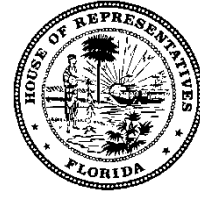


THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE



Joe Negron
President of the Senate



Richard Corcoran
Speaker of the House of Representatives

May 05, 2017

The Honorable Joe Negron
President of the Senate

The Honorable Richard Corcoran
Speaker, House of Representatives

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

Your Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on CS/HB 7069, same being:

An act relating to Best and Brightest Teachers and Principals.

having met, and after full and free conference, do recommend to their respective houses as follows:

- 1 That the Senate recede from its Amendment 223676.
- 2 That the Senate and House of Representatives adopt the Conference Committee Amendment attached hereto, and by reference made a part of this report.

<hr/> <i>Senator Jack Latvala, Chair</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Anitere Flores, Vice Chair</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Dennis Baxley, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Aaron Bean</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Lauren Book</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Randolph Bracy</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Rob Bradley, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Jeff Brandes</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Oscar Braynon II, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Doug Broxson</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Daphne Campbell</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Jeff Clemens, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Gary M. Farmer Jr.</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator George B. Gainer</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Bill Galvano, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Rene Garcia</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Audrey Gibson</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Denise Grimsley, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Travis Hutson</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Tom Lee</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Debbie Mayfield</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Bill Montford, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Kathleen Passidomo</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Keith Perry</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Bobby Powell</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Kevin J. Rader</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Jose Javier Rodriguez</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Darryl Ervin Rouson</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator David Simmons</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Wilton Simpson, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Kelli Stargel</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Linda Stewart</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Perry E. Thurston Jr.</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Senator Victor M. Torres Jr.</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Senator Dana D. Young</i> <hr/>

Conferees on the part of the Senate

<hr/> <i>Representative Carlos Trujillo, Chair</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Manny Diaz Jr., Chair</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Bruce Antone</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Lori Berman, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Michael Bileca, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Jim Boyd, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Kamia L. Brown</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Matt Caldwell, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Janet Cruz, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative W. Travis Cummings, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Jose Felix Diaz, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Byron Donalds</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Bobby B. DuBose, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Randy Fine</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Jason Fischer</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Roy Hardemon</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Chris Latvala</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Larry Lee Jr.</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Ralph Massullo Jr.</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Stan McClain</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Kionne L. McGhee, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Larry Metz, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative George R. Moraitis Jr., At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Jared Evan Moskowitz, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Wengay M. Newton Sr.</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Jeanette M. Nuñez, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Jose R. Oliva, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Jake Raburn</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Paul Renner</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Barrington A. Russell</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Chris Sprowls, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Cynthia A. Stafford, At Large</i> <hr/>
<hr/> <i>Representative Richard Stark, At Large</i> <hr/>	<hr/> <i>Representative Jennifer Mae Sullivan</i> <hr/>

Managers on the part of the House of Representatives

May 05, 2017

The Conference Committee Amendment for HB 7069, relating to education, revises charter school provisions and expands the authority of high performing charter schools and systems. The bill authorizes the establishment of Schools of Hope, revises traditional public school improvement provisions and creates the Schools of Hope revolving loan program. The bill revises teacher certification provisions, modifies eligibility requirements for the best and brightest teacher scholarship requirements, and creates the best and brightest principal scholarship program. The bill revises eligibility requirements for virtual education, requires recess, authorizes specified sunscreen uses, specifies reading intervention programs, clarifies permissible school absences related to autism spectrum disorder, creates “American Founders’ Month,” eliminates certain required assessments, and revises the assessment administration and reporting process.

Specifically, the bill:

