

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

.

1 Representative Polsky offered the following:

2
3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Remove lines 1775-2185 and insert:

5 Allocation is created to recruit and retain classroom teachers
6 and instructional personnel who meet the criteria established in
7 s. 1012.731 and reward principals who meet the criteria
8 established in s. 1012.732. Subject to annual appropriation,
9 each school district shall receive an allocation based on the
10 district's proportionate share of FEFP base funding. The
11 Legislature may specify a minimum allocation for all districts
12 in the General Appropriations Act.

604309

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Amendment No.

13 (b) From the allocation, each district shall provide the
14 following:

15 1. A recruitment salary increase, as provided in s.
16 1012.731(3) (a); and

17 2. A retention salary increase, as provided in s.
18 1012.731(3) (b).

19 (c) From the allocation, each district shall provide
20 eligible principals an award as provided in s. 1012.732(3).

21
22 If a district's calculated awards exceed the allocation, the
23 district may prorate the awards.

24 (21) TURNAROUND SCHOOL SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES ALLOCATION.-

25 The turnaround school supplemental services allocation is
26 created to provide district-managed turnaround schools, as
27 identified in s. 1008.33(4) (a), schools that earn three
28 consecutive grades below a "C," as identified in s.
29 1008.33(4) (b)3., and schools that have improved to a "C" and are
30 no longer in turnaround status, as identified in s.
31 1008.33(4) (c), with funds to offer services designed to improve
32 the overall academic and community welfare of the schools'
33 students and their families.

34 (a)1. Services funded by the allocation may include, but
35 are not limited to, tutorial and after-school programs, student
36 counseling, nutrition education, parental counseling, and an
37 extended school day and school year. In addition, services may

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

38 include models that develop a culture that encourages students
39 to complete high school and to attend college or career
40 training, set high academic expectations, and inspire character
41 development.

42 2. A school district may enter into a formal agreement
43 with a nonprofit organization that has tax-exempt status under
44 s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to implement an
45 integrated student support service model that provides students
46 and families with access to wrap-around services, including, but
47 not limited to, health services, after-school programs, drug
48 prevention programs, college and career readiness programs, and
49 food and clothing banks.

50 (b) Before distribution of the allocation, the school
51 district shall develop and submit a plan for implementation to
52 its school board for approval no later than August 1 of each
53 fiscal year.

54 (c) At a minimum, the plan required under paragraph (b)
55 must:

56 1. Establish comprehensive support services that develop
57 family and community partnerships;

58 2. Establish clearly defined and measurable high academic
59 and character standards;

60 3. Increase parental involvement and engagement in the
61 child's education;

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

62 4. Describe how instructional personnel will be
63 identified, recruited, retained, and rewarded;

64 5. Provide professional development that focuses on
65 academic rigor, direct instruction, and creating high academic
66 and character standards;

67 6. Provide focused instruction to improve student academic
68 proficiency, which may include additional instruction time
69 beyond the normal school day or school year; and

70 7. Include a strategy for continuing to provide services
71 after the school is no longer in turnaround status by virtue of
72 achieving a grade of "C" or higher.

73 (d) Each school district shall submit its approved plans
74 to the commissioner by September 1 of each fiscal year.

75 (e) Subject to legislative appropriation, each school
76 district's allocation must be based on the unweighted FTE
77 student enrollment at the eligible schools and a per-FTE funding
78 amount of \$500 or as provided in the General Appropriations Act.
79 The supplement provided in the General Appropriations Act shall
80 be based on the most recent school grades and shall serve as a
81 proxy for the official calculation. Once school grades are
82 available for the school year immediately preceding the fiscal
83 year coinciding with the appropriation, the supplement shall be
84 recalculated for the official participating schools as part of
85 the subsequent FEFP calculation. The commissioner may prepare a
86 preliminary calculation so that districts may proceed with

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

87 timely planning and use of the funds. If the calculated funds
88 for the statewide allocation exceed the funds appropriated, the
89 allocation of funds to each school district must be prorated
90 based on each school district's share of the total unweighted
91 FTE student enrollment for the eligible schools.

92 (f) Subject to legislative appropriation, each school
93 shall remain eligible for the allocation for a maximum of 4
94 continuous fiscal years while implementing a turnaround option
95 pursuant to s. 1008.33(4). In addition, a school that improves
96 to a grade of "C" or higher shall remain eligible to receive the
97 allocation for a maximum of 2 continuous fiscal years after
98 exiting turnaround status.

