

CHAPTER 2018-150

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 495

An act relating to K-12 public education; amending s. 121.091, F.S.; revising limitations on the maximum length of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program for certain instructional personnel and administrative personnel; requiring an employer to notify the Division of Retirement of the Department of Management Services regarding any change in termination date and program participation for each affected member; providing a statement of important state interest; amending s. 1007.2616, F.S.; providing a definition; providing requirements for specified instruction relating to computer science; requiring certain computer science courses to be included in the Course Code Directory and published on the Department of Education's website by a specified date; requiring the Florida Virtual School to offer certain computer science courses; requiring school districts to provide access to computer science courses offered by the Florida Virtual School or by other means under certain circumstances; providing funds for school districts to provide professional development for classroom teachers; providing Department of Education responsibilities for the distribution of such funds; requiring high school students to be provided opportunities to take certain courses to meet certain graduation requirements; providing funds for bonuses for certain classroom teachers; requiring, rather than authorizing, the State Board of Education to adopt rules; creating s. 800.101, F.S.; providing definitions; prohibiting certain conduct with students by authority figures; providing penalties; providing exceptions; amending s. 810.097, F.S.; including school buses within the definition of the term "school" for purposes of trespass upon grounds or facilities of a school; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; requiring school districts to adopt certain standards of ethical conduct; requiring the district school superintendent to report certain misconduct to law enforcement agencies; amending s. 1001.51, F.S.; providing for the forfeiture of a district school superintendent's salary for a specified period for failure to report certain misconduct to law enforcement agencies; amending s. 1012.27, F.S.; requiring the district school superintendent to notify a parent of specified information relating to allegations of misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators; amending s. 1012.31, F.S.; requiring a resignation or termination before an investigation of certain misconduct is concluded to be indicated in a personnel file; specifying that legally sufficient complaints of certain misconduct must be reported to the Department of Education; amending s. 1012.315, F.S.; expanding the scope of provisions requiring the disqualification of persons convicted of certain offenses to apply to all persons who are required to have contact with students; providing an additional offense that disqualifies such persons from employment; amending s. 1012.56, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Education to deny applicants for certification if the applicant could be disciplined by the Education Practices Commission; authorizing the commission to approve

an application with certain conditions; amending s. 1012.795, F.S.; authorizing the commission to take certain actions against persons who meet specified criteria; revising reporting requirements concerning specified misconduct by certified personnel; amending s. 1012.796, F.S.; requiring a school district to file certain complaints with the Department of Education even if the subject of the complaint is no longer employed by the district; requiring certain information be included on an educator's certificate file; requiring certified educators who are placed on probation to immediately notify a specified office upon separation from, rather than termination of, employment; amending s. 1008.22, F.S.; specifying that certain students enrolled in specified courses do not have to take the corresponding end-of-course assessment; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (13) of section 121.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

121.091 Benefits payable under the system.—Benefits may not be paid under this section unless the member has terminated employment as provided in s. 121.021(39)(a) or begun participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program as provided in subsection (13), and a proper application has been filed in the manner prescribed by the department. The department may cancel an application for retirement benefits when the member or beneficiary fails to timely provide the information and documents required by this chapter and the department's rules. The department shall adopt rules establishing procedures for application for retirement benefits and for the cancellation of such application when the required information or documents are not received.

(13) DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PROGRAM.—In general, and subject to this section, the Deferred Retirement Option Program, hereinafter referred to as DROP, is a program under which an eligible member of the Florida Retirement System may elect to participate, deferring receipt of retirement benefits while continuing employment with his or her Florida Retirement System employer. The deferred monthly benefits shall accrue in the Florida Retirement System on behalf of the member, plus interest compounded monthly, for the specified period of the DROP participation, as provided in paragraph (c). Upon termination of employment, the member shall receive the total DROP benefits and begin to receive the previously determined normal retirement benefits. Participation in the DROP does not guarantee employment for the specified period of DROP. Participation in DROP by an eligible member beyond the initial 60-month period as authorized in this subsection shall be on an annual contractual basis for all participants.

(b) Participation in DROP.—Except as provided in this paragraph, an eligible member may elect to participate in DROP for a period not to exceed a maximum of 60 calendar months.

1.a. An eligible member may elect to participate in DROP for a period not to exceed a maximum of 60 calendar months. However, members who are instructional personnel employed by the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind and authorized by the Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, who are instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d) in grades K-12 and authorized by the district school superintendent, or who are instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a) employed by a developmental research school and authorized by the school's director, or if the school has no director, by the school's principal, may participate in DROP for up to 36 calendar months beyond the 60-month period. Effective July 1, 2018, instructional personnel who are authorized to extend DROP participation beyond the 60-month period must have a termination date that is the last day of the last calendar month of the school year within the DROP extension granted by the employer. If, on July 1, 2018, the member's DROP participation has already been extended for the maximum 36 calendar months and the extension period concludes before the end of the school year, the member's DROP participation may be extended through the last day of the last calendar month of that school year. The employer shall notify the division of the change in termination date and the additional period of DROP participation for the affected instructional personnel.

b. Administrative personnel in grades K-12, as defined in s. 1012.01(3), who have a DROP termination date on or after July 1, 2018, may be authorized to extend DROP participation beyond the initial 60 calendar month period if the administrative personnel's termination date is before the end of the school year. Such administrative personnel may have DROP participation extended until the last day of the last calendar month of the school year in which their original DROP termination date occurred if a date other than the last day of the last calendar month of the school year is designated. The employer shall notify the division of the change in termination date and the additional period of DROP participation for the affected administrative personnel.

