By Senator Bullard

39-01148-15 20151544

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to school personnel evaluations; amending s. 1012.34, F.S.; requiring a school district's instructional personnel and school administrator performance evaluations to include certain criteria; revising the percentage of an evaluation which is based on the performance of students; revising the method and data used and the approval process for a school district to measure student learning growth in performance evaluations; revising the rulemaking authority of the State Board of Education; amending s. 1012.3401, F.S.; revising the percentage of a classroom teacher's or school administrator's performance evaluation which is based on the performance of students; authorizing additional factors to consider when measuring student learning; amending ss. 1004.04, 1004.85, 1012.22, 1012.341, and 1012.56, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference and provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsections (3), (6), (7), and (8) of section 1012.34, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.34 Personnel evaluation procedures and criteria.-

- (1) EVALUATION SYSTEM APPROVAL AND REPORTING.-
- (b) The department must approve each school district's

39-01148-15 20151544

instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems. The department shall monitor each district's implementation of its instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems for compliance with the requirements of this section and s. 1012.3401.

- (3) EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA.—Instructional personnel and school administrator performance evaluations must be based upon the performance of students assigned to their classrooms or schools, as provided in this section. Pursuant to this section, a school district's performance evaluation is not limited to basing unsatisfactory performance of instructional personnel and school administrators solely upon student performance. The performance evaluation must also, but may include other criteria approved to evaluate instructional personnel and school administrators' performance, or any combination of student performance and other approved criteria. Evaluation procedures and criteria must comply with, but are not limited to, the following:
- (a) A performance evaluation must be conducted for each employee at least once a year, except that a classroom teacher, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), excluding substitute teachers, who is newly hired by the district school board must be observed and evaluated at least twice in the first year of teaching in the school district. The performance evaluation must be based upon sound educational principles and contemporary research in effective educational practices. The evaluation criteria must include:
- 1. Performance of students.— $\underline{\text{Thirty}}$  At least 50 percent of a performance evaluation must be based upon data and indicators of

39-01148-15 20151544

student learning growth assessed annually by statewide assessments or, for subjects and grade levels not measured by statewide assessments, by school district assessments as provided in s. 1008.22(6). Each school district must use the formula adopted pursuant to paragraph (7)(a) for measuring student learning growth in all courses associated with statewide assessments and must select an equally appropriate formula for measuring student learning growth for all other grades and subjects, except as otherwise provided in subsection (7).

a. For classroom teachers, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), excluding substitute teachers, the student learning growth portion of the evaluation must include growth data for students assigned to the teacher over the course of at least 3 years. If less than 3 years of data are available, the years for which data are available must be used and the percentage of the evaluation based upon student learning growth may be reduced to not less than 40 percent.

b. For instructional personnel who are not classroom teachers, the student learning growth portion of the evaluation must include growth data on statewide assessments for students assigned to the instructional personnel over the course of at least 3 years, or may include a combination of student learning growth data and other measurable student outcomes that are specific to the assigned position, provided that the student learning growth data accounts for not less than 30 percent of the evaluation. If less than 3 years of student growth data are available, the years for which data are available must be used and the percentage of the evaluation based upon student learning growth may be reduced to not less than 20 percent.

39-01148-15 20151544

c. For school administrators, the student learning growth portion of the evaluation must include growth data for students assigned to the school over the course of at least 3 years. If less than 3 years of data are available, the years for which data are available must be used and the percentage of the evaluation based upon student learning growth may be reduced to not less than 40 percent.

- 2. Instructional practice.—Evaluation criteria used when annually observing classroom teachers, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), excluding substitute teachers, must include indicators based upon each of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices adopted by the State Board of Education. For instructional personnel who are not classroom teachers, evaluation criteria must be based upon indicators of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices and may include specific job expectations related to student support.
- 3. Instructional leadership.—For school administrators, evaluation criteria must include indicators based upon each of the leadership standards adopted by the State Board of Education under s. 1012.986, including performance measures related to the effectiveness of classroom teachers in the school, the administrator's appropriate use of evaluation criteria and procedures, recruitment and retention of effective and highly effective classroom teachers, improvement in the percentage of instructional personnel evaluated at the highly effective or effective level, and other leadership practices that result in student learning growth. The system may include a means to give parents and instructional personnel an opportunity to provide input into the administrator's performance evaluation.