99 Section 16. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection
100 (2) of section 1011.71, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

101 1011.71 District school tax.—

102 (1) If the district school tax is not provided in the
103 General Appropriations Act or the substantive bill implementing
104 the General Appropriations Act, each district school board
105 desiring to participate in the state allocation of funds for
106 current operation as prescribed by s. 1011.62(19) ~~s. 1011.62(18)~~
107 shall levy on the taxable value for school purposes of the
108 district, exclusive of millage voted under s. 9(b) or s. 12,
109 Art. VII of the State Constitution, a millage rate not to exceed
110 the amount certified by the commissioner as the minimum millage
111 rate necessary to provide the district required local effort for

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

112 the current year, pursuant to s. 1011.62(4)(a)1. In addition to
113 the required local effort millage levy, each district school
114 board may levy a nonvoted current operating discretionary
115 millage. The Legislature shall prescribe annually in the
116 appropriations act the maximum amount of millage a district may
117 levy.

118 (2) In addition to the maximum millage levy as provided in
119 subsection (1), each school board may levy not more than 1.5
120 mills against the taxable value for school purposes for charter
121 schools pursuant to s. 1013.62(1) and (3) and for district
122 schools to fund:

123 (a) New construction, ~~and remodeling projects, as set~~
124 ~~forth in s. 1013.64(6)(b) and included in the district's~~
125 ~~educational plant survey pursuant to s. 1013.31, without regard~~
126 ~~to prioritization,~~ sites and site improvement or expansion to
127 new sites, existing sites, auxiliary facilities, athletic
128 facilities, or ancillary facilities.

129 Section 17. Effective upon becoming a law, subsections
130 (2), (3), and (7) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, are
131 amended to read:

132 1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

133 (2) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—To be eligible to seek
134 certification, a person must:

135 (a) Be at least 18 years of age.

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

136 (b) File an affidavit that the applicant subscribes to and
137 will uphold the principles incorporated in the Constitution of
138 the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida
139 and that the information provided in the application is true,
140 accurate, and complete. The affidavit shall be by original
141 signature or by electronic authentication. The affidavit shall
142 include substantially the following warning:

143
144 WARNING: Giving false information in order to obtain or renew a
145 Florida educator's certificate is a criminal offense under
146 Florida law. Anyone giving false information on this affidavit
147 is subject to criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary
148 action by the Education Practices Commission.

149 (c) Document receipt of a bachelor's or higher degree from
150 an accredited institution of higher learning, or a nonaccredited
151 institution of higher learning that the Department of Education
152 has identified as having a quality program resulting in a
153 bachelor's degree, or higher. Each applicant seeking initial
154 certification must have attained at least a 2.5 overall grade
155 point average on a 4.0 scale in the applicant's major field of
156 study. The applicant may document the required education by
157 submitting official transcripts from institutions of higher
158 education or by authorizing the direct submission of such
159 official transcripts through established electronic network
160 systems. The bachelor's or higher degree may not be required in

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

161 areas approved in rule by the State Board of Education as
162 nondegreed areas. The State Board of Education may adopt rules
163 that, for purposes of demonstrating completion of specific
164 certification requirements, allow for the acceptance of college
165 course credits recommended by the American Council for Education
166 (ACE), as posted on an official ACE transcript.

167 (d) Submit to background screening in accordance with
168 subsection (10). If the background screening indicates a
169 criminal history or if the applicant acknowledges a criminal
170 history, the applicant's records shall be referred to the
171 investigative section in the Department of Education for review
172 and determination of eligibility for certification. If the
173 applicant fails to provide the necessary documentation requested
174 by the department within 90 days after the date of the receipt
175 of the certified mail request, the statement of eligibility and
176 pending application shall become invalid.

177 (e) Be of good moral character.

178 (f) Be competent and capable of performing the duties,
179 functions, and responsibilities of an educator.

180 (g) Demonstrate mastery of general knowledge, pursuant to
181 subsection (3), if the person serves as a classroom teacher
182 pursuant to s. 1012.01(2)(a).

183 (h) Demonstrate mastery of subject area knowledge,
184 pursuant to subsection (5).

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

185 (i) Demonstrate mastery of professional preparation and
186 education competence, pursuant to subsection (6).

