A bill to be entitled
An act relating to educational standards for K-12
public schools; amending s. 1003.41, F.S.; revising
the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards;
providing that such standards are the minimum baseline
core content standards for K-12 public schools;
requiring each school district to adopt standards
equivalent to or better than these standards; revising
the content requirements for such standards; amending
s. 1006.283, F.S.; revising the requirements for
instructional materials that a district school
superintendent annually certifies; amending s.
1000.21, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made
by the act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 1003.41,
Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.41 Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.—
(1) Next Generation Sunshine State Standards establish the
minimum baseline standards for core content of the curricula to
be taught in the state and specify the core content knowledge
and skills that K-12 public school students are expected to
acquire. The standards adopted by each school district must meet
all of the following requirements:

(a) Be equivalent to or more rigorous than the Next
Generation Sunshine State Standards, or courses offered in the
district for the International Baccalaureate program.
Instructional materials adopted pursuant to these standards must be consistent with school district goals and objectives and the course descriptions established in rule by the State Board of Education.

(b) Standards must be rigorous and relevant and provide for the logical, sequential progression of core curricular content that incrementally increases a student’s core content knowledge and skills over time. Curricular content for all subjects must integrate knowledge-based learning, critical-thinking, and problem-solving, and workforce literacy skills; communication, reading, and writing skills; mathematics skills; collaboration skills; contextual and applied-learning skills; technology-literacy skills; information and media-literacy skills; and the demonstrable, in-depth understanding of the founding values and principles of the United States as required by s. 1003.42 civic-engagement skills.

(c) The standards must include distinct grade-level expectations for the core content knowledge and skills that a student is expected to have acquired by each individual grade level from kindergarten through grade 8. The standards for grades 9 through 12 may be organized by grade clusters of more than one grade level except as otherwise provided for visual and performing arts, physical education, health, and foreign language standards.

(2) Whether a school district chooses to adopt the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards or standards that are more rigorous than these minimum state standards, all such standards must meet the following requirements:

(a) English Language Arts standards must establish specific
curricular content for, at a minimum, reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language which significantly improves student outcomes.

(b) Science standards must establish specific curricular content for, at a minimum, the nature of science, earth and space science, physical science, and life science. Controversial theories and concepts must be taught in a factual, objective, and balanced manner.

(c) Mathematics standards must establish specific curricular content for, at a minimum, algebra, geometry, statistics and probability, number and quantity, functions, and modeling.

(d) Social Studies standards must establish specific curricular content for, at a minimum, geography, United States and world history, government, civics, humanities, and economics, including financial literacy. Financial literacy includes the knowledge, understanding, skills, behaviors, attitudes, and values that will enable a student to make responsible and effective financial decisions on a daily basis. Government and civics content must strictly adhere to the founding values and principles of the United States as required under s. 1003.42. Financial literacy instruction must be an integral part of instruction throughout the entire economics course and include the study of at least Keynesian and Hayekian economic theories, in addition to understanding the basics of information regarding earning income; buying goods and services; saving and financial investing; taxes; the use of credit and credit cards; budgeting and debt management, including student loans and secured loans; banking and financial
services; planning for one’s financial future, including higher
education and career planning; credit reports and scores; and
fraud and identity theft prevention.
    (e) Visual and performing arts, physical education, health,
and foreign language standards must establish specific
curricular content and include distinct grade level expectations
for the core content knowledge and skills that a student is
expected to have acquired by each individual grade level from
kindergarten through grade 5. The standards for grades 6 through
12 may be organized by grade clusters of more than one grade
level.

Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 1006.283, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.283 District school board instructional materials
review process.—

(4) Instructional materials that have been reviewed by the
district instructional materials reviewers and approved must
have been determined to align with all applicable state
standards pursuant to s. 1003.41 and the requirements in s.
1006.31. The district school superintendent shall annually
certify to the department that all instructional materials for
core courses used by the district are aligned with all
applicable state standards, including those that are equivalent
to or more rigorous than the applicable state standards or are
aligned with courses offered in the district for the
International Baccalaureate program; and have been reviewed,
selected, and adopted by the district school board in accordance
with the school board hearing and public meeting requirements of
this section.
Section 3. Subsection (7) of section 1000.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1000.21 Systemwide definitions.—As used in the Florida K-20 Education Code:

(7) “Next Generation Sunshine State Standards” means the state’s minimum baseline public K-12 curricular standards adopted under s. 1003.41.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.