

CHAPTER 2024-101

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1285

An act relating to education; amending ss. 192.0105, 192.048, and 196.082, F.S.; conforming cross-references; amending s. 196.011, F.S.; providing that an annual application for exemption on property used to house a charter school is not required; requiring the owner or lessee of such property to notify the property appraiser in specified circumstances; providing penalties; creating s. 288.036, F.S.; providing definitions; creating the Office of Ocean Economy within the State University System to be housed at Florida Atlantic University; providing duties of the Office of Ocean Economy; requiring an annual report to the Board of Governors, the Governor, and the Legislature by a specified date; requiring the office to post the report on its website; amending ss. 1001.61 and 1001.71, F.S.; prohibiting members of the board of trustees of a Florida College System institution and a state university, respectively, from having business dealings with any entity under their purview during their membership; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; providing that students who transfer from certain classical schools to certain charter classical schools may be included as a student population to whom charter schools may give enrollment preference; defining the term “classical school”; revising the list of student populations that may be targeted for enrollment by a charter school by limiting the enrollment process; revising the definition of the term “charter school personnel”; amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; authorizing private schools to use or purchase specified facilities; exempting such facilities from specified zoning or land use requirements; requiring that such facilities meet specified laws, codes, and rules; amending s. 1002.45, F.S.; providing responsibilities for approved virtual instruction program providers, virtual charter schools, and school districts relating to statewide assessments and progress monitoring for certain students; creating s. 1003.052, F.S.; establishing the Purple Star School District Program; providing requirements for such program; authorizing the Department of Education to establish additional program criteria; authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 1003.451, F.S.; requiring school districts and charter schools to provide certain students with an opportunity to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and consult with a military recruiter; providing requirements for the scheduling of such test; amending s. 1003.53, F.S.; revising requirements for the assignment of students to disciplinary programs and alternative school settings or other programs; revising requirements for dropout prevention and academic intervention programs; requiring such programs to include academic intervention plans for students; providing requirements for such plans; providing that specified provisions apply to all dropout prevention and academic intervention programs; requiring school principals or their designees to make a reasonable effort to notify parents by specified means and to

document such effort; creating s. 1004.051, F.S.; prohibiting a public postsecondary institution from prohibiting specified students from being employed; providing applicability; amending s. 1006.28, F.S.; limiting the number of objections to school district materials; authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 1006.38, F.S.; requiring instructional materials publishers and manufacturers or their representatives to make sample student editions of specified instructional materials available electronically for use by certain programs and institutes for a specified purpose; requiring teacher preparation programs and educator preparation institutes that use sample student editions to meet certain requirements; authorizing publishers to make available at a discounted price sample student editions of specified instructional materials to certain programs; amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; creating associate in arts specialized transfer degrees; providing requirements for such degrees; providing a process for the approval of such degree programs; requiring the state board to adopt specified rules; amending s. 1007.271, F.S.; requiring district school boards to make reasonable efforts to enter into specified agreements with a Florida College System institution for certain online courses; amending s. 1008.33, F.S.; providing requirements for turnaround schools that close and reopen as charter schools and school districts in which such schools reside; providing that specified provisions do not apply to certain turnaround schools; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules for a charter school turnaround contract and specified leases and agreements; amending s. 1008.34, F.S.; requiring that any changes made by the state board to components in the school grades model or the school grading scale shall go into effect, at the earliest, the following school year; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; providing that a specified method for a student to prove residency for tuition purposes is deemed a single, conclusive piece of evidence; amending s. 1009.23, F.S.; authorizing certain Florida College System institutions to charge a specified amount for nonresident tuition and fees for distance learning; amending s. 1009.98, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “tuition differential”; revising provisions relating to payments the Florida Prepaid College Board must pay to state universities on behalf of beneficiaries of specified contracts; amending s. 1012.55, F.S.; requiring the state board to adopt rules for the issuance of a classical education teaching certificate; providing requirements for such certificate; defining the term “classical school”; amending s. 1012.79, F.S.; authorizing the Commissioner of Education to appoint an executive director of the Education Practices Commission; revising the purpose of the commission; authorizing the commission to expend funds for legal services; repealing s. 1012.86, F.S., relating to the Florida College System institution employment equity accountability program; amending ss. 1001.64 and 1001.65, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; requiring the department to provide a bonus to International Baccalaureate teachers under certain circumstances; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) and paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2) of section 192.0105, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

192.0105 Taxpayer rights.—There is created a Florida Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights for property taxes and assessments to guarantee that the rights, privacy, and property of the taxpayers of this state are adequately safeguarded and protected during tax levy, assessment, collection, and enforcement processes administered under the revenue laws of this state. The Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights compiles, in one document, brief but comprehensive statements that summarize the rights and obligations of the property appraisers, tax collectors, clerks of the court, local governing boards, the Department of Revenue, and taxpayers. Additional rights afforded to payors of taxes and assessments imposed under the revenue laws of this state are provided in s. 213.015. The rights afforded taxpayers to assure that their privacy and property are safeguarded and protected during tax levy, assessment, and collection are available only insofar as they are implemented in other parts of the Florida Statutes or rules of the Department of Revenue. The rights so guaranteed to state taxpayers in the Florida Statutes and the departmental rules include:

(1) THE RIGHT TO KNOW.—

(f) The right of an exemption recipient to be sent a renewal application for that exemption, the right to a receipt for homestead exemption claim when filed, and the right to notice of denial of the exemption (see ss. 196.011(7), 196.131(1), 196.151, and 196.193(1)(c) and (5) 196.011(6), 196.131(1), 196.151, and 196.193(1)(c) and (5))).

Notwithstanding the right to information contained in this subsection, under s. 197.122 property owners are held to know that property taxes are due and payable annually and are charged with a duty to ascertain the amount of current and delinquent taxes and obtain the necessary information from the applicable governmental officials.

