, 2026, each public utility shall file, for commission approval, a tariff that complies with this section.

Section 4. Effective upon becoming a law, subsections (3) and (4) of section 373.203, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5) and (6), respectively, and new subsections (3) and (4) are added to that section, to read:

373.203 Definitions.—

(3) "Data center" means a facility that primarily contains electronic equipment used to process, store, and transmit digital information, which may be:

(a) A free-standing structure; or

(b) A facility within a larger structure which uses environmental control equipment to maintain the proper conditions for the operation of electronic equipment.

(4) "Large-scale data center" means a single location, with a data center on site, that has an anticipated monthly peak load of 50 megawatts or more, calculated as the highest average load over a 15-minute interval. The term does not include a load aggregated across multiple locations owned by the same customer. However, the term includes all customers or other entities that have entered into a colocation or similar agreement at a single location that otherwise meets the anticipated monthly peak load provided in this subsection.

Section 5. Section 373.262, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

373.262 Large-scale data center permitting.—

(1) It is the intent of the Legislature that the development and operation of large-scale data centers in this state be managed under a permitting framework that ensures this state's water resources are used in the public interest, in a manner that is not harmful to the water resources of this state, and consistent with local government zoning regulations and comprehensive plans.

(2) Consistent with other provisions of this part, the governing board of a water management district or the department may not issue a permit to a large-scale data center applicant for an allocation of water if the proposed use of the water is harmful to the water resources of the area or is prohibited by the applicable local government zoning regulations and comprehensive plan. A permit shall be issued to a large-scale data center applicant for an allocation of water if the applicant establishes that the proposed use of water:

(a) Is a reasonable-beneficial use as defined in s. 373.019;

(b) Will not interfere with any presently existing legal use of water; and

(c) Is consistent with the public interest.

(3) The governing board or the department shall require the use of reclaimed water in lieu of all or a portion of a proposed use of surface water or groundwater by a large-scale data center applicant when:

(a) A suitable reclaimed water supply source is available and permitted;

(b) Reclaimed water distribution or supply lines are available at the property boundary in sufficient capacity and quality to serve the applicant's needs;

(c) The applicant is capable of accessing the reclaimed water source through distribution or supply lines;

(d) Use of reclaimed water is environmentally, economically, and technically feasible; and

(e) Use of reclaimed water would not conflict with the requirements contained in the applicant's surface water discharge permit, if applicable.

(4)(a) In addition to the requirements of s. 373.229, all permit applications made under this part requesting an allocation of at least an average daily flow of 100,000 gallons of water per day by a large-scale data center must contain:

1. All sources and amounts of water and losses of water used for cooling, industrial and treatment processes, personal or sanitary needs of employees, and landscape irrigation; and

2. A water conservation plan that, at a minimum, incorporates recycling cooling water before discharge or disposal, implementation of a leak detection and repair program, use of water efficient fixtures, and implementation of an employee awareness and education program concerning water conservation.

(b) Notwithstanding s. 373.229(4), the governing board or the department may not approve a permit application made under this part by a large-scale data center without a hearing.

Section 6. Subsection (2) of section 373.239, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373.239 Modification and renewal of permit terms.—

(2) If the proposed modification involves water use of 100,000 gallons or more per day *or is proposed by a large-scale data center as defined in s. 373.203*, the application shall be treated under the provisions of s. 373.229 in the same manner as the initial permit application. Otherwise, the governing board or the department may at its discretion approve the proposed modification without a hearing, provided the permittee establishes that:

(a) A change in conditions has resulted in the water allowed under the permit becoming inadequate for the permittee's need, or

(b) The proposed modification would result in a more efficient utilization of water than is possible under the existing permit.

Section 7. *The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall contract for an independent, interdisciplinary study of policy considerations related to the construction and operation of large-scale data centers, including, but not limited to, state, regional, or local economic development and tax revenue impacts; use of land, water, and other natural resources; energy use and related cost and rate impacts; and public health and safety related impacts. OPPAGA may contract with one or more nonpartisan academic or nonprofit research organizations with policy and scientific expertise in relevant fields of study. The study must identify any issues unique to the construction and operation of large-scale data centers in this state. The study must also include recommendations on facility siting and mitigation measures that should be considered to reduce any potential negative impacts. OPPAGA shall submit the study to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by July 1, 2027.*

Section 8. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to data centers; creating s. 163.326, F.S.; providing legislative findings; specifying that local governments maintain authority to exercise power and responsibility over comprehensive planning and land development regulations relating to large load customers; prohibiting a large load customer from being considered an electric substation; amending s. 288.075, F.S.; defining the term "data center"; providing an exception to a provision allowing an extension of certain confidentiality protections; creating s. 366.043, F.S.; providing legislative findings; defining terms; requiring public utilities to provide certain minimum tariff and service requirements for large load custo-

mers; requiring that such requirements ensure that large load customers bear their costs of service and that such costs are not shifted to the general body of ratepayers; requiring certain measures to minimize the risk of nonpayment of such costs; requiring that such minimum tariff and service requirements include certain provisions designed to prevent a public utility from providing electric service to a large load customer that is a foreign entity; prohibiting a customer from separating a certain electrical load into multiple smaller connections for a specified purpose; authorizing the Florida Public Service Commission to approve public utility tariffs that include certain utility industry-accepted ratemaking and other financial tools; prohibiting any tariff, contractual provision, service requirement, or other public utility policy from preventing or hindering the curtailment or interruption of electric service to a large load customer for certain purposes; prohibiting a public utility from knowingly providing electric service to a large load customer that is a foreign entity; requiring each public utility to file a tariff in compliance with the provisions of the bill by a specified date; amending s. 373.203, F.S.; defining terms; creating s. 373.262, F.S.; providing legislative intent; prohibiting the governing board of a water management district or the Department of Environmental Protection from issuing a permit for the consumptive use of water to a large-scale data center under certain circumstances; requiring that such permit be issued to a large-scale data center applicant if the applicant establishes that the proposed use of water satisfies certain requirements; requiring the governing board or the department to require the use of reclaimed water for a large-scale data center applicant's allocation when certain requirements are met; specifying requirements for certain permit applications; prohibiting the approval of permit applications without a hearing; amending s. 373.239, F.S.; requiring that consumptive use permit modifications proposed by a large-scale data center be treated in a specified manner; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to contract for a study relating to the construction and operation of large-scale data centers; providing requirements for the study; requiring the study to be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House by a specified date; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator Avila, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (383957)**.

