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A bill to be entitled An act relating to school system personnel; amending s. 20.15, F.S.; changing the name of the Division of Human Resource Development to the Division of Professional Educators; amending s. 230.303, F.S.; assigning duties of the Florida Council on Educational Development to the Department of Education; amending ss. 231.15, 231.17, F.S.; revising certification requirements; providing for a competency-based alternative preparation program; providing criteria for out-of-state teachers and administrators; amending s. 231.1725, F.S.; requiring school boards to establish minimal qualifications for career specialists; amending s. 231.24, F.S.; authorizing the State Board of Education to establish a certificate fee; extending the time within which an expired certification may be reinstated; amending s. 231.261, F.S.; expanding the membership of the Education Practices Commission; revising the method of designating panels to review certificates; amending s. 231.263, F.S.; providing for a deferred prosecution agreement when enrolled in a recovery network treatment program; amending s. 231.28, F.S.; revising disciplinary procedures of the Education Practices Commission; amending s. 231.30, F.S.; providing standards for certification fees; amending s. 231.600, F.S.; providing criteria for inservice activities of professional

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development systems; requiring the Department of Education to provide a system for recruitment, preparation, and professional development of school administrators; amending ss. 231.625, 231.6255, F.S.; providing for the Department of Education to take over duties of the Office of Teacher Recruitment and Retention Services; amending s. 236.081, F.S.; conforming a statutory cross-reference; amending s. 236.08106, F.S.; raising the cap on the fee subsidy for the Excellent Teaching Program; creating the Florida Mentor Teacher School Pilot Program; providing standards for multiple career paths in teaching; providing criteria for the program; providing for salary incentives; providing for rulemaking authority; repealing s. 231.0861, F.S., relating to selection of principals and assistant principals; repealing s. 231.087, F.S., relating to management training; repealing s. 231.173, F.S., relating to out-of-state teachers and administrators; repealing s. 236.0811, F.S., relating to school board educational training programs; providing an effective date. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section 20.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1 20.15 Department of Education. -- There is created a 2

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- Department of Education. (3) DIVISIONS.--The following divisions of the
- Department of Education are established:
- (e) Division of Professional Educators Human Resource Development.

Section 2. Subsection (6) of section 230.303, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

230.303 Superintendent of schools.--

- (6)(a) The Department of Education Florida Council on Educational Management shall provide a leadership development and performance compensation program for superintendents of schools, comparable to chief executive officer development programs for corporate executive officers, to include:
- 1. A content-knowledge-and-skills phase consisting of: creative leadership models and theory, demonstration of effective practice, simulation exercises and personal skills practice, and assessment with feedback, taught in a professional training setting under the direction of experienced, successful trainers.
- A competency-acquisition phase consisting of on-the-job application of knowledge and skills for a period of not less than 6 months following the successful completion of the content-knowledge-and-skills phase. The competency-acquisition phase shall be supported by adequate professional technical assistance provided by experienced trainers approved by the Department of Education Florida Council on Educational Management. Competency acquisition shall be demonstrated through assessment and feedback.
- (b) Upon the successful completion of both phases and 31 demonstrated successful performance, as determined by the

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30 31 <u>Department of Education</u> Florida Council on Educational

Management, a superintendent of schools shall be issued a

Chief Executive Officer Leadership Development Certificate and shall be given an annual performance salary incentive of not less than \$3,000 or more than \$7,500 based upon his or her performance evaluation.

(c) A superintendent's eligibility to continue receiving the annual performance salary incentive is contingent upon his or her continued performance assessment and followup training prescribed by the Department of Education Florida Council on Educational Management.

Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 231.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

231.15 Positions for which certificates required.--

(1) The State Board of Education shall classify school services, designate the certification subject areas, establish competencies, including the use of technology to enhance student learning, and certification requirements for all school-based personnel, and prescribe rules in accordance with which the professional, temporary, and part-time certificates shall be issued by the Department of Education to applicants who meet the standards prescribed by such rules for their class of service. The rules must allow the holder of a valid professional certificate to add an area of certification without completing the associated course requirements if the certificateholder attains a passing score on an examination of competency in the subject area to be added, and provides evidence of at least 2 years of satisfactory performance evaluations that considered the performance of students taught by the certificateholder. The rules must allow individuals who have specific subject area expertise, but who have not

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completed a standard teacher preparation program, to participate in a state-approved alternative certification program for a professional certificate. As appropriate, this program must provide for demonstration competencies in lieu of completion of a specific number of college course credit hours in the areas of assessment, communication, critical thinking, human development and learning, classroom management, planning, technology, diversity, teacher responsibility, code of ethics, and continuous professional improvement. The State Board of Education shall consult with the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities, the State Board of Nonpublic Career Education, the Board of Regents, and the State Board of Community Colleges before adopting any changes to training requirements relating to entry into the profession. This consultation must allow the educational board to provide advice regarding the impact of the proposed changes in terms of the length of time necessary to complete the training program and the fiscal impact of the changes. The educational board must be consulted only when an institution offering the training program falls under its jurisdiction. Each person employed or occupying a position as school supervisor, principal, teacher, library media specialist, school counselor, athletic coach, or other position in which the employee serves in an instructional capacity, in any public school of any district of this state shall hold the certificate required by law and by rules of the state board in fulfilling the requirements of the law for the type of service rendered. However, the state board shall adopt rules authorizing school boards to employ selected noncertificated personnel to provide instructional services in the

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30 31 individuals' fields of specialty or to assist instructional staff members as education paraprofessionals.

Section 4. Section 231.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

231.17 Official statements of eligibility and certificates granted on application to those meeting prescribed requirements.--

- (1) APPLICATION. -- Each person seeking certification pursuant to this chapter shall submit a completed application to the Department of Education and remit the fee required pursuant to s. 231.30. Applications submitted shall contain the applicant's social security number. Pursuant to the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, each party is required to provide his or her social security number in accordance with this section. Disclosure of social security numbers obtained through this requirement shall be limited to the purpose of administration of the Title IV-D program for child support enforcement. Pursuant to s. 120.60, the Department of Education shall issue within 90 calendar days after the stamped receipted date of the completed application an official statement of eligibility for certification or a certificate covering the classification, level, and area for which the applicant is deemed qualified.
- (2) STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY.--The statement of eligibility must advise the applicant of the qualifications that must be completed to qualify for the temporary or professional certificate sought. Each statement of eligibility is valid for 2 years after its date of issuance except as provided in paragraph (3)(b) and may be reissued for one additional 2-year period if application is made while the

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initial statement of eligibility is valid or within 1 year after the initial statement expires.

- (3) TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE. --
- (a) The department shall issue a temporary certificate to any applicant who submits satisfactory evidence of possessing the qualifications for such a certificate as prescribed by this chapter and by rules of the state board. Each temporary certificate is valid for 3 school fiscal 2 years after the date of its issuance and is nonrenewable, except as otherwise provided in subsection (6).
- Issuance of the temporary certificate shall occur when the department:
- Receives the applicant's fingerprint reports from the Department of Law Enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation pursuant to s. 231.02. Upon the receipt of an employer's request for issuance of a certificate, if the fingerprint reports indicate a criminal history or if the applicant acknowledges a criminal history, the applicant's records shall be referred to the Bureau of Educator Standards for review and determination of eligibility for certification. If the applicant fails to provide the necessary documentation requested by the Bureau of Educator Standards within 90 days after the date of the receipt of the certified mail request, the statement of eligibility and pending application become invalid; -and
- 2. Determines that the applicant is qualified for the temporary certificate.
- (c) To qualify for a temporary certificate, the applicant must:
- 1. File a written statement under oath that the 31 applicant subscribes to and will uphold the principles

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incorporated in the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida.