(2) THE RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS.—

(b) The right to petition the value adjustment board over objections to assessments, denial of exemption, denial of agricultural classification, denial of historic classification, denial of high-water recharge classification, disapproval of tax deferral, and any penalties on deferred taxes imposed for incorrect information willfully filed. Payment of estimated taxes does not preclude the right of the taxpayer to challenge his or her assessment (see ss. 194.011(3), 196.011(7) and (10)(a), 196.151, 196.193(1)(c) and (5), 193.461(2), 193.503(7), 193.625(2), 197.2425, 197.301(2), and 197.2301(11) ss. 194.011(3), 196.011(6) and (9)(a), 196.151, 196.193(1)(c) and (5), 193.461(2), 193.503(7), 193.625(2), 197.2425, 197.301(2), and 197.2301(11))).

(c) The right to file a petition for exemption or agricultural classification with the value adjustment board when an application deadline is missed, upon demonstration of particular extenuating circumstances for filing late

(see ss. 193.461(3)(a) and 196.011(1), (8), (9), and (10)(e) ~~ss. 193.461(3)(a) and 196.011(1), (7), (8), and (9)(e))~~).

Section 2. Paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of subsection (1) of section 192.048, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

192.048 Electronic transmission.—

(1) Subject to subsection (2), the following documents may be transmitted electronically rather than by regular mail:

(b) The tax exemption renewal application required under s. 196.011(7)(a) ~~s. 196.011(6)(a)~~.

(c) The tax exemption renewal application required under s. 196.011(7)(b) ~~s. 196.011(6)(b)~~.

(d) A notification of an intent to deny a tax exemption required under s. 196.011(10)(e) ~~s. 196.011(9)(e)~~.

Section 3. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 196.082, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

196.082 Discounts for disabled veterans; surviving spouse carryover.—

(3) If the partially or totally and permanently disabled veteran predeceases his or her spouse and if, upon the death of the veteran, the spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the homestead and permanently resides thereon as specified in s. 196.031, the discount from ad valorem tax that the veteran received carries over to the benefit of the veteran's spouse until such time as he or she remarries or sells or otherwise disposes of the property. If the spouse sells or otherwise disposes of the property, a discount not to exceed the dollar amount granted from the most recent ad valorem tax roll may be transferred to his or her new residence, as long as it is used as his or her primary residence and he or she does not remarry. An applicant who is qualified to receive a discount under this section and who fails to file an application by March 1 may file an application for the discount and may file a petition pursuant to s. 194.011(3) with the value adjustment board requesting that the discount be granted. Such application and petition shall be subject to the same procedures as for exemptions set forth in s. 196.011(9) ~~s. 196.011(8)~~.

(4) To qualify for the discount granted under this section, an applicant must submit to the county property appraiser by March 1:

(a) An official letter from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs which states the percentage of the veteran's service-connected disability and evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as combat-related;

(b) A copy of the veteran's honorable discharge; and

(c) Proof of age as of January 1 of the year to which the discount will apply.

Any applicant who is qualified to receive a discount under this section and who fails to file an application by March 1 may file an application for the discount and may file, pursuant to s. 194.011(3), a petition with the value adjustment board requesting that the discount be granted. Such application and petition shall be subject to the same procedures as for exemptions set forth in s. 196.011(9) ~~s. 196.011(8)~~.

Section 4. Present subsections (5) through (12) of section 196.011, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6) through (13), respectively, a new subsection (5) is added to that section, and subsection (1) and present subsections (10) and (11) of that section are amended, to read:

196.011 Annual application required for exemption.—

(1)(a) Except as provided in s. 196.081(1)(b), every person or organization who, on January 1, has the legal title to real or personal property, except inventory, which is entitled by law to exemption from taxation as a result of its ownership and use shall, on or before March 1 of each year, file an application for exemption with the county property appraiser, listing and describing the property for which exemption is claimed and certifying its ownership and use. The Department of Revenue shall prescribe the forms upon which the application is made. Failure to make application, when required, on or before March 1 of any year shall constitute a waiver of the exemption privilege for that year, except as provided in subsection (7) or subsection (9) ~~(8)~~.

(b) The form to apply for an exemption under s. 196.031, s. 196.081, s. 196.091, s. 196.101, s. 196.102, s. 196.173, or s. 196.202 must include a space for the applicant to list the social security number of the applicant and of the applicant's spouse, if any. If an applicant files a timely and otherwise complete application, and omits the required social security numbers, the application is incomplete. In that event, the property appraiser shall contact the applicant, who may refile a complete application by April 1. Failure to file a complete application by that date constitutes a waiver of the exemption privilege for that year, except as provided in subsection (7) or subsection (9) ~~(8)~~.

(5) It is not necessary to make annual application for exemption on property used to house a charter school pursuant to s. 196.1983. The owner or lessee of any property used to house a charter school pursuant to s. 196.1983 who is not required to file an annual application shall notify the property appraiser promptly whenever the use of the property or the status or condition of the owner or lessee changes so as to change the exempt status of the property. If any owner or lessee fails to so notify the property appraiser and the property appraiser determines that for any year within the prior 10 years the owner or lessee was not entitled to receive such exemption, the owner or lessee of the property is subject to the taxes exempted as a result of

such failure plus 15 percent interest per annum and a penalty of 50 percent of the taxes exempted. The property appraiser making such determination shall record in the public records of the county a notice of tax lien against any property owned by that person or entity in the county, and such property must be identified in the notice of tax lien. Such property is subject to the payment of all taxes and penalties. Such lien when filed shall attach to any property, identified in the notice of tax lien, owned by the person or entity who illegally or improperly received the exemption. If such person or entity no longer owns property in that county but owns property in some other county or counties in the state, the property appraiser shall record a notice of tax lien in such other county or counties, identifying the property owned by such person or entity in such county or counties, and it shall become a lien against such property in such county or counties.

~~(11)~~(10) At the option of the property appraiser and notwithstanding any other provision of this section, initial or original applications for homestead exemption for the succeeding year may be accepted and granted after March 1. Reapplication on a short form as authorized by subsection ~~(6)~~ (5) shall be required if the county has not waived the requirement of an annual application. Once the initial or original application and reapplication have been granted, the property may qualify for the exemption in each succeeding year pursuant to the provisions of subsection ~~(7)~~ (6) or subsection ~~(10)~~ (9).

~~(12)~~(11) For exemptions enumerated in paragraph (1)(b), social security numbers of the applicant and the applicant's spouse, if any, are required and must be submitted to the department. Applications filed pursuant to subsection ~~(6)~~ (5) or subsection ~~(7)~~ (6) shall include social security numbers of the applicant and the applicant's spouse, if any. For counties where the annual application requirement has been waived, property appraisers may require refiling of an application to obtain such information.

