By the Committee on Education and Senator Sullivan

304-1706-01

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to education; amending s. 228.041, F.S.; revising the definition of "other instructional staff" to include adjunct educators; amending s. 230.23, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to salary supplements provided to teachers selected to teach at certain low-performing schools; requiring a review by the principal prior to reassigning a teacher; amending s. 231.096, F.S.; requiring assistance in accessing resources for teachers teaching out-of-field; amending s. 231.15, F.S.; deleting provision of part-time certificate for athletic coach; amending s. 231.17, F.S.; authorizing continued employment under specified circumstances; authorizing the use of an approved alternative certification program by a school district other than the school district that developed the program, upon notification to the department and approval of any modifications; creating s. 231.1726, F.S.; providing for certification of adjunct educators; amending s. 231.36, F.S.; including adjunct educators in provisions relating to contracts with instructional staff; requiring a school board, subject to applicable collective bargaining requirements, to recognize and accept years of satisfactory performance for purposes of pay and retirement; providing an exemption; amending s. 231.625, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education to 1

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perform specified activities to improve teacher recruitment and retention; amending s. 231.700, F.S.; revising the Florida Mentor Teacher School Pilot Program to conform terminology; clarifying requirements for mentor teachers; amending s. 236.08106, F.S.; clarifying requirements relating to the amount of required mentoring or related services for receipt of an Excellent Teaching Program bonus; amending ss. 230.2305, 231.045, 231.1725, 231.471, 232.435, F.S., relating to standards for staff of prekindergarten early intervention programs, periodic criminal history record checks, and employment of specified teachers, part-time teachers, and athletic trainers; revising provisions to include adjunct educators; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (9) of section 228.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
228.041 Definitions.--Specific definitions shall be as follows, and wherever such defined words or terms are used in the Florida School Code, they shall be used as follows:
(9) INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL.--"Instructional personnel" means any staff member whose function includes the provision of direct instructional services to students. Instructional personnel also includes personnel whose functions provide direct support in the learning process of

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students. Included in the classification of instructional personnel are:
(d) Other instructional staff.--Other instructional staff are staff members who are part of the instructional staff but are not classified in one of the categories specified in paragraphs (a)-(c). Included in this classification are primary specialists, learning resource specialists, instructional trainers, adjunct educators certified pursuant to s. 231.1726, and similar positions.

Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) and paragraph (c) of subsection (16) of section 230.23, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
230.23 Powers and duties of school board.--The school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all powers and perform all duties listed below:
(5) PERSONNEL.--Designate positions to be filled, prescribe qualifications for those positions, and provide for the appointment, compensation, promotion, suspension, and dismissal of employees as follows, subject to the requirements of chapter 231:
(a) Positions, qualifications, and appointments.--Act upon written recommendations submitted by the superintendent of schools for positions to be filled and for minimum qualifications for personnel for the various positions and act upon written nominations of persons to fill such positions. The superintendent of schools' recommendations for filling instructional institutional positions at the school level must consider nominations received from school principals of the respective schools. Before transferring a teacher who holds a professional teaching certificate from one school to another, the superintendent shall consult with the principal of the 3

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receiving school and allow the principal to review the
teacher's records and interview the teacher. If, in the
judgment of the principal, students would not benefit from the
placement, an alternative placement may be sought.The
district school board may reject for good cause any employee
nominated. If the third nomination by the superintendent of
schools for any position is rejected for good cause, if the
superintendent of schools fails to submit a nomination for
initial employment within a reasonable time as prescribed by
the district school board, or if the superintendent of schools
fails to submit a nomination for reemployment within the time
prescribed by law, the district school board may proceed on
its own motion to fill such position. The district school
board's decision to reject a person's nomination does not give
that person a right of action to sue over the rejection and
may not be used as a cause of action by the nominated
employee.
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(16) IMPLEMENT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.--Maintain a system of school improvement and education accountability as provided by statute and State Board of Education rule. This system of school improvement and education accountability shall be consistent with, and implemented through, the district's continuing system of planning and budgeting required by this section and ss. 229.555 and 237.041. This system of school improvement and education accountability shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
(c) Assistance and intervention.--