CS for CS for SB 484 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—31

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Arrington	Grall	Rodriguez
Avila	Gruters	Sharief
Bernard	Harrell	Simon
Boyd	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Martin	Wright
Burton	Massullo	Yarborough
Calatayud	Mayfield	
DiCeglie	McClain	

Nays—6

Berman	Davis	Polsky
Bracy Davis	Osgood	Rouson

RECESS

On motion by Senator Jones, the Senate recessed at 10:59 a.m. to reconvene at 11:59 a.m. or upon the call of the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Senate was called to order by President Albritton at 12:13 p.m. A quorum present—38:

Mr. President	Berman	Bracy Davis
Arrington	Bernard	Bradley
Avila	Boyd	Brodeur
Burgess	Jones	Rodriguez
Burton	Leek	Rouson
Calatayud	Martin	Sharief
Davis	Massullo	Simon
DiCeglie	Mayfield	Smith
Gaetz	McClain	Truenow
Grall	Osgood	Trumbull
Gruters	Passidomo	Wright
Harrell	Pizzo	Yarborough
Hooper	Polsky	

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR, continued

CS for CS for SB 208—A bill to be entitled An act relating to land use and development regulations; amending ss. 125.022 and 166.033, F.S.; requiring that the amount of certain application fees reasonably relate to certain costs; requiring that such fees be published on the county's or municipality's fee schedule, respectively; requiring that such fees not be based on certain costs or valuations; amending s. 163.31777, F.S.; requiring that certain interlocal agreements between school boards and local governments address reasonable access to certain public easements and public rights-of-way; amending s. 163.3194, F.S.; requiring that local government comprehensive plans and land development regulations include factors for assessing the compatibility of certain residential uses; requiring that land development regulations incorporate certain objective design standards or other measures for mitigating or minimizing potential incompatibility; requiring local government staff to meet certain requirements before recommending denial of certain applications on compatibility grounds; prohibiting a local government from denying certain applications on compatibility grounds if the applicant has proposed certain measures; providing an exception; requiring that the denial of an application specify certain information; providing that a local government's approval of an application may include certain requirements or conditions; providing applicability; amending s. 553.382, F.S.; authorizing the placement of certain residential manufactured buildings on any lot in a recreational vehicle park; creating s. 553.385, F.S.; defining the terms "local government" and "offsite constructed residential dwelling"; requiring that an offsite constructed residential dwelling be permitted as of right in certain zoning districts; prohibiting a local government from adopting or enforcing certain regulations; providing construction; authorizing a local government to adopt compatibility standards that are limited to certain architectural features; prohibiting a local government from treating offsite constructed residential dwellings differently than factory-built buildings based on certain circumstances; prohibiting a local government from adopting or enforcing certain zoning, land use, or development ordinances and regulations; prohibiting local government ordinances and regulations from having certain effects; providing that certain local government ordinances and regulations are void and unenforceable to a specified extent; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) to conduct a study to identify the effects of removing certain boundaries; providing requirements for the study; requiring OPPAGA to submit the results of the study to the Legislature by a specified date; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for SB 208**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for CS for CS for HB 399** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator McClain—

CS for CS for CS for HB 399—A bill to be entitled An act relating to land use and development regulations; amending ss. 125.022 and 166.033, F.S.; requiring the amount of application fees associated with development permits or orders to reasonably relate to certain costs; requiring such fees to be published on the county's or municipality's fee schedule, respectively; prohibiting such fees from being based on certain costs or valuations; amending s. 163.31777, F.S.; requiring public schools interlocal agreements to address reasonable access to certain public easements and public rights-of-way; creating s. 163.31803, F.S.; providing legislative intent; defining the term "large destination resort"; requiring local governments to administratively approve applications for minor special exceptions or variances submitted by large destination

resorts that meet certain requirements; defining the term "minor special exception or variance"; amending s. 163.3184, F.S.; requiring the transmittal and adoption of an amendment to the future land use element of a comprehensive plan to be by a majority vote of the members of the governing body; amending s. 163.3194, F.S.; requiring local government comprehensive plans and land development regulations to include factors for assessing the compatibility of certain residential uses; requiring land development regulations to incorporate measures for mitigating or minimizing potential incompatibility; requiring local government staff to meet certain requirements before recommending denial of certain applications on compatibility grounds; prohibiting a local government from denying certain applications on compatibility grounds if the applicant has proposed certain measures; providing an exception; requiring the denial of an application to specify with particularity certain information; authorizing a local government's approval of an application to include certain requirements or conditions; providing applicability; providing construction; amending s. 553.382, F.S.; prohibiting residential manufactured buildings from being denied a building permit for placement on certain lots; requiring housing units located on a mobile home lot to be taxed in a specified manner and be subject to payments to a specified fund; creating s. 553.385, F.S.; defining the terms "local government" and "off-site constructed residential dwelling"; requiring off-site constructed residential dwellings to be permitted as of right in certain zoning districts; prohibiting local governments from adopting or enforcing regulations that treat off-site constructed residential dwellings in a specified manner; providing construction; providing requirements for compatibility and design standards; prohibiting a local government from regulating or restricting off-site constructed residential dwellings based on certain information; prohibiting a local government from adopting or enforcing certain ordinances, regulations, and policies; requiring local government regulations to be reasonable and uniformly enforced; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct a specified study; providing study requirements; requiring the office to submit the results of the study to the Legislature by a specified date; providing effective dates.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for SB 208** and read the second time by title.