Section 5. Section 288.036, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

288.036 Ocean economy development.—

(1) For purposes of this section, the term:

(a) "Ocean economy" means the economic uses of ocean and coastal resources with a focus on sustainable practices that benefit the long-term outlook of relevant industry sectors and the competitive positioning of the state in a global economy, including, but not limited to, ocean industries, such as shipyards, marinas, marine terminals, piers, fishing, aquaculture, seafood processing, commercial diving, and marine transportation; floating and amphibious housing; tourism; and outdoor recreational activities, including, but not limited to, boating and industry sectors dependent on such activities.

(b) "Office" means the Office of Ocean Economy.

(2) The Office of Ocean Economy is created within the State University System to be housed at Florida Atlantic University. The office is created to connect the state's ocean and coastal resources to economic development strategies that grow, enhance, or contribute to the ocean economy.

(3) The Office of Ocean Economy shall:

(a) Develop and undertake activities and strategies with a focus on research and development, technological innovation, emerging industries, strategic business recruitment, public and private funding opportunities, and workforce training and education to promote and stimulate the ocean economy.

(b)1. Foster relationships and coordinate with state universities, private universities, and Florida College System institutions, including periodically surveying the development of academic research relating to the ocean economy across all disciplines and facilitating the transfer of innovative technology into marketable goods and services. The office shall encourage collaboration between state universities and Florida College System institutions that have overlapping areas of academic research.

2. Include and update on the office's website information related to:

a. An inventory of current research and current collaborations, including contact information; and

b. Any available resources for research and technology development, including financial opportunities.

(c) Collaborate with relevant industries to identify economic challenges that may be solved through innovation in the ocean economy, including commercializing or otherwise facilitating public access to academic research and resources, removing governmental barriers, and maximizing access to financial or other opportunities for growth and development.

(d) Develop and facilitate a pipeline for innovative ideas and strategies to be created, developed, researched, commercialized, and financed. This includes promotion and coordination of industry collaboration, academic research, accelerator programs, training and technical assistance, and startup or second-stage funding opportunities.

(e) Maintain and update on the office's website reports and data on the number, growth, and average wages of jobs included in the ocean economy; the impacts on the number, growth, and development of businesses in the ocean economy; and the collaboration, transition, or adoption of innovation and research into new, viable ideas employed in the ocean economy.

(f) Educate other state and local entities on the interests of the ocean economy and how such entities may positively address environmental issues while simultaneously considering the economic impact of their policies.

(g) Communicate the state's role as an integral component of the ocean economy by promoting the state on national and international platforms and other appropriate forums as the premier destination for convening on pertinent subject matters.

(4) By August 1, 2025, and each August 1 thereafter, the office shall provide to the Board of Governors, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and post on its website a detailed report demonstrating the economic benefits of the office and the development of emerging ocean economy industries.

Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 1001.61, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.61 Florida College System institution boards of trustees; membership.—

(3) Members of the board of trustees shall receive no compensation but may receive reimbursement for expenses as provided in s. 112.061. A member is subject to s. 112.313 with respect to business dealings with the institution, including any entity under the control of or established for the benefit of the institution under his or her purview while he or she is a member of that institution's board of trustees.

Section 7. Subsection (2) of section 1001.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.71 University boards of trustees; membership.—

(2) Members of the boards of trustees shall receive no compensation but may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses as provided in s. 112.061. A member is subject to s. 112.313 with respect to business dealings with the university, including any entity under the control of or established for the benefit of the state university under his or her purview while he or she is a member of that state university's board of trustees.

Section 8. Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (10) and paragraph (a) of subsection (24) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.—

(10) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.—

(d) A charter school may give enrollment preference to the following student populations:

1. Students who are siblings of a student enrolled in the charter school.
2. Students who are the children of a member of the governing board of the charter school.
3. Students who are the children of an employee of the charter school.

4. Students who are the children of:
 - a. An employee of the business partner of a charter school-in-the-workplace established under paragraph (15)(b) or a resident of the municipality in which such charter school is located; or
 - b. A resident or employee of a municipality that operates a charter school-in-a-municipality pursuant to paragraph (15)(c) or allows a charter school to use a school facility or portion of land provided by the municipality for the operation of the charter school.
5. Students who have successfully completed, during the previous year, a voluntary prekindergarten education program under ss. 1002.51-1002.79 provided by the charter school, the charter school's governing board, or a voluntary prekindergarten provider that has a written agreement with the governing board.
6. Students who are the children of an active duty member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces.
7. Students who attended or are assigned to failing schools pursuant to s. 1002.38(2).
8. Students who are the children of a safe-school officer, as defined in s. 1006.12, at the school.
9. Students who transfer from a classical school in this state to a charter classical school in this state. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "classical school" means a traditional public school or charter school that implements a classical education model that emphasizes the development of students in the principles of moral character and civic virtue through a well-rounded education in the liberal arts and sciences which is based on the classical trivium stages of grammar, logic, and rhetoric.
 - (e) A charter school may limit the enrollment process only to target the following student populations:
 1. Students within specific age groups or grade levels.
 2. Students considered at risk of dropping out of school or academic failure. Such students shall include exceptional education students.
 3. Students enrolling in a charter school-in-the-workplace or charter school-in-a-municipality established pursuant to subsection (15).
 4. Students residing within a reasonable distance of the charter school, as described in paragraph (20)(c). Such students shall be subject to a random lottery and to the racial/ethnic balance provisions described in subparagraph (7)(a)8. or any federal provisions that require a school to achieve a racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves or within the racial/ethnic range of other nearby public schools.

5. Students who meet reasonable academic, artistic, or other eligibility standards established by the charter school and included in the charter school application and charter or, in the case of existing charter schools, standards that are consistent with the school's mission and purpose. Such standards shall be in accordance with current state law and practice in public schools and may not discriminate against otherwise qualified individuals. A school that limits enrollment for such purposes must place a student on a progress monitoring plan for at least one semester before dismissing such student from the school.

6. Students articulating from one charter school to another pursuant to an articulation agreement between the charter schools that has been approved by the sponsor.