39-01148-15 20151544

4. Professional and job responsibilities.—For instructional personnel and school administrators, other professional and job responsibilities must be included as adopted by the State Board of Education. The district school board may identify additional professional and job responsibilities.

- (b) All personnel must be fully informed of the criteria and procedures associated with the evaluation process before the evaluation takes place.
- (c) The individual responsible for supervising the employee must evaluate the employee's performance. The evaluation system may provide for the evaluator to consider input from other personnel trained under paragraph (2)(f). The evaluator must submit a written report of the evaluation to the district school superintendent for the purpose of reviewing the employee's contract. The evaluator must submit the written report to the employee no later than 10 days after the evaluation takes place. The evaluator must discuss the written evaluation report with the employee. The employee shall have the right to initiate a written response to the evaluation, and the response shall become a permanent attachment to his or her personnel file.
- (d) The evaluator may amend an evaluation based upon assessment data from the current school year if the data becomes available within 90 days after the close of the school year. The evaluator must then comply with the procedures set forth in paragraph (c).
- (6) ANNUAL REVIEW OF AND REVISIONS TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT EVALUATION SYSTEMS.—The district school board shall establish a procedure for annually reviewing instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems to determine compliance

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39-01148-15 20151544

with this section and s. 1012.3401. All substantial revisions to an approved <u>evaluation</u> system must be reviewed and approved by the district school board before being used to evaluate instructional personnel or school administrators. Upon request by a school district, the department shall provide assistance in developing, improving, or reviewing an evaluation system.

- (7) MEASUREMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING GROWTH.-
- (a) The Commissioner of Education shall approve a formula to measure individual student learning growth on the statewide, standardized assessments in English Language Arts and mathematics administered under s. 1008.22. The formula must take into consideration each student's prior academic performance. The formula must not set different expectations for student learning growth based upon a student's gender, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status. In the development of the formula, the commissioner shall consider other factors such as a student's attendance record, disability status, or status as an English language learner. The commissioner shall select additional formulas as appropriate for the remainder of the statewide assessments included under s. 1008.22 and continue to select formulas as new assessments are implemented in the state system. After the commissioner approves the formula to measure individual student learning growth, the State Board of Education shall adopt these formulas in rule.
- (b) Each school district shall measure student learning growth using the formulas approved by the commissioner under paragraph (a) for courses associated with the statewide, standardized assessments administered under s. 1008.22 no later than the school year immediately following the year the formula

39-01148-15 20151544

is approved by the commissioner. For grades and subjects not assessed by statewide, standardized assessments but otherwise assessed as required under s. 1008.22(6), Each school district shall measure performance of students using a methodology determined by the district including multiple data points that must include state assessment data when available and when considered appropriate by the school district. The department shall provide models for measuring performance of students which school districts may adopt.

(a) (e) For a course that is not measured by a statewide, standardized assessment, a school district may request, through the evaluation system approval process, to use a student's achievement level rather than student learning growth if achievement is demonstrated to be a more appropriate measure of classroom teacher performance. A school district may also request to use a combination of student learning growth and achievement, if appropriate.

(d) For a course that is not measured by a statewide, standardized assessment, a school district may request, through the evaluation system approval process, that the performance evaluation for the classroom teacher assigned to that course include the learning growth of his or her students on one or more statewide, standardized assessments. The request must clearly explain the rationale supporting the request.

(b) (e) For purposes of this section and only for the 2014-2015 school year, A school district may use measurable learning targets on local assessments administered under s. 1008.22(6) to evaluate the performance of the students portion of a classroom teacher's evaluation for courses that are not assessed by

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39-01148-15 20151544

statewide, standardized assessments. Learning targets must be approved by the school principal. A district school superintendent may assign to instructional personnel in an instructional team the student learning growth of the instructional team's students on statewide assessments. This paragraph expires July 1, 2015.