Senator Jones moved the following amendment which failed:

Amendment 1 (351666) (with title amendment)—Delete lines 104-137.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 13-19 and insert: amending s. 163.3184,

The vote was:

Yeas—17

Arrington	Gaetz	Polsky
Berman	Grall	Rouson
Bernard	Gruters	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Harrell	Smith
Bradley	Jones	Wright
Davis	Osgood	

Nays—20

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Hooper	Rodriguez
Boyd	Leek	Simon
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Yarborough
Calatayud	McClain	

Vote after roll call:

Yea to Nay—Gruters

Senator McClain moved the following amendments which were adopted:

Amendment 2 (164644) (with title amendment)—Between lines 137 and 138 insert:

Section 5. Section 163.31804, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

163.31804 Permits or other approval for facilities that process compost.—

(1) A local government permit or other approval for a facility that processes compost as defined in s. 576.011 may not be conditioned on a requirement to purchase additional property to expand the footprint of an existing privately owned road, but, where possible, the landowner may be required to supply turnouts for emergency vehicles. The local government may not require that additional property be purchased in order to provide such turnouts.

(2) An existing permit for a facility that processes compost as defined in s. 576.011 may not be revoked by the local government if such activity is regulated through and in compliance with applicable implemented best management practices, interim measures, or regulations adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 19 and insert: special exception or variance"; creating s. 163.31804, F.S.; prohibiting the conditioning of a local government permit or other approval for a facility that processes compost on a specified requirement; authorizing a local government to require certain landowners to supply certain turnouts; prohibiting a local government from requiring the purchase of additional property for a specified purpose; prohibiting local governments from revoking existing permits for such facilities under certain circumstances; amending s. 163.3184,

Amendment 3 (808780) (with title amendment)—Between lines 137 and 138 insert:

(4) This section expires July 1, 2031.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 19 and insert: special exception or variance"; providing for the expiration of specified provisions; amending s. 163.3184,

Senator Calatayud moved the following amendment:

Amendment 4 (913094) (with title amendment)—Delete lines 138-287 and insert:

Section 5. Effective January 1, 2027, subsection (7) is added to section 163.3194, Florida Statutes, to read:

163.3194 Legal status of comprehensive plan.—

(7)(a) Local government comprehensive plans and land development regulations must include factors for assessing the compatibility of allowable residential uses within a residential zoning district and future land use category.

(b) Land development regulations must incorporate measures for mitigating or minimizing potential incompatibility.

(c)1. Before recommending denial of an application for rezoning, subdivision, or site plan approval on compatibility grounds, local government staff must identify with specificity each area of incompatibility and may recommend mitigation measures to the applicant.

2. If the applicant has proposed mitigation measures, the local government may not deny an application on compatibility grounds unless the denial includes written findings stating that the proposed mitigation measures are inadequate and that feasible mitigation measures do not exist.

3. A denial of an application on compatibility grounds must specify with particularity the area or areas of incompatibility, including applicable standards and an explanation of any mitigation measures considered and declined by the applicant, or the basis for determining that feasible mitigation measures do not exist. References to "community

character" or "neighborhood feel" are not sufficient, in and of themselves, to support a denial of an application on compatibility grounds.

4. A local government's approval of an application may include requirements or conditions to mitigate or minimize compatibility concerns.

(d) This subsection does not apply to any of the following:

1. Compatibility between uses in different future land use categories, including rural, agricultural, conservation, open space, mixed-use, industrial, or commercial use.

2. Applications for development within planned unit developments or master planned communities.

3. Applications for development within historic districts designated before January 1, 2026.

(e) This subsection does not require approval of an application that is otherwise inconsistent with the applicable local government comprehensive plan or land development regulations.

Section 6. Effective January 1, 2027, section 553.382, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

553.382 Placement of certain housing.—Notwithstanding any other law or ordinance to the contrary, in order to expand the availability of affordable housing in this state, any residential manufactured building that is certified under this chapter by the department may *not be denied a building permit for placement* ~~be placed~~ on a mobile home lot in a mobile home park, *on any lot in a* recreational vehicle park, or *in a* mobile home condominium, cooperative, or subdivision. Any such housing unit placed on a mobile home lot is a mobile home for purposes of chapter 723 and, therefore, all rights, obligations, and duties under chapter 723 apply, including the specifics of the prospectus. However, a housing unit subject to this section may not be placed on a mobile home lot without the prior written approval of the park owner. Each housing unit *located on a mobile home lot and* subject to this section shall be taxed as a mobile home under s. 320.08(11) and is subject to payments to the Florida Mobile Home Relocation Fund under s. 723.06116.

Section 7. Effective January 1, 2027, section 553.385, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

553.385 Zoning of off-site constructed residential dwellings; parity.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Local government" means a county or municipality.

(b) "Off-site constructed residential dwelling" means:

1. A manufactured building, as defined in s. 553.36, intended for single-family residential use; or

2. A manufactured home, as defined in s. 320.01(2)(b),

which is constructed, in whole or in part, off site and is treated as real property.

(2)(a) An off-site constructed residential dwelling must be permitted as of right in any zoning district where single-family detached dwellings are allowed.

(b) A local government may not adopt or enforce any zoning, land use, or development regulation that treats an off-site constructed residential dwelling differently or more restrictively than a single-family, site-built dwelling allowed in the same zoning district.

(c) This section does not prohibit a local government from applying generally applicable architectural, aesthetic, design, setback, height, or bulk standards, provided such standards are applied uniformly to all single-family dwellings in the same zoning district.