7. Students living in a development, or students whose parent or legal guardian maintains a physical or permanent employment presence within the development, in which a developer, including any affiliated business entity or charitable foundation, contributes to the formation, acquisition, construction, or operation of one or more charter schools or charter school facilities and related property in an amount equal to or having a total appraised value of at least \$5 million to be used as charter schools to mitigate the educational impact created by the development of new residential dwelling units. Students living in the development are entitled to 50 percent of the student stations in the charter schools. The students who are eligible for enrollment are subject to a random lottery, the racial/ethnic balance provisions, or any federal provisions, as described in subparagraph 4. The remainder of the student stations must be filled in accordance with subparagraph 4.

8. Students whose parent or legal guardian is employed within a reasonable distance of the charter school, as described in paragraph (20)(c). The students who are eligible for enrollment are subject to a random lottery.

(24) RESTRICTION ON EMPLOYMENT OF RELATIVES.—

(a) This subsection applies to charter school personnel in a charter school operated by a private entity. As used in this subsection, the term:

1. "Charter school personnel" means a ~~charter school owner~~, president, chairperson of the governing board of directors, superintendent, governing board member, principal, assistant principal, or any other person employed by the charter school who has equivalent decisionmaking authority and in whom is vested the authority, or to whom the authority has been delegated, to appoint, employ, promote, or advance individuals or to recommend individuals for appointment, employment, promotion, or advancement in connection with employment in a charter school, including the authority as a member of a governing body of a charter school to vote on the appointment, employment, promotion, or advancement of individuals.

2. “Relative” means father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister.

Charter school personnel in schools operated by a municipality or other public entity are subject to s. 112.3135.

Section 9. Subsection (19) is added to s. 1002.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

1002.42 Private schools.—

(19) FACILITIES.—

(a) A private school may use facilities on property owned or leased by a library, community service organization, museum, performing arts venue, theatre, cinema, or church facility under s. 170.201, which is or was actively used as such within 5 years of any executed agreement with a private school to use the facilities; any facility or land owned by a Florida College System institution or university; any similar public institutional facilities; and any facility recently used to house a school or child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, under any such facility’s preexisting zoning and land use designations without rezoning or obtaining a special exception or a land use change, and without complying with any mitigation requirements or conditions. The facility must be located on property used solely for purposes described in this paragraph, and must meet applicable state and local health, safety, and welfare laws, codes, and rules, including firesafety and building safety.

(b) A private school may use facilities on property purchased from a library, community service organization, museum, performing arts venue, theatre, cinema, or church facility under s. 170.201, which is actively or was actively used as such within 5 years of any executed agreement with a private school to purchase the facilities; any facility or land owned by a Florida College System institution or university; any similar public institutional facilities; and any facility recently used to house a school or child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, under any such facility’s preexisting zoning and land use designations without obtaining a special exception, rezoning, or a land use change, and without complying with any mitigation requirements or conditions. The facility must be located on property used solely for purposes described in this paragraph, and must meet applicable state and local health, safety, and welfare laws, codes, and rules, including firesafety and building safety.

Section 10. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1002.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.45 Virtual instruction programs.—

(5) STUDENT PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS.—Each student enrolled in the school district's virtual instruction program authorized pursuant to paragraph (1)(c) must:

(b) Take statewide assessments pursuant to s. 1008.22 and participate in the coordinated screening and progress monitoring system under s. 1008.25(9). Statewide assessments and progress monitoring may be administered within the school district in which such student resides, or as specified in the contract under in accordance with s. 1008.24(3). If requested by the approved virtual instruction program provider or virtual charter school, the district of residence must provide the student with access to the district's testing facilities. It is the responsibility of the approved virtual instruction program provider or virtual charter school to provide a list of students to be administered statewide assessments and progress monitoring to the school district, including the students' names, Florida Education Identifiers, grade levels, assessments and progress monitoring to be administered, and contact information. Unless an alternative testing site is mutually agreed to by the approved virtual instruction program provider or virtual charter school and the school district, or as specified in the contract under s. 1008.24, all assessments and progress monitoring must be taken at the school to which the student would be assigned according to district school board attendance policies. A school district must provide the student with access to the school's or district's testing facilities and provide the student with the date and time of the administration of each assessment and progress monitoring.

Section 11. Section 1003.052, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1003.052 The Purple Star School District Program.—

(1)(a) The Department of Education shall establish the Purple Star School District Program. At a minimum, the program must require a participating school district to:

1. Have at least 75 percent of the schools within the district be designated as Purple Star Campuses under s. 1003.051.

2. Maintain a web page on the district's website which includes resources for military students and their families and a link to each Purple Star Campus's web page that meets the requirements of s. 1003.051(2)(a)2.

(b) The department may establish additional program criteria to identify school districts that demonstrate a commitment to or provide critical coordination of services for military students and their families, including, but not limited to, establishing a council consisting of a representative from each Purple Star Campus in the district and one district-level representative to ensure the alignment of military student-focused policies and procedures within the district.

(2) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to administer this section.

Section 12. Present subsection (4) of section 1003.451, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (5), and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

1003.451 Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps; military recruiters; access to public school campuses; Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB).—

(4) Each school district and charter school shall provide students in grades 11 and 12 an opportunity to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) and consult with a military recruiter if the student selects. To optimize student participation, the ASVAB must be scheduled during normal school hours.

Section 13. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2), and subsections (3) through (7) of section 1003.53, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (c) is added to subsection (2) of that section, to read:

1003.53 Dropout prevention and academic intervention.—

(1)(a) Dropout prevention and academic intervention programs may differ from traditional educational programs and schools in scheduling, administrative structure, philosophy, curriculum, or setting and shall employ alternative teaching methodologies, curricula, learning activities, and diagnostic and assessment procedures in order to meet the needs, interests, abilities, and talents of eligible students. The educational program shall provide curricula, character development and law education, and related services that support the program goals and lead to improved performance in the areas of academic achievement, attendance, and discipline. Student participation in such programs shall be voluntary. District school boards may, however, assign students to a disciplinary program for disruptive students or an alternative school setting or other program pursuant to s. 1006.13. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no student shall be identified as being eligible to receive services ~~funded~~ through the dropout prevention and academic intervention program based solely on the student being from a single-parent family or having a disability.