- **Charter Schools:** Modifies the following charter school provisions: open enrollment procedures, standard application and charter contract, administrative fees, reporting requirements and the calculation and authorized uses of charter school capital outlay, and requires school districts to share local millage revenue with charter schools.
- **High-Performing Charter Schools:** Authorizes a high-performing charter school to establish more than one charter school in any year if it operates in the area of a persistently low-performing school and serves students from that school and allows a high-performing charter school system to replicate its schools in any school district in the state and specifies application requirements.
- **School Improvement:**
 - Modifies early warning system
 - Provides that educational emergency exists when a school district has one or more schools with grade of “D” or “F” and requires a school district to enter memorandum of understanding addressing instructional personnel and principal autonomy in an educational emergency
 - Prohibits district school board from awarding an annual employment contract under specified circumstances.
 - Requires that, unless the SBE grants the school district an additional year of implementation because it determines the school is likely to improve to a “C” or higher, a school that does not earn a “C” or higher after implementation, must select a turnaround option
 - Limits the turnaround options for “D” and “F” schools
- **Title I Funding Distribution:** Specifies that after providing Title I funds to schools above the 75% poverty threshold, a school district must distribute remaining Title I funds directly to all eligible schools.
- **Schools of Hope:** Authorizes the establishment of “schools of hope” and designation of “hope operators” to provide students in areas of persistently-low performing schools with a high-quality education option.
- **Schools of Excellence Program:** Creates the Schools of Excellence Program to provide administrative flexibility to the state’s highest performing schools.
- **K-12 Student Assessments:**
 - Eliminates Algebra II EOC assessment requirement.
 - Allows completion of blended learning course to satisfy online course requirement.

- Exempts certain students from personal fitness competency exam.
- Requires paper-pencil ELA and math assessments for grades 3-6, no later than 2018-2019 school year.
- Specifies reporting of assessment results to students, parents, and teachers.
- Requires DOE to publish statewide assessments.
- **Independent Study:** Requires the Commissioner of Education to contract for an independent study of ACT/SAT as an alternative for grade 10 ELA assessment and Algebra I EOC assessment.
- **Virtual Instruction:** Eliminates student eligibility requirements, including prior public year requirement, and clarifies that all students, including home education and private school students, are eligible to participate in virtual options throughout the state.
- **Personnel Evaluation:** Provides that use of the Value Added Model for personnel evaluation is optional.
- **Best and Brightest Teacher and Principal Scholarship Programs:** Revises eligibility for Florida Best and Brightest Teacher Scholarship Program and creates Florida Best and Brightest Principal Scholarship Program.
- **Teacher Certification:** Streamlines the temporary certificate application process; establishes mentorship certification pathway; requires teacher preparation curriculum to include training in evidence-based, phonics-driven reading strategies; allows mentorship activities to count toward certification renewal and requires training in evidence-based reading strategies for renewal of certain certificates.
- **Minority Teacher Scholarship Program:** Revises eligibility criteria for participation in the program (based on credit hours rather than Junior year or later).
- **School Absence:** Authorizes school absence related to the treatment of autism spectrum disorder.
- **School Visitation:** Clarifies that an individual school board member may visit district-operated schools and an individual charter school governing board member may visit any charter school governed by the charter school's governing board, at his or her pleasure.
- **Shared Use Facilities:** Establishes provisions related to promoting shared use agreements for public school playground facilities and creates task force to make recommendations.
- **Early Learning:** Defines "public school prekindergarten provider" to include a traditional public school and a charter school, Establishes the Committee on Early Grade Success to develop a proposal for establishing and implementing a coordinate child assessment system for the School Readiness Program, Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program, and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment and specifies proposal requirements.
- **Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot Program:** Creates Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot Program within DOE for 3 years; establishes eligibility criteria; requires a preeminent university to evaluate effectiveness of program; expires June 30, 2020.
- **Reading Intervention:** Requires superintendent to certify that K-5 reading instruction and intervention materials comply with criteria identified by Just Read, Florida! beginning July 1, 2021.
- **Gardiner Scholarship:** Modifies Gardiner Scholarship program to expand eligibility and the authorized use of funds, and define account inactivity.

- **Career and Education Planning Course:** Eliminates the required middle grades career and education planning course.
- **Instructional Materials:** Deletes requirement that 50 percent of instructional materials allocation be used to purchase digital or electronic instructional materials.
- **College-preparatory Boarding Academy Pilot Program:** Expands the definition of eligible student for purposes of the College-Preparatory Boarding Academy Pilot Program to include a student currently enrolled in grades 5-12, if it is determined by the operator that a seat is available.
- **Recess:** Requires 20 minutes of consecutive free-play recess per day for kindergarten through grade 5 students in traditional public schools, and exempts charter schools from the specified requirements.
- **Sunscreen Use:** Allows students to possess and use sunscreen on school property without a prescription.
- **ACT Aspire test name:** Renames the ACT Aspire test to the preliminary ACT.
- **Effective Date:** Provides effective date of July 1, 2017, except as otherwise provided (for schools of hope, certain school improvement provisions, certain capital outlay funding requirements which are effective upon becoming law).
- **Funding:** Provides \$413,950,000 in recurring General Revenue Funds and \$5 million in non-recurring General Revenue Funds.