2. Upon deciding to participate in DROP, the member shall submit, on forms required by the division:

- a. A written election to participate in DROP;
- b. Selection of DROP participation and termination dates that satisfy the limitations stated in paragraph (a) and subparagraph 1. The termination date must be in a binding letter of resignation to the employer establishing a deferred termination date. The member may change the termination date within the limitations of subparagraph 1., but only with the written approval of the employer;
- c. A properly completed DROP application for service retirement as provided in this section; and
- d. Any other information required by the division.

3. The DROP participant is a retiree under the Florida Retirement System for all purposes, except for paragraph (5)(f) and subsection (9) and ss. 112.3173, 112.363, 121.053, and 121.122. DROP participation is final and may not be canceled by the participant after the first payment is credited during the DROP participation period. However, participation in DROP does not alter the participant's employment status, and the member is not deemed retired from employment until his or her deferred resignation is effective and termination occurs as defined in s. 121.021.

4. Elected officers are eligible to participate in DROP subject to the following:

a. An elected officer who reaches normal retirement date during a term of office may defer the election to participate until the next succeeding term in that office. An elected officer who exercises this option may participate in DROP for up to 60 calendar months or no longer than the succeeding term of office, whichever is less.

b. An elected or a nonelected participant may run for a term of office while participating in DROP and, if elected, extend the DROP termination date accordingly; however, if such additional term of office exceeds the 60-month limitation established in subparagraph 1., and the officer does not resign from office within such 60-month limitation, the retirement and the participant's DROP is null and void as provided in sub-subparagraph (c)5.d.

c. An elected officer who is dually employed and elects to participate in DROP must terminate all employment relationships as provided in s. 121.021(39) for the nonelected position within the original 60-month period or maximum participation period as provided in subparagraph 1. For DROP participation ending:

(I) Before July 1, 2010, the officer may continue employment as an elected officer as provided in s. 121.053. The elected officer shall be enrolled as a renewed member in the Elected Officers' Class or the Regular Class, as provided in ss. 121.053 and 121.122, on the first day of the month after termination of employment in the nonelected position and termination of DROP. Distribution of the DROP benefits shall be made as provided in paragraph (c).

(II) On or after July 1, 2010, the officer may continue employment as an elected officer but must defer termination as provided in s. 121.053.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that a proper and legitimate state purpose is served when employees and retirees of the state and its political subdivisions, and the dependents, survivors, and beneficiaries of such employees and retirees, are extended the basic protections afforded by governmental retirement systems. These persons must be provided benefits that are fair and adequate and that are managed, administered, and funded in an actuarially sound manner, as required by s. 14, Article X of the State Constitution and part VII of chapter 112, Florida Statutes. Therefore, the

Legislature determines and declares that the amendments made to s. 121.091, Florida Statutes, by this act fulfill an important state interest.

Section 3. Section 1007.2616, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1007.2616 Computer science and technology instruction.—

(1) For the purposes of this section, the term “computer science” means the study of computers and algorithmic processes, including their principles, hardware and software designs, applications, and their impact on society, and includes computer coding and computer programming.

(2)(a)(1) Public schools shall provide students in grades K-12 opportunities for learning computer science, including, but not limited to, computer coding and computer programming. Such opportunities may include coding instruction in elementary school and middle school and, instruction to develop students’ computer usage and digital literacy skills in middle school, and must include courses in computer science, computer coding, and computer programming in middle school and high school, including earning-related industry certifications. Such courses must be integrated into each school district’s middle and high schools, including combination schools in which any of grades 6 through 12 are taught.

(b) Computer science courses must be identified in the Course Code Directory and published on the Department of Education’s website no later than July 1, 2018. Additional computer science courses may be subsequently identified and posted on the department’s website.

(3) The Florida Virtual School shall offer computer science courses identified in the Course Code Directory pursuant to paragraph (2)(b). If a school district does not offer an identified course, the district must provide students access to the course through the Florida Virtual School or through other means.

(4)(a) Subject to legislative appropriation, a school district or a consortium of school districts may apply to the department, in a format prescribed by the department, for funding to deliver or facilitate training for classroom teachers to earn an educator certificate in computer science pursuant to s. 1012.56 or an industry certification associated with a course identified in the Course Code Directory pursuant to paragraph (2)(b). Such funding shall only be used to provide training for classroom teachers and to pay fees for examinations that lead to a credential pursuant to this paragraph.

(b) Once the department has identified courses in the Course Code Directory pursuant to paragraph (2)(b), the department shall establish a deadline for submitting applications. The department shall award funding to school districts in a manner that allows for an equitable distribution of funding statewide based on student population.