(c) A student shall be identified as being eligible to receive services ~~funded~~ through the dropout prevention and academic intervention program based upon one of the following criteria:

1. The student is academically unsuccessful as evidenced by low test scores, retention, failing grades, low grade point average, falling behind in earning credits, or not meeting the state or district achievement levels in reading, mathematics, or writing.

2. The student has a pattern of excessive absenteeism or has been identified as a habitual truant.

3. The student has a history of disruptive behavior in school or has committed an offense that warrants out-of-school suspension or expulsion from school according to the district school board's code of student conduct. For the purposes of this program, "disruptive behavior" is behavior that:

a. Interferes with the student's own learning or the educational process of others and requires attention and assistance beyond that which the traditional program can provide or results in frequent conflicts of a disruptive nature while the student is under the jurisdiction of the school either in or out of the classroom; or

b. Severely threatens the general welfare of students or others with whom the student comes into contact.

4. The student is identified by a school's early warning system pursuant to s. 1001.42(18)(b).

(2)(a) Each district school board may establish dropout prevention and academic intervention programs at the elementary, middle, junior high school, or high school level. Programs designed to eliminate patterns of excessive absenteeism or habitual truancy shall emphasize academic performance and may provide specific instruction in the areas of career education, preemployment training, and behavioral management. Such programs shall utilize instructional teaching methods and student services that lead to improved student behavior as appropriate to the specific needs of the student.

(c) For each student enrolled in a dropout prevention and academic intervention program, an academic intervention plan shall be developed to address eligibility for placement in the program and to provide individualized student goals and progress monitoring procedures. A student's academic intervention plan must be consistent with the student's individual education plan (IEP).

(3) Each district school board ~~providing receiving state funding for~~ dropout prevention and academic intervention programs ~~through the General Appropriations Act~~ shall submit information through an annual report to the Department of Education's database documenting the extent to which each of the district's dropout prevention and academic intervention programs has been successful in the areas of graduation rate, dropout rate, attendance rate, and retention/promotion rate. The department shall compile this information into an annual report which shall be submitted to the presiding officers of the Legislature by February 15.

(4) Each district school board shall establish course standards, as defined by rule of the State Board of Education, for dropout prevention and academic intervention programs and procedures for ensuring that

teachers assigned to the programs are certified pursuant to s. 1012.55 and possess the affective, pedagogical, and content-related skills necessary to meet the needs of these students.

(5) Each district school board providing a dropout prevention and academic intervention program pursuant to this section shall maintain for each participating student records documenting the student's eligibility, the length of participation, the type of program to which the student was assigned or the type of academic intervention services provided, and an evaluation of the student's academic and behavioral performance while in the program. The school principal or his or her designee shall, prior to placement in a dropout prevention and academic intervention program or the provision of an academic service, provide written notice of placement or services by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the student's parent. The parent of the student shall sign an acknowledgment of the notice of placement or service and return the signed acknowledgment to the principal within 3 days after receipt of the notice. District school boards may adopt a policy that allows a parent to agree to an alternative method of notification. Such agreement may be made before the need for notification arises or at the time the notification becomes required. The parents of a student assigned to such a dropout prevention and academic intervention program shall be notified in writing and entitled to an administrative review of any action by school personnel relating to such placement pursuant to ~~the provisions of~~ chapter 120.

(6) District school board dropout prevention and academic intervention programs shall be coordinated with social service, law enforcement, prosecutorial, and juvenile justice agencies and juvenile assessment centers in the school district. ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 1002.22, these agencies are authorized to exchange information contained in student records and juvenile justice records. Such information is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1).~~ District school boards and other agencies receiving such information shall use the information only for official purposes connected with the certification of students for admission to and for the administration of the dropout prevention and academic intervention program, and shall maintain the confidentiality of such information unless otherwise provided by law or rule.

(7) The State Board of Education shall have the authority pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to adopt rules necessary to implement ~~the provisions of~~ this section; such rules shall require the minimum amount of necessary paperwork and reporting.

Section 14. Section 1004.051, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1004.051 Regulation of working students.—

(1) A public postsecondary institution may not, as a condition of admission to or enrollment in any of the institution's schools, colleges, or

programs, prohibit an applicant or currently enrolled student from being employed, either full time or part time.

(2) This section does not apply if the applicant or currently enrolled student is employed by an organization or agency that is affiliated or associated with a foreign country of concern as defined in s. 288.860(1).

Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1006.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(2) DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.—The district school board has the constitutional duty and responsibility to select and provide adequate instructional materials for all students in accordance with the requirements of this part. The district school board also has the following specific duties and responsibilities:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

A resident of the county who is not the parent or guardian of a student with access to school district materials may not object to more than one material per month. The State Board of Education may adopt rules to implement this provision. Any material that is subject to an objection on the basis of sub-sub-subparagraph b.(I) or sub-sub-subparagraph b.(II) must be removed within 5 school days of after receipt of the objection and remain unavailable to students of that school until the objection is resolved. Parents shall have the right to read passages from any material that is subject to an objection. If the school board denies a parent the right to read passages due to content that meets the requirements under sub-sub-subparagraph b.(I), the school district shall discontinue the use of the material in the school district. If the district school board finds that any material meets the requirements under sub-subparagraph a. or that any other material contains prohibited content under sub-sub-subparagraph b.(I), the school district shall discontinue use of the material. If the district school board finds that any other material contains prohibited content under sub-sub-subparagraphs b.(II)-(IV), the school district shall discontinue use of the material for any grade level or age group for which such use is inappropriate or unsuitable.

3. Each district school board must establish a process by which the parent of a public school student or a resident of the county may contest the district school board's adoption of a specific instructional material. The parent or resident must file a petition, on a form provided by the school board, within 30 calendar days after the adoption of the instructional material by the school board. The school board must make the form available to the public and publish the form on the school district's website. The form must be signed by the parent or resident, include the required contact information, and state the objection to the instructional material based on the criteria of s. 1006.31(2) or s. 1006.40(3)(d). Within 30 days after the 30-day period has expired, the school board must, for all petitions timely received, conduct at least one open public hearing before an unbiased and qualified hearing officer. The hearing officer may not be an employee or agent of the school district. The hearing is not subject to the provisions of chapter 120; however, the hearing must provide sufficient procedural protections to allow each petitioner an adequate and fair opportunity to be heard and present evidence to the hearing officer. The school board's decision after convening a hearing is final and not subject to further petition or review.