- 2. Be at least 18 years of age.
- Document receipt of a bachelor's or higher degree from an accredited institution of higher learning, as defined by state board rule. Credits and degrees awarded by a newly created Florida state institution that is part of the State University System shall be considered as granted by an accredited institution of higher learning during the first 2 years of course offerings while accreditation is gained. Degrees from foreign institutions, or degrees from other institutions of higher learning that are in the accreditation process, may be validated by a process established in state board rule. Once an institution gains accreditation is gained, the institution shall be considered as accredited beginning with the 2-year period prior to the date of accreditation. The bachelor's or higher degree may not be required in areas approved in rule by the State Board of Education as nondegreed areas. Each applicant seeking initial certification must have attained at least a 2.5 overall grade point average on a 4.0 scale in the applicant's major field of study. The applicant may document the required education by submitting official transcripts from institutions of higher education or by authorizing the direct submission of such official transcripts through established electronic network systems.
- 4. Be competent and capable of performing the duties, functions, and responsibilities of a teacher.
 - 5. Be of good moral character.
- 6. Demonstrate mastery of subject-matter knowledge as specified in State-Board-of-Education rules. Effective July 1, 2002, individuals may also demonstrate mastery of

subject-matter knowledge by obtaining a passing score on an examination of competency as provided for in subsection (8).

This examination of subject-matter competency may be used for determining eligibility for initial certification or the addition of a subject to a certificate.

7.6. Demonstrate mastery of general knowledge, including the ability to read, write, compute, and use technology for classroom instruction. Individuals who apply for certification on or after July 1, 2000, must demonstrate these minimum competencies in order to receive a temporary certificate. Until July 1, 2002, acceptable means of demonstrating such mastery are is an individual's achievement of passing scores on another state's general knowledge examinations or a valid standard teaching certificate issued by another state that requires mastery of general knowledge.

Rules adopted pursuant to this section shall provide for the review and acceptance of credentials from foreign institutions of higher learning.

(4) PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE. -- The department shall

issue a professional certificate for a period not to exceed 5 years to any applicant who meets the requirements for a temporary certificate and documents successful completion of the following: mastery of the minimum competencies required by subsection (5). Mastery of the minimum competencies must be documented on a comprehensive written examination or through other criteria as specified by rules of the state board.

Mastery of minimum competencies required under subsection (5)

must be demonstrated in the following areas:

1	(a) The professional education subtest of the Florida
2	Teacher Certification Examination or other test of
3	professional knowledge as prescribed in subsection (8);
4	(b) The subject area examination or other test of
5	subject matter knowledge as prescribed in subsection (8);
6	(c) Demonstration of professional education competence
7	as prescribed in subsections (5) and (7);
8	(d) Professional preparation as prescribed in
9	subsection (7) or in state board rule; and
10	(e) Recent college credit as prescribed in state board
11	rule.
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13	An individual who meets requirements prescribed in subsection
14	(9) for experienced educators from other states will be
15	considered to have completed requirements for issuance of the
16	professional certificate.
17	(a) General knowledge, including the ability to read,
18	write, and compute, and use technology for classroom
19	instruction. However, individuals who apply for certification
20	on or after July 1, 2000, must demonstrate these minimum
21	competencies in order to receive a temporary certificate.
22	Acceptable means of for certification on or after July 1,
23	2000, must demonstrate these minimum competencies in order to
24	receive a temporary certificate. Acceptable means of
25	demonstrating such mastery is an individual's achievement of
26	passing scores on another state's general knowledge
27	examinations or a valid standard teaching certificate issued
28	by another state that requires mastery of general knowledge.
29	(b) Professional skills and knowledge of the standards
30	of professional practice.
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1 (c) The subject matter in each area for which 2 certification is sought. 3 (5) MINIMUM COMPETENCIES FOR PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE. --4 5 (a) The state board must specify, by rule, the minimum 6 essential competencies that educators must possess and demonstrate in order to qualify to teach students the 7 standards of student performance adopted by the state board. 8 9 The minimum competencies must include but are not limited to 10 the ability to: 11 (a)1. Write in a logical and understandable style with appropriate grammar and sentence structure. 12 13 (b) Read, comprehend, and interpret professional and other written material. 14 15 (c) 3. Comprehend and work with mathematical concepts, 16 including algebra. 17 (d)4. Recognize signs of students' difficulty with the 18 reading process and apply appropriate measures to improve 19 students' reading performance. 20 (e) 5. Recognize signs of severe emotional distress in students and apply techniques of crisis intervention with an 21 emphasis on suicide prevention and positive emotional 22 development. 23 24 (f) 6. Recognize signs of alcohol and drug abuse in 25 students and know how to appropriately work with such students and seek assistance designed to prevent future abuse. 26 27 (q)7. Recognize the physical and behavioral indicators 28 of child abuse and neglect, know rights and responsibilities 29 regarding reporting, know how to care for a child's needs

after a report is made, and know recognition, intervention,

31 and prevention strategies pertaining to child abuse and

neglect which can be related to children in a classroom setting in a nonthreatening, positive manner.

- (h)8. Comprehend patterns of physical, social, and academic development in students, including exceptional students in the regular classroom, and counsel these students concerning their needs in these areas.
- $\underline{\text{(i)}}9$. Recognize and be aware of the instructional needs of exceptional students.
- $\underline{(j)}$ 10. Comprehend patterns of normal development in students and employ appropriate intervention strategies for disorders of development.
- (k)11. Identify and comprehend the codes and standards of professional ethics, performance, and practices adopted pursuant to s. 231.546(2)(b), the grounds for disciplinary action provided by s. 231.28, and the procedures for resolving complaints filed pursuant to this chapter, including appeal processes.
- (1)12. Recognize and demonstrate awareness of the educational needs of students who have limited proficiency in English and employ appropriate teaching strategies.
- $\underline{\text{(m)}}$ 13. Use and integrate appropriate technology in teaching and learning processes and in managing, evaluating, and improving instruction.
- $\underline{\text{(n)}}$ 14. Use assessment and other diagnostic strategies to assist the continuous development of the learner.
- $\underline{\text{(o)}}$ 15. Use teaching and learning strategies that include considering each student's culture, learning styles, special needs, and socioeconomic background.
- $\underline{(p)}$ 16. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the subject matter that is aligned with the subject knowledge and

skills specified in the Sunshine State Standards and student performance standards approved by the state board.

 $\underline{(q)}$ 17. Recognize the early signs of truancy in students and identify effective interventions to avoid or resolve nonattendance behavior.

 $\underline{(r)}$ 18. Demonstrate knowledge and skill in managing student behavior inside and outside the classroom. Such knowledge and skill must include techniques for preventing and effectively responding to incidents of disruptive or violent behavior.

(s) 19. Demonstrate knowledge of and skill in developing and administering appropriate classroom assessment instruments designed to measure student learning gains.

 $\underline{\text{(t)}_{20}}$. Demonstrate the ability to maintain a positive collaborative relationship with students' families to increase student achievement.

(b) The state board shall designate the certification areas for subject area tests. However, an applicant may satisfy the subject area and professional knowledge testing requirements by attaining scores on corresponding tests from the National Teachers Examination series, and successors to that series, that meet standards established by the state board. The College Level Academic Skills Test, a similar test approved by the state board, or corresponding tests from the National Teachers Examination series must be used to demonstrate mastery of general knowledge as required in paragraphs (3)(c) and (4)(a). All required tests may be taken prior to graduation. The College Level Academic Skills Test shall be waived for any applicant who passed the reading, writing, and mathematics subtest of the former Florida Teacher Certification Examination or the College Level Academic Skills

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Test and subsequently obtained a certificate pursuant to this chapter.

(6) EXCEPTIONS FOR ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES.--

- (a) The department shall issue a temporary certificate to an applicant who meets all requirements established by law and rule for issuance of a professional certificate, other than passing the subject-area and professional knowledge examinations, demonstrating professional education competencies as required in subsection (7), examination or completing the professional education courses in which the applicant is deficient.
- (b) The department shall issue one nonrenewable 2-year temporary certificate and one nonrenewable 5-year professional certificate to a qualified applicant who holds a bachelor's degree in the area of speech-language impairment to allow for completion of a master's degree program in speech-language impairment.