(5)(2) Elementary schools and middle schools may establish digital classrooms in which students are provided opportunities to improve digital literacy and competency; to learn digital skills, such as coding, multiple media presentation, and the manipulation of multiple digital graphic images; and to earn digital tool certificates and certifications pursuant to s. 1003.4203 and grade-appropriate, technology-related industry certifications.

~~(6)(3) High school students must be provided schools may provide~~ students opportunities to take computer science courses to satisfy high school graduation requirements, including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) High school computer science courses of sufficient rigor, as identified by the commissioner, such that one credit in computer science and the earning of related industry certifications constitute the equivalent of up to one credit of the mathematics requirement, with the exception of Algebra I or higher-level mathematics, or up to one credit of the science requirement, with the exception of Biology I or higher-level science, for high school graduation. Computer science courses and technology-related industry certifications that are identified as eligible for meeting mathematics or science requirements for high school graduation shall be included in the Course Code Directory.

(b) High school computer technology courses in 3D rapid prototype printing of sufficient rigor, as identified by the commissioner, such that one or more credits in such courses and related industry certifications earned may satisfy up to two credits of mathematics required for high school graduation with the exception of Algebra I. Computer technology courses in 3D rapid prototype printing and related industry certifications that are identified as eligible for meeting mathematics requirements for high school graduation shall be included in the Course Code Directory.

(7) Subject to legislative appropriation, a classroom teacher who was evaluated as effective or highly effective pursuant to s. 1012.34 in the previous school year or who is newly hired by the district school board and has not been evaluated pursuant to s. 1012.34 must receive a bonus as follows:

(a) If the classroom teacher holds an educator certificate in computer science pursuant to s. 1012.56 or if he or she has passed the computer science subject area examination and holds an adjunct certificate issued by a school district pursuant to s. 1012.57, he or she shall receive a bonus of \$1,000 after each year the individual completes teaching a computer science course identified in the Course Code Directory pursuant to paragraph (2)(b) at a public middle, high, or combination school in the state, for up to 3 years.

(b) If the classroom teacher holds an industry certification associated with a course identified in the Course Code Directory pursuant to paragraph (2)(b), he or she shall receive a bonus of \$500 after each year the individual

completes teaching the identified course at a public middle, high, or combination school in the state, for up to 3 years.

A school district shall report a qualifying classroom teacher to the department by a date and in a format established by the department. An eligible classroom teacher shall receive his or her bonus upon completion of the school year in which he or she taught the course. A teacher may not receive more than one bonus per year under this subsection.

(8)(4) The State Board of Education shall may adopt rules to administer this section.

Section 4. Section 800.101, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

800.101 Offenses against students by authority figures.—

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

(a) “Authority figure” means a person 18 years of age or older who is employed by, volunteering at, or under contract with a school, including school resource officers as provided in s. 1006.12.

(b) “School” has the same meaning as provided in s. 1003.01 and includes a private school as defined in s. 1002.01, a voluntary prekindergarten education program as described in s. 1002.53(3), early learning programs, a public school as described in s. 402.3025(1), the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, and the Florida Virtual School established under s. 1002.37. The term does not include a facility dedicated exclusively to the education of adults.

(c) “Student” means a person who is enrolled at a school.

(2) An authority figure shall not solicit or engage in:

(a) Sexual conduct;

(b) A relationship of a romantic nature; or

(c) Lewd conduct

with a student.

(3) A person who violates this section commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(4) This section does not apply to conduct constituting an offense that is subject to reclassification under s. 775.0862.

Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 810.097, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

810.097 Trespass upon grounds or facilities of a school; penalties; arrest.

(5) As used in this section, the term “school” means the grounds or any facility, including school buses, of any kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, junior high school, or secondary school, whether public or nonpublic.

Section 6. Subsection (6) and paragraph (b) of subsection (7) 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:

(6) STANDARDS OF ETHICAL CONDUCT FOR INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS.—Adopt policies establishing standards of ethical conduct for instructional personnel and school administrators. The policies must require all instructional personnel and school administrators, as defined in s. 1012.01, to complete training on the standards; establish the duty of instructional personnel and school administrators to report, and procedures for reporting, alleged misconduct by other instructional personnel and school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student, including misconduct that involves engaging in or soliciting sexual, romantic, or lewd conduct with a student; require the district school superintendent to report to law enforcement misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators that would result in disqualification from educator certification or employment as provided in s. 1012.315; and include an explanation of the liability protections provided under ss. 39.203 and 768.095. A district school board, or any of its employees, may not enter into a confidentiality agreement regarding terminated or dismissed instructional personnel or school administrators, or personnel or administrators who resign in lieu of termination, based in whole or in part on misconduct that affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student, and may not provide instructional personnel or school administrators with employment references or discuss the personnel’s or administrators’ performance with prospective employers in another educational setting, without disclosing the personnel’s or administrators’ misconduct. Any part of an agreement or contract that has the purpose or effect of concealing misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student is void, is contrary to public policy, and may not be enforced.

