THE FLORIDA SENATE 2023 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED Committee on Education Pre-K - 12

CS/HB 733 — Middle School and High School Start Times

by Education and Employment Committee and Rep. Temple and others (SB 1112 by Senators Burgess and Jones)

The bill requires district school boards to adopt middle and high school start times beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. By July 1, 2026, middle schools may not begin the instructional day prior to 8:00 a.m., and high schools may not begin prior to 8:30 a.m.

The bill requires each district school board to inform its community, including parents, students, teachers, school administrators, athletic coaches and other stakeholders about the health and safety impacts of sleep deprivation on middle and high school students and the benefits of the later school start times. Each district school board must discuss with such groups local strategies to successfully implement the later start times.

The bill requires charter schools to comply with the specified start times, while providing an exemption for a charter school-in-the-workplace.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2023. *Vote: Senate 38-2; House 92-20*