(c) The state board shall adopt rules to allow the department to extend the validity period of a temporary certificate for 2 years reissue temporary certificates as follows:

- 1. One additional 2-year temporary certificate when the requirements for the professional certificate were not completed because of the serious illness, injury, or other extraordinary, extenuating circumstance of the applicant.
- 2. A 1-year extension of the temporary certificate for an applicant who was employed less than 99 days during the first year of teaching.
- 3. Two additional 2-year temporary certificates to an applicant who is completing the training and professional

education course requirements for an English or language arts
teacher of students with limited proficiency in English.

4. A 1-vear extension of the temporary certificate to

4. A 1-year extension of the temporary certificate to a foreign educated applicant who is completing professional certification requirements, or to a bilingual curriculum content teacher of students with limited proficiency in English.

5. One additional 2-year temporary certificate to an applicant who is completing college credits to satisfy the professional education requirements for certification.

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The department shall reissue the a temporary certificate for 2 additional years upon approval by the Commissioner of

Education. A upon the written request for reissuance of the certificate must be submitted by of the district school superintendent, the governing authority of a developmental research school, or the governing authority of a state-supported school or nonpublic school.

- (7) DEMONSTRATION OF PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COMPETENCE.--
- (a) By July 1, 2002, the department shall develop a cohesive competency-based alternative preparation program by which members of a school district's instructional staff may satisfy the professional education course requirements specified in rules of the state board of education and the demonstration of professional education competencies specified in paragraph (c) for issuance of a professional certificate.

 Participants must have demonstrated subject-area expertise in a certification subject designated by the state board and must hold a state-issued temporary certificate. The program must include the following components:

1	1. A minimum period of initial preparation before
2	assuming duties of the teacher of record;
3	2. An option for collaboration among school districts
4	and other supporting agencies for implementation;
5	3. Experienced peer mentors;
6	4. An assessment that provides for:
7	a. An initial evaluation of each educator's
8	competencies to determine an appropriate individualized
9	professional development plan; and
10	b. A postevaluation to assure successful completion of
11	the program; and
12	5. Content to include, but not be limited to, the
13	following:
14	a. Requirements specified in State-Board-of-Education
15	rules for professional preparation;
16	b. The educator-accomplished practices approved by the
17	State Board of Education;
18	c. A variety of data indicators for student progress;
19	d. Methodologies, including technology, for teaching
20	subject content which support the Sunshine State Standards for
21	students;
22	e. Techniques for effective classroom management;
23	f. Techniques and strategies for operationalizing the
24	role of the teacher in assuring a safe learning environment
25	for students; and
26	g. Methodologies for assuring the ability of all
27	students to read.
28	(b)(a) Until July 1, 2002, each school district may
29	develop and maintain an alternative certification program by
30	which members of the district's instructional staff may
31	satisfy the professional education course requirements

specified in rules of the state board for issuance of a professional certificate. The state board must adopt, by rule, standards and guidelines for the approval of alternative certification programs. Each approved program must include methods for identifying each applicant's entry-level teaching competencies and must require each applicant to:

- 1. Have expertise in the subject and meet requirements for specialization in a subject area for which a professional certificate may be issued under this chapter and rules of the state board.
- 2. Complete training in only those competency areas in which deficiencies are identified.
- 3. Complete the program and demonstrate professional education competence within 2 years after initial employment as a member of the district's instructional staff.

(c)(b) Each school district must develop and maintain a system by which members of the district's instructional staff may demonstrate the professional education competence required by this section for issuance of a professional certificate. Each district's system must be based on classroom application and instructional performance and must include a performance evaluation plan for documenting the demonstration of required professional education competence. Each individual employed as a member of the district's instructional staff on or after July 1, 1997, must demonstrate mastery of the required professional education competence within the first year of employment, unless the individual:

1. Has completed an approved teacher preparation program at a postsecondary institution within this state;

- 2. Has completed a teacher education training program and has had at least 2 years of successful full-time teaching experience in another state; or
- 3. <u>Until July 1, 2002</u>, is participating in the district's alternate certification program, and, beginning <u>July 1, 2002</u>, has completed the state-approved alternative preparation program as specified in paragraph (a).
- $\underline{\text{(d)}(c)}$ Each district school board may expend educational training funds provided under ss. 236.081 and 231.600 $\underline{236.0811}$ to implement this subsection.
- $\underline{\text{(e)}}$ The department must approve programs and systems developed to demonstrate professional education competence.
 - (8) EXAMINATIONS. --
- (a) The commissioner, with the approval of the state board, may contract for developing, printing, administering, scoring, and appropriate analysis of the written tests required.
- (b) The state board shall, by rule, specify the examination scores that are required for the issuance of a professional certificate and temporary certificate. Such rules must define generic subject area competencies and must establish uniform evaluation guidelines. Individuals who apply for their professional certificate before July 1, 2000, may demonstrate mastery of general knowledge pursuant to the alternative method specified by state board rule which must:
- 1. Apply only to an applicant who has successfully completed all prerequisites for issuance of the professional certificate, except passing one specific subtest of the College Level Academic Skills Test, and who has taken and

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failed to achieve a passing score on that subtest at least four times.

- 2. Require notification from the superintendent of the employing school district, the governing authority of the employing developmental research school, or the governing authority of the employing state-supported school or nonpublic school that the applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated mastery of the subject area covered by that specific subtest through successful experience in the professional application of generic subject area competencies and proficient academic performance in that subject area. The decision of the superintendent or governing authority shall be based on a review of the applicant's official academic transcript and notification from the applicant's principal, a peer teacher, and a district-level supervisor that the applicant has demonstrated successful professional experience in that subject area.
- (c) The state board shall designate the certification areas for subject-area tests. However, until July 1, 2002, an applicant may satisfy the subject-area and professional knowledge testing requirements by attaining scores on corresponding tests from the National Teachers Examination series, and successors to that series which meet standards established by the state board. Until July 1, 2002, the College Level Academic Skills Test, a similar test approved by the state board, corresponding tests from the National Teachers Examination series, or other acceptable means described in subparagraph (3)(c)7. must be used to demonstrate mastery of general knowledge as required in paragraph (3)(c). All required tests may be taken before graduation. The College Level Academic Skills Test is waived for any applicant who has

passed the reading, writing, and mathematics subtest of the former Florida Teacher Certification Examination or the College Level Academic Skills Test and subsequently obtained a certificate under this chapter. Beginning July 1, 2002, an applicant must satisfy the testing requirements in paragraph (8)(f).

 $\underline{(d)(c)}$ If an applicant takes an examination developed by this state and does not achieve the score necessary for certification, the applicant may review his or her completed examination and bring to the attention of the department any errors that would result in a passing score.

 $\underline{\text{(e)}(d)}$ For an examination developed by this state, the department and the board shall maintain confidentiality of the examination, developmental materials, and workpapers, and the examination, developmental materials, and workpapers are exempt from s. 119.07(1).

demonstration of mastery of general knowledge, professional knowledge, and subject-matter knowledge must be aligned with student standards approved by the State Board of Education. The delivery system for these examinations must provide for overall efficiency, user-friendly application, reasonable accessibility to prospective teachers, and prompt attainment of test results. The examination of competency for demonstration of subject-matter knowledge must be sufficiently comprehensive to assess subject-matter expertise for individuals who have acquired subject-matter knowledge either through college credit or by other means.