187 (3) MASTERY OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.—Acceptable means of
188 demonstrating mastery of general knowledge are:

189 (a) Achievement of passing scores on the general knowledge
190 examination required by state board rule;

191 (b) Documentation of a valid professional standard
192 teaching certificate issued by another state;

193 (c) Documentation of a valid certificate issued by the
194 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a national
195 educator credentialing board approved by the State Board of
196 Education;

197 (d) Documentation of two semesters of successful, full-
198 time or part-time teaching in a Florida College System
199 institution, state university, or private college or university
200 that awards an associate or higher degree and is an accredited
201 institution or an institution of higher education identified by
202 the Department of Education as having a quality program; or

203 (e) ~~Effective July 1, 2015,~~ Achievement of passing scores,
204 identified in state board rule, on national or international
205 examinations that test comparable content and relevant standards
206 in verbal, analytical writing, and quantitative reasoning
207 skills, including, but not limited to, the verbal, analytical
208 writing, and quantitative reasoning portions of the Graduate
209 Record Examination. Passing scores identified in state board

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

210 rule must be at approximately the same level of rigor as is
211 required to pass the general knowledge examinations.

212
213 A school district that employs an individual who does not
214 achieve passing scores on any subtest of the general knowledge
215 examination must provide information regarding the availability
216 of state-level and district-level supports and instruction to
217 assist him or her in achieving a passing score. Such information
218 must include, but need not be limited to, state-level test
219 information guides, school district test preparation resources,
220 and preparation courses offered by state universities and
221 Florida College System institutions.

222 (7) TYPES AND TERMS OF CERTIFICATION.—

223 (a) The Department of Education shall issue a professional
224 certificate for a period not to exceed 5 years to any applicant
225 who fulfills one of the following:

226 1. Meets all the applicable requirements outlined in
227 subsection (2).

228 2. For a professional certificate covering grades 6
229 through 12:

230 a. Meets the applicable requirements of paragraphs (2)(a)-
231 (h).

232 b. Holds a master's or higher degree in the area of
233 science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

234 c. Teaches a high school course in the subject of the
235 advanced degree.

236 d. Is rated highly effective as determined by the
237 teacher's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34, based in part
238 on student performance as measured by a statewide, standardized
239 assessment or an Advanced Placement, Advanced International
240 Certificate of Education, or International Baccalaureate
241 examination.

242 e. Achieves a passing score on the Florida professional
243 education competency examination required by state board rule.

244 3. Meets the applicable requirements of paragraphs (2) (a)-
245 (h) and completes a professional preparation and education
246 competence program approved by the department pursuant to
247 paragraph (8) (c). An applicant who completes the program and is
248 rated highly effective as determined by his or her performance
249 evaluation under s. 1012.34 is not required to take or achieve a
250 passing score on the professional education competency
251 examination in order to be awarded a professional certificate.

252 (b) The department shall issue a temporary certificate to
253 any applicant who completes the requirements outlined in
254 paragraphs (2) (a)-(f) and completes the subject area content
255 requirements specified in state board rule or demonstrates
256 mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5) and
257 holds an accredited degree or a degree approved by the

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

258 Department of Education at the level required for the subject
259 area specialization in state board rule.

260 (c) The department shall issue one nonrenewable 2-year
261 temporary certificate and one nonrenewable 5-year professional
262 certificate to a qualified applicant who holds a bachelor's
263 degree in the area of speech-language impairment to allow for
264 completion of a master's degree program in speech-language
265 impairment.

266

267 Each temporary certificate is valid for 3 school fiscal years
268 and is nonrenewable. ~~However, the requirement in paragraph~~
269 ~~(2)(g) must be met within 1 calendar year of the date of~~
270 ~~employment under the temporary certificate. Individuals who are~~
271 ~~employed under contract at the end of the 1 calendar year time~~
272 ~~period may continue to be employed through the end of the school~~
273 ~~year in which they have been contracted. A school district shall~~
274 ~~not employ, or continue the employment of, an individual in a~~
275 ~~position for which a temporary certificate is required beyond~~
276 ~~this time period if the individual has not met the requirement~~
277 ~~of paragraph (2)(g).~~ At least 1 year before an individual's
278 temporary certificate is set to expire, the department shall
279 electronically notify the individual of the date on which his or
280 her certificate will expire and provide a list of each method by
281 which the qualifications for a professional certificate can be
282 completed. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