(8) RULEMAKING.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 which establish uniform procedures for the submission, review, and approval of district evaluation systems and reporting requirements for the annual evaluation of instructional personnel and school administrators; specific, discrete standards for each performance level required under subsection (2) to ensure clear and sufficient differentiation in the performance levels and to provide consistency in meaning across school districts; the measurement of student learning growth and associated implementation procedures required under subsection (7); and a process for monitoring school district implementation of evaluation systems in accordance with this section. Specifically, the rules shall establish student performance levels that if not met will result in the employee receiving an unsatisfactory performance evaluation rating. In like manner, the rules shall establish a student performance level that must be met in order for an employee to receive a highly effective rating and a student learning growth standard that must be met in order for an employee to receive an effective rating.

Section 2. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 1012.3401, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.3401 Requirements for measuring student performance in

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39-01148-15 20151544

instructional personnel and school administrator performance evaluations; performance evaluation of personnel for purposes of performance salary schedule.—Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in ss. 1012.22 and 1012.34 regarding the performance salary schedule and personnel evaluation procedures and criteria:

- (1) Thirty At least 50 percent of a classroom teacher's or school administrator's performance evaluation, or 40 percent if less than 3 years of student performance data are available, shall be based upon learning growth or achievement of the teacher's students or, for a school administrator, the students attending that school; the remaining portion shall be based upon factors identified in district-determined, state-approved evaluation system plans. Student achievement measures for courses associated with statewide assessments may be used in addition to other measurements of student learning most appropriate to the subject taught and the specific duties of the individual classroom teacher. At least two data sources must be used to determine student performance for evaluation purposes only if a statewide growth formula has not been approved for that assessment or, for courses associated with school district assessments, if achievement is demonstrated to be a more appropriate measure of teacher performance.
- (3) For purposes of the performance salary schedule in s. 1012.22, the student assessment data in the performance evaluation must be from statewide assessments or district-determined assessments as required in s. 1008.22(6) in the subject areas taught.
  - Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section

39-01148-15 20151544

1004.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

- (4) CONTINUED PROGRAM APPROVAL.—Continued approval of a teacher preparation program shall be based upon evidence that the program continues to implement the requirements for initial approval and upon significant, objective, and quantifiable measures of the program and the performance of the program completers.
- (a) The criteria for continued approval must include each of the following:
- 1. Documentation from the program that each program candidate met the admission requirements provided in subsection (3).
- 2. Documentation from the program that the program and each program completer have met the requirements provided in subsection (2).
  - 3. Evidence of performance in each of the following areas:
- a. Placement rate of program completers into instructional positions in Florida public schools and private schools, if available.
- b. Rate of retention for employed program completers in instructional positions in Florida public schools.
- c. Performance of students in prekindergarten through grade 12 who are assigned to in-field program completers on statewide assessments using the results of the student learning growth methodology formula adopted under s. 1012.34.
- d. Performance of students in prekindergarten through grade 12 who are assigned to in-field program completers aggregated by

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39-01148-15 20151544

student subgroup, as defined in the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), 20 U.S.C. s.

- 6311(b)(2)(C)(v)(II), as a measure of how well the program prepares teachers to work with a diverse population of students in a variety of settings in Florida public schools.
- e. Results of program completers' annual evaluations in accordance with the timeline as set forth in s. 1012.34.
- f. Production of program completers in statewide critical teacher shortage areas as identified in s. 1012.07.
- Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 1004.85, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 1004.85 Postsecondary educator preparation institutes.-
- (4) Continued approval of each program approved pursuant to this section shall be determined by the Commissioner of Education based upon a periodic review of the following areas:
  - (b) Evidence of performance in each of the following areas:
- 1. Placement rate of program completers into instructional positions in Florida public schools and private schools, if available.
- 2. Rate of retention for employed program completers in instructional positions in Florida public schools.
- 3. Performance of students in prekindergarten through grade 12 who are assigned to in-field program completers on statewide assessments using the results of the student learning growth methodology formula adopted under s. 1012.34.
- 4. Performance of students in prekindergarten through grade 12 who are assigned to in-field program completers aggregated by student subgroups, as defined in the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), 20 U.S.C. s.