1. Develop a 2 -year plan of increasing individualized assistance and intervention for each school in danger of not meeting state standards or making adequate progress, as

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defined pursuant to statute and State Board of Education rule, toward meeting the goals and standards of its approved school improvement plan.
2. A school that is identified as being in performance grade category "D" pursuant to s. 229.57 is in danger of failing and must be provided assistance and intervention.
3.a. Each district school board shall develop a plan to encourage teachers with demonstrated mastery in improving student performance to remain at or transfer to a school designated as performance grade category "D" or "F" or to an alternative school that serves disruptive or violent youths. If a classroom teacher, as defined by s. 228.041(9)(a), who meets the definition of teaching mastery developed according to the provisions of this paragraph, requests assignment to a school designated as performance grade category "D" or "F" or to an alternative school that serves disruptive or violent youths, the district school board shall make every practical effort to grant the request.
b. For initial implementation in 2000-2001 and until full implementation of an annual assessment of learning gains, a classroom teacher who is selected by the school principal based on his or her performance appraisal and student
achievenent data to teach at a school designated as
performance grade category "Dl or "F" or at an alternative
that serves disruptive or violent youths shall receive a
supplement of at least $\$ 1,000$, not to exceed $\$ 3,500$, as
provided for annually in the General Appropriations Act, each
year he or she teaches at a school designated as performance
grade category "D" or "F" or at an alternative school that
serves disruptive or violent youths.

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e. Beginning with the full implementation of an annual assessment of learning gains, a classioom teacher whose effectiveness has been proven based upon positive learning gains of his or her students as measured by annual FCAT assessments pursuant to s. 229.57, is eligible for an annual supplement of at least $\$ 1,000$, not to exceed $\$ 3,500$, as provided for annually in the General Appropitations Act, each year he or she teaches at a school designated as performance grade category "D" or "F" or at an alternative school that serves disruptive or violent youths.
d. In the alosence of an FCAT assessment, measurement of learning gains of students shall be as provided in s. 229.57(12). The supplement received under this paragraph shall be in addition to any supplement or bonus received as a result of other local or state pay incentives loased on performance.
e. The Commissioner of Education shall adopt iules to determine the measures that define "teaching mastery" for purposes of this suloparagraph.
4. District school boards are encouraged to prioritize the expenditures of funds received from the supplemental academic instruction categorical fund under s. 236.08104 to improve student performance in schools that receive a performance grade category designation of "D" or "F."

Section 3. Section 231.096, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
231.096 Teacher teaching out-of-field; assistance.--Each district school board shall adopt and implement a plan to assist any teacher teaching out-of-field, and priority consideration in professional development activities shall be given to teachers who are teaching out-of-field. The district school board shall require that

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such teachers participate in a certification or staff development program designed to provide the teacher with the competencies required for the assigned duties. The board-approved assistance plan must include duties of administrative personnel and other instructional personnel to provide students with high-quality instructional services. Each district school board shall contact its regional workforce board, created pursuant to s. 445.007, to identify and access resources that may assist teachers who are teaching out-of-field and who are pursuing certification.

Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 231.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
231.15 Positions for which certificates required.--
(2) Each person who is employed and renders service as an athletic coach in any public school in any district of this state shall hold a valid part-time,temporaryror professional certificate. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to any athletic coach who voluntarily renders service and who is not employed by any public school district of this state.

Section 5. Subsection (6) and paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 231.17, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
231.17 Teacher certification requirements.--
(6) TYPES AND TERMS OF CERTIFICATION.--
(a) The Department of Education shall issue a professional certificate for a period not to exceed 5 years to any applicant who meets all the requirements outlined in subsection (2).
(b) The department shall issue a temporary certificate to any applicant who completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs (2)(a)-(f) and:

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1. Until July 1, 2002, completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule.
2. Beginning July 1, 2002, completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule or achieves a passing score on the subject area examinations required by state board rule.
(c) 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.