283 allow the department to extend the validity period of a
284 temporary certificate for 2 years when the requirements for the
285 professional certificate, ~~not including the requirement in~~
286 ~~paragraph (2)(g),~~ were not completed due to the serious illness
287 or injury of the applicant, the military service of an
288 applicant's spouse, ~~or~~ other extraordinary extenuating
289 circumstances, or if the certificateholder is rated highly
290 effective in the immediate prior year's performance evaluation
291 pursuant to s. 1012.34 or has completed a 2-year mentorship
292 program pursuant to s. 1012.56(8). ~~The rules must authorize the~~
293 ~~department to extend the validity period of a temporary~~
294 ~~certificate for 1 year if the certificateholder is rated~~
295 ~~effective or highly effective based solely on a student learning~~
296 ~~growth formula approved by the Commissioner of Education~~
297 ~~pursuant to s. 1012.34(8).~~ The department shall extend ~~reissue~~
298 the temporary certificate ~~for 2 additional years~~ upon approval
299 by the Commissioner of Education. A written request for
300 extension ~~reissuance~~ of the certificate shall be submitted by
301 the district school superintendent, the governing authority of a
302 university lab school, the governing authority of a state-
303 supported school, or the governing authority of a private
304 school.

305 Section 18. Effective upon becoming a law, subsection (1)
306 of section 1012.59, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

307 1012.59 Certification fees.—

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

308 (1) The State Board of Education, ~~by rule,~~ shall establish
309 by rule separate fees for applications, examinations,
310 certification, certification renewal, late renewal,
311 recordmaking, and recordkeeping, and may establish procedures
312 for scheduling and administering an examination upon an
313 applicant's request. Unless otherwise specified in this
314 subsection, each fee shall be based on department estimates of
315 the revenue required to implement the ~~provisions of law~~ with
316 respect to certification of school personnel. The application
317 fee ~~is shall be~~ nonrefundable. The rule must specify an ~~Each~~
318 examination fee for the following:

319 (a) Initial registration for first-time test takers.

320 (b) Retake of the full battery of subtests of an
321 examination, if applicable. The retake fee for the full battery
322 of subtests may not exceed the fee for the initial registration.

323 (c) Retake for each subtest of an examination. The retake
324 fee for each subtest must be prorated based on the number of
325 subtests within the examination ~~shall be sufficient to cover the~~
326 ~~actual cost of developing and administering the examination.~~

327 Section 19. Section 1012.731, Florida Statutes, is amended
328 to read:

329 1012.731 The Florida Best and Brightest Teacher
330 ~~Scholarship~~ Program.—

331 (1) The Legislature recognizes that, second only to
332 parents, teachers play the most critical role within schools in

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

333 preparing students to achieve a high level of academic
334 performance. ~~The Legislature further recognizes that research~~
335 ~~has linked student outcomes to a teacher's own academic~~
336 ~~achievement.~~ Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to
337 recruit and retain designate teachers who meet the needs of this
338 state and have achieved success in the classroom ~~high academic~~
339 ~~standards during their own education as Florida's best and~~
340 ~~brightest teacher scholars.~~

341 (2) ~~There is created~~ The Florida Best and Brightest
342 Teacher ~~Scholarship~~ Program is created to provide salary
343 increases to recruit and retain classroom teachers, as defined
344 in 1012.01(2)(a), and other instructional personnel, as defined
345 in 1012.01(2), to be funded as provided in s. 1011.62(18) ~~be~~
346 ~~administered by the Department of Education. The scholarship~~
347 ~~program shall provide categorical funding for scholarships to be~~
348 ~~awarded to classroom teachers, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a),~~
349 ~~who have demonstrated a high level of academic achievement.~~

350 (3)(a) To be eligible for a one-time recruitment salary
351 increase as specified in the General Appropriations Act:

352 1. A newly hired classroom teacher must be a content
353 expert, based on criteria established by the department, in
354 mathematics, science, computer science, reading, or civics.

355 2. An instructional personnel staff member must be hired
356 to fill a designated critical shortage area or must voluntarily

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

357 ~~switch fields to fill a critical shortage area scholarship in~~
358 ~~the amount of \$6,000, a classroom teacher must:~~

359 ~~1. Have achieved a composite score at or above the 80th~~
360 ~~percentile on either the SAT or the ACT based on the National~~
361 ~~Percentile Ranks in effect when the classroom teacher took the~~
362 ~~assessment and have been evaluated as highly effective pursuant~~
363 ~~to s. 1012.34 in the school year immediately preceding the year~~
364 ~~in which the scholarship will be awarded, unless the classroom~~
365 ~~teacher is newly hired by the district school board and has not~~
366 ~~been evaluated pursuant to s. 1012.34.~~