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

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

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

Section 16. Present subsections (3) through (16) of section 1006.38, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4) through (17), respectively, a new subsection (3) is added to that section, and present subsections (14) and (16) of that section are amended, to read:

1006.38 Duties, responsibilities, and requirements of instructional materials publishers and manufacturers.—This section applies to both the state and district approval processes. Publishers and manufacturers of instructional materials, or their representatives, shall:

(3) Make sample student editions of instructional materials on the commissioner's list of state-adopted instructional materials electronically available, at a discount below publisher cost, for use by teacher preparation programs and by educator preparation institutes as defined in ss. 1004.04 and 1004.85(1), respectively, for each adoption cycle, to enable educators to practice teaching with currently adopted instructional materials aligned to state academic standards.

(a) Teacher preparation programs and educator preparation institutes that use samples to practice teaching shall provide reasonable safeguards against the unauthorized use, reproduction, and distribution of the sample copies of instructional materials.

(b) Notwithstanding s. 1006.38(5), publishers may make sample student editions of adopted instructional materials available at a discounted price to teacher preparation programs and educator preparation institutes for the instructional purpose of educators practicing with current materials.

~~(15)(14)~~ Accurately and fully disclose only the names of those persons who actually authored the instructional materials. In addition to the penalties provided in subsection ~~(17)~~ (16), the commissioner may remove from the list of state-adopted instructional materials those instructional materials whose publisher or manufacturer misleads the purchaser by falsely representing genuine authorship.

~~(17)(16)~~ Upon the willful failure of the publisher or manufacturer to comply with the requirements of this section, be liable to the department in the amount of three times the total sum which the publisher or manufacturer was paid in excess of the price required under subsections ~~(5) and (6)~~ and (7) and in the amount of three times the total value of the instructional materials and services which the district school board is entitled to receive free of charge under subsection ~~(8)~~ (7).

Section 17. Subsections (9) and (12) of section 1007.25, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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

~~(9)(a)~~ An associate in arts degree must ~~shall~~ require no more than 60 semester hours of college credit and include 36 semester hours of general education coursework. Beginning with students initially entering a Florida College System institution or state university in the 2014-2015 academic year and thereafter, coursework for an associate in arts degree must ~~shall~~ include demonstration of competency in a foreign language pursuant to s. 1007.262. Except for developmental education required pursuant to s. 1008.30, all required coursework must ~~shall~~ count toward the associate in arts degree or the baccalaureate degree.

(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 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.

(c) The Division of Florida Colleges shall review the proposal and, within 30 days after receipt, shall provide written notification to the Florida College System institution of any deficiencies and provide the institution with an opportunity to correct the deficiencies. Within 45 days after receipt of a completed proposal by the Division of Florida Colleges, the Commissioner of Education shall recommend approval or disapproval of the new specialized transfer degree to the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall consider the recommendation at its next meeting.

(d) Upon approval of an associate in arts specialized transfer degree by the State Board of Education, a Florida College System institution may offer the degree and shall report data on student and program performance in a manner prescribed by the Department of Education.

(e) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to prescribe format and content requirements and submission procedures for notices of intent, proposals, and compliance reviews under this subsection.

(12) A student who received an associate in arts degree for ~~successfully completing 60 semester credit hours~~ may continue to earn additional credits at a Florida College System institution. The university must provide credit toward the student's baccalaureate degree for an additional Florida College System institution course if, according to the statewide course numbering, the Florida College System institution course is a course listed in the university catalog as required for the degree or as prerequisite to a course required for the degree. Of the courses required for the degree, at least half of the credit hours required for the degree must shall be achievable through courses designated as lower division, except in degree programs approved by the State Board of Education for programs offered by Florida College System institutions and by the Board of Governors for programs offered by state universities.

Section 18. Subsection (4) of section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—

(4)(a) District school boards may not refuse to enter into a dual enrollment articulation agreement with a local Florida College System institution if that Florida College System institution has the capacity to offer dual enrollment courses.

(b) District school boards must make reasonable efforts to enter into dual enrollment articulation agreements with a Florida College System institution that offers online dual enrollment courses.

Section 19. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (4) and subsection (5) of section 1008.33, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1008.33 Authority to enforce public school improvement.—

(4)

(b) Unless an additional year of implementation is provided pursuant to paragraph (a), a school that completes a plan cycle under paragraph (a) and does not improve to a grade of "C" or higher must ~~implement one of the following~~:

1. Reassign students to another school and monitor the progress of each reassigned student;

2. Close the school and reopen the school as one or more charter schools, each with a governing board that has a demonstrated record of effectiveness. Upon reopening as a charter school:

a. The school district shall continue to operate the school for the following school year and, no later than October 1, execute a charter school turnaround contract that will allow the charter school an opportunity to conduct an evaluation of the educational program and personnel currently assigned to the school during the year in preparation for assuming full operational control of the school and facility by July 1. The school district may not reduce or remove resources from the school during this time.

b. The charter school operator must provide enrollment preference to students currently attending or who would have otherwise attended or been zoned for the school. The school district shall consult and negotiate with the charter school every 3 years to determine whether realignment of the attendance zone is appropriate to ensure that students residing closest to the school are provided with an enrollment preference.

c. The charter school operator must serve the existing grade levels served by the school at its current enrollment or higher, but may, at its discretion, serve additional grade levels.

d. The school district may not charge rental or leasing fees for the existing facility or for the property normally inventoried to the school. The school and the school district shall agree to reasonable maintenance provisions in order to maintain the facility in a manner similar to all other school facilities in the school district.

e. The school district may not withhold an administrative fee for the provision of services identified in s. 1002.33(20)(a); or

3. Contract with an outside entity that has a demonstrated record of effectiveness to provide turnaround services identified in state board rule, which may include school leadership, educational modalities, teacher and leadership professional development, curriculum, operation and management services, school-based administrative staffing, budgeting, scheduling, other educational service provider functions, or any combination thereof. Selection of an outside entity may include one or a combination of the following:

a. An external operator, which may be a district-managed charter school or a high-performing charter school network in which all instructional personnel are not employees of the school district, but are employees of an independent governing board composed of members who did not participate in the review or approval of the charter.

b. A contractual agreement that allows for a charter school network or any of its affiliated subsidiaries to provide individualized consultancy services tailored to address the identified needs of one or more schools under this section.