Each temporary certificate is valid for 3 school fiscal years and is nonrenewable. However, the requirement in paragraph (2) (g) must be met within 1 calendar year of the date of employment under the temporary certificate. Individuals who are employed under contract at the end of the 1 calendar year time period may continue to be employed through the end of the year in which they have been contracted.A school district shall not employ, or continue the employment of, an individual in a position for which a temporary certificate is required beyond this the 1 calendar year time period for satisfying wo has not met the requirement of paragraph (2) (g). However, the school district may continue to employ an individual who has not met the requirement of paragraph (2) (g) as a substitute teacher, pursuant to ss. 231.1725 and 231.47.The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to allow the department to extend the validity period of a temporary certificate for 2 years when the requirements for the professional certificate, not including the requirement in paragraph (2) (g), were not

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completed due to the serious illness or injury of the
applicant or other extraordinary extenuating circumstances.
The department shall reissue the temporary certificate for 2
additional years upon approval by the Commissioner of
Education. A written request for reissuance of the certificate
shall be submitted by the superintendent of schools, the
governing authority of a developmental research school, the
governing authority of a state-supported school, or the
governing authority of a nonpublic school.
(7) PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND EDUCATION COMPETENCY
PROGRAM. --
(b) Until July 1, 2002, each school district may use develop and maintain an alternative certification program by which members of the district's instructional staff may 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. Any program approved for use in a school district may be adopted and implemented by a school district other than the school district that developed the program. A district school board choosing to adopt an alternative certification program approved for another school district shall provide written notification of such action to the department. However, any modifications to an approved program shall be submitted to the department for approval. 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 9

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certificate may be issued under this chapter and rules of the
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state board.
2. Complete training in only those competency areas in
which deficiencies are identified.
3. Complete the program within 2 years after initial
employment as a member of the district's instructional staff.
4. Achieve passing scores on the professional
education competency examination required by state board rule.
Each district school board may expend educational training
funds provided under ss. 231.600 and 236.081 to implement the
provisions of this paragraph. The department must approve
programs and systems developed to demonstrate professional
preparation and education competence authorized by this
paragraph.
Section 6. Section 231.1726, Florida Statutes, is
created to read:
231.1726 Certification of adjunct educators.--
(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 231.02,
231.15, and 231.17 , or any other provision of law or rule to
the contrary, district school boards may issue an adjunct
teaching certificate to any applicant who fulfills the
requirements of s. $231.17(2)(a)-(f)$ and who has expertise, as
determined by district school board policy, in the subject
area to be taught. The adjunct teaching certificate shall be
used for part-time teaching positions. District school boards
shall assign a peer teacher to assist the adjunct teaching
certificateholder during the certificateholder's first year of
teaching. District school boards shall provide the adjunct
teaching certificateholder an orientation in classroom
management prior to assigning the certificateholder to a
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school. Each adjunct teaching certificate is valid for 5
school years and is renewable if:
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(a) The applicant completes a minimum of 60 inservice points or 3 semester hours of college credit. The earned credits must include instruction in classroom management, district school board procedures, school culture, and other activities that enhance the professional teaching skills of the certificateholder.
(b) The applicant has received satisfactory performance evaluations during each year of teaching under adjunct teaching certification.
(2) Individuals who are certified and employed pursuant to this section shall have the same rights and protection of laws as teachers certified pursuant to s. 231.17.

Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 231.36, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (g) is added to subsection (3) of that section, to read:
231.36 Contracts with instructional staff, supervisors, and principals.--
(1) (a) Each person employed as a member of the instructional staff in any district school system shall be properly certificated pursuant to s. 231.17 or s. 231.1726 or employed pursuant to s. 231.1725 and shall be entitled to and shall receive a written contract as specified in chapter 230. All such contracts, except continuing contracts as specified in subsection (4), shall contain provisions for dismissal during the term of the contract only for just cause. Just cause includes, but is not limited to, the following instances, as defined by rule of the State Board of Education: misconduct in office, incompetency, gross insubordination,