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39-01148-15 20151544

6311(b)(2)(C)(v)(II), as a measure of how well the program prepares teachers to work with a diverse population of students in a variety of settings in Florida public schools.

- 5. Results of program completers' annual evaluations in accordance with the timeline as set forth in s. 1012.34.
- 6. Production of program completers in statewide critical teacher shortage areas as identified in s. 1012.07.

Section 5. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 1012.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.22 Public school personnel; powers and duties of the district school board.—The district school board shall:

- (1) Designate positions to be filled, prescribe qualifications for those positions, and provide for the appointment, compensation, promotion, suspension, and dismissal of employees as follows, subject to the requirements of this chapter:
  - (c) Compensation and salary schedules.-
  - 1. Definitions.—As used in this paragraph:
- a. "Adjustment" means an addition to the base salary schedule that is not a bonus and becomes part of the employee's permanent base salary and shall be considered compensation under s. 121.021(22).
- b. "Grandfathered salary schedule" means the salary schedule or schedules adopted by a district school board before July 1, 2014, pursuant to subparagraph 4.
- c. "Instructional personnel" means instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d), excluding substitute teachers.
  - d. "Performance salary schedule" means the salary schedule

39-01148-15 20151544

or schedules adopted by a district school board pursuant to subparagraph 5.

- e. "Salary schedule" means the schedule or schedules used to provide the base salary for district school board personnel.
- f. "School administrator" means a school administrator as defined in s. 1012.01(3)(c).
- g. "Supplement" means an annual addition to the base salary for the term of the negotiated supplement as long as the employee continues his or her employment for the purpose of the supplement. A supplement does not become part of the employee's continuing base salary but shall be considered compensation under s. 121.021(22).
- 2. Cost-of-living adjustment.—A district school board may provide a cost-of-living salary adjustment if the adjustment:
- a. Does not discriminate among comparable classes of employees based upon the salary schedule under which they are compensated.
- b. Does not exceed 50 percent of the annual adjustment provided to instructional personnel rated as effective.
- 3. Advanced degrees.—A district school board may not use advanced degrees in setting a salary schedule for instructional personnel or school administrators hired on or after July 1, 2011, unless the advanced degree is held in the individual's area of certification and is only a salary supplement.
  - 4. Grandfathered salary schedule.-
- a. The district school board shall adopt a salary schedule or salary schedules to be used as the basis for paying all school employees hired before July 1, 2014. Instructional personnel on annual contract as of July 1, 2014, shall be placed

39-01148-15 20151544

on the performance salary schedule adopted under subparagraph 5. Instructional personnel on continuing contract or professional service contract may opt into the performance salary schedule if the employee relinquishes such contract and agrees to be employed on an annual contract under s. 1012.335. Such an employee shall be placed on the performance salary schedule and may not return to continuing contract or professional service contract status. Any employee who opts into the performance salary schedule may not return to the grandfathered salary schedule.

- b. In determining the grandfathered salary schedule for instructional personnel, a district school board must base a portion of each employee's compensation upon performance demonstrated under s. 1012.34 and shall provide differentiated pay for both instructional personnel and school administrators based upon district-determined factors, including, but not limited to, additional responsibilities, school demographics, critical shortage areas, and level of job performance difficulties.
- 5. Performance salary schedule.—By July 1, 2014, the district school board shall adopt a performance salary schedule that provides annual salary adjustments for instructional personnel and school administrators based upon performance determined under s. 1012.34. Employees hired on or after July 1, 2014, or employees who choose to move from the grandfathered salary schedule to the performance salary schedule shall be compensated pursuant to the performance salary schedule once they have received the appropriate performance evaluation for this purpose. However, a classroom teacher whose performance

39-01148-15 20151544

evaluation utilizes student learning growth measures established under  $\underline{s.\ 1012.34(7)(b)}\ \underline{s.\ 1012.34(7)(e)}$  shall remain under the grandfathered salary schedule until his or her teaching assignment changes to a subject for which there is an assessment or the school district establishes equally appropriate measures of student learning growth as defined under  $\underline{s.\ 1012.34}$  and rules of the State Board of Education.