(d) Compatibility or design standards must be reasonable, may not have the effect of excluding off-site constructed residential dwellings, and, if adopted, must apply equally to single-family, site-built dwellings. Such standards are limited to:

1. Roof pitch.

2. Minimum square footage of livable space.

3. Type and quality of exterior finishing materials.

4. Foundation enclosure.

5. Existence and type of attached structures.

6. Building setbacks, lot dimensions, and orientation.

(e) A local government may not regulate or restrict an off-site constructed residential dwelling based solely on:

1. The method of construction;

2. The location of construction; or

3. The presence of components constructed off site.

(3) A local government may not adopt or enforce any ordinance, regulation, or policy that conflicts with this section or s. 553.38, or that has the effect of excluding off-site constructed residential dwellings. Any such ordinance, regulation, or policy is void and unenforceable as applied to off-site constructed residential dwellings.

(4) Local government regulations must be reasonable and uniformly enforced without distinction as to housing type.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 19-65 and insert: special exception or variance"; amending s. 163.3194, F.S.; requiring local government comprehensive plans and land development regulations to include factors for assessing the compatibility of certain residential uses; requiring land development regulations to incorporate measures for mitigating or minimizing potential incompatibility; requiring local government staff to meet certain requirements before recommending denial of certain applications on compatibility grounds; prohibiting a local government from denying certain applications on compatibility grounds if the applicant has proposed certain measures; providing an exception; requiring the denial of an application to specify with particularity certain information; authorizing a local government's approval of an application to include certain requirements or conditions; providing applicability; providing construction; amending s. 553.382, F.S.; prohibiting residential manufactured buildings from being denied a building permit for placement on certain lots; requiring housing units located on a mobile home lot to be taxed in a specified manner and be subject to payments to a specified fund; creating s. 553.385, F.S.; defining the terms "local government" and "off-site constructed residential dwelling"; requiring off-site constructed residential dwellings to be permitted as of right in certain zoning districts; prohibiting local governments from adopting or enforcing regulations that treat off-site constructed residential dwellings in a specified manner; providing construction; providing requirements for compatibility and design standards; prohibiting a local government from regulating or restricting off-site constructed residential dwellings based on certain information; prohibiting a local government from adopting or enforcing certain ordinances, regulations, and policies; requiring local government regulations to be reasonable and uniformly enforced; providing effective dates.

Senator Rodriguez moved the following amendment to **Amendment 4 (913094)** which was adopted:

Amendment 4A (128678) (with title amendment)—Delete line 62 and insert:
approval of the park owner. *Any such housing unit must continue to meet all requirements associated with the permit allocation system of the Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern designated pursuant to s. 380.0552.* Each housing unit *located on a*

And the title is amended as follows:

Between lines 140 and 141 insert: requiring that certain housing units continue to meet certain requirements;

Amendment 4 (913094), as amended, was adopted.

Senator Martin moved the following amendment which failed:

Amendment 5 (531994) (with title amendment)—Between lines 287 and 288 insert:

Section 10. Section 163.32475, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

163.32475 Rural boundary designations; per se taking; property owner rights; judicial enforcement.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—

(a) The Legislature finds that:

1. A rural boundary designation that restricts the use and development of private property below the density and intensity available to adjacent properties, and that requires a supermajority or heightened voting threshold for modification or removal, constitutes a permanent deprivation of the property owner's reasonable expectations for use and value of the property.

2. Property owners affected by such designations are bearing permanently a disproportionate share of a burden imposed for the good of the general public. However, affected property owners have no reasonable prospect of obtaining relief through the existing local government process.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that this section provide affected property owners with a self-executing remedy enforceable through the existing judicial system, without the need for any county-administered program, and that the full cost of the taking be borne by the county that adopted the designation.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Adjacent density" means the highest residential density, measured in dwelling units per acre, assigned under the comprehensive plan or land development regulations to any parcel of real property that is contiguous to, shares a common boundary with, or is directly across a public right-of-way from the affected property and that is located outside the rural boundary designation.

(b) "Adjacent intensity" means the highest nonresidential intensity, measured in floor area ratio or other applicable metric, assigned under the comprehensive plan or land development regulations to any parcel of real property that is contiguous to, shares a common boundary with, or is directly across a public right-of-way from the affected property and that is located outside the rural boundary designation.

(c) "Affected property owner" means any person holding fee simple title to real property as of July 1, 2026, which is:

1. Located within a rural boundary designation; or

2. Contiguous to, shares a common boundary with, or is directly across a public right-of-way from property within a rural boundary designation.

(d) "Fair market value" means the price that a willing and informed buyer would pay a willing and informed seller in an arm's-length transaction, neither party being under any compulsion to buy or sell, with both parties having reasonable knowledge of all relevant facts, including the highest and best use of the property. Fair market value may not solely be determined by reference to the county property appraiser's assessed value, taxable value, or any government-established valuation. Fair market value must be established by one or more independent appraisals performed by an appraiser registered, licensed, or certified in this state and holding the Member of Appraisal Institute designation of the Appraisal Institute using recognized market-based methodologies, including comparable sales, income capitalization, and cost approaches, as appropriate.

(e) "Fair market value diminution" means the difference between:

1. The fair market value of the affected property based on its highest and best use at the adjacent density and adjacent intensity, without regard to the rural boundary designation; and

2. The fair market value of the affected property under the restrictions imposed by the rural boundary designation.

(f) "Rural boundary designation" means any designation of land as rural, rural area, rural lands, rural boundary, or any substantially similar classification established or required by a county charter that:

1. Restricts the density, intensity, or type of development permitted on the designated land below that which would otherwise be permitted under the future land use designation and zoning applicable to adjacent properties outside the rural boundary; and

2. Requires a supermajority vote of the governing body of the county, or any heightened voting threshold beyond a simple majority, to remove land from the designation, to increase the density or intensity of use within the designated area, or to approve a comprehensive plan amendment affecting property within the designated area.

(3) RIGHT TO REMOVAL.—

(a) An affected property owner may submit a written request to the county to remove the owner's property from the rural boundary designation.

(b) The county shall approve or deny the request within 60 days after receipt of the request. If the county fails to act within the 60-day period, the request is deemed approved.

(c) If the county denies the request, subsection (4) applies.

(4) DENIAL OF REQUEST FOR REMOVAL; RELIEF.—

(a) The denial of an affected property owner's request for removal by a county under subsection (3) constitutes a per se regulatory taking.