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willful neglect of duty, or conviction of a crime involving
moral turpitude.
(3)
(g) Beginning July 1, 2001, for each employee who
enters into a written contract, pursuant to this section, in a
school district in which the employee was not employed as of
June 30, 2001, for purposes of pay and retirement a school
board must, subject to any applicable collective bargaining
requirements, recognize and accept each year of full-time
teaching service, as reported for purposes of the Florida
Retirement System, for which the employee received a
satisfactory performance evaluation. Instructional personnel
employed pursuant to s. 121.091(9)(b)3. are exempt from the
provisions of this paragraph.
Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 231.625, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:
231.625 Teacher recruitment and retention.--
(2) The Department of Education shall:
(a) Develop and implement a system for posting
teaching vacancies and establish a database of teacher
applicants that is accessible within and outside the state
Advertise teacher positions in targeted states.
(b) Advertise in major newspapers, national professional publications, and other professional publications and in schools of education.
(c) Utilize state and nationwide toll-free numbers.
(d) Develop standardized resumes for teacher applicant data.
(d) (e) Conduct periodic communications with district personnel directors regarding applicants.

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(e)(f) Provide district access to the applicant database by computer or telephone.
(f) (g) Develop and distribute promotional materials related to teaching as a career.
(g) (h) Publish and distribute information pertaining to employment opportunities, application procedures, teacher certification, and teacher salaries.
(h) (i) Provide information related to certification procedures.
(i)(j) Develop and sponsor the Florida Future Educator of America Program throughout the state.
(j) Develop a long-range plan for educator recruitment and retention.
(k) Identify best practices for retaining high-quality teachers Review and recommend to the legislature and school districts incentives for attracting teachers to this state.
(l) Conduct quarterly communications with Workforce Florida, Inc., and regional workforce boards, created pursuant to ss. 445.004 and 445.007, respectively, to access available federal, state, and local resources to improve teacher recruitment and retention.
(m) Seek waivers or reductions in matching contributions that may be required of district school boards to access workforce funding.

Section 9. Paragraphs (b) through (e) of subsection (3) of section 231.700 , Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
231.700 Florida Mentor Teacher School Pilot Program.--
(3) The five teacher career development positions and minimum requirements are:
(b) Associate teacher.--An associate teacher must hold a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher learning and 13

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a valid Florida professional teaching certificate as provided
by s. 231.17 .
(c) Teacher.--A teacher must hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an institution of higher learning and a valid Florida professional teaching certificate, have a minimum of 3 years' full-time teaching experience, document satisfactory teaching performance, and document evidence of positive student learning gains, when that data become becomes available.
(d) Lead teacher.--A lead teacher must hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an institution of higher learning and a valid Florida professional teaching certificate, have a minimum of 3 years' full-time teaching experience, document exemplary teaching performance, and document evidence of significant positive student learning gains, when that data become becomes available. A lead teacher shall provide intensive support for associate teachers and teachers.
(e) Mentor teacher.--A mentor teacher must:

1. Hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an institution of higher learning and a valid Florida professional teaching certificate_̇
2. Have a minimum of 5 years' full-time teaching experience.;
3. Document exemplary teaching performance.;
4. Document evidence of significant positive student learning gains, when that data become becomes available.;
5. Hold a valid National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certificate; have been selected as a school, district, or state teacher of the yeariror hold an equivalent status as determined by the commissioner.; and 14

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6. Demonstrate expertise as a staff developer.

Section 10. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 236.08106, Florida Statutes, is 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. For purposes of this section, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind shall be considered a school district. Unless otherwise provided in the General Appropriations Act, each distribution shall be the sum of the amounts earned for the following incentives and bonuses:
(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 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 student contact time the regular school day or during the 196 days of required service for the school year.

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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 at 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.

Section 11. Paragraph (f) of subsection (3) of section 230.2305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
230.2305 Prekindergarten early intervention program.--
(3) STANDARDS.--
(f) All staff must meet the following minimum
requirements:

1. The minimum level of training is to be the completion of a 30-clock-hour training course planned jointly by the Department of Education and the Department of Children and Family Services to include the following areas: state and local rules that govern child care, health, safety, and nutrition; identification and report of child abuse and neglect; child growth and development; use of developmentally appropriate early childhood curricula; and avoidance of income-based, race-based, and gender-based stereotyping.
2. When individual classrooms are staffed by certified teachers, those teachers must be certified for the appropriate grade levels under s. 231.17 and State Board of Education