(7) DISQUALIFICATION FROM EMPLOYMENT.—Disqualify instructional personnel and school administrators, as defined in s. 1012.01, from employment in any position that requires direct contact with students if the personnel or administrators are ineligible for such employment under s. 1012.315. An elected or appointed school board official forfeits his or her salary for 1 year if:

(b) The school board official knowingly fails to adopt policies that require;

1. Instructional personnel and school administrators to report alleged misconduct by other instructional personnel and school administrators;

2. The district school superintendent to report misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators that would result in disqualification from educator certification or employment as provided in s. 1012.315 to the law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over the conduct; or

3. ~~that require~~ The investigation of all reports of alleged misconduct by instructional personnel and school administrators, if the misconduct affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student.

Section 7. Subsection (12) of section 1001.51, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.51 Duties and responsibilities of district school superintendent.—

The district school superintendent shall exercise all powers and perform all duties listed below and elsewhere in the law, provided that, in so doing, he or she shall advise and counsel with the district school board. The district school superintendent shall perform all tasks necessary to make sound recommendations, nominations, proposals, and reports required by law to be acted upon by the district school board. All such recommendations, nominations, proposals, and reports by the district school superintendent shall be either recorded in the minutes or shall be made in writing, noted in the minutes, and filed in the public records of the district school board. It shall be presumed that, in the absence of the record required in this section, the recommendations, nominations, and proposals required of the district school superintendent were not contrary to the action taken by the district school board in such matters.

(12) RECORDS AND REPORTS.—Recommend such records as should be kept in addition to those prescribed by rules of the State Board of Education; prepare forms for keeping such records as are approved by the district school board; ensure that such records are properly kept; and make all reports that are needed or required, as follows:

(a) *Forms, blanks, and reports.*—Require that all employees accurately keep all records and promptly make in proper form all reports required by the education code or by rules of the State Board of Education; recommend the keeping of such additional records and the making of such additional reports as may be deemed necessary to provide data essential for the operation of the school system; and prepare such forms and blanks as may be required and ensure that these records and reports are properly prepared.

(b) *Reports to the department.*—Prepare, for the approval of the district school board, all reports required by law or rules of the State Board of Education to be made to the department and transmit promptly all such reports, when approved, to the department, as required by law. If any reports are not transmitted at the time and in the manner prescribed by law or by State Board of Education rules, the salary of the district school

superintendent must be withheld until the report has been properly submitted. Unless otherwise provided by rules of the State Board of Education, the annual report on attendance and personnel is due on or before July 1, and the annual school budget and the report on finance are due on the date prescribed by the commissioner.

Any district school superintendent who knowingly signs and transmits to any state official a report that the superintendent knows to be false or incorrect; who knowingly fails to investigate any allegation of misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators, as defined in s. 1012.01, which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student; ~~or~~ who knowingly fails to report the alleged misconduct to the department as required in s. 1012.796; ~~or who knowingly fails to report misconduct to the law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over the conduct pursuant to district school board policy under s. 1001.42(6), forfeits his or her salary for 1 year following the date of such act or failure to act.~~

Section 8. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 1012.27, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.27 Public school personnel; powers and duties of district school superintendent.—The district school superintendent is responsible for directing the work of the personnel, subject to the requirements of this chapter, and in addition the district school superintendent shall perform the following:

(5) SUSPENSION AND DISMISSAL; NOTIFICATION.—

(a) Suspend members of the instructional staff and other school employees during emergencies for a period extending to and including the day of the next regular or special meeting of the district school board and notify the district school board immediately of such suspension. When authorized to do so, serve notice on the suspended member of the instructional staff of charges made against him or her and of the date of hearing. Recommend employees for dismissal under the terms prescribed herein.

(b) Notify the parent of a student who was subjected to or affected by misconduct identified under s. 1001.42(6) within 30 days after the date on which the school district learns of the misconduct. The notification must inform the parent of:

1. The alleged misconduct, including which allegations have been substantiated, if any.

2. Whether the district reported the misconduct to the department, if required by s. 1012.796(1)(d).

3. The sanctions imposed by the school district against the employee, if any.

4. The support the school district will make available to the student in response to the misconduct.

(6) EMPLOYMENT HISTORY CHECKS.—Before employing a person instructional personnel and school administrators, as defined in s. 1012.01, in any position that requires direct contact with students, conduct employment history checks of each of the person's personnel's or administrators' previous employers, screen instructional the personnel and school or administrators, as defined in s. 1012.01, through use of the educator screening tools described in s. 1001.10(5), and document the findings. If unable to contact a previous employer, the district school superintendent shall document efforts to contact the employer.

Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1012.31, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.31 Personnel files.—Public school system employee personnel files shall be maintained according to the following provisions:

(2)(a) Materials relating to work performance, discipline, suspension, or dismissal must be reduced to writing and signed by a person competent to know the facts or make the judgment. The resignation or termination of an employee before an investigation of alleged misconduct by the employee affecting the health, safety, or welfare of a student is concluded must be clearly indicated in the employee's personnel file.

