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Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Appropriations (Appropriations Subcommittee on Pre-K - 12 Education)

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Hope Scholarship Program; creating s. 1002.40, F.S.; establishing the Hope Scholarship Program; providing the purpose of the program; defining terms; providing eligibility requirements; prohibiting the payment of a scholarship under certain circumstances; requiring a principal to provide copies of a report of physical violence or emotional abuse to certain individuals within a specified timeframe; requiring the principal to investigate such incidents; requiring a school district to notify an eligible student's parent of the program under certain circumstances; requiring a school district to provide certain information relating to the statewide assessment program; providing requirements and obligations for eligible private schools; providing Department of Education obligations relating to participating students and private schools and program requirements; providing Commissioner of Education obligations; requiring the commissioner to deny, suspend, or revoke a private school's participation in the program or the payment of scholarship funds under certain circumstances; defining the term "owner or operator"; providing a process for review of a decision from the commissioner 26 under certain circumstances; providing for the release of personally identifiable student information under

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28 certain circumstances; providing parent and student 29 responsibilities for initial and continued 30 participation in the program; providing nonprofit scholarship-funding organization obligations; 31 32 providing for the calculation of the scholarship 33 amount; providing the scholarship amount for students 34 transferred to certain public schools; requiring 35 verification of specified information before a 36 scholarship may be disbursed; providing requirements 37 for the scholarship payments; providing funds for 38 administrative expenses for certain nonprofit 39 scholarship-funding organizations; providing 40 requirements for administrative expenses; prohibiting a nonprofit scholarship-funding organization from 41 42 charging an application fee; providing Auditor General 43 obligations; providing requirements for taxpayer 44 elections to contribute to the program; requiring the 45 Department of Revenue to adopt forms to administer the program; providing requirements for certain agents of 46 47 the Department of Revenue and motor vehicle dealers; 48 providing reporting requirements for nonprofit 49 scholarship-funding organizations relating to taxpayer 50 contributions; providing penalties; providing for the 51 restitution of specified funds under certain 52 circumstances; providing the state is not liable for 53 the award or use of program funds; prohibiting 54 additional regulations for private schools 55 participating in the program beyond those necessary to 56 enforce program requirements; requiring the State

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57 Board of Education to adopt rules to administer the 58 program; creating s. 212.1832, F.S.; authorizing 59 certain persons to elect to direct certain state sales and use tax revenue to be transferred to a nonprofit 60 61 scholarship-funding organization for the Hope 62 Scholarship Program; amending s. 1002.01, F.S.; 63 revising and defining terms; amending s. 1002.20; 64 updating educational options and terminology; amending 65 s. 1003.01, F.S.; redefining the term "regular school 66 attendance"; amending ss. 1002.385, 1002.39, 1002.395, and 1003.26, F.S.; conforming cross-references and 67 provisions to changes made by the act; updating 68 69 terminology; repealing ch. 623, F.S., relating to 70 private school corporations, on a specified date; 71 amending s. 212.08, F.S.; conforming a cross-72 reference; repealing s. 1002.43, F.S., relating to 73 private tutoring programs; authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules for specified 74 75 purposes; providing an appropriation; providing effective dates. 76 77 78 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 79 80 Section 1. Section 1002.40, Florida Statutes, is created to 81 read: 82 1002.40 The Hope Scholarship Program.-83 (1) PURPOSE. - The Hope Scholarship Program is established to 84 provide the parent of a public school student who was the victim

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of a substantiated incident of violence or abuse, as listed in

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86	subsection (3), an opportunity to transfer the student to
87	another public school that has capacity or to request and
88	receive a scholarship for the student to enroll in and attend an
89	eligible private school.
90	(2) DEFINITIONSAs used in this section, the term:
91	(a) "Department" means the Department of Education.
92	(b) "Eligible contribution" or "contribution" means a
93	monetary contribution from a person required to pay sales and
94	use tax on the purchase or acquisition of a motor vehicle,
95	subject to the restrictions provided in this section, to an
96	eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organization. The
97	taxpayer making the contribution may not designate a specific
98	student as the beneficiary of the contribution.
99	(c) "Eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organization"
100	or "organization" has the same meaning as provided in s.
101	1002.395(2)(f), as determined by the department.
102	(d) "Eligible private school" has the same meaning as
103	provided in s. 1002.395(2)(g), as determined by the department.
104	(e) "Motor vehicle" has the same meaning as provided in s.
105	320.01(1)(a), but does not include heavy trucks, truck tractors,
106	trailers, and motorcycles.
107	(f) "Parent" means a resident of this state who is a
108	parent, as defined in s. 1000.21, and whose public school
109	student was the victim of a reported incident, as listed in
110	subsection (3).
111	(g) "Principal" means the principal or his or her designee.
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112	(h) "Program" means the Hope Scholarship Program.
112 113	
	(h) "Program" means the Hope Scholarship Program.

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115	related or school-sponsored program or activity, and riding on a
116	school bus, as defined in s. 1006.25(1), including waiting at a
117	school bus stop.
118	(j) "Unweighted FTE funding amount" means the statewide
119	average total funds per unweighted full-time equivalent funding
120	amount that is incorporated by reference in the General
121	Appropriations Act for the applicable state fiscal year.
122	(3) PROGRAM ELIGIBILITYBeginning with the 2018-2019
123	school year, contingent upon available funds, and on a first-
124	come, first-served basis, a student enrolled full time in a
125	<u>Florida public school in kindergarten through grade 12 is</u>
126	eligible for a scholarship under this program if all of the
127	following conditions are met:
128	(a) The student is the victim of a substantiated incident
129	of battery; harassment; hazing; bullying; kidnapping; physical
130	attack; robbery; sexual offenses, harassment, assault, or
131	battery; threat or intimidation; or fighting at school.
132	(b) The incident is formally reported by the victim or the
133	victim's parent to the principal.
134	(c) Through an investigation, the principal finds that the
135	incident is substantiated.
136	(d) The principal's investigation remains open or the
137	district's resolution of issues related to the incident remain
138	unresolved after timely notification, deliberative evaluation,
139	and 30 days of responsible and appropriate action taken in
140	accordance with paragraph (5)(a).
141	(4) PROGRAM PROHIBITIONSPayment of a scholarship may not
142	be made if a student is:
143	(a) Enrolled in a public school, including, but not limited