- a. Base salary.—The base salary shall be established as follows:
- (I) The base salary for instructional personnel or school administrators who opt into the performance salary schedule shall be the salary paid in the prior year, including adjustments only.
- (II) Beginning July 1, 2014, instructional personnel or school administrators new to the district, returning to the district after a break in service without an authorized leave of absence, or appointed for the first time to a position in the district in the capacity of instructional personnel or school administrator shall be placed on the performance salary schedule.
- b. Salary adjustments.—Salary adjustments for highly effective or effective performance shall be established as follows:
- (I) The annual salary adjustment under the performance salary schedule for an employee rated as highly effective must be greater than the highest annual salary adjustment available to an employee of the same classification through any other salary schedule adopted by the district.
  - (II) The annual salary adjustment under the performance

39-01148-15 20151544

salary schedule for an employee rated as effective must be equal to at least 50 percent and no more than 75 percent of the annual adjustment provided for a highly effective employee of the same classification.

- (III) The performance salary schedule shall not provide an annual salary adjustment for an employee who receives a rating other than highly effective or effective for the year.
- c. Salary supplements.—In addition to the salary adjustments, each district school board shall provide for salary supplements for activities that must include, but are not limited to:
  - (I) Assignment to a Title I eligible school.
- (II) Assignment to a school that earned a grade of "F" or three consecutive grades of "D" pursuant to s. 1008.34 such that the supplement remains in force for at least 1 year following improved performance in that school.
- (III) Certification and teaching in critical teacher shortage areas. Statewide critical teacher shortage areas shall be identified by the State Board of Education under s. 1012.07. However, the district school board may identify other areas of critical shortage within the school district for purposes of this sub-sub-subparagraph and may remove areas identified by the state board which do not apply within the school district.
  - (IV) Assignment of additional academic responsibilities.

If budget constraints in any given year limit a district school board's ability to fully fund all adopted salary schedules, the performance salary schedule shall not be reduced on the basis of total cost or the value of individual awards in a manner that is

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39-01148-15 20151544

proportionally greater than reductions to any other salary schedules adopted by the district.

Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 1012.341, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.341 Exemption from performance evaluation system and compensation and salary schedule requirements.—

- (2) By October 1, 2014, and by October 1 annually thereafter, the superintendent of Hillsborough County School District shall attest, in writing, to the Commissioner of Education that:
- (b) The instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems adopt the Commissioner of Education's student learning growth <a href="mailto:methodology">methodology</a> formula for statewide assessments as provided under s. 1012.34(7).

This section is repealed August 1, 2017, unless reviewed and reenacted by the Legislature.

Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.-

- (8) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION COMPETENCY PROGRAM.—
- (c) The Commissioner of Education shall determine the continued approval of programs implemented under paragraph (a) based upon the department's periodic review of the following:
- 1. Evidence that the requirements in paragraph (a) are consistently met; and
  - 2. Evidence of performance in each of the following areas:
  - a. Rate of retention for employed program completers in

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39-01148-15 20151544

instructional positions in Florida public schools.

- b. Performance of students in prekindergarten through grade 12 who are assigned to in-field program completers on statewide assessments using the results of the student learning growth methodology formula adopted under s. 1012.34.
- c. Performance of students in prekindergarten through grade 12 who are assigned to in-field program completers aggregated by student subgroups, as defined in the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), 20 U.S.C. s. 6311(b)(2)(C)(v)(II), as a measure of how well the program prepares teachers to work with a variety of students in Florida public schools.
- d. Results of program completers' annual evaluations in accordance with the timeline as set forth in s. 1012.34.
- e. Production of program completers in statewide critical teacher shortage areas as defined in s. 1012.07.
  - Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.