(3)(a) Public school system employee personnel files are subject to the provisions of s. 119.07(1), except as follows:

1. Any complaint and any material relating to the investigation of a complaint against an employee shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) until the conclusion of the preliminary investigation or until such time as the preliminary investigation ceases to be active. If the preliminary investigation is concluded with the finding that there is no probable cause to proceed further and with no disciplinary action taken or charges filed, a statement to that effect signed by the responsible investigating official shall be attached to the complaint, and the complaint and all such materials shall be open thereafter to inspection pursuant to s. 119.07(1). If the preliminary investigation is concluded with the finding that there is probable cause to proceed further or with disciplinary action taken or charges filed, the complaint and all such materials shall be open thereafter to inspection pursuant to s. 119.07(1). If the preliminary investigation ceases to be active, the complaint and all such materials shall be open thereafter to inspection pursuant to s. 119.07(1). For the purpose of this subsection, a preliminary investigation shall be considered active as long as it is continuing with a reasonable, good faith anticipation that an administrative finding will be made in the foreseeable future. An investigation shall be presumed to be inactive if no finding relating to probable cause is made within 60 days after the complaint is made. This subparagraph does not absolve the school district of its duty to provide any

legally sufficient complaint to the department within 30 days after the date on which the subject matter of the complaint comes to the attention of the school district pursuant to s. 1012.796(1)(d)1., regardless of the status of the complaint.

2. An employee evaluation prepared pursuant to s. 1012.33, s. 1012.34, or s. 1012.56 or rules adopted by the State Board of Education or district school board under the authority of those sections shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) until the end of the school year immediately following the school year in which the evaluation was made. No evaluation prepared before July 1, 1983, shall be made public pursuant to this section.

3. No material derogatory to an employee shall be open to inspection until 10 days after the employee has been notified pursuant to paragraph (2)(c).

4. The payroll deduction records of an employee shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1).

5. Employee medical records, including psychiatric and psychological records, shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1); however, at any hearing relative to the competency or performance of an employee, the administrative law judge, hearing officer, or panel shall have access to such records.

Section 10. Section 1012.315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.315 Disqualification from employment.—A person is ineligible for educator certification ~~or, and instructional personnel and school administrators, as defined in s. 1012.01, are ineligible for employment in any position that requires direct contact with students in a district school system, charter school, or private school that accepts scholarship students under s. 1002.39 or s. 1002.395, if the person, instructional personnel, or school administrator has been convicted of:~~

(1) Any felony offense prohibited under any of the following statutes:

(a) Section 393.135, relating to sexual misconduct with certain developmentally disabled clients and reporting of such sexual misconduct.

(b) Section 394.4593, relating to sexual misconduct with certain mental health patients and reporting of such sexual misconduct.

(c) Section 415.111, relating to adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation of aged persons or disabled adults.

(d) Section 782.04, relating to murder.

(e) Section 782.07, relating to manslaughter, aggravated manslaughter of an elderly person or disabled adult, aggravated manslaughter of a child, or

aggravated manslaughter of an officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical technician, or a paramedic.

- (f) Section 784.021, relating to aggravated assault.
- (g) Section 784.045, relating to aggravated battery.
- (h) Section 784.075, relating to battery on a detention or commitment facility staff member or a juvenile probation officer.
- (i) Section 787.01, relating to kidnapping.
- (j) Section 787.02, relating to false imprisonment.
- (k) Section 787.025, relating to luring or enticing a child.
- (l) Section 787.04(2), relating to leading, taking, enticing, or removing a minor beyond the state limits, or concealing the location of a minor, with criminal intent pending custody proceedings.
- (m) Section 787.04(3), relating to leading, taking, enticing, or removing a minor beyond the state limits, or concealing the location of a minor, with criminal intent pending dependency proceedings or proceedings concerning alleged abuse or neglect of a minor.
- (n) Section 790.115(1), relating to exhibiting firearms or weapons at a school-sponsored event, on school property, or within 1,000 feet of a school.
- (o) Section 790.115(2)(b), relating to possessing an electric weapon or device, destructive device, or other weapon at a school-sponsored event or on school property.
- (p) Section 794.011, relating to sexual battery.
- (q) Former s. 794.041, relating to sexual activity with or solicitation of a child by a person in familial or custodial authority.
- (r) Section 794.05, relating to unlawful sexual activity with certain minors.
- (s) Section 794.08, relating to female genital mutilation.
- (t) Chapter 796, relating to prostitution.
- (u) Chapter 800, relating to lewdness and indecent exposure.
- (v) Section 800.101, relating to offenses against students by authority figures.
- ~~(w)(v)~~ Section 806.01, relating to arson.
- ~~(x)(w)~~ Section 810.14, relating to voyeurism.

~~(y)(x)~~ Section 810.145, relating to video voyeurism.

~~(z)(y)~~ Section 812.014(6), relating to coordinating the commission of theft in excess of \$3,000.

~~(aa)(z)~~ Section 812.0145, relating to theft from persons 65 years of age or older.

~~(bb)(aa)~~ Section 812.019, relating to dealing in stolen property.

~~(cc)(bb)~~ Section 812.13, relating to robbery.

~~(dd)(ee)~~ Section 812.131, relating to robbery by sudden snatching.

~~(ee)(dd)~~ Section 812.133, relating to carjacking.