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144	to, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind; the College-
145	Preparatory Boarding Academy; the Florida Virtual School; a
146	developmental research school authorized under s. 1002.32; or a
147	charter school authorized under s. 1002.33, s. 1002.331, s.
148	1002.332, or s. 1002.333;
149	(b) Enrolled in a school operating for the purpose of
150	providing educational services to youth in the Department of
151	Juvenile Justice commitment programs;
152	(c) Participating in a virtual school, correspondence
153	school, or distance learning program that receives state funding
154	pursuant to the student's participation unless the participation
155	is limited to no more than two courses per school year;
156	(d) Receiving any other educational scholarship pursuant to
157	this chapter; or
158	(e) Participating in a home education program, as defined
159	<u>in s. 1002.01.</u>
160	(5) SCHOOL DISTRICT OBLIGATIONS; PARENTAL OPTIONS
161	(a)1. Within 24 hours after receipt of a formal report of
162	an incident listed in subsection (3)(a), the principal shall
163	provide a copy of the report to the victim's parent and the
164	alleged offender's parent. The report must include a statement
165	of the expected investigative actions and the timeline for
166	reporting the outcome of the investigation. Within 24 hours
167	after receipt of the formal report, the principal must also
168	provide the superintendent with a copy of the report and
169	verification that the parents of the victim and the alleged
170	offender have been provided a copy of the incident report and
171	other required information.
172	2. In accordance with s. 1006.09, the principal must

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173	investigate the incident to determine if the incident is
174	substantiated or unsubstantiated, and if the incident must be
175	reported. The principal may, at his or her discretion, determine
176	the extent to which each student was engaged in instigating,
177	initiating, or reacting to a physical altercation, and may
178	consider such information when evaluating and determining
179	appropriate disciplinary actions and investigation outcomes.
180	3. During the investigation period, the principal and the
181	superintendent shall take all necessary actions to continue the
182	educational services of students involved in the reported
183	incident while taking every reasonable precaution to keep the
184	alleged offender separated from the victim or any sibling of the
185	victim while on school grounds or on school transportation,
186	pursuant to ss. 1006.09, 1006.13, and 1006.147, as appropriate.
187	4. Upon the principal's determination that an alleged
188	incident is unsubstantiated or the resolution of issues related
189	to a substantiated incident or within 15 days after the incident
190	was reported, whichever occurs first, the principal must report
191	to the victim's parent and the alleged offender's parent the
192	findings, outcome, or status of the investigation. The principal
193	shall continue to provide such reports to the parents at least
194	every 15 days until the investigation concludes and issues
195	associated with the incident are resolved.
196	5. If the principal's investigation into the incident
197	remains open more than 30 days after the date a substantiated
198	incident was reported or issues associated with the incident
199	remain unresolved, the school district, in accordance with the
200	school district's code of student conduct, shall:

a. Notify the victim's parent of the availability of the

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202	program and offer that parent an opportunity to enroll his or
203	her student in another public school or to request and receive a
204	scholarship to attend an eligible private school, subject to
205	available funding; and
206	b. Provide the victim's parent with a written notification
207	of the result of the principal's investigation of the alleged
208	incident. The parent must provide such notification to the
209	scholarship-funding organization that verifies the student's
210	eligibility.
211	6. To facilitate timely, appropriate, and fiscally
212	accountable scholarship payments, school districts must report
213	and verify student enrollment information during and outside of
214	regular FTE student enrollment survey periods, as requested by
215	the department pursuant to paragraph (7)(d).
216	(b)1. A parent who, pursuant to s. 1002.31, chooses to
217	enroll his or her student in a Florida public school located
218	outside the district in which the student resides shall be
219	eligible for a scholarship under paragraph (11)(b) to transport
220	the student.
221	2. For each student participating in the program in a
222	private school who chooses to participate in the statewide
223	assessments under s. 1008.22 or the Florida Alternate
224	Assessment, the school district in which the student resides
225	must notify the student and his or her parent about the
226	locations and times to take all statewide assessments.
227	(6) PRIVATE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY AND OBLIGATIONSAn eligible
228	private school may be sectarian or nonsectarian and shall:
229	(a) Meet the definition of a private school in s. 1002.01
230	and comply with all requirements for private schools
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231 participating in state school choice scholarship programs 232 pursuant to this section and s. 1002.421. 233 (b) Provide to the organization and the department, upon 234 request, all documentation required for the student's 235 participation, including, but not limited to, the private 236 school's and the student's fee schedules. 237 (c) Be academically accountable to the parent for meeting 238 the educational needs of the student by: 1. At a minimum, annually providing to the parent a written 239 240 explanation of the student's progress. 241 2. Annually administering or making provision for students 242 participating in the program in grades 3 through 10 to take one 243 of the nationally norm-referenced tests identified by the 244 department or the statewide assessments pursuant to s. 1008.22. 245 Students with disabilities for whom standardized testing is not 246 appropriate are exempt from this requirement. A participating 247 private school shall report a student's scores to his or her 248 parent. 249 3. Cooperating with the student whose parent chooses to 250 have the student participate in the statewide assessments 251 pursuant to s. 1008.22 or, if a private school chooses to offer 252 the statewide assessments, administering the assessments at the 253 school. 2.5.4 a. A participating private school may choose to offer and 255 administer the statewide assessments to all students who attend 256 the private school in grades 3 through 10. 257 b. A participating private school shall submit a request in 258 writing to the department by March 1 of each year in order to 259 administer the statewide assessments in the subsequent school

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260 <u>year</u>.