367 ~~2. Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, have achieved~~
368 ~~a composite score at or above the 77th percentile or, if the~~
369 ~~classroom teacher graduated cum laude or higher with a~~
370 ~~baccalaureate degree, the 71st percentile on either the SAT,~~
371 ~~ACT, GRE, LSAT, GMAT, or MCAT based on the National Percentile~~
372 ~~Ranks in effect when the classroom teacher took the assessment;~~
373 ~~and have been evaluated as highly effective pursuant to s.~~
374 ~~1012.34, or have been evaluated as highly effective based on a~~
375 ~~commissioner-approved student learning growth formula pursuant~~
376 ~~to s. 1012.34(8), in the school year immediately preceding the~~
377 ~~year in which the scholarship will be awarded, unless the~~
378 ~~classroom teacher is newly hired by the district school board~~
379 ~~and has not been evaluated pursuant to s. 1012.34.~~

380 ~~(b) To be eligible for a retention salary increase as~~
381 ~~specified in the General Appropriations Act, a classroom teacher~~

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

382 or an instructional personnel staff member must have been rated
383 as highly effective or effective in the preceding year pursuant
384 to s. 1012.34, and must teach or be employed in a school for 2
385 consecutive school years, including the current year.

386 ~~1. In order to demonstrate eligibility for an award, an~~
387 ~~eligible classroom teacher must submit to the school district,~~
388 ~~no later than November 1, an official record of his or her~~
389 ~~qualifying assessment score and, beginning with the 2020-2021~~
390 ~~school year, an official transcript demonstrating that he or she~~
391 ~~graduated cum laude or higher with a baccalaureate degree, if~~
392 ~~applicable. Once a classroom teacher is deemed eligible by the~~
393 ~~school district, the teacher shall remain eligible as long as he~~
394 ~~or she remains employed by the school district as a classroom~~
395 ~~teacher at the time of the award and receives an annual~~
396 ~~performance evaluation rating of highly effective pursuant to s.~~
397 ~~1012.34 or is evaluated as highly effective based on a~~
398 ~~commissioner-approved student learning growth formula pursuant~~
399 ~~to s. 1012.34(8) for the 2019-2020 school year or thereafter.~~

400 ~~2. A school district employee who is no longer a classroom~~
401 ~~teacher may receive an award if the employee was a classroom~~
402 ~~teacher in the prior school year, was rated highly effective,~~
403 ~~and met the requirements of this section as a classroom teacher.~~

404 ~~(c) Notwithstanding the~~

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604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

T I T L E A M E N D M E N T

Remove lines 169-213 and insert:
districts to provide specified salary increases to
eligible teachers and awards to principals from
allocated funds; requiring school districts to prorate
awards under certain circumstances; creating the
turnaround school supplemental services allocation;
providing a purpose; providing for services that may
be funded by the allocation; authorizing school
districts to enter into formal agreements with certain
organizations to provide specified services to
students and families; requiring a school district to
submit a plan to its school board before distribution
of the allocation; specifying requirements for such
plans; requiring each school district to annually
submit approved plans to the commissioner by a
specified date; specifying the basis for each school
district's funding allocation; providing for a
school's continued eligibility for funding; amending
s. 1011.71, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference and
provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
1012.56, F.S.; deleting obsolete language; requiring
school districts to provide test support information
to individuals who do not meet passing scores on any
subtest of the general knowledge examination; deleting

604309

Approved For Filing: 4/28/2019 2:37:36 PM

Amendment No.

432 the requirement that an individual who holds a
433 temporary certificate demonstrate mastery of general
434 knowledge within a specified timeframe; removing the
435 prohibition on employment for an individual who has
436 not met specified requirements; expanding
437 circumstances under which the State Board of Education
438 is required to adopt rules to allow the department to
439 extend the validity period of a temporary certificate;
440 requiring the department to extend, rather than
441 reissue, a temporary certificate in certain
442 circumstances; amending s. 1012.59, F.S.; revising
443 requirements for rulemaking by the state board
444 relating to certification fees; deleting a requirement
445 that an examination fee be sufficient to cover the
446 actual cost of developing and administering the
447 examination; amending s. 1012.731, F.S.; renaming the
448 Florida Best and Brightest Teacher Scholarship Program
449 as the Florida Best and Brightest Teacher Program;
450 revising legislative intent relating to the program;
451 deleting authority for the Department of Education to
452 administer the program; specifying the funding source
453 for the program; providing for recruitment and
454 recognition salary increases;

604309

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