~~(ff)(ee)~~ Section 812.135, relating to home-invasion robbery.

~~(gg)(ff)~~ Section 817.563, relating to fraudulent sale of controlled substances.

~~(hh)(gg)~~ Section 825.102, relating to abuse, aggravated abuse, or neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult.

~~(ii)(hh)~~ Section 825.103, relating to exploitation of an elderly person or disabled adult.

~~(jj)(ii)~~ Section 825.1025, relating to lewd or lascivious offenses committed upon or in the presence of an elderly person or disabled person.

~~(kk)(jj)~~ Section 826.04, relating to incest.

~~(ll)(kk)~~ Section 827.03, relating to child abuse, aggravated child abuse, or neglect of a child.

~~(mm)(H)~~ Section 827.04, relating to contributing to the delinquency or dependency of a child.

~~(nn)(mm)~~ Section 827.071, relating to sexual performance by a child.

~~(oo)(nn)~~ Section 843.01, relating to resisting arrest with violence.

~~(pp)(oo)~~ Chapter 847, relating to obscenity.

~~(qq)(pp)~~ Section 874.05, relating to causing, encouraging, soliciting, or recruiting another to join a criminal street gang.

~~(rr)(qq)~~ Chapter 893, relating to drug abuse prevention and control, if the offense was a felony of the second degree or greater severity.

~~(ss)(rr)~~ Section 916.1075, relating to sexual misconduct with certain forensic clients and reporting of such sexual misconduct.

~~(tt)(ss)~~ Section 944.47, relating to introduction, removal, or possession of contraband at a correctional facility.

~~(uu)(tt)~~ Section 985.701, relating to sexual misconduct in juvenile justice programs.

~~(vv)(uu)~~ Section 985.711, relating to introduction, removal, or possession of contraband at a juvenile detention facility or commitment program.

(2) Any misdemeanor offense prohibited under any of the following statutes:

(a) Section 784.03, relating to battery, if the victim of the offense was a minor.

(b) Section 787.025, relating to luring or enticing a child.

(3) Any criminal act committed in another state or under federal law which, if committed in this state, constitutes an offense prohibited under any statute listed in subsection (1) or subsection (2).

(4) Any delinquent act committed in this state or any delinquent or criminal act committed in another state or under federal law which, if committed in this state, qualifies an individual for inclusion on the Registered Juvenile Sex Offender List under s. 943.0435(1)(h)1.d.

Section 11. Subsection (12) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

(12) DENIAL OF CERTIFICATE.—

(a) The Department of Education may deny an applicant a certificate if the department possesses evidence satisfactory to it that the applicant has committed an act or acts, or that a situation exists, for which the Education Practices Commission would be authorized to discipline a certified educator ~~revoke a teaching certificate~~.

(b) The decision of the department is subject to review by the Education Practices Commission upon the filing of a written request from the applicant within 20 days after receipt of the notice of denial. Upon review, the commission may deny the award of a certificate, bar an applicant from reapplying for a certificate, or allow the award of a certificate with one or more of the following conditions:

1. Probation for a period of time.

2. Restriction on the scope of practice.

3. Issuance of a letter of reprimand.

4. Referral to the recovery network program provided in s. 1012.798 under such terms and conditions as the commission may specify.

5. Imposition of an administrative fine not to exceed \$2,000 for each count or separate offense.

Section 12. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 1012.795, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.795 Education Practices Commission; authority to discipline.—

(1) The Education Practices Commission may suspend the educator certificate of any instructional personnel or school administrator, ~~person~~ as defined in s. 1012.01(2) or (3), for up to 5 years, thereby denying that person the right to teach or otherwise be employed by a district school board or public school in any capacity requiring direct contact with students for that period of time, after which the person holder may return to teaching as provided in subsection (4); may revoke the educator certificate of any person, thereby denying that person the right to teach or otherwise be employed by a district school board or public school in any capacity requiring direct contact with students for up to 10 years, with reinstatement subject to ~~the provisions of~~ subsection (4); may permanently revoke ~~permanently~~ the educator certificate of any person thereby denying that person the right to teach or otherwise be employed by a district school board or public school in any capacity requiring direct contact with students; may suspend a person's the educator certificate, upon an order of the court or notice by the Department of Revenue relating to the payment of child support; or may impose any other penalty provided by law, if the person:

(a) Obtained or attempted to obtain an educator certificate by fraudulent means.

(b) Knowingly failed to report actual or suspected child abuse as required in s. 1006.061 or report alleged misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student as required in s. 1012.796.

(c) Has proved to be incompetent to teach or to perform duties as an employee of the public school system or to teach in or to operate a private school.

(d) Has been guilty of gross immorality or an act involving moral turpitude as defined by rule of the State Board of Education, including engaging in or soliciting sexual, romantic, or lewd conduct with a student or minor.

(e) Has had an educator certificate or other professional license sanctioned by this or any other revocation, suspension, or surrender in another state or has had the authority to practice the regulated profession revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including a denial of certification or licensure, by the licensing or certifying authority of any jurisdiction,

including its agencies and subdivisions. The licensing or certifying authority's acceptance of a relinquishment, stipulation, consent order, or other settlement offered in response to or in anticipation of the filing of charges against the licensee or certificateholder shall be construed as action against the license or certificate. For purposes of this section, a sanction or action against a professional license, a certificate, or an authority to practice a regulated profession must relate to being an educator or the fitness of or ability to be an educator.