261	(d) Employ or contract with teachers who have regular and
262	direct contact with each student receiving a scholarship under
263	this section at the school's physical location.
264	(e) Maintain in this state a physical location where a
265	scholarship student regularly attends classes.
266	(f) Provide a report from an independent certified public
267	accountant who performs the agreed-upon procedures developed
268	under s. 1002.395(6)(o) if the private school receives more than
269	\$250,000 in funds from scholarships awarded under this section
270	in a state fiscal year. A private school subject to this
271	paragraph must annually submit the report by September 15 to the
272	organization that awarded the majority of the school's
273	scholarship funds. The agreed-upon procedures must be conducted
274	in accordance with attestation standards established by the
275	American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
276	
277	The failure of a private school to meet the requirements of this
278	subsection constitutes a basis for the ineligibility of the
279	private school to participate in the program, as determined by
280	the department.
281	(7) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OBLIGATIONSThe department
282	shall:
283	(a) Establish a toll-free hotline that provides parents and
284	private schools with information on participation in the
285	program.
286	(b) Annually verify the eligibility of private schools that
287	meet the requirements of subsection (6).
288	(c) Require an annual notarized and sworn compliance

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289	statement by participating private schools certifying compliance
290	with state laws and retain such records.
291	(d) Cross-check the list of participating students with the
292	public school enrollment lists and participation lists in other
293	scholarship programs established under this chapter before each
294	scholarship payment to avoid duplication.
295	(e) Maintain a list of nationally norm-referenced tests
296	identified for purposes of satisfying the testing requirement in
297	paragraph (9)(f). The tests must meet industry standards of
298	quality in accordance with State Board of Education rule.
299	(f) Require quarterly reports by an eligible nonprofit
300	scholarship-funding organization regarding the number of
301	students participating in the scholarship program, the private
302	schools in which the students are enrolled, and other
303	information deemed necessary by the department.
304	(g) Contract with an independent entity to provide an
305	annual evaluation of the program by:
306	1. Reviewing the school climate and code of student conduct
307	of each public school that reported the occurrence of a monthly
308	average of 10 or more substantiated incidents to determine areas
309	in the school or school district procedures involving reporting,
310	investigating, and communicating a parent's and student's rights
311	which are in need of improvement. At a minimum, the review must
312	include:
313	a. An assessment of the investigation time and quality of
314	the response of the school and the school district;
315	b. An assessment of the effectiveness of communication
316	procedures with the students involved in an incident, the
317	students' parents, and the school and school district personnel;
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318 c. An analysis of school incident and discipline data; and 319 d. The challenges and obstacles relating to implementing 320 recommendations from this review.

321 2. Reviewing the school climate and code of student conduct 322 of each public school a student transferred to if the student was from a school identified in subparagraph 1. in order to 323 324 identify best practices and make recommendations to a public 325 school at which the incidents occurred.

32.6 3. Reviewing the performance of participating students 327 enrolled in a private school in which the majority of the 328 school's total enrolled students in the prior school year 329 participated in one or more scholarship programs, as defined in 330 s. 1002.01, in which there are at least 10 participating 331 students who have scores for tests administered; and reviewing 332 the school climate and code of student conduct of the private 333 school if one or more scholarship participants were involved in 334 a reported incident at the school during the prior school year.

335 4. Surveying the parents of participating students to 336 determine academic, safety, and school climate satisfaction and 337 to identify any challenges or obstacles in addressing the 338 incident or relating to the use of the scholarship.

339 (h) Upon the request of a participating private school, 340 provide at no cost to the school the statewide assessments administered under s. 1008.22 and any related materials for 341 342 administering the assessments. Students at a private school may 343 be assessed using the statewide assessments if the addition of 344 those students and the school does not cause the state to exceed 345 its contractual caps for the number of students tested and the number of testing sites. The state shall provide the same 346

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347	materials and support to a private school that it provides to a
348	public school. A private school that chooses to administer
349	statewide assessments under s. 1008.22 shall follow the
350	requirements set forth in ss. 1008.22 and 1008.24, rules adopted
351	by the State Board of Education to implement those sections, and
352	district-level testing policies established by the district
353	school board.
354	(i) Establish a process by which individuals may notify the
355	department of any violation by a parent, private school, or
356	school district of state laws relating to program participation.
357	The department shall conduct an inquiry or make a referral to
358	the appropriate agency for an investigation of any written
359	complaint of a violation of this section if the complaint is
360	signed by the complainant and is legally sufficient. A complaint
361	is legally sufficient if such complaint contains ultimate facts
362	that show that a violation of this section or any rule adopted
363	by the State Board of Education pursuant to this section has
364	occurred. In order to determine legal sufficiency, the
365	department may require supporting information or documentation
366	from the complainant. A department inquiry is not subject to the
367	requirements of chapter 120.
368	(j)1. Conduct site visits to participating private schools.
369	The purpose of the site visits is solely to verify the
370	information reported by the schools concerning the enrollment
371	and attendance of students, the credentials of teachers,
372	background screening of teachers, teachers' fingerprinting
373	results, and other conditions required pursuant to s. 1002.421
374	and this section. The department may not make more than seven
375	site visits each year; however, the department may make

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376	additional site visits at any time to a school that is the
377	subject of a violation complaint submitted pursuant to paragraph
378	(i), is identified by an organization for a known or suspected
379	violation, or has received a notice of noncompliance or a notice
380	of proposed action within the current year or the previous 2
381	years.
382	2. Annually, by December 15, report to the Governor, the
383	President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
384	Representatives the department's actions with respect to
385	implementing accountability in the program under this section
386	and s. 1002.421, any substantiated allegations or violations of
387	law or rule by an eligible private school under this program and
388	the corrective action taken by the department.
389	(8) COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION AUTHORITY AND OBLIGATIONS
390	(a) The Commissioner of Education:
391	1. Shall deny, suspend, or revoke a private school's
392	participation in the program if it is determined that the
393	private school has failed to comply with the provisions of this
394	section. However, if the noncompliance is correctable within a
395	reasonable amount of time and if the health, safety, or welfare
396	of the students is not threatened, the commissioner may issue a
397	notice of noncompliance which provides the private school with a
398	timeframe within which to provide evidence of compliance before
399	taking action to suspend or revoke the private school's
400	participation in the program.
401	2. May deny, suspend, or revoke a private school's
402	participation in the program if the commissioner determines that
403	an owner or operator of the private school is operating or has
404	operated an educational institution in this state or in another