(9) SUCCESSFUL, EXPERIENCED, OUT-OF-STATE TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS.--

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- 1 (a) A successful, experienced, out-of-state teacher or 2 administrator qualifies for a professional certificate if he 3 or she:
 - Completes the application process, including the filing of a complete set of fingerprints as required by s. 231.02.
 - 2. Holds a valid standard certificate issued by the state where the applicant most recently taught, which standard certificate is equivalent to the professional certificate issued by this state and for which specialization coverage is based on a level of training comparable to that required in this state for the specialization coverage sought by the applicant.
 - 3. Documents 3 continuous years of successful full-time teaching or administrative experience in another state during the 5-year period immediately preceding the date of application for certification.
 - (b) An out-of-state applicant qualifies for a professional certificate if the applicant meets the requirements of subparagraphs (a)1. and 2. and holds a valid certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
 - (c) The professional certificate issued in accordance with paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) must indicate the specialization coverages shown on the out-of-state certificate which correspond to coverages designated by the state board.
 - (10)(9) NONCITIZENS.--
- The state board may adopt rules for issuing certificates to noncitizens who may be needed to teach and who are legally admitted to the United States through the United 31 | States Immigration and Naturalization Service. The filing of

a written oath to uphold the principles of the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida, required under subparagraph (3)(c)1., does not apply to individuals assigned to teach on an exchange basis.

(b) A certificate may not be issued to a citizen of a nation controlled by forces that are antagonistic to democratic forms of government, except to an individual who has been legally admitted to the United States through the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

(11)(10) DENIAL OF CERTIFICATE.--

- (a) The Department of Education may deny an applicant a certificate if the department possesses evidence satisfactory to it that the applicant has committed an act or acts, or that a situation exists, for which the Education Practices Commission would be authorized to revoke a teaching certificate.
- (b) The decision of the Department of Education is subject to review by the Education Practices Commission upon the filing of a written request from the applicant within 20 days after receipt of the notice of denial.
- $\underline{\text{(12)}}$ (11) STATE BOARD RULES.--The State Board of Education shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.
- $\underline{(13)(12)}$ PRIOR APPLICATION.--Persons who apply for initial professional or temporary certification are governed by the law and rules in effect at the time of application for issuance of the initial certificate.
- $\underline{(14)}$ (13) PERSONNEL RECORDS.—The Department of Education shall maintain a complete statement of the academic preparation, professional training, and teaching experience of each person to whom a certificate is issued. The applicant or

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the superintendent shall furnish the information using a format or forms provided by the department.

(15)(14) AUTHORITY OF COMMISSIONER.--The Commissioner of Education is authorized to make decisions regarding an applicant's certification under extenuating circumstances not otherwise provided for in statute or by rule. However, an applicant for certification approved by the commissioner must possess the credentials, knowledge, and skills necessary to provide quality education in the public schools.

Section 5. Section 231.1725, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

231.1725 Employment of substitute teachers, teachers of adult education, and nondegreed teachers of career education, and career specialists; students performing clinical field experience .--

- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 231.02, 231.15, and 231.17, or any other provision of law or rule to the contrary, each school board shall establish the minimal qualifications for:
- (a) Substitute teachers to be employed pursuant to s. 231.47. The qualifications shall require the filing of a complete set of fingerprints in the same manner as required by s. 231.02.
- (b) Part-time and full-time teachers in adult education programs. The qualifications shall require the filing of a complete set of fingerprints in the same manner as required by s. 231.02. Faculty employed solely to conduct postsecondary instruction may be exempted from this requirement.
- (c) Part-time and full-time nondegreed teachers of 31 vocational programs. Qualifications shall be established for

agriculture, business, health occupations, family and consumer sciences, industrial, marketing, <u>career specialist</u>, and public service education teachers, based primarily on successful occupational experience rather than academic training. The qualifications for such teachers shall require:

The filing of a complete set of fingerprints in the

- same manner as required by s. 231.02. Faculty employed solely to conduct postsecondary instruction may be exempted from this requirement.
 - 2. Documentation of education and successful occupational experience including documentation of:
 - a. A high school diploma or the equivalent.
 - b. Completion of 6 years of full-time successful occupational experience or the equivalent of part-time experience in the teaching specialization area. Alternate means of determining successful occupational experience may be established by the school board.
 - c. Completion of career education training conducted through the local school district inservice master plan.
 - d. For full-time teachers, completion of professional education training in teaching methods, course construction, lesson planning and evaluation, and teaching special needs students. This training may be completed through coursework from a standard institution or an approved district teacher education program.
 - e. Demonstration of successful teaching performance.
 - (2) Substitute, adult education, and nondegreed career education teachers who are employed pursuant to this section shall have the same rights and protection of laws as certified teachers.

(3) A student who is enrolled in a state-approved teacher preparation program in an institution of higher education which is approved by rules of the State Board of Education and who is jointly assigned by the institution of higher education and a school board to perform a clinical field experience under the direction of a regularly employed and certified educator shall, while serving such supervised clinical field experience, be accorded the same protection of law as that accorded to the certified educator except for the right to bargain collectively as an employee of the school board.

Section 6. Section 231.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 231.24 Process for renewal of professional certificates.--
- (1)(a) School districts in this state shall renew state-issued professional certificates as follows:
- 1. Each school district shall renew state-issued professional certificates for individuals who hold a professional certificate by this state and are employed by that district pursuant to criteria established in subsections (2), (3), and (4) and requirements specified in rules of the State Board of Education.
- 2. The employing school district may charge the individual an application fee not to exceed the amount charged by the Department of Education for such services, including associated late renewal fees. Each school board shall transmit monthly to the department \$20, or a fee established by the state board, for each renewed certificate that is renewed for the first time to cover the costs for maintenance and operation of the statewide certification database and for

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costs incurred in printing and mailing such renewed certificates. As defined in current rules of the State Board of Education, the department shall contribute a portion of such fee for purposes of funding the Educator Recovery Network established in s. 231.263. The department shall deposit all funds into the Educational Certification Trust Fund for use as specified in s. 231.30.

- (b) The department shall renew state-issued professional certificates for individuals who are not employed by a school board of this state pursuant to criteria established in subsections (2), (3), and (4) and requirements specified in rules of the State Board of Education.
- (2) All professional certificates, except a nonrenewable professional certificate, shall be renewable for successive periods not to exceed 5 years after the date of submission of documentation of completion of the requirements for renewal provided in subsection (3). Only one renewal may be granted during each 5-year validity period of a professional certificate., except that A teacher with national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is deemed to meet state renewal requirements for the life of the teacher's national certificate in the subject shown on the national certificate. However, if the renewal application form is not received by the department or by the employing school district before the expiration of the professional certificate, the application form, application fee, and a late fee must be submitted before July 1 of the year following expiration of the certificate in order to renew the professional certificate. The state board shall adopt rules to allow a 1-year extension of the validity 31 period of a professional certificate in the event of serious

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illness, injury, or other extraordinary extenuating circumstances of the applicant. The department shall grant such 1-year extension upon written request by the applicant or by the superintendent of the local school district or the governing authority of a developmental research school, state-supported school, or nonpublic school that employs the applicant.

- (3) For the renewal of a professional certificate, the following requirements must be met:
- The applicant must earn a minimum of 6 college credits or 120 inservice points or a combination thereof. For each area of specialization to be retained on a certificate, the applicant must earn at least 3 of the required credit hours or equivalent inservice points in the specialization area. Education in "clinical educator" training pursuant to s. 240.529(5)(b) and credits or points that provide training in the area of exceptional student education, normal child development, and the disorders of development may be applied toward any specialization area. Credits or points that provide training in the areas of drug abuse, child abuse and neglect, strategies in teaching students having limited proficiency in English, or dropout prevention, or training in areas identified in the educational goals and performance standards adopted pursuant to ss. 229.591(3) and 229.592 may be applied toward any specialization area. Credits or points earned through approved summer institutes may be applied toward the fulfillment of these requirements. Inservice points may also be earned by participation in professional growth components approved by the State Board of Education and specified pursuant to s. 231.600 s. 236.0811 in the district's approved master plan for inservice educational training, including, but

not limited to, serving as a trainer in an approved teacher training activity, serving on an instructional materials committee or a state board or commission that deals with educational issues, or serving on an advisory council created pursuant to s. 229.58.