(f) Has been convicted or found guilty of, has had adjudication withheld for, or has pled entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication of guilt, a misdemeanor, felony, or any other criminal charge, other than a minor traffic violation.

(g) Upon investigation, has been found guilty of personal conduct that seriously reduces that person's effectiveness as an employee of the district school board.

(h) Has breached a contract, as provided in s. 1012.33(2) or s. 1012.335.

(i) Has been the subject of a court order or notice by the Department of Revenue pursuant to s. 409.2598 directing the Education Practices Commission to suspend the certificate as a result of noncompliance with a child support order, a subpoena, an order to show cause, or a written agreement with the Department of Revenue.

(j) Has violated the Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession prescribed by State Board of Education rules.

(k) Has otherwise violated the provisions of law, the penalty for which is the revocation of the educator certificate.

(l) Has violated any order of the Education Practices Commission.

(m) Has been the subject of a court order or plea agreement in any jurisdiction which requires the certificateholder to surrender or otherwise relinquish his or her educator's certificate. A surrender or relinquishment shall be for permanent revocation of the certificate. A person may not surrender or otherwise relinquish his or her certificate prior to a finding of probable cause by the commissioner as provided in s. 1012.796.

(n) Has been disqualified from educator certification under s. 1012.315.

(o) Has committed a third recruiting offense as determined by the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) pursuant to s. 1006.20(2)(b).

(p) Has violated test security as provided in s. 1008.24.

(5) Each district school superintendent and the governing authority of each university lab school, state-supported school, private school, and the

FHSAA shall report to the department the name of any person certified pursuant to this chapter ~~or employed and qualified pursuant to s. 1012.39:~~

(a) Who has been convicted or found guilty of, who has had adjudication withheld for, or who has pled guilty or nolo contendere to; a misdemeanor, felony, or any other criminal charge, other than a minor traffic infraction;

(b) Who that official has reason to believe has committed or is found to have committed any act which would be a ground for revocation or suspension under subsection (1); or

(c) Who has been dismissed or severed from employment because of conduct involving any immoral, unnatural, or lascivious act.

Section 13. Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (1) and paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (7) of section 1012.796, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.796 Complaints against teachers and administrators; procedure; penalties.—

(1)

(d)1. Each school district shall file in writing with the department all legally sufficient complaints within 30 days after the date on which subject matter of the complaint comes to the attention of the school district, regardless of whether the subject of the complaint is still an employee of the school district. A complaint is legally sufficient if it contains ultimate facts that show a violation has occurred as provided in s. 1012.795 and defined by rule of the State Board of Education. The school district shall include all information relating to the complaint which is known to the school district at the time of filing.

2. A school district shall immediately notify the department if the subject of a legally sufficient complaint of misconduct affecting the health, safety, or welfare of a student resigns or is terminated before the conclusion of the school district's investigation. Upon receipt of the notification, the department shall place an alert on the person's certification file indicating that he or she resigned or was terminated before an investigation involving allegations of misconduct affecting the health, safety, or welfare of a student was concluded. In such circumstances, the database may not include specific information relating to the alleged misconduct until permitted by subsection (4).

3. Each district school board shall develop and adopt policies and procedures to comply with this reporting requirement. School board policies and procedures must include standards for screening, hiring, and terminating instructional personnel and school administrators, as defined in s. 1012.01; standards of ethical conduct for instructional personnel and school administrators; the duties of instructional personnel and school administrators for upholding the standards; detailed procedures for reporting

alleged misconduct by instructional personnel and school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student; requirements for the reassignment of instructional personnel or school administrators pending the outcome of a misconduct investigation; and penalties for failing to comply with s. 1001.51 or s. 1012.795. The district school board policies and procedures shall include appropriate penalties for all personnel of the district school board for nonreporting and procedures for promptly informing the district school superintendent of each legally sufficient complaint. The district school superintendent is charged with knowledge of these policies and procedures and is accountable for the training of all instructional personnel and school administrators of the school district on the standards of ethical conduct, policies, and procedures.

4. If the district school superintendent has knowledge of a legally sufficient complaint and does not report the complaint, or fails to enforce the policies and procedures of the district school board, and fails to comply with the requirements of this subsection, in addition to other actions against certificateholders authorized by law, the district school superintendent is subject to penalties as specified in s. 1001.51(12).

5. If the superintendent determines that misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators who hold an educator certificate affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student and the misconduct warrants termination, the instructional personnel or school administrators may resign or be terminated, and the superintendent must report the misconduct to the department in the format prescribed by the department. The department shall maintain each report of misconduct as a public record in the instructional personnel's or school administrators' certification files. This paragraph does not limit or restrict the power and duty of the department to investigate complaints, regardless of the school district's untimely filing, or failure to file, complaints and followup reports.