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405 state or jurisdiction in a manner contrary to the health, 406 safety, or welfare of the public. 407 a. In making such a determination, the commissioner may 408 consider factors that include, but are not limited to, acts or 409 omissions by an owner or operator which led to a previous denial 410 or revocation of participation in an education scholarship 411 program; an owner's or operator's failure to reimburse the 412 department for scholarship funds improperly received or retained 413 by a school; imposition of a prior criminal sanction related to 414 an owner's or operator's management or operation of an educational institution; imposition of a civil fine or 415 416 administrative fine, license revocation or suspension, or 417 program eligibility suspension, termination, or revocation 418 related to an owner's or operator's management or operation of 419 an educational institution; or other types of criminal 420 proceedings in which an owner or operator was found guilty of, 421 regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere 422 or guilty to, any offense involving fraud, deceit, dishonesty, 423 or moral turpitude. 424 b. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "owner or operator" includes an owner, operator, superintendent, or 425 426 principal of, or a person who has equivalent decisionmaking 427 authority over, a private school participating in the 428 scholarship program. 429 (b) The commissioner's determination is subject to the 430 following: 431 1. If the commissioner intends to deny, suspend, or revoke 432 a private school's participation in the program, the department shall notify the private school of such proposed action in 433

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434	writing by certified mail and regular mail to the private
435	school's address of record with the department. The notification
436	shall include the reasons for the proposed action and notice of
437	the timelines and procedures set forth in this paragraph.
438	2. The private school that is adversely affected by the
439	proposed action shall have 15 days after receipt of the notice
440	of proposed action to file with the department's agency clerk a
441	request for a proceeding pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57. If
442	the private school is entitled to a hearing under s. 120.57(1),
443	the department shall refer the request to the Division of
444	Administrative Hearings.
445	3. Upon receipt of a request referred pursuant to this
446	paragraph, the director of the Division of Administrative
447	Hearings shall expedite the hearing and assign an administrative
448	law judge who shall commence a hearing within 30 days after the
449	receipt of the formal written request by the division and enter
450	a recommended order within 30 days after the hearing or within
451	30 days after receipt of the hearing transcript, whichever is
452	later. Each party shall be allowed 10 days in which to submit
453	written exceptions to the recommended order. A final order shall
454	be entered by the agency within 30 days after the entry of a
455	recommended order. The provisions of this subparagraph may be
456	waived upon stipulation by all parties.
457	(c) The commissioner may immediately suspend payment of
458	scholarship funds if it is determined that there is probable
459	cause to believe that there is:
460	1. An imminent threat to the health, safety, or welfare of
461	the students; or
462	2. Fraudulent activity on the part of the private school.
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463	Notwithstanding s. 1002.22, in incidents of alleged fraudulent
464	activity pursuant to this section, the department's Office of
465	Inspector General is authorized to release personally
466	identifiable records or reports of students to the following
467	persons or organizations:
468	a. A court of competent jurisdiction in compliance with an
469	order of that court or the attorney of record in accordance with
470	a lawfully issued subpoena, consistent with the Family
471	Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g.
472	b. A person or entity authorized by a court of competent
473	jurisdiction in compliance with an order of that court or the
474	attorney of record pursuant to a lawfully issued subpoena,
475	consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act,
476	<u>20 U.S.C. s. 1232g.</u>
477	c. Any person, entity, or authority issuing a subpoena for
478	law enforcement purposes when the court or other issuing agency
479	has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena
480	or the information furnished in response to the subpoena not be
481	disclosed, consistent with the Family Educational Rights and
482	Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g, and 34 C.F.R. s. 99.31.
483	
484	The commissioner's suspension of payment pursuant to this
485	paragraph may be appealed pursuant to the same procedures and
486	timelines as the notice of proposed action set forth in
487	paragraph (b).
488	(9) PARENT AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROGRAM
489	PARTICIPATIONA parent who applies for a Hope Scholarship is
490	exercising his or her parental option to place his or her
491	student in an eligible private school.

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492	(a) The parent must select an eligible private school and
493	apply for the admission of his or her student.
494	(b) The parent must inform the student's school district
495	when the parent withdraws his or her student to attend an
496	eligible private school.
497	(c) Any student participating in the program must comply
498	with the regular attendance requirements of s. 1003.01(13) and
499	remain in attendance throughout the school year unless excused
500	by the school for illness or other good cause.
501	(d) Each parent and each student has an obligation to the
502	private school to comply with the private school's published
503	policies.
504	(e) Upon reasonable notice to the department and the school
505	district, the parent may remove the student from the private
506	school and place the student in a public school in accordance
507	with this section.
508	(f) The parent must ensure that the student participating
509	in the program takes the norm-referenced assessment offered by
510	the private school. The parent may also choose to have the
511	student participate in the statewide assessments pursuant to s.
512	1008.22. If the parent requests that the student participating
513	in the program take the statewide assessments pursuant to s.
514	1008.22 and the private school has not chosen to offer and
515	administer the statewide assessments, the parent is responsible
516	for transporting the student to the assessment site designated
517	by the school district.
518	(g) Upon receipt of a scholarship warrant, the parent to
519	whom the warrant is made must restrictively endorse the warrant
520	to the private school for deposit into the account of the

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521	private school. The parent may not designate any entity or
522	individual associated with the participating private school as
523	the parent's attorney in fact to endorse a scholarship warrant.
524	A parent who fails to comply with this paragraph forfeits the
525	scholarship.
526	(10) OBLIGATIONS OF NONPROFIT SCHOLARSHIP-FUNDING
527	ORGANIZATIONS.—An organization may establish scholarships for
528	eligible students by:
529	(a) Receiving applications and determining student
530	eligibility in accordance with the requirements of this section.
531	(b) Notifying parents of their receipt of a scholarship on
532	a first-come, first-served basis, based upon available funds.
533	(c) Preparing and submitting quarterly and annual reports
534	to the department pursuant to paragraphs (7)(f) and (g). In
535	addition, an eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organization
536	must submit in a timely manner any information requested by the
537	department relating to the scholarship program.
538	(d) Notifying the department of any known or suspected
539	violation of this section by a private school, parent, or
540	student.
541	(11) FUNDING AND PAYMENT.—
542	(a) The maximum amount awarded to a student enrolled in an
543	eligible private school shall be determined as a percentage of
544	the unweighted FTE funding amount for that state fiscal year and
545	thereafter as follows:
546	1. Eighty-eight percent for a student enrolled in
547	kindergarten through grade 5.
548	2. Ninety-two percent for a student enrolled in grade 6
549	through grade 8.