- (b) In lieu of college course credit or inservice points, the applicant may renew a specialization area by passage of a state board approved subject area test., by completion of the national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in that specialization area, or by completion of a department approved summer work program in a business or industry directly related to an area of specialization listed on the certificate. The state board shall adopt rules providing for the approval procedure.
- (c) If an applicant wishes to retain more than two specialization areas on the certificate, the applicant shall be permitted two successive validity periods for renewal of all specialization areas, but must earn no fewer than 6 college course credit hours or the equivalent in any one validity period.
- (d) The state board shall approve rules for the expanded use of training for renewal of the professional certificate for educators who are required to complete training in teaching students of limited English proficiency as follows:
- A teacher who holds a professional certificate may use college credits or inservice points completed in English-for-Speakers-of-Other-Languages training in excess of 6 semester hours during one comprehensive period toward

renewal of the professional certificate during the subsequent validity periods.

- 2. A teacher who holds a temporary certificate may use college credits or inservice points completed in English-for-Speakers-of-Other-Languages training toward renewal of the teacher's first professional certificate. Such training must not have been included within the degree program, and the teacher's temporary and professional certificates must be issued for consecutive school years.
- (4) When any person who holds a valid temporary certificate or professional certificate is called into or volunteers for actual wartime service or required peacetime military service training, the certificate shall be renewed for a period of time equal to the time spent in military service if the person makes proper application and presents substantiating evidence to the department or the employing school district regarding such military service.
- (5) The state board shall adopt rules to allow the reinstatement of expired professional certificates. The department may reinstate an expired professional certificate within $\underline{5}$ 3 years after the date of expiration if the certificateholder:
- (a) Submits an application for reinstatement of the expired certificate.
- (b) Documents completion of 6 college credits during the 5 years immediately preceding reinstatement of the expired certificate, completion of 120 inservice points, or a combination thereof, in an area specified in paragraph (3)(a).
- (c) During the 5 years immediately preceding reinstatement of the certificate, achieves a passing score on

the subject area test for each subject to be shown on the reinstated certificate.

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The requirements of this subsection may not be satisfied by subject area tests or college credits completed for issuance of the certificate that has expired.

Section 7. Subsections (1) and (8) of section 231.261, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

231.261 Education Practices Commission; organization. --

- (1) There is created the Education Practices Commission, to consist of 17 15 members, including 7 teachers, 5 administrators, and 5 $\frac{3}{2}$ lay citizens (of whom 2 shall be former school board members), appointed by the State Board of Education from nominations by the Commissioner of Education and subject to Senate confirmation. Prior to making nominations, the commissioner shall consult with the teaching and other involved associations in the state. In making nominations, the commissioner shall attempt to achieve equal geographical representation, as closely as possible.
- (a) A teacher member, in order to be qualified for appointment:
 - 1. Must be certified to teach in the state.
 - 2. Must be a resident of the state.
- Must have practiced the profession in this state for at least 5 years immediately preceding the appointment.
- (b) A school administrator member, in order to be qualified for appointment:
- 1. Must have an endorsement on the teaching certificate in the area of school administration or 31 supervision.

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- 2. Must be a resident of the state.
- 3. Must have practiced the profession as an administrator for at least 5 years immediately preceding the appointment.
 - (c) The lay members must be residents of the state.
- (8)(a) The designee of the chairperson of the commission shall, from time to time, designate members of the commission to serve on be divided into two panels for the purpose of reviewing and issuing final orders in upon cases presented to the commission it. A case recommended order concerning a complaint against a teacher must shall be reviewed and a final order thereon entered acted upon by a panel composed of seven commission members four of whom must be teachers, two lay citizens, and one administrator from the commission. A case recommended order concerning a complaint against an administrator must shall be reviewed and a final order thereon entered acted upon by a panel composed of seven commission members four of whom must be administrators, two lay citizens, and one teacher from the commission. Notwithstanding the requirements of this paragraph for the number of teachers and administrators on a panel, any four members of a panel designated for a particular meeting constitute a quorum of that panel for that meeting, and a quorum is necessary for the panel to take official action.
- (b) A majority of the members of a panel The panels of the commission who are present shall have final agency authority in all cases involving the revocation or and suspension of certificates of teachers or and school administrators or involving other disciplinary action against teachers or school administrators. The local school board

 shall retain the authority to discipline teachers and administrators pursuant to law.

Section 8. Section 231.263, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

231.263 Recovery network program for educators.--

- (1) <u>RECOVERY NETWORK ESTABLISHED.--</u>There is created within the Department of Education, to begin on July 1, 1994, a recovery network program to assist educators who are impaired as a result of alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or a mental condition in obtaining treatment to permit their continued contribution to the education profession. Any person who holds certification issued by the department pursuant to s. 231.17 is eligible for the assistance.
 - (2) RECOVERY NETWORK STAFF. --
- (a) The department shall employ an administrator and staff as are necessary to be assigned exclusively to the recovery network program.
- (b) The Commissioner of Education shall establish the criteria for and appoint the staff of the program.
- (c) The department may contract with other professionals to implement this section.
- program shall assist educators in obtaining treatment and services from approved treatment providers, but each impaired educator must pay for his or her treatment under terms and conditions agreed upon by the impaired educator and the treatment provider. A person who is admitted to the program must contract with the treatment provider and the program. The treatment contract must prescribe the type of treatment and the responsibilities of the impaired educator and of the

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provider and must provide that the impaired educator's progress will be monitored by the program.

- (4) APPROVAL OF TREATMENT PROVIDERS. -- The recovery network program shall locate, evaluate, and approve qualified treatment providers.
- (5) RELATIONSHIP WITH EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION .-- The recovery network program shall operate independently of, but may cooperate with, the Office of Professional Practices Services of the Department of Education and the Education Practices Commission. A person's participation in the program entitles the commissioner to enter into a deferred prosecution agreement pursuant to s. 231.262, or such participation may be considered a factor in mitigation of or a condition of disciplinary action against the person's certificate by the Education Practices Commission pursuant to s. 231.28.
- (6) PARTICIPATION IN RECOVERY NETWORK PROGRAM. -- The recovery network program shall operate independently of employee assistance programs operated by local school districts, and the powers and duties of school districts to make employment decisions, including disciplinary decisions, is not affected except as provided in this section:
- (a) Educator not subject to investigation or proceedings. -- A person who is not subject to investigation or proceedings under ss. 231.262 and 231.28 may voluntarily seek assistance through a local school district employee assistance program for which he or she is eligible and through the recovery network, regardless of action taken against him or her by a school district. Voluntarily seeking assistance alone does not subject a person to proceedings under ss. 231.262 and 31 231.28.

- proceedings.—A person who is subject to investigation or proceedings under ss. 231.262 and 231.28 may be required to participate in the program. The program may approve a local employee assistance program as a treatment provider or as a means of securing a treatment provider. The program and the local school district shall cooperate so that the person may obtain treatment without limiting the school district's statutory powers and duties as an employer or the disciplinary procedures under ss. 231.262 and 231.28.
- (c) Deferred prosecution agreements with educator not previously investigated.--A person who has not previously been under investigation by the Department of Education may be enrolled in a treatment program by the recovery network after an investigation has commenced, if the person:
 - 1. Acknowledges his or her impairment;
- 2. Agrees to evaluation as approved by the recovery network;
- 3. Agrees to enroll in an appropriate treatment program approved by the recovery network;
- 4. Executes releases to the recovery network program for all medical and treatment records regarding his or her impairment and participation in a treatment program under 42 U.S.C. s. 290dd-3 and the federal regulations adopted thereunder;
- 5. Enters into a deferred-prosecution agreement with the Commissioner of Education which provides that a prosecution may not be instituted concerning the matters enumerated in the agreement while the person is properly enrolled in the treatment program and successfully completing the program as certified by the recovery network. The

Commissioner of Education is under no obligation to enter into a deferred-prosecution agreement with the educator but may do so if he or she determines that it is in the best interests of the educational program of the state; and

- 6. Has not previously entered any substance abuse program, is not being investigated for any action involving a felony or violence against another person, and has not had multiple arrests for minor drug use, possession, or abuse of alcohol. If the educator violates the provisions of the deferred-prosecution agreement, fails to complete the program, or in any other fashion becomes ineligible for the treatment program provided by the recovery network, the Department of Education must be notified of the educator's failure and the department shall continue its investigation and take action against the educator's certificate pursuant to s. 231.262.