(b) Upon denial by the county, the affected property owner may elect to seek either or both of the following:

1. Full compensation for the fair market value diminution, to be paid solely by the county.

2. A court order removing the property from the rural boundary designation with the density and intensity matching presumption provided in subsection (5).

The affected property owner may seek relief for the taking declared by this section by directly filing an action with the circuit court of the county in which the real property is located. The affected property owner is not required to submit a claim in writing and present it to the governmental entity before filing suit under this paragraph.

(c) The provisions of this section are cumulative and do not abrogate any other remedy lawfully available, including those available for governmental actions that rise to the level of a taking.

(d) A governmental entity is not liable for compensation for an action of a governmental entity applicable to, or for the loss in value to, a subject real property more than once.

(5) DENSITY MATCHING PRESUMPTION.—

(a) Upon removal of property from a rural boundary designation, to ensure that affected property owners receive the equal treatment, there is a conclusive presumption that the property shall receive a future land use designation and zoning classification permitting at least the adjacent density and adjacent intensity. This presumption is not rebuttable and applies regardless of which governmental entity has jurisdiction over the property after removal.

(b) If, after removal from the rural boundary designation, a county, municipality, or other governmental entity assigns or imposes upon the affected property a density, intensity, or land use classification that restricts density or intensity below the adjacent density or adjacent intensity, the property owner may petition the circuit court of the county in which the property is located for an order directing the governmental entity to assign the appropriate density and intensity. The court shall grant the petition unless the governmental entity demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that the lower density or intensity is necessary to protect the public health or safety. General references to community

character, neighborhood feel, rural character, compatibility, or substantially similar terms do not constitute grounds for assigning a lower density or intensity.

(c) In determining the adjacent density and adjacent intensity for purposes of this subsection, if the affected property is across a public right-of-way from property that is developed or designated at a particular density or intensity, such density or intensity must be treated as the adjacent density or adjacent intensity with the same force and effect as if the properties shared a common boundary.

(6) TERMINATION OF COUNTY-RETAINED ZONING JURISDICTION UPON ANNEXATION.—

(a) For property that has been removed from a rural boundary designation, all of the following apply:

1. Any provision of a county charter, county ordinance, comprehensive plan, or land development regulation that purports to retain zoning jurisdiction, land use authority, or development approval authority over the removed property after the property is annexed into a municipality is void and unenforceable as to that property.

2. The property may be annexed into any adjacent municipality under the procedures provided in chapter 171 without county approval of any zoning or land use change.

3. Upon annexation, the municipality's comprehensive plan and land development regulations shall control the use and development of the property, subject to the density matching presumptions in paragraph (5)(a).

(b) A county charter provision, interlocal agreement, or joint planning agreement may not be construed to limit the application of this subsection.

(c) The termination of county-retained jurisdiction under this subsection occurs upon annexation of the property into a municipality, is self-executing, and does not require a court order, except that the property owner may seek a declaratory judgment confirming the termination if the county refuses to recognize the termination.

(7) JUDICIAL ENFORCEMENT.—

(a) An affected property owner may bring an action in the circuit court of the county in which the property is located to enforce any right under this section.

(b) Ripeness, exhaustion of administrative remedies, failure to apply for a variance, and similar procedural defenses are not available to the county or any other governmental entity in any action brought under this section. The denial of a request for removal satisfies all prerequisites for judicial relief.

(c) The court shall award to a prevailing affected property owner who sought relief under paragraph (4)(b), in addition to compensation provided under that paragraph, all of the following:

1. Prejudgment interest at the statutory rate from the date of the denial of the request for removal or the expiration of the 60-day period, whichever is earlier.

2. Reasonable attorney fees and costs, including expert witness fees and appraisal costs.

3. Such other relief as the court deems just and equitable.

(d) The county shall tender full compensation awarded under paragraph (c) to the affected property owner within 120 days after the court's final order. The county is liable for interest on the full compensation awarded upon failure to tender full compensation within 120 days.

(e) The county is solely liable for all compensation, fees, costs, and interest awarded under this section. The state, its agencies, and all other units of local government are not liable.

(8) COUNTY SOLE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—

(a) Costs arising under this section, including, but not limited to, compensation, appraisal costs, attorney fees, court costs, and prejudgment interest, must be borne solely by the county that adopted or maintained the rural boundary designation.

(b) The state, its agencies, and other units of local government have no financial liability, contribution obligation, or indemnification duty under this section.

(c) A county may not seek reimbursement, contribution, or funding from the state, a state agency, a state conservation or land acquisition program, or any other unit of local government for costs for implementation, compliance, or judicial awards arising under this section.

(d) In accordance with s. 13, Art. X of the State Constitution, the state, for itself and for its agencies or political subdivisions, waives sovereign immunity for causes of action based upon the application of any law, regulation, or ordinance subject to this section, but only to the extent specified in this section.

(9) CONSTRUCTION AND APPLICABILITY.—

(a) This section does not prohibit a county from maintaining a rural boundary designation.

(b) This section applies to rural boundary designations in effect on or after January 1, 2027.

(c) This section does not apply to any boundary within a county as defined in s. 125.011(1).

(d) An affected property owner with an application, a request, a claim, or a proceeding relating to the removal of property from a rural boundary designation that is pending on the effective date of this act may seek the remedies provided in this section, regardless of the date on which the matter was initiated.

(e) To the extent that a prior judicial decision has held that a county charter amendment establishing a rural boundary designation is constitutional or has otherwise ruled against a property owner seeking removal from such a designation, such holding does not preclude a claim under this section. This section establishes a new statutory right that is independent of prior adjudication.