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rules. Teachers who are not certified for the appropriate grade levels must obtain proper certification within 2 years. However, the commissioner may make an exception on an individual basis when the requirements are not met because of serious illness, injury, or other extraordinary, extenuating circumstance.
3. When individual classrooms are staffed by noncertified teachers, there must be a program director or lead teacher who is eligible for certification or certified for the appropriate grade levels pursuant to s. 231.17 and State Board of Education rules in regularly scheduled direct contact with each classroom. Notwithstanding s. 231.15, such classrooms must be staffed by at least one person who has, at a minimum, a child development associate credential (CDA) or an amount of training determined by the commissioner to be equivalent to or to exceed the minimum, such as an associate in science degree in the area of early childhood education.
4. Principals and other school district administrative and supervisory personnel with direct responsibility for the program must demonstrate knowledge of prekindergarten education programs that increase children's chances of achieving future educational success and becoming productive members of society in a manner established by the State Board of Education by rule.
5. All personnel who are not certified under s. 231.17 or s. 231.1726 must comply with screening requirements under s. 231.02 .

Section 12. Section 231.045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
231.045 Periodic criminal history record checks.--In cooperation with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement,

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the department may periodically perform a criminal history
record check on individuals who hold a certificate pursuant to
s. 231.17 or s. 231.1726.
Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 231.1725,
Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
231.1725 Employment of substitute teachers, teachers
of adult education, nondegreed teachers of career education,
and career specialists; students performing clinical field
experience.--
(1) Notwithstanding ss. 231.02, 231.15, and 231.17, and 231.1726 , or any other provision of law or rule to the contrary, each district 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 vocational programs. Qualifications shall be established for agriculture, business, health occupations, family and consumer sciences, industrial, marketing, career specialist, and public service education teachers, based primarily on successful occupational experience rather than academic training. The qualifications for such teachers shall require:

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1. 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 district 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.

Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 231.471, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
231.471 Part-time teachers.--
(1) District school boards may hire certified and qualified personnel as provided in ss.s.231.1725 and $\underline{231.1726}$ to teach a specified number of periods, which may be less than a full school day or less than a full school year.

Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 232.435, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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232.435 Extracurricular athletic activities; athletic trainers.--
(3) (a) To the extent practicable, a school district program should include the following employment classification and advancement scheme:

1. Teacher apprentice trainer I.--To qualify as a teacher apprentice trainer I, a person must possess a professional, temporary, part-time, adjunct, or substitute certificate pursuant to s. 231.17 or s. 231.1726 , be certified in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and have earned a minimum of 6 semester hours or the equivalent number of inservice education points in the basic prevention and care of athletic injuries.
2. Teacher apprentice trainer II.--To qualify as a teacher apprentice trainer II, a person must meet the requirements of teacher apprentice trainer I and also have earned a minimum of 15 additional semester hours or the equivalent number of inservice education points in such courses as anatomy, physiology, use of modalities, nutrition, counseling, and other courses approved by the Commissioner of Education.
3. Teacher athletic trainer.--To qualify as a teacher athletic trainer, a person must meet the requirements of teacher apprentice trainer II, be certified by the Department of Education or a nationally recognized athletic trainer association, and perform one or more of the following functions: preventing athletic injuries; recognizing, evaluating, managing, treating, and rehabilitating athletic injuries; administering an athletic training program; and educating and counseling athletes.

Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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## STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SB 1704

The Committee substitute differs from the bill in that it:
Does not authorize teachers to retire and return to the classroom without losing retirement benefits or salary benefits.

Does not authorize adjunct educators to teach full-time without subject area expertise. They must be part-time employees. The school district must verify that they have expertise in the subjects they teach.

Does not give principals veto power over the assignment of teachers. The principal may review and interview a teacher who is to be transferred into his or her school, and the teacher may be given a different placement based on the principal's recommendation. The superintendent makes the final decision. Does not amend laws relating to complaints against teachers. Does not amend laws relating to bonuses for Advanced Placement teachers.

Does not eliminate payment to school districts for successful students in Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs.

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