 Upon notification of failure of the recovery network program all records not otherwise excluded are to be considered public records as provided in this chapter.
- (7) <u>REFERRAL WHEN NO PROBABLE CAUSE FOUND.--</u>If a complaint is made to the department against a teacher or an administrator pursuant to s. 231.262 and a finding of no probable cause indicates that no concern other than impairment exists, the department shall inform the person of the availability of assistance provided by the recovery network program.
- (8) <u>ADMISSION TO THE RECOVERY NETWORK.--</u>A person who is referred or who requests admission to the recovery network program shall be temporarily admitted pending a finding that he or she has:
 - (a) Acknowledged his or her impairment problem.

- 1 (b) Agreed to evaluation as approved by the recovery 2 network program.
 - (c) Voluntarily enrolled in an appropriate treatment program approved by the recovery network program.
 - (d) Voluntarily sought agreement from the school district for temporary leave or limitations on the scope of employment if the temporary leave or limitations are included in the treatment provider's recommendations; or voluntarily agreed to pursue the alternative treatment recommended by the treatment provider if the school district does not approve such temporary leave or limitations on the scope of employment.
 - (e) Executed releases to the recovery network program for all medical and treatment records regarding his or her impairment and participation in a treatment program pursuant to 42 U.S.C. s. 290dd-3 and the federal regulations adopted thereunder.
 - treatment provider must disclose to the recovery network program all information in its possession which relates to a person's impairment and participation in the treatment program. Information obtained under this subsection is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This exemption is necessary to promote the rehabilitation of impaired educators and to protect the privacy of treatment program participants. The failure to provide such information to the program is grounds for withdrawal of approval of a treatment provider. Medical records provided to the program may not be disclosed to any other person, except as authorized by law.
 - (10) DECLARATION OF INELIGIBILITY. --

of the treatment provider.

case and provide a report.

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- 31 and issuing the administrative complaint and the

(a) A person may be declared ineligible for further

(b) The determination of ineligibility must be made by

assistance from the recovery network program if he or she does

not progress satisfactorily in a treatment program or leaves a

prescribed program or course of treatment without the approval

commissioner, the administrator must discuss the circumstances

with the treatment provider. The commissioner may direct the

(c) If a treatment contract with the program is a

Office of Professional Practices Services to investigate the

the commissioner in cases referred to him or her by the program administrator. Before referring a case to the

condition of a deferred prosecution agreement, and the

commissioner determines that the person is ineligible for

further assistance, the commissioner may agree to modify the

terms and conditions of the deferred prosecution agreement or may issue an administrative complaint, pursuant to s. 231.262,

alleging the charges regarding which prosecution was deferred.

The person may dispute the determination as an affirmative defense to the administrative complaint by including with his

or her request for hearing on the administrative complaint a

administrative complaint, pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57,

result in a finding that the determination of ineligibility

was erroneous, the person is eligible to participate in the

program. If the determination of ineligibility was the only reason for setting aside the deferred prosecution agreement

written statement setting forth the facts and circumstances

that show that the determination of ineligibility was

erroneous. If administrative proceedings regarding the

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administrative proceedings result in a finding that the determination was erroneous, the complaint shall be dismissed and the deferred prosecution agreement reinstated without prejudice to the commissioner's right to reissue the administrative complaint for other breaches of the agreement.

- (d) If a treatment contract with the program is a condition of a final order of the Education Practices Commission, the commissioner's determination of ineligibility constitutes a finding of probable cause that the person failed to comply with the final order. The commissioner shall issue an administrative complaint, and the case shall proceed under ss. 231.262 and 231.28, in the same manner as cases based on a failure to comply with an order of the Education Practices Commission.
- (e) If the person voluntarily entered into a treatment contract with the program, the commissioner shall issue a written notice stating the reasons for the determination of ineligibility. Within 20 days after the date of such notice, the person may contest the determination of ineligibility pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57.
- (11) RELEASE AND DISCLOSURE OF MEDICAL RECORDS. -- Medical records released pursuant to paragraph (8)(e) may be disclosed to the commissioner, the Office of Professional Practices Services, and the Education Practices Commission only as required for purposes of this section, or as otherwise authorized by law. Further disclosure or release of the medical records may not be made except as authorized by law and in accordance with 42 U.S.C. s. 290dd-2 and the federal regulations adopted thereunder. The medical records are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), 31 Art. I of the State Constitution.

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- CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

- (12) FEES.--The State Board of Education shall include in the fees established pursuant to s. 231.30 an amount sufficient to implement the provisions of this section. state board shall by rule establish procedures and additional standards for:
- (a) Approving treatment providers, including appropriate qualifications and experience, amount of reasonable fees and charges, and quality and effectiveness of treatment programs provided.
 - (b) Admitting eligible persons to the program.
- (c) Evaluating impaired persons by the recovery network program.
- Section 9. Subsection (6) of section 231.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 231.28 Education Practices Commission; authority to discipline . - -
- (6)(a) When an individual violates the provisions of a settlement agreement enforced by a final order of the Education Practices Commission, an order to show cause may be issued by the clerk of the commission. The order shall require the individual to appear before the commission to show cause why further penalties should not be levied against the individual's certificate pursuant to the authority provided to the Education Practices Commission in subsection (1). The Education Practices Commission shall have the authority to fashion further penalties under the authority of subsection (1) as deemed appropriate when the show cause order is responded to by the individual.
- (b) If an individual has been found to have violated this section such that the Education Practices Commission has the authority to take action against the individual's Florida

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Educator's Certificate on two separate occasions, or if the individual has entered into a settlement agreement enforced by a final order of the Education Practices Commission for the second time, or any combination of two instances of settlement agreement and a finding of a violation of this section, the Educational Practices Commission shall, upon a third finding of probable cause by the Commissioner of Education and a finding that the allegations are proven or admitted to, issue a final order revoking the individual's Florida Educator's Certificate for a minimum of 1 year. If, in the third instance, the individual enters into a settlement agreement with the Department of Education, that agreement must also include a penalty revoking that individual's Florida Educator's Certificate for a minimum of 1 year. Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 231.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

231.30 Certification fees.--

(1) The State Board of Education, by rule, shall establish separate fees for applications, examinations, certification, certification renewal, late renewal, recordmaking, and recordkeeping, and may establish procedures for scheduling and administering an examination upon an applicant's request. Each fee shall be based on department estimates of the revenue required to implement the provisions of law with respect to certification of school personnel and shall not exceed \$60, except as otherwise provided in this section. The application fee shall be nonrefundable. Each examination fee shall be sufficient to cover the actual cost of developing and administering the examination, but shall not exceed \$60 for any regularly scheduled examination or \$100 for an examination administered upon an applicant's request.

 Effective July 1, 2002, the examination fee must be based upon the cost of developing and administering the examination.