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550 3. Ninety-six percent for a student enrolled in grade 9 551 through grade 12. 552 (b) The maximum amount awarded to a student enrolled in a 553 Florida public school located outside of the district in which 554 the student resides shall be \$750. 555 (c) When a student enters the program, the organization 556 must receive all documentation required for the student's 557 participation, including a copy of the report of the 558 substantiated incident received pursuant to subsection (5) and 559 the private school's and the student's fee schedules. The 560 initial payment shall be made after verification of admission 561 acceptance, and subsequent payments shall be made upon 562 verification of continued enrollment and attendance at the 563 private school. 564 (d) Payment of the scholarship by the eligible nonprofit 565 scholarship-funding organization may be by individual warrant 566 made payable to the student's parent or by funds transfer made 567 by debit cards, electronic payment cards, or other means of 568 payment which the department deems to be commercially viable or 569 cost-effective. If payment is made by warrant, the warrant must 570 be delivered by the eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding 571 organization to the private school of the parent's choice, and 572 the parent shall restrictively endorse the warrant to the 573 private school. If payment is made by funds transfer, the parent 574 must approve each payment before the scholarship funds may be 575 deposited. The parent may not designate any entity or individual 576 associated with the participating private school as the parent's 577 attorney in fact to endorse a scholarship warrant or approve a 578 funds transfer.

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579	(e) An eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organization
580	shall obtain verification from the private school of a student's
581	continued attendance at the school for each period covered by a
582	scholarship payment.
583	(f) Payment of the scholarship shall be made by the
584	eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organization no less
585	frequently than on a quarterly basis.
586	(g) An organization may use up to 3 percent of eligible
587	contributions received during the state fiscal year in which
588	such contributions are collected for administrative expenses if
589	the organization has operated as an eligible nonprofit
590	scholarship-funding organization for at least the preceding 3
591	fiscal years and did not have any findings of material weakness
592	or material noncompliance in its most recent audit under s.
593	1002.395(6)(m). Such administrative expenses must be reasonable
594	and necessary for the organization's management and distribution
595	of eligible contributions under this section. Funds authorized
596	under this paragraph may not be used for lobbying or political
597	activity or expenses related to lobbying or political activity.
598	Up to one-third of the funds authorized for administrative
599	expenses under this paragraph may be used for expenses related
600	to the recruitment of contributions from taxpayers. An eligible
601	nonprofit scholarship-funding organization may not charge an
602	application fee.
603	(h) Moneys received pursuant to this section do not
604	constitute taxable income to the qualified student or his or her
605	parent.
606	(12) OBLIGATIONS OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL
607	(a) The Auditor General shall conduct an annual operational
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608	audit of accounts and records of each organization that
609	participates in the program. As part of this audit, the Auditor
610	General shall verify, at a minimum, the total number of students
611	served and transmit that information to the department. The
612	Auditor General shall provide the commissioner with a copy of
613	each annual operational audit performed pursuant to this
614	subsection within 10 days after the audit is finalized.
615	(b) The Auditor General shall notify the department of any
616	organization that fails to comply with a request for
617	information.
618	(13) SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING TAX CREDITS
619	(a) A tax credit is available under s. 212.1832 for use by
620	a taxpayer that makes an eligible contribution to the program.
621	Each eligible contribution is limited to a single payment of \$20
622	at the time of purchase of a motor vehicle or a single payment
623	of \$20 at the time of registration of a motor vehicle that was
624	not purchased from a dealer. An eligible contribution shall be
625	accompanied by an election to contribute to the program and
626	shall be made by the purchaser at the time of purchase or at the
627	time of registration on a form provided by the Department of
628	Revenue. Payments of contributions shall be made to a dealer, as
629	defined in chapter 212, at the time of purchase of a motor
630	vehicle or to an agent of the Department of Revenue, as
631	designated by s. 212.06(10), at the time of registration of a
632	motor vehicle that was not purchased from a dealer.
633	(b) A tax collector or any person or firm authorized to
634	sell or issue a motor vehicle license who is designated as an
635	agent of the Department of Revenue pursuant to s. 212.06(10) or
636	who is a dealer shall:
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637	1. Provide the purchaser the contribution election form, as
638	prescribed by the Department of Revenue, at the time of purchase
639	of a motor vehicle or at the time of registration of a motor
640	vehicle that was not purchased from a dealer.
641	2. Collect eligible contributions.
642	3. Using a form provided by the Department of Revenue,
643	which shall include the dealer's or agent's federal employer
644	identification number, remit to an organization on or before the
645	20th day of each month the total amount of contributions made to
646	that organization and collected during the preceding calendar
647	month.
648	4. Report on each return filed with the Department of
649	Revenue the total amount of credits allowed under s. 212.1832
650	during the preceding calendar month.
651	(c) An organization shall report to the Department of
652	Revenue, on or before the 20th day of each month, the total
653	amount of contributions received pursuant to paragraph (b) in
654	the preceding calendar month on a form provided by the
655	Department of Revenue. Such report shall include the federal
656	employer identification number of each tax collector, authorized
657	agent of the Department of Revenue, or dealer who remitted
658	contributions to the organization during that reporting period.
659	(d) A person who, with intent to unlawfully deprive or
660	defraud the program of its moneys or the use or benefit thereof,
661	fails to remit a contribution collected under this section is
662	guilty of theft of charitable funds, punishable as follows:
663	1. If the total amount stolen is less than \$300, the
664	offense is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as
665	provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Upon a second conviction,
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666	the offender is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree,
667	punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Upon a third
668	or subsequent conviction, the offender is guilty of a felony of
669	the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
670	775.083, or s. 775.084.
671	2. If the total amount stolen is \$300 or more, but less
672	than \$20,000, the offense is a felony of the third degree,
673	punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
674	3. If the total amount stolen is \$20,000 or more, but less
675	than \$100,000, the offense is a felony of the second degree,
676	punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
677	4. If the total amount stolen is \$100,000 or more, the
678	offense is a felony of the first degree, punishable as provided
679	in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
680	(e) A person convicted of an offense under paragraph (d)
681	shall be ordered by the sentencing judge to make restitution to
682	the organization in the amount that was stolen from the program.
683	(14) LIABILITYThe state is not liable for the award or
684	any use of awarded funds under this section.
685	(15) SCOPE OF AUTHORITYThis section does not expand the
686	regulatory authority of this state, its officers, or any school
687	district to impose additional regulation on participating
688	private schools beyond those reasonably necessary to enforce
689	requirements expressly set forth in this section.
690	(16) RULESThe State Board of Education shall adopt rules
691	to administer this section.
692	Section 2. Section 212.1832, Florida Statutes, is created
693	to read:
694	212.1832 Credit for contributions to the Hope Scholarship