A school district and outside entity under this subparagraph must enter, at minimum, a 2-year, performance-based contract. The contract must include

school performance and growth metrics the outside entity must meet on an annual basis. The state board may require the school district to modify or cancel the contract.

(c) Implementation of the turnaround option is no longer required if the school improves to a grade of “C” or higher, unless the school district has already executed a charter school turnaround contract pursuant to this section.

(5) The state board shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this section. The rules shall include timelines for submission of implementation plans, approval criteria for implementation plans, and timelines for implementing intervention and support strategies, a standard charter school turnaround contract, a standard facility lease, and a mutual management agreement. The state board shall consult with education stakeholders in developing the rules.

Section 20. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 1008.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.34 School grading system; school report cards; district grade.—

(3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES.—

(c)1. The calculation of a school grade shall be based on the percentage of points earned from the components listed in subparagraph (b)1. and, if applicable, subparagraph (b)2. The State Board of Education shall adopt in rule a school grading scale that sets the percentage of points needed to earn each of the school grades listed in subsection (2). There shall be at least five percentage points separating the percentage thresholds needed to earn each of the school grades. The state board shall annually review the percentage of school grades of “A” and “B” for the school year to determine whether to adjust the school grading scale upward for the following school year’s school grades. The first adjustment would occur no earlier than the 2023-2024 school year. An adjustment must be made if the percentage of schools earning a grade of “A” or “B” in the current year represents 75 percent or more of all graded schools within a particular school type, which consists of elementary, middle, high, and combination. The adjustment must reset the minimum required percentage of points for each grade of “A,” “B,” “C,” or “D” at the next highest percentage ending in the numeral 5 or 0, whichever is closest to the current percentage. Annual reviews of the percentage of schools earning a grade of “A” or “B” and adjustments to the required points must be suspended when the following grading scale for a specific school type is achieved:

- a. Ninety percent or more of the points for a grade of “A.”
- b. Eighty to eighty-nine percent of the points for a grade of “B.”
- c. Seventy to seventy-nine percent of the points for a grade of “C.”

- d. Sixty to sixty-nine percent of the points for a grade of “D.”

When the state board adjusts the grading scale upward, the state board must inform the public of the degree of the adjustment and its anticipated impact on school grades. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, any changes made by the state board to components in the school grades model or to the school grading scale shall go into effect, at the earliest, in the following school year.

2. The calculation of school grades may not include any provision that would raise or lower the school’s grade beyond the percentage of points earned. Extra weight may not be added in the calculation of any components.

Section 21. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) 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.

(3)

(c) Each institution of higher education shall affirmatively determine that an applicant who has been granted admission to that institution as a Florida resident meets the residency requirements of this section at the time of initial enrollment. The residency determination must be documented by the submission of written or electronic verification that includes two or more of the documents identified in this paragraph, unless the document provided is the document described in sub-subparagraph 1.f., which is deemed a single, conclusive piece of evidence proving residency. ~~No single piece of evidence shall be conclusive.~~

1. The documents must include at least one of the following:
 - a. A Florida voter’s registration card.
 - b. A Florida driver license.
 - c. A State of Florida identification card.
 - d. A Florida vehicle registration.
 - e. Proof of a permanent home in Florida which is occupied as a primary residence by the individual or by the individual’s parent if the individual is a dependent child.
 - f. Proof of a homestead exemption in Florida.

g. Transcripts from a Florida high school for multiple years if the Florida high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma was earned within the last 12 months.

h. Proof of permanent full-time employment in Florida for at least 30 hours per week for a 12-month period.

2. The documents may include one or more of the following:

a. A declaration of domicile in Florida.

b. A Florida professional or occupational license.

c. Florida incorporation.

d. A document evidencing family ties in Florida.

e. Proof of membership in a Florida-based charitable or professional organization.

f. Any other documentation that supports the student's request for resident status, including, but not limited to, utility bills and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments; a lease agreement and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments; or an official state, federal, or court document evidencing legal ties to Florida.

Section 22. Subsection (22) is added to section 1009.23, Florida Statutes, to read:

1009.23 Florida College System institution student fees.—

(22) Beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, Miami Dade College, Polk State College, and Tallahassee Community College are authorized to charge an amount not to exceed \$290 per credit hour for nonresident tuition and fees for distance learning. Such institutions may phase in this nonresident tuition rate by degree program.

Section 23. Paragraphs (a) through (f) of subsection (10) of section 1009.98, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1009.98 Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid College Program.—

(10) PAYMENTS ON BEHALF OF QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES.—

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

1. "Actuarial reserve" means the amount by which the expected value of the assets exceeds the expected value of the liabilities of the trust fund.

2. "Dormitory fees" means the fees included under advance payment contracts pursuant to paragraph (2)(d).

3. “Fiscal year” means the fiscal year of the state pursuant to s. 215.01.

4. “Local fees” means the fees covered by an advance payment contract provided pursuant to subparagraph (2)(b)2.

5. “Tuition differential” means the fee covered by advance payment contracts sold pursuant to subparagraph (2)(b)3. ~~The base rate for the tuition differential fee for the 2012-2013 fiscal year is established at \$37.03 per credit hour. The base rate for the tuition differential in subsequent years is the amount assessed for the tuition differential for the preceding year adjusted pursuant to subparagraph (b)2.~~

(b) Effective with the 2022-2023 ~~2009-2010~~ academic year and thereafter, and notwithstanding s. 1009.24, the amount paid by the board to any state university on behalf of a qualified beneficiary of an advance payment contract whose contract was purchased before July 1, 2034 ~~2024~~, shall be:

1. As to registration fees, if the actuarial reserve is less than 5 percent of the expected liabilities of the trust fund, the board shall pay the state universities 5.5 percent above the amount assessed for registration fees in the preceding fiscal year. If the actuarial reserve is between 5 percent and 6 percent of the expected liabilities of the trust fund, the board shall pay the state universities 6 percent above the amount assessed for registration fees in the preceding fiscal year. If the actuarial reserve is between 6 percent and 7.5 percent of the expected liabilities of the trust fund, the board shall pay the state universities 6.5 percent above the amount assessed for registration fees in the preceding fiscal year. If the actuarial reserve is equal to or greater than 7.5 percent of the expected liabilities of the trust fund, the board shall pay the state universities 7 percent above the amount assessed for registration fees in the preceding fiscal year, whichever is greater.