Section 11. Section 231.600, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

231.600 School Community Professional Development Act.--

- (1) The Department of Education, public community colleges and universities, public school districts, and public schools in this state shall collaborate to establish a coordinated system of professional development. The purpose of the professional development system is to enable the school community to meet state and local student achievement standards and the state education goals and to succeed in school improvement as described in s. 229.591.
- (2) The school community includes administrators, instructional personnel, support personnel, principals, members of district school boards, members of school advisory councils, parents, business partners, and personnel that provide health and social services to school children. School districts may identify and include additional members of the school community in the professional development activities required by this section.
- $\hbox{(3)} \quad \hbox{The activities designed to implement this section} \\$ $\hbox{must:}$
- (a) Increase the success of educators in guiding student learning and development so as to implement state and local educational standards, goals, and initiatives;
- (b) Assist the school community in providing stimulating educational activities that encourage and motivate students to achieve at the highest levels and to become active learners; and

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- (c) Provide continuous support for all educational professionals as well as temporary intervention for education professionals who need improvement in knowledge, skills, and performance.
- (4) The Department of Education, school districts, schools, and public colleges and universities share the responsibilities described in this section. responsibilities include the following:
- (a) The department shall develop and disseminate to the school community model professional development methods and programs that have demonstrated success in meeting identified student needs. The Commissioner of Education shall use data on student achievement to identify student needs. The methods of dissemination must include a statewide performance support system, a database of exemplary professional development activities, a listing of available professional development resources, training programs, and technical assistance.
- (b) Each district school board shall develop a professional development system. The system must be developed in consultation consult with teachers and representatives of college and university faculty, community agencies, and other interested citizen groups to establish policy and procedures to guide the operation of the district professional development program. The professional development system must:
- 1. Be approved by the Department of Education. All substantial revisions to the system must be submitted to the department for review for continued approval;
- 2.1. Require that principals and schools use student 31 achievement data, school discipline data, school environment

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surveys, assessments of parental satisfaction, <u>performance</u> appraisal data of teachers and school administrators, and other performance indicators to identify school and student needs that can be met by improved professional performance, and assist principals and schools in making these identifications;

- 3.2. Provide inservice training activities and coupled with followup support that are is appropriate to accomplish district-level and school-level improvement goals and standards. The inservice activities for instructional personnel must primarily focus on subject content and teaching methods, including technology, as related to the Sunshine State Standards; assessment and data analysis; classroom management; and school safety;
- 4. Include a master plan for inservice activities, under rules of the State Board of Education, for all district employees from all fund sources. The master plan must be updated annually by September 1 using criteria for continued approval as specified by rules of the State Board of Education. Written verification that the inservice plan meets all requirements of this section must be submitted annually to the commissioner by October 1;
- 5. Require each school principal to establish and maintain an individual professional development plan for each instructional employee assigned to the school. The individual professional development plan must:
- a. Be related to specific performance data for the students to whom the teacher is assigned;
- b. Define the inservice objectives and specific
 measurable improvements expected in student performance as a
 result of the inservice activity; and

- c. Include an evaluation component that determines the effectiveness of the professional development plan;
 6. Include inservice activities for school
 - administrators that address updated skills necessary for effective school management and instructional leadership;
 - 7.3. Provide for systematic consultation with regional and state personnel designated to provide technical assistance and evaluation of local professional development programs;
 - 8.4. Provide for delivery of professional development by distance learning and other technology-based delivery systems to reach more educators at lower costs; and
 - 9.5. Provide for the continuous evaluation of Continuously evaluate the quality and effectiveness of professional development programs in order to eliminate ineffective programs and strategies and to expand effective ones. Evaluations must consider the impact of such activities on the performance of participating educators and their students' achievement and behavior.
 - (c) Each public community college and university shall assist the department, school districts, and schools in the design, delivery, and evaluation of professional development activities. This assistance must include active participation in state and local activities required by the professional development system.
 - (5)(a) The Department of Education shall provide a system for recruitment, preparation, and professional development of school administrators. This system must:
 - 1. Identify the knowledge, competencies, and skills necessary for effective school management and instructional leadership which align with student performance standards and accountability measures;

- 2. Include performance evaluation methods;
- 3. Provide for alternative means for preparation of school administrators, which may include programs designed by school districts and institutions of higher education under guidelines developed by the commissioner. The administrator preparation programs must be approved by the Department of Education;
- 4. Provide for the hiring of qualified out-of-state school administrators; and
- 5. Provide advanced educational opportunities for school-based instructional leaders.
- (b) The Commissioner of Education shall appoint a task force that includes a school district superintendent, a school board member, a principal, an assistant principal, a teacher, a dean of a college of education, and parents. The task force shall convene periodically to provide recommendations to the Department of Education in the areas of recruitment, preparation, professional development, and evaluation of school administrators.
- (6)(5) Each district school board shall provide funding for the <u>professional development</u> system as required by s. 236.081 <u>and the annual General Appropriations Act</u>, and shall direct expenditures from other funding sources to strengthen the system and make it uniform and coherent. A school district may coordinate its professional development program with that of another district, with an educational consortium, or with a college or university, especially in preparing and educating personnel.
- (7) (6) The Department of Education shall design methods by which the state and district school boards may evaluate and improve the professional development system. The

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evaluation must include an annual assessment of data that indicate progress or lack of progress of all students. If the review of data indicates an achievement level that is unusual, the department may investigate the causes of the success or lack of success, may provide technical assistance, and may require the school district to employ a different approach to professional development. The department shall report annually to the State Board of Education and the Legislature any school district that, in the determination of the department, has failed to provide an adequate professional development system. This report must include the results of the department's investigation and of any intervention provided.

(8)(7) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to administer this section.

(9)(8) This section does not limit or discourage a district school board from contracting with independent entities for professional development services and inservice education if the school board believes that, through such a contract, a better product can be acquired or its goals for education improvement can be better met.

 $(10)\frac{(9)}{(9)}$ For teachers and administrators who have been evaluated as less than satisfactory, a school board may require participation in specific professional development programs as part of the improvement prescription.

Section 12. Subsection (3) of section 231.625, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

231.625 Teacher recruitment and retention.--

The Department of Education Office of Teacher (3) Recruitment and Retention Services, in cooperation with 31 district personnel offices, shall sponsor a job fair in a

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central part of the state to match in-state educators and out-of-state educators with teaching opportunities in this state.

Section 13. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 231.6255, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

231.6255 Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for Education Program. --

- (2) There is established the Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for Education Program to provide salary, travel, and other related expenses annually for an outstanding Florida teacher to promote the positive aspects of teaching as a career. The goals of the program are to:
- (g) Work with and represent the Department of Education Office of Teacher Recruitment and Retention Services, as needed.
- (4)(a) The Department of Education and the Office of Teacher Recruitment and Retention Services shall administer the program.

Section 14. Subsection (3) of section 236.081, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

236.081 Funds for operation of schools.--If the annual allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each district for operation of schools is not determined in the annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as follows:

INSERVICE EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL TRAINING EXPENDITURE. -- Of the amount computed in subsections (1) and (2), a percentage of the base student allocation per full-time 31 equivalent student shall be expended for educational training

programs as determined by the district school board as provided in <u>s. 231.600</u> <u>s. 236.0811</u>. This percentage shall remain constant and shall be calculated by dividing \$6 by the 1990-1991 base student allocation. At least two-thirds of the funds so determined shall be expended as provided in s. 231.600, and such funds may be used for implementation of the demonstration of professional education competence program as provided in s. 231.17. Funds as provided herein may be expended only for the direct support of inservice training activities as prescribed below:

- (a) Salaries and benefits of:
- 1. Personnel directly administering the approved inservice training program.
- 2. School board employees while such personnel are conducting an approved inservice training program.
- 3. Substitutes for personnel released to participate in an approved inservice training program or an inservice council activity.
- (b) Other direct operating expenses, excluding capital outlay, required for administering the approved inservice training program, including, but not limited to, the following:
- 1. Inservice training materials for approved inservice training activities.
- 2. Data processing for approved inservice training activities.
- 3. Telephone for the approved inservice training program.
- 4. Office supplies for the personnel administering the approved inservice training program.

