By Senator Thompson

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to fine arts education in public
schools; creating s. 1008.342, F.S.; requiring the
Department of Education to establish a school grading
system for fine arts courses; requiring the department
to adopt criteria for determining a school’s fine arts
grade; requiring the department to collect school
data, assign school grades, and publish information;
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 1008.342, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

1008.342 School grading system for fine arts education.—
(1) The Department of Education shall establish a school
grading system, separate from the school grading system provided
in s. 1008.34, for kindergarten through grade 12 fine arts
courses. Fine arts courses are visual arts, music, dance, and
theatre courses.

(2) The department shall adopt criteria for determining a
school’s fine arts grade based on student access to, and
participation in, fine arts courses, the certification status of
educators providing instruction in fine arts courses, and the
manner in which schools are providing the core curricular
content for fine arts established in the Next Generation