Section 11. *The Division of Law Revision is directed to replace the phrase "the effective date of this act" wherever it occurs in this act with the date this act becomes a law.*

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 65 and insert: date; creating s. 163.32475, F.S.; providing legislative findings and intent; defining terms; authorizing an affected property owner to submit a written request to remove the owner's property from a rural boundary designation; requiring certain county action within a specified period; providing that denial of such a request constitutes a per se regulatory taking; authorizing an affected property owner to seek certain relief in a specified manner; providing construction; providing that a governmental entity is not liable for certain compensation more than once; providing specified presumptions to property removed from a rural boundary designation; authorizing a property owner to petition the circuit court for an order to assign certain density and intensity; requiring the court to grant such petitions except under certain circumstances; providing requirements for determining adjacent density and adjacent intensity; providing that certain local government provisions are void and unenforceable as to property removed from a rural boundary designation after such property is annexed into a municipality; authorizing the annexation of such property without certain county approval; providing construction; authorizing an affected property owner to bring an action to enforce certain rights; providing that certain defenses are not available to a governmental entity in such an action; requiring the court to award certain relief to a prevailing affected property owner; requiring a county to tender full compensation to the affected property owner within a specified timeframe; providing that the county is solely liable for certain compensation, fees, costs, and interest; prohibiting a county from seeking certain reimbursement, contributions, or funding; providing a limited waiver of sovereign immunity; providing construction; providing applicability; providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator McClain, by two-thirds vote, **CS for CS for CS for HB 399**, as amended, was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—27

Mr. President	Gaetz	McClain
Avila	Grall	Passidomo
Boyd	Gruters	Pizzo
Bradley	Harrell	Rodriguez
Brodeur	Hooper	Simon
Burgess	Leek	Truenow
Burton	Martin	Trumbull
Calatayud	Massullo	Wright
DiCeglie	Mayfield	Yarborough

Nays—11

Arrington	Davis	Rouson
Berman	Jones	Sharief
Bernard	Osgood	Smith
Bracy Davis	Polsky	

RECESS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate recessed at 1:34 p.m. to reconvene upon the call of the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION, continued

The Senate was called to order by President Albritton at 2:24 p.m. A quorum present—36:

Mr. President	Davis	Osgood
Arrington	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Avila	Gaetz	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bracy Davis	Hooper	Simon
Bradley	Leek	Smith
Brodeur	Martin	Truenow
Burgess	Massullo	Trumbull
Burton	Mayfield	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed SB 7040, with 1 amendment, by the required constitutional three-fifths vote of the membership and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

SB 7040—A bill to be entitled An act relating to trust funds; re-creating the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund within the Executive Office of the Governor; amending s. 252.3711, F.S.; extending the scheduled termination of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 2 (520451) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. *The Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund within the Executive Office of the Governor, which is to be terminated pursuant to Section 19(f), Article III of the State Constitution on February 17, 2026, is re-created.*

Section 2. Section 252.3711, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.3711 Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund.—

(1) The Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund is created within the Executive Office of the Governor.

(2) The fund is established for use as a depository for *state* moneys specifically transferred or appropriated to the fund *by the Legislature*. The moneys deposited in the fund are available as a primary funding source for the Governor for purposes of preparing or responding to a*n emergency as defined in s. 252.34(4)* ~~disaster~~ declared by the Governor as a state of emergency that exceeds regularly appropriated funding sources.

(a) Moneys in the fund may be used for a state of emergency that is a natural emergency as defined in s. 252.34(8). If such state of emergency has been renewed pursuant to s. 252.36, the use of moneys in the fund is subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures set forth in s. 216.177.

(b) Moneys in the fund may be used for a state of emergency that is a manmade emergency as defined in s. 252.34(7) or a technological emergency as defined in s. 252.34(12), subject to the notice, review, and objection procedures set forth in s. 216.177. Notwithstanding s. 216.177(2)(b), either the chair or vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission or the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives may timely advise, in writing, that an action or proposed action exceeds the delegated authority or is contrary to legislative policy and intent.

(c) Moneys in the fund may not be used to purchase aircraft, boats, or motor vehicles.

(d) Moneys in the fund may not be invested as provided in s. 17.61 but shall be retained in the fund for investment with interest appropriated to the General Revenue Fund as provided in s. 17.57.

(3) Federal reimbursements of state emergency expenditures shall not be deposited in the fund. Federal reimbursements of state emergency expenditures shall be deposited in the General Revenue Fund pursuant to s. 215.32(2)(a).

(4) On or before the 15th day of the month following each quarter, the Executive Office of the Governor shall submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives that includes the following:

(a) The projected year-end cash balance of the fund;

(b) An updated cash flow statement for that fiscal year;

(c) An accounting of all inventory and assets purchased, separated by emergency event and agency, for preparing for, responding to, or recovering from a state of emergency and the current status of such assets; and

(d) A written attestation, under penalty of perjury, from the director of the Division of Emergency Management that the information in the report is true, accurate, and complete.

(5)~~(3) In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the State Constitution,~~ The Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated *on July 1, 2030* ~~4 years after the effective date of this act~~. Before its scheduled termination, the fund shall be reviewed as provided in *s. 215.3208* ~~s. 215.3206(1) and (2)~~.

Section 3. *This act shall operate retroactively to February 17, 2026.*

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to trust funds; re-creating the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund within the Executive Office of the Governor; amending s. 252.3711, F.S.; revising and providing uses of moneys deposited in the fund; providing requirements for the deposit of federal reimbursements of state emergency expenditures; providing reporting requirements; revising provisions relating to the termination

of the fund; providing for retroactive application; providing an effective date.

Senator Hooper moved the following amendment to **House Amendment 2 (520451)** which was adopted:

Senate Amendment 1 (877368) (with title amendment) to House Amendment 2 (520451)—Delete lines 6-65 and insert:
within the Executive Office of the Governor, which terminated pursuant to s. 19(f), Article III of the State Constitution on February 17, 2026, is re-created within the Executive Office of the Governor.

Section 2. Section 252.3711, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.3711 Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund.—

(1) The Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund is created within the Executive Office of the Governor.