- 5. Duplicating and printing for approved inservice training activities.
 - 6. Fees and travel and per diem expenses for consultants used in conducting approved inservice training activities.
 - 7. Travel and per diem expenses for school district personnel attending approved inservice conferences, workshops, or visitations to schools.
 - 8. Rental of facilities not owned by the school board for use in conducting an approved inservice training program.
 - (c) Compensation may be awarded under this subsection to employees engaged in inservice training activities which are outside of, or in addition to, regular hours of duty assignments or a regular day of a contract period for which regular compensation is provided. No moneys shall be authorized under this subsection for additional salaries and benefits constituting dual compensation to employees participating in inservice activities if such activities are within regular hours of duty assignments or within a regular day of a contract period for which regular compensation is provided.
 - (d) Funds may be expended to pay tuition or registration fees for college courses provided the course is identified in the district's approved master plan and the employee does not receive college credit. However, an employee may be awarded college credit for successful participation in exempted inservice programs that are identified by the Department of Education in State Board of Education rule and for which the employee shall pay the regular tuition and registration fees assessed by the credit-granting institution. Courses for these exempted programs shall be arranged and

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conducted in compliance with procedures that are developed cooperatively by the Department of Education and the Board of Regents and are also included in State Board of Education rule. Provision for payment of tuition and registration fees for such credit-earning courses shall be contained in State Board of Education rule.

Section 15. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (2) of section 236.08106, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 236.08106 Excellent Teaching Program. --

- (2) The Excellent Teaching Program is created to provide categorical funding for monetary incentives and bonuses for teaching excellence. The Department of Education shall distribute to each school district or to the NBPTS an amount as prescribed annually by the Legislature for the Excellent Teaching Program. Unless otherwise provided in the General Appropriations Act, each distribution shall be the sum of the amounts earned for the following incentives and bonuses:
- (a) A fee subsidy to be paid by the Department of Education to the NBPTS on behalf of each individual who is an employee of a district school board or a public school within the school district, who is certified by the district to have demonstrated satisfactory teaching performance pursuant to s. 231.29 and who satisfies the prerequisites for participating in the NBPTS certification program, and who agrees, in writing, to pay 10 percent of the NBPTS participation fee and to participate in the NBPTS certification program during the school year for which the fee subsidy is provided. The fee subsidy for each eligible participant shall be an amount equal to 90 percent of the fee charged for participating in the 31 | NBPTS certification program, but not more than\$2,070\$1,800

per eligible participant. The fee subsidy is a one-time award and may not be duplicated for any individual.

(d) An annual bonus equal to 10 percent of the prior fiscal year's statewide average salary for classroom teachers to be distributed to the school district to be paid to each individual who meets the requirements of paragraph (c) and agrees, in writing, to provide the equivalent of 12 workdays of mentoring and related services to public school teachers within the state district who do not hold NBPTS certification. The district school board shall distribute the annual bonus in a single payment following the completion of all required mentoring and related services for the year. It is not the intent of the Legislature to remove excellent teachers from their assigned classrooms; therefore, credit may not be granted by a school district or public school for mentoring or related services provided during the regular school day or during the 196 days of required service for the school year.

A teacher for whom the state pays the certification fee and who does not complete the certification program or does not teach in a public school of this state for a least 1 year after completing the certification program must repay the amount of the certification fee to the state. However, a teacher who completes the certification program but fails to be awarded NBPTS certification is not required to repay the amount of the certification fee if the teacher meets the 1-year teaching requirement. Repayment is not required of a teacher who does not complete the certification program or fails to fulfill the teaching requirement because of the teacher's death or disability or because of other extenuating circumstances as determined by the State Board of Education.

1 Section 16. Florida Mentor Teacher School Pilot 2 Program. --3 (1) The Legislature recognizes that high-quality teachers are essential to assuring excellence and increasing 4 5 the achievement levels of all students. The purpose of this 6 section is to provide a model to reform and improve the 7 current structure of the teaching profession. There is created 8 a Florida Mentor Teacher School Pilot Program that will help to attract, retain, and motivate high-quality teachers. The 9 program shall be implemented in up to 400 pilot schools by the 10 11 2001-2002 school year. These pilot schools shall be selected by the Commissioner of Education, representing small, medium, 12 and large districts. Each approved school shall be awarded a 13 \$50,000 grant. Each mentor teacher school program must be 14 approved by the Commissioner of Education based on criteria 15 specified by the Commissioner of Education. 16 17 The essential elements of the Florida Mentor 18 Teacher School Pilot Program are to: 19 (a) Provide teachers with multiple career paths, beginning as education paraprofessionals and rising to 20 21 associate teachers, teachers, lead teachers, and mentor teachers. There must be highly differentiated duties among the 22 five levels. The mentor teacher must have a reduced teaching 23 24 schedule and a 12-month contract to permit weekly instruction to all the students under the mentor teacher's supervision. 25 The remaining time must be spent in giving demonstration 26 27 lessons, coaching, facilitating curriculum development, and providing staff development for other teachers at the school. 28 29 Establish broad salary ranges to provide 30 flexibility to reward performance and to negotiate salaries to 31 attract teachers to hard-to-staff schools and subjects.

 Advancement must be determined by academic achievement, examination, demonstration, and student progress data. Each mentor teacher is eligible for a total annual salary incentive bringing his or her salary to twice the average district classroom teacher's salary. Fifty percent of the mentor teacher salary incentive must be based on the increased achievement of students assigned under the supervision of the mentor teacher.

- (c) Provide ongoing professional development for teachers to learn and grow professionally, which includes a daily block of time for associate teachers, teachers, and lead teachers to reflect and plan and to interact with the mentor teacher.
- (d) Provide all eligible teachers with the opportunity for national certification.
- (e) Provide for a specified organizational pattern such as clusters or teams of teachers for grade levels or subject areas consisting of associate teachers, teachers, and lead teachers who are supported by education paraprofessional learning guides and directed by a mentor teacher.
- (3) The five teaching career development positions and minimum requirements are:
- (a) An education paraprofessional learning guide must have earned at least an associate's degree from an accredited college and demonstrate appropriate writing, speaking, and computation skills.
- (b) An associate teacher must hold at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and a valid Florida educator's certificate.
- 30 (c) A teacher must hold at least a bachelor's degree
 31 from an accredited institution, have a valid Florida

educator's certificate, have a minimum of 3 years' full-time teaching experience, document satisfactory teaching performance, and document evidence of increased student performance for the students taught.

- (d) A lead teacher must have at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, have a valid Florida educator's professional certificate, have a minimum of 3 years' full-time teaching experience, document exemplary teaching performance, and document evidence of significant increased student performance for the students taught. A lead teacher may serve as a cluster or team leader who provides intensive support for associate teachers and teachers.
 - (e) A mentor teacher must:
- 1. Have at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, have a valid Florida educator's professional certificate, have at least 5 years' full-time teaching experience, and hold a valid National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certificate or have been selected as a district, regional, or state teacher of the year and have demonstrated expertise as a staff developer, or
- 2. Have completed a Professional Teaching Fellowship program consisting of a Teaching Fellowship, pursuant to
 Senate Bill 748, 2000 Regular Session, or similar legislation.
- (4) The Commissioner of Education may adopt rules necessary for the administration of this section and approval of the mentor teacher school program.
- (5) This section is to be implemented to the extent funded by the General Appropriation Act.
- 29 Section 17. <u>Sections 231.0861, 231.087, 231.173, and</u> 30 <u>236.0811, Florida Statutes, are repealed.</u>
 - Section 18. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

SENATE SUMMARY Amends, repeals, and creates various sections of the education statutes dealing with certification, discipline, funding, and professional development of teachers, administrators, and other school system personnel.