(e) If allegations arise against an employee who is certified under s. 1012.56 and employed in an educator-certificated position in any public school, charter school or governing board thereof, or private school that accepts scholarship students under s. 1002.39 or s. 1002.395, the school shall file in writing with the department a legally sufficient complaint within 30 days after the date on which the subject matter of the complaint came to the attention of the school, regardless of whether the subject of the allegations is still an employee of the school. A complaint is legally sufficient if it contains ultimate facts that show a violation has occurred as provided in s. 1012.795 and defined by rule of the State Board of Education. The school shall include all known information relating to the complaint with the filing of the complaint. This paragraph does not limit or restrict the power and duty of the department to investigate complaints, regardless of the school's untimely filing, or failure to file, complaints and followup reports. A school described in this paragraph shall immediately notify the department if the subject of a legally sufficient complaint of misconduct affecting the health, safety, or welfare of a student resigns or is terminated before the conclusion of the school's investigation. Upon receipt of the notification, the department

shall place an alert on the person's certification file indicating that he or she resigned or was terminated before an investigation involving allegations of misconduct affecting the health, safety, or welfare of a student was concluded. In such circumstances, the database may not include specific information relating to the alleged misconduct until permitted by subsection (4).

(7) A panel of the commission shall enter a final order either dismissing the complaint or imposing one or more of the following penalties:

(a) Denial of an application for a teaching certificate or for an administrative or supervisory endorsement on a teaching certificate. The denial may provide that the applicant may not reapply for certification, and that the department may refuse to consider that applicant's application, for a specified period of time or permanently.

(d) Placement of the teacher, administrator, or supervisor on probation for a period of time and subject to such conditions as the commission may specify, including requiring the certified teacher, administrator, or supervisor to complete additional appropriate college courses or work with another certified educator, with the administrative costs of monitoring the probation assessed to the educator placed on probation. An educator who has been placed on probation shall, at a minimum:

1. Immediately notify the investigative office in the Department of Education upon employment or separation from termination of employment in the state in any public or private position requiring a Florida educator's certificate.

2. Have his or her immediate supervisor submit annual performance reports to the investigative office in the Department of Education.

3. Pay to the commission within the first 6 months of each probation year the administrative costs of monitoring probation assessed to the educator.

4. Violate no law and fully comply with all district school board policies, school rules, and State Board of Education rules.

5. Satisfactorily perform his or her assigned duties in a competent, professional manner.

6. Bear all costs of complying with the terms of a final order entered by the commission.

The penalties imposed under this subsection are in addition to, and not in lieu of, the penalties required for a third recruiting offense pursuant to s. 1006.20(2)(b).

Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.—

(3) STATEWIDE, STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.—The Commissioner of Education shall design and implement a statewide, standardized assessment program aligned to the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. The commissioner also must develop or select and implement a common battery of assessment tools that will be used in all juvenile justice education programs in the state. These tools must accurately measure the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. Participation in the assessment program is mandatory for all school districts and all students attending public schools, including adult students seeking a standard high school diploma under s. 1003.4282 and students in Department of Juvenile Justice education programs, except as otherwise provided by law. If a student does not participate in the assessment program, the school district must notify the student's parent and provide the parent with information regarding the implications of such nonparticipation. The statewide, standardized assessment program shall be designed and implemented as follows:

(b) *End-of-course (EOC) assessments.*—EOC assessments must be statewide, standardized, and developed or approved by the Department of Education as follows:

1. EOC assessments for Algebra I, Geometry, Biology I, United States History, and Civics shall be administered to students enrolled in such courses as specified in the course code directory.

2. Students enrolled in a course, as specified in the course code directory, with an associated statewide, standardized EOC assessment must take the EOC assessment for such course and may not take the corresponding subject or grade-level statewide, standardized assessment pursuant to paragraph (a). Sections 1003.4156 and 1003.4282 govern the use of statewide, standardized EOC assessment results for students.

3. The commissioner may select one or more nationally developed comprehensive examinations, which may include examinations for a College Board Advanced Placement course, International Baccalaureate course, or Advanced International Certificate of Education course, or industry-approved examinations to earn national industry certifications identified in the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List, for use as EOC assessments under this paragraph if the commissioner determines that the content knowledge and skills assessed by the examinations meet or exceed the grade-level expectations for the core curricular content established for the course in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. Use of any such examination as an EOC assessment must be approved by the state board in rule.

4. Contingent upon funding provided in the General Appropriations Act, including the appropriation of funds received through federal grants, the

commissioner may establish an implementation schedule for the development and administration of additional statewide, standardized EOC assessments that must be approved by the state board in rule. If approved by the state board, student performance on such assessments constitutes 30 percent of a student's final course grade.

5. All statewide, standardized EOC assessments must be administered online except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c).

6. A student enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) course who takes the respective AP, IB, or AICE assessment and earns the minimum score necessary to earn college credit, as identified in s. 1007.27(2), meets the requirements of this paragraph and does not have to take the EOC assessment for the corresponding course.

Section 15. Except for section 3 of this act, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, and except for sections 4 and 5 of this act, which shall take effect October 1, 2018, this act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

Approved by the Governor April 6, 2018.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 6, 2018.