(2) The fund is established for use as a depository for moneys specifically transferred or appropriated to the fund *by the Legislature or pursuant to s. 11.90*. The moneys deposited in the fund are available as a primary funding source for the Governor for purposes of preparing or responding to a disaster declared by the Governor as a state of emergency that exceeds regularly appropriated funding sources.

(a) Moneys in the fund may be used for a natural emergency. If such state of emergency has been renewed pursuant to s. 252.36, budget amendments must be submitted in accordance with the notice, review, and objection procedures set forth in s. 216.177, notwithstanding ss. 216.181 and 216.292.

(b) Moneys in the fund may be used for a state of emergency that is a manmade emergency or a technological emergency. If such state of emergency has been renewed pursuant to s. 252.36, budget amendments must be submitted in accordance with the notice, review, and objection procedures set forth in s. 216.177. However, the chair and the vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission may authorize such amendment to be approved pursuant to s. 216.177.

(c) Federal reimbursements of state emergency expenditures shall be deposited in a separate account within the fund. Expenditures from this separate account may only be made for invoices that were incurred before the deposit of the federal reimbursement and may not be used for any other purpose until all outstanding prior invoices have been paid.

(d) Moneys in the fund may not be used to purchase aircraft, boats, or motor vehicles; however, nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit the short-term lease of aircraft, boats, or motor vehicles for responding to an emergency.

(3) ~~In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the State Constitution,~~ The Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund shall, unless terminated sooner, be terminated *July 1, 2028* ~~4 years after the effective date of this act~~. Before its scheduled termination, the fund shall be reviewed as provided in *s. 215.3208* ~~s. 215.3206(1) and (2)~~.

(4) Beginning July 15, 2026, and on or before the 15th day of the month following each quarter, the Division of Emergency Management shall submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which includes all of the following:

(a) The projected year-end cash balance of the fund.

(b) An updated cash flow statement for that fiscal year.

(c) An update on all pending and received federal reimbursements.

(d) An accounting of all inventory and assets purchased, itemized by emergency event and agency, for preparing for, responding to, or recovering from a state of emergency and the current status of such assets.

(e) An accounting of all pending invoices, itemized by emergency event and agency, including the date the invoice was received.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 77-82 and insert: 252.3711, F.S.; specifying that moneys are appropriated to the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund by the Legislature or pursuant to a specified provision; authorizing funds to be used for specified emergencies; requiring that budget amendments be submitted in accordance with a specified provision; providing an exception; requiring that federal reimbursements of state emergency expenditures be deposited in a separate account within the fund; providing requirements for such account; prohibiting moneys in the fund from being used to purchase aircraft, boats, or motor vehicles; providing construction; providing for the termination of the fund on a specified date; requiring a certain review of the fund before termination; requiring the Division of Emergency Management to submit a specified report periodically to the Legislature, beginning on a specified date; providing for retroactive application; providing

On motion by Senator Hooper, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 2 (520451)**, as amended, and requested the House to concur in **Senate Amendment 1 (877368) to House Amendment 2 (520451)**.

SB 7040 passed, as amended, by the required constitutional three-fifths vote of the membership, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—29

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Grall	Pizzo
Bernard	Gruters	Rodriguez
Boyd	Harrell	Rouson
Bradley	Hooper	Simon
Brodeur	Leek	Truenow
Burgess	Martin	Trumbull
Burton	Massullo	Wright
Calatayud	Mayfield	Yarborough
DiCeglie	McClain	

Nays—7

Arrington	Davis	Smith
Berman	Osgood	
Bracy Davis	Sharief	

EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY THE SENATE:

The Secretary of State has certified that pursuant to the provisions of section 114.05, Florida Statutes, certificates subject to confirmation by the Senate have been prepared for the following:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Tampa Port Authority		
Appointee:	Conner, William Theodore, Tampa	11/25/2025
Board of Directors, Prison Rehabilitative Industries and Diversified Enterprises, Inc.		
Appointees:	Garey, Alan L., Pompano Beach	09/30/2025
	Upchurch, James R., Tallahassee	09/30/2025
	Whitehurst, John Willis, Confidential pursuant to s. 119.071(4), F.S.	09/30/2025
State Retirement Commission		
Appointee:	Dyer, Jesse, Tallahassee	12/31/2025
Board of Trustees, University of West Florida		
Appointee:	Fleming, Edward P., Escambia	01/06/2026

Referred to the Committee on Ethics and Elections.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE RELATING TO EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

Ms. Tracy Cantella
Secretary, The Florida Senate
Suite 405, The Capitol
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

March 13, 2026

Dear Madam Secretary:

Please be advised that the following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections did not consider the appointments because the terms of the appointees expired:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Tampa Port Authority		
Appointee:	Conner, William Theodore	11/25/2025
Board of Directors, Prison Rehabilitative Industries and Diversified Enterprises, Inc.		
Appointees:	Garey, Alan L.	09/30/2025
	Upchurch, James R.	09/30/2025
	Whitehurst, John Willis	09/30/2025
State Retirement Commission		
Appointee:	Dyer, Jesse	12/31/2025
Board of Trustees, University of West Florida		
Appointee:	Fleming, Edward P.	01/06/2026

The following executive appointment was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections considered and recommended confirmation of the following appointment. The Senate did not consider the appointment because the term of the appointee expired:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District		
Appointee:	Aungst, Brian J., Jr.	03/01/2026

The following executive appointment was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections considered and recommended confirmation of the following appointment. The Senate did not consider the appointment because the term of the appointee expired:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Board of Trustees, Florida A & M University		
Appointee:	Dopson-Rodriguez, Jocelyn	01/06/2026

The following executive appointment was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education temporarily postponed consideration of the appointment and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections did not consider the appointment because the appointee resigned:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Board of Trustees, Florida State University		
Appointee:	Weatherford, Andrew	01/06/2031

Respectfully submitted,
Don Gaetz, Chair

Ms. Tracy Cantella
Secretary, The Florida Senate
Suite 405, The Capitol
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