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695 Program.-

696 (1) There is allowed a credit of 100 percent of an eligible 697 contribution made to an eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding 698 organization under s. 1002.40 against any tax imposed by the 699 state and due under this chapter as a result of the purchase or 700 acquisition of a motor vehicle. The credit may not exceed the 701 tax otherwise owed. 702 (2) For purposes of the distributions of tax revenue under 703 s. 212.20, the department shall disregard any tax credits 704 allowed under this section to ensure that any reduction in tax 705 revenue received that is attributable to the tax credits results 706 only in a reduction in distributions to the General Revenue 707 Fund. The provisions of s. 1002.40 apply to the credit 708 authorized by this section. 709 Section 3. Section 1002.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to 710 read: 711 1002.01 Definitions.-712 (1) A "home education program" means the sequentially 713 progressive instruction of a student directed by his or her 714 parent in order to satisfy the attendance requirements of ss. 715 1002.41, 1003.01(13), and 1003.21(1). 716 (2) A "private school" is a nonpublic school that is 717 registered in accordance with s. 1002.42 and is defined as an 718 individual, association, copartnership, or corporation, or 719 department, division, or section of such organizations, that 720 designates itself as an educational center that includes 721 kindergarten or a higher grade or as an elementary, secondary, 722 business, technical, or trade school below college level or any 723 organization that provides instructional services that meet the

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753 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory 754 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

(2) ATTENDANCE.-

756 (b) Regular school attendance.-Parents of students who have 757 attained the age of 6 years by February 1 of any school year but 758 who have not attained the age of 16 years must comply with the 759 compulsory school attendance laws. Parents have the option to 760 comply with the school attendance laws by attendance of the 761 student in a public school; a private parochial, religious, or 762 denominational school; a private school; or a home education 763 program; or a private tutoring program, in accordance with the 764 provisions of s. 1003.01(13).

764 765

755

(6) EDUCATIONAL CHOICE.-

766 (a) Public educational school choices.-Parents of public 767 school students may seek any public educational school choice 768 options that are applicable and available to students throughout 769 the state. These options may include controlled open enrollment, 770 single-gender programs, lab schools, virtual instruction 771 programs, charter schools, charter technical career centers, 772 magnet schools, alternative schools, special programs, auditory-773 oral education programs, advanced placement, dual enrollment, 774 International Baccalaureate, International General Certificate 775 of Secondary Education (pre-AICE), CAPE digital tools, CAPE 776 industry certifications, collegiate high school programs, 777 Advanced International Certificate of Education, early 778 admissions, credit by examination or demonstration of 779 competency, the New World School of the Arts, the Florida School 780 for the Deaf and the Blind, and the Florida Virtual School. 781 These options may also include the public educational choice

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782 options of the Opportunity Scholarship Program and the McKay 783 Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program.

784 (b) Private educational choices.-The parent of a student may choose to enroll the student in a private school, as defined in s. 1002.01(2). Parents of public school students may seek private educational choice options under certain programs.

1. Under the McKay Scholarships for Students with 789 Disabilities Program, the parent of a public school student with 790 a disability may request and receive a McKay Scholarship for the 791 student to attend a private school in accordance with s. 792 1002.39.

793 2. Under the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program, the 794 parent of a student who qualifies for free or reduced-price 795 school lunch or who is currently placed, or during the previous 796 state fiscal year was placed, in foster care as defined in s. 797 39.01 may seek a scholarship from an eligible nonprofit 798 scholarship-funding organization in accordance with s. 1002.395.

799 3. Under the Gardiner Scholarship Program Florida Personal 800 Learning Scholarship Accounts Program, the parent of a student 801 with a qualifying disability may apply for a Gardiner 802 Scholarship personal learning scholarship to be used for 803 individual educational needs in accordance with s. 1002.385.

804 4. Under the Hope Scholarship Program, the parent of a student who was the victim of a substantiated incident of 805 806 violence or abuse while attending a public school may seek a 807 scholarship for the student to attend a private school in 808 accordance with s. 1002.40.

809 (c) Home education.-The parent of a student may choose to place the student in a home education program, as defined in s. 810

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811	1002.01(1), in accordance with the provisions of s. 1002.41.
812	(d) Private tutoringThe parent of a student may choose to
813	place the student in a private tutoring program in accordance
814	with the provisions of s. 1002.43(1).
815	Section 5. Subsection (13) of section 1003.01, Florida
816	Statutes, is amended to read:
817	1003.01 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:
818	(13) "Regular school attendance" means the actual
819	attendance of a student during the school day as defined by law
820	and rules of the State Board of Education. Regular attendance
821	within the intent of s. 1003.21 may be achieved by <u>a student's</u>
822	full-time attendance in one of the following options:
823	(a) A public school supported by public funds <u>, including,</u>
824	but not limited to, the Florida School for the Deaf and the
825	Blind, the Florida Virtual School, a developmental research
826	school, and a charter school established pursuant to chapter
827	<u>1002.</u>
828	(b) A parochial, religious, or denominational school;
829	(b) (c) A private school, as defined in s. 1002.01(2) and in
830	compliance with s. 1002.42, including, but not limited to, a
831	private parochial, religious, or denominational school; and a
832	private school supported in whole or in part by tuition charges
833	or by endowments or gifts. This option includes an eligible
834	private school in which a student attends as a participant in a
835	<pre>scholarship program, as defined in s. 1002.01(3).+</pre>
836	(c)(d) A home education program, as defined in s.
837	1002.01(1), which that meets the requirements of chapter 1002. $\dot{\cdot}$
838	or
839	

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840 of chapter 1002.