2. As to the tuition differential, if the actuarial reserve is less than 5 percent of the expected liabilities of the trust fund, the board shall pay the state universities 5.5 percent above the amount assessed ~~base rate~~ for the tuition differential fee in the preceding fiscal year. If the actuarial reserve is between 5 percent and 6 percent of the expected liabilities of the trust fund, the board shall pay the state universities 6 percent above the amount assessed ~~base rate~~ for the tuition differential fee in the preceding fiscal year. If the actuarial reserve is between 6 percent and 7.5 percent of the expected liabilities of the trust fund, the board shall pay the state universities 6.5 percent above the amount assessed ~~base rate~~ for the tuition differential fee in the preceding fiscal year. If the actuarial reserve is equal to or greater than 7.5 percent of the expected liabilities of the trust fund, the board shall pay the state universities 7 percent above the amount assessed ~~base rate~~ for the tuition differential fee in the preceding fiscal year.

3. As to local fees, the board shall pay the state universities 5 percent above the amount assessed for local fees in the preceding fiscal year.

4. As to dormitory fees, the board shall pay the state universities 6 percent above the amount assessed for dormitory fees in the preceding fiscal year.

5. Qualified beneficiaries of advance payment contracts purchased before July 1, 2007, are exempt from paying any tuition differential fee.

(c) Notwithstanding the amount assessed for registration fees, the tuition differential, or local fees, the amount paid by the board to any state university on behalf of a qualified beneficiary of an advance payment contract purchased before July 1, 2034 ~~July 1, 2024~~, may not exceed 100 percent of the amount charged by the state university for the aggregate sum of those fees.

(d) Notwithstanding the amount assessed for dormitory fees, the amount paid by the board to any state university on behalf of a qualified beneficiary of an advance payment contract purchased before July 1, 2034 ~~July 1, 2024~~, may not exceed 100 percent of the amount charged by the state university for dormitory fees.

(e) Notwithstanding the number of credit hours used by a state university to assess the amount for registration fees, tuition, tuition differential, or local fees, the amount paid by the board to any state university on behalf of a qualified beneficiary of an advance payment contract purchased before July 1, 2034 ~~July 1, 2024~~, may not exceed the number of credit hours taken by that qualified beneficiary at the state university.

(f) The board shall pay state universities the actual amount assessed in accordance with law for registration fees, the tuition differential, local fees, and dormitory fees for advance payment contracts purchased on or after July 1, 2034 ~~July 1, 2024~~.

Section 24. Subsection (5) is added to section 1012.55, Florida Statutes, to read:

1012.55 Positions for which certificates required.—

(5) Notwithstanding ss. 1012.32, 1012.55, and 1012.56, or any other provision of law or rule to the contrary, the State Board of Education shall adopt rules to allow for the issuance of a classical education teaching certificate, upon the request of a classical school, to any applicant who fulfills the requirements of s. 1012.56(2)(a)-(f) and (11) and any other criteria established by the department. Such certificate is only valid at a classical school. For the purposes of this subsection, the term “classical school” means a school that implements and provides professional learning in a classical education school model that emphasizes the development of students in the principles of moral character and civic virtue through a well-rounded education in the liberal arts and sciences that is based on the classical trivium stages of grammar, logic, and rhetoric.

Section 25. Subsection (5), paragraph (a) of subsection (6), and subsection (9) of section 1012.79, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.79 Education Practices Commission; organization.—

(5) ~~The Commissioner of Education may, at his or her discretion, appoint and remove commission, by a vote of three-fourths of the membership, shall employ an executive director, who shall be exempt from career service. The executive director may be dismissed by a majority vote of the membership.~~

(6)(a) The commission shall be assigned to the Department of Education for administrative and fiscal accountability purposes. The commission, in the performance of its powers and duties, may ~~shall~~ not be subject to control, supervision, or direction by the Department of Education.

(9) The commission shall make such expenditures as may be necessary in exercising its authority and powers and carrying out its duties and responsibilities, including expenditures for personal services, legal services ~~general counsel or access to counsel~~, and rent at the seat of government and elsewhere; for books of reference, periodicals, furniture, equipment, and supplies; and for printing and binding. The expenditures of the commission shall be subject to the powers and duties of the Department of Financial Services as provided in s. 17.03.

Section 26. Section 1012.86, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 27. Subsection (19) of section 1001.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.64 Florida College System institution boards of trustees; powers and duties.—

(19) Each board of trustees shall appoint, suspend, or remove the president of the Florida College System institution. The board of trustees may appoint a search committee. The board of trustees shall conduct annual evaluations of the president in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education and submit such evaluations to the State Board of Education for review. The evaluation must address the achievement of the performance goals established by the accountability process implemented pursuant to s. 1008.45 and the performance of the president in achieving the annual and long-term goals and objectives ~~established in the Florida College System institution's employment accountability program implemented pursuant to s. 1012.86.~~

Section 28. Subsection (22) of section 1001.65, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.65 Florida College System institution presidents; powers and duties.—The president is the chief executive officer of the Florida College System institution, shall be corporate secretary of the Florida College System institution board of trustees, and is responsible for the operation and

administration of the Florida College System institution. Each Florida College System institution president shall:

~~(22) Submit an annual employment accountability plan to the Department of Education pursuant to the provisions of s. 1012.86.~~

Section 29. The Department of Education shall provide a bonus in the amount of \$50 to compensate International Baccalaureate teachers for each student they teach who received a score of “C” or higher on an International Baccalaureate Theory of Knowledge subject examination. If the total amount of the bonuses is greater than the funds provided in this appropriation, each teacher’s amount shall be prorated based on the number of students who earned qualifying scores in each district. These bonuses shall be in addition to any regular wage or other bonus the teacher received or is scheduled to receive. The sum of \$250,000 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated to fund this section.

Section 30. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor April 16, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 16, 2024.