March 13, 2026

Dear Madam Secretary:

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Transportation and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Committee on Transportation and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections did not consider the following appointments and the appointees were left pending and were not acted on by the Senate upon adjournment of the 2026 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Jacksonville Aviation Authority		
Appointees:	Connell, William	09/30/2027
	Hodges, David C., Jr.	09/30/2029
Tampa Port Authority		
Appointee:	Allman, Patrick H., III	02/06/2030
Jacksonville Transportation Authority		
Appointees:	Glober, Max	01/29/2030
	Hopkins, Alan Scott	01/29/2030
	Salter, Madelen R.	01/29/2030
	Vallencourt, Jonathan Daniel	01/29/2030

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections did not consider the following appointments and the appointees were left pending and were not acted on by the Senate upon adjournment of the 2026 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Florida Commission on Community Service		
Appointees:	Dietz, Ashley H.	09/14/2027
	Faurot, Adam	09/14/2027
	McCorvey, Kezarrick Montines	09/14/2026

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Committee on Health Policy and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections did not consider the following appointments and the appointees were left pending and were not acted on by the Senate upon adjournment of the 2026 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Board of Chiropractic Medicine		
Appointees:	Baum, Howard Wesley, III	10/31/2029
	Kompothecras, Gary	10/31/2029

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling		
Appointee:	Martinez, Lidia	10/31/2029
Board of Dentistry		
Appointee:	Johnson, Angela	10/31/2028
Board of Osteopathic Medicine		
Appointee:	Mortensen, Monica	10/31/2028
Board of Pharmacy		
Appointees:	Mathes, Leigh	10/31/2028
	Medina, Cristina	10/31/2027
	Miller, Darrell Steven	10/31/2029
	Segovia, Dorinda	10/31/2027

The following executive appointment was referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Committee on Health Policy and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections considered and recommended confirmation of the following appointment and the appointee was left pending and was not acted on by the Senate upon adjournment of the 2026 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Board of Dentistry		
Appointee:	Traverso, Elizabeth K.	10/31/2028

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Committee on Criminal Justice and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Committee on Criminal Justice and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections considered and recommended confirmation of the following appointments and the appointees were left pending and were not acted on by the Senate upon adjournment of the 2026 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Board of Directors, Prison Rehabilitative Industries and Diversified Enterprises, Inc.		
Appointees:	Baiardi, James	09/30/2027
	Banks, Kimberly S.	09/30/2028
	Clemmons, Marvin Walker	09/30/2028
	Collura, Gino	09/30/2027
	Garey, Alan L.	09/30/2029
	Godwin, Cory	09/30/2026
	Kilcrease, David E.	09/30/2026
	Stutler, Denver J., Jr.	09/30/2028
	Upchurch, James R.	09/30/2029
	Whitehurst, John Willis	09/30/2029

The following executive appointments were referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education and The Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections considered and recommended confirmation of the following appointments and the appointees were left pending and were not acted on by the Senate upon adjournment of the 2026 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Board of Trustees of Pensacola State College		
Appointee:	Hobbs, Andrew	05/31/2029
Board of Trustees, Florida A & M University		
Appointee:	Young, Victor	01/06/2031
Board of Trustees, Florida International University		
Appointee:	Falic, Tila	01/06/2031

Respectfully submitted,
Don Gaetz, Chair

Ms. Tracy Cantella
Secretary, The Florida Senate
Suite 405, The Capitol
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

March 13, 2026

Dear Madam Secretary:

The following executive appointment was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections for action pursuant to Rule 12.7 of the Rules of the Florida Senate. The Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education considered and recommended confirmation of the appointee and the Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections temporarily postponed consideration of the appointment and the appointee was left pending and was not acted on by the Senate upon adjournment of the 2026 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature:

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Board of Trustees, University of West Florida		
Appointee:	Kissel, Adam	01/06/2030

Please be advised that the Florida Senate took no action on the above named appointee during the 2025 Regular Session and the 2026 Regular Session. Therefore, the failure to consider the appointment is noted in the pages of the Journal of the Senate in accordance with s. 114.05(1)(f), F.S.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Gaetz, Chair

Ms. Tracy Cantella
Secretary, The Florida Senate
Suite 405, The Capitol
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

March 17, 2026

Dear Ms. Secretary:

Please be advised that the following appointments were not received by the Florida Senate for consideration in the 2026 Regular Session. Therefore, pursuant to s. 114.05(1)(e), F.S., the Senate took no action on these appointments during the regular session immediately following the effective date of the appointment.

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
St. Augustine-St. Johns County Airport Authority		
Appointee:	Bean, Daniel K.	12/30/2025
Board of Osteopathic Medicine		
Appointee:	Kirsh, William	12/22/2025

Please be advised that the following appointment ws not received by the Florida Senate for consideration in the 2026 Regular Session. Therefore, pursuant to s. 114.05(1)(f), F.S., the Senate took no action on the appointment during the regular session immediately following the effective date of the appointment.

Office and Appointment		*For Term Ending*
Education Practices Commission		
Appointee:	Sloan, Orenthya	06/04/2025

Respectfully submitted,
Don Gaetz, Chair

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RETURNING MESSAGES — FINAL ACTION

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 2 (164644), Senate Amendment 3 (808780), Senate Amendment 4 (913094), and Senate Amendment 4A (128678) and passed CS/CS/CS/HB 399, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (930088) and passed CS/CS/CS/HB 905, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (868392) and passed CS/CS/HB 991, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate Amendment 1 (476262) and passed CS/CS/HB 1279, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

The Journal of March 12 was corrected and approved.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate adjourned sine die at 3:14 p.m.

Daily Numeric Index for
March 13, 2026

BA — Bill Action
BF — Bill Failed
BP — Bill Passed
CO — Co-Introducers
CR — Committee Report
CS — Committee Substitute, First Reading
FR — First Reading
MO — Motion
RC — Reference Change
SM — Special Master Reports
SO — Bills on Special Orders