Section 6. Paragraphs (d) and (h) of subsection (5) and paragraph (a) of subsection (11) of section 1002.385, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

844

1002.385 The Gardiner Scholarship.-

845 (5) AUTHORIZED USES OF PROGRAM FUNDS.-Program funds must be
846 used to meet the individual educational needs of an eligible
847 student and may be spent for the following purposes:

848 (d) Enrollment in, or tuition or fees associated with 849 enrollment in, a home education program, an eligible private 850 school, an eligible postsecondary educational institution or a 851 program offered by the institution, a private tutoring program 852 authorized under s. 1002.43, a virtual program offered by a 853 department-approved private online provider that meets the 854 provider qualifications specified in s. 1002.45(2)(a), the 855 Florida Virtual School as a private paying student, or an 856 approved online course offered pursuant to s. 1003.499 or s. 857 1004.0961.

858 (h) Tuition and fees for part-time tutoring services 859 provided by a person who holds a valid Florida educator's 860 certificate pursuant to s. 1012.56; a person who holds an 861 adjunct teaching certificate pursuant to s. 1012.57; or a person 862 who has demonstrated a mastery of subject area knowledge 863 pursuant to s. 1012.56(5). As used in this paragraph, the term 864 "part-time tutoring services" does not qualify as regular school 865 attendance as defined in s. 1003.01(13) s. 1003.01(13)(e).

866

867 A provider of any services receiving payments pursuant to this868 subsection may not share, refund, or rebate any moneys from the

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Gardiner Scholarship with the parent or participating student in any manner. A parent, student, or provider of any services may not bill an insurance company, Medicaid, or any other agency for the same services that are paid for using Gardiner Scholarship funds.

874 (11) PARENT AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROGRAM 875 PARTICIPATION.-A parent who applies for program participation 876 under this section is exercising his or her parental option to 877 determine the appropriate placement or the services that best 878 meet the needs of his or her child. The scholarship award for a 879 student is based on a matrix that assigns the student to support 880 Level III services. If a parent receives an IEP and a matrix of 881 services from the school district pursuant to subsection (7), 882 the amount of the payment shall be adjusted as needed, when the school district completes the matrix. 883

(a) To satisfy or maintain program eligibility, including
eligibility to receive and spend program payments, the parent
must sign an agreement with the organization and annually submit
a notarized, sworn compliance statement to the organization to:

888 1. Affirm that the student is enrolled in a program that 889 meets regular school attendance requirements as provided in <u>s.</u> 890 1003.01(13)(b) or (c) s. 1003.01(13)(b)-(d).

891 2. Affirm that the program funds are used only for
892 authorized purposes serving the student's educational needs, as
893 described in subsection (5).

3. Affirm that the parent is responsible for the educationof his or her student by, as applicable:

a. Requiring the student to take an assessment inaccordance with paragraph (8)(c);

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898 b. Providing an annual evaluation in accordance with s. 899 1002.41(1)(c); or

900 c. Requiring the child to take any preassessments and 901 postassessments selected by the provider if the child is 4 years 902 of age and is enrolled in a program provided by an eligible 903 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program provider. A student 904 with disabilities for whom a preassessment and postassessment is 905 not appropriate is exempt from this requirement. A participating 906 provider shall report a student's scores to the parent.

907 4. Affirm that the student remains in good standing with 908 the provider or school if those options are selected by the 909 parent.

911 A parent who fails to comply with this subsection forfeits the912 Gardiner Scholarship.

913 Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 1002.39, Florida 914 Statutes, is amended to read:

915 1002.39 The John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with 916 Disabilities Program.—There is established a program that is 917 separate and distinct from the Opportunity Scholarship Program 918 and is named the John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with 919 Disabilities Program.

920 (3) JOHN M. MCKAY SCHOLARSHIP PROHIBITIONS.—A student is921 not eligible for a John M. McKay Scholarship:

922 (a) While he or she is enrolled in a school operating for
923 the purpose of providing educational services to youth in
924 Department of Juvenile Justice commitment programs;

925 (b) While he or she is receiving a Florida tax credit 926 scholarship under s. 1002.395;

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927 (c) While he or she is receiving an educational scholarship 928 pursuant to this chapter;

929 (d) While he or she is participating in a home education 930 program as defined in s. 1002.01(1);

931 (c) While he or she is participating in a private tutoring 932 program pursuant to s. 1002.43;

933 <u>(e) (f)</u> While he or she is participating in a virtual 934 school, correspondence school, or distance learning program that 935 receives state funding pursuant to the student's participation 936 unless the participation is limited to no more than two courses 937 per school year;

938 <u>(f)(g)</u> While he or she is enrolled in the Florida School 939 for the Deaf and the Blind;

940 <u>(g)(h)</u> While he or she is not having regular and direct 941 contact with his or her private school teachers at the school's 942 physical location unless he or she is enrolled in the private 943 school's transition-to-work program pursuant to subsection (10); 944 or

945 <u>(h) (i)</u> If he or she has been issued a temporary 504 946 accommodation plan under s. 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 947 1973 which is valid for 6 months or less.

948 Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 1002.395, Florida 949 Statutes, is amended to read:

950

1002.395 Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program.-

951 (4) SCHOLARSHIP PROHIBITIONS.—A student is not eligible for 952 a scholarship while he or she is:

953 (a) Enrolled in a school operating for the purpose of 954 providing educational services to youth in Department of 955 Juvenile Justice commitment programs;

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(b) Receiving a scholarship from another eligible nonprofitscholarship-funding organization under this section;

958 (c) Receiving an educational scholarship pursuant to 959 chapter 1002;

960 (d) Participating in a home education program as defined in 961 s. 1002.01(1);

962 (e) Participating in a private tutoring program pursuant to 963 s. 1002.43;

964 <u>(e) (f)</u> Participating in a virtual school, correspondence 965 school, or distance learning program that receives state funding 966 pursuant to the student's participation unless the participation 967 is limited to no more than two courses per school year; or

968 <u>(f)(g)</u> Enrolled in the Florida School for the Deaf and the 969 Blind.

970 Section 9. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 971 1003.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

972 1003.26 Enforcement of school attendance.-The Legislature finds that poor academic performance is associated with 973 974 nonattendance and that school districts must take an active role 975 in promoting and enforcing attendance as a means of improving 976 student performance. It is the policy of the state that each 977 district school superintendent be responsible for enforcing 978 school attendance of all students subject to the compulsory 979 school age in the school district and supporting enforcement of 980 school attendance by local law enforcement agencies. The 981 responsibility includes recommending policies and procedures to 982 the district school board that require public schools to respond 983 in a timely manner to every unexcused absence, and every absence 984 for which the reason is unknown, of students enrolled in the



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985 schools. District school board policies shall require the parent 986 of a student to justify each absence of the student, and that 987 justification will be evaluated based on adopted district school 988 board policies that define excused and unexcused absences. The 989 policies must provide that public schools track excused and 990 unexcused absences and contact the home in the case of an 991 unexcused absence from school, or an absence from school for 992 which the reason is unknown, to prevent the development of 993 patterns of nonattendance. The Legislature finds that early 994 intervention in school attendance is the most effective way of 995 producing good attendance habits that will lead to improved 996 student learning and achievement. Each public school shall 997 implement the following steps to promote and enforce regular 998 school attendance:

999

(1) CONTACT, REFER, AND ENFORCE.-

1000 (f)1. If the parent of a child who has been identified as 1001 exhibiting a pattern of nonattendance enrolls the child in a 1002 home education program pursuant to chapter 1002, the district 1003 school superintendent shall provide the parent a copy of s. 1004 1002.41 and the accountability requirements of this paragraph. 1005 The district school superintendent shall also refer the parent to a home education review committee composed of the district 1006 1007 contact for home education programs and at least two home 1008 educators selected by the parent from a district list of all 1009 home educators who have conducted a home education program for 1010 at least 3 years and who have indicated a willingness to serve 1011 on the committee. The home education review committee shall review the portfolio of the student, as defined by s. 1002.41, 1012 1013 every 30 days during the district's regular school terms until

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1014 the committee is satisfied that the home education program is in 1015 compliance with s. 1002.41(1)(b). The first portfolio review 1016 must occur within the first 30 calendar days of the 1017 establishment of the program. The provisions of subparagraph 2. 1018 do not apply once the committee determines the home education 1019 program is in compliance with s. 1002.41(1)(b).

1020 2. If the parent fails to provide a portfolio to the 1021 committee, the committee shall notify the district school 1022 superintendent. The district school superintendent shall then 1023 terminate the home education program and require the parent to 1024 enroll the child in an attendance option that meets the 1025 definition of "regular school attendance" under s. 1026 1003.01(13)(a) or (b) s. 1003.01(13)(a), (b), (c), or (e), 1027 within 3 days. Upon termination of a home education program 1028 pursuant to this subparagraph, the parent shall not be eligible 1029 to reenroll the child in a home education program for 180 1030 calendar days. Failure of a parent to enroll the child in an attendance option as required by this subparagraph after 1031 1032 termination of the home education program pursuant to this 1033 subparagraph shall constitute noncompliance with the compulsory 1034 attendance requirements of s. 1003.21 and may result in criminal 1035 prosecution under s. 1003.27(2). Nothing contained herein shall 1036 restrict the ability of the district school superintendent, or 1037 the ability of his or her designee, to review the portfolio pursuant to s. 1002.41(1)(b). 1038

1039Section 10. Effective July 1, 2019, chapter 623, Florida1040Statutes, consisting of sections 623.01, 623.02, 623.03, 623.04,1041623.05, 623.06, 623.07, 623.08, 623.09, 623.10, 623.11, 623.12,1042623.13, and 623.14, is repealed.

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1043 Section 11. Effective July 1, 2019, subsection (13) of 1044 section 212.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1045 212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and 1046 storage tax; specified exemptions.—The sale at retail, the 1047 rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the 1048 storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following 1049 are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this 1050 chapter.

1051 (13) No transactions shall be exempt from the tax imposed 1052 by this chapter except those expressly exempted herein. All laws 1053 granting tax exemptions, to the extent they may be inconsistent 1054 or in conflict with this chapter, including, but not limited to, 1055 the following designated laws, shall yield to and be superseded 1056 by the provisions of this subsection: ss. 125.019, 153.76, 154.2331, 159.15, 159.31, 159.50, 159.708, 163.385, 163.395, 1057 1058 215.76, 243.33, 315.11, 348.65, 348.762, 349.13, 403.1834, and 1059 616.07, and 623.09, and the following Laws of Florida, acts of 1060 the year indicated: s. 31, chapter 30843, 1955; s. 19, chapter 1061 30845, 1955; s. 12, chapter 30927, 1955; s. 8, chapter 31179, 1955; s. 15, chapter 31263, 1955; s. 13, chapter 31343, 1955; s. 1062 1063 16, chapter 59-1653; s. 13, chapter 59-1356; s. 12, chapter 61-2261; s. 19, chapter 61-2754; s. 10, chapter 61-2686; s. 11, 1064 1065 chapter 63-1643; s. 11, chapter 65-1274; s. 16, chapter 67-1446; 1066 and s. 10, chapter 67-1681. This subsection does not supersede 1067 the authority of a local government to adopt financial and local 1068 government incentives pursuant to s. 163.2517.

1069Section 12. Section 1002.43, Florida Statutes, is repealed.1070Section 13. The Department of Revenue may, and all1071conditions are deemed met to, adopt emergency rules pursuant to

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1072	ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, Florida Statutes, to administer ss.
1073	1002.40 and 212.1832 which are created by this act.
1074	Section 14. For the 2018-2019 fiscal year, \$2 million in
1075	recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is appropriated to
1076	the Department of Education to implement the provisions of this
1077	act.
1078	Section 15. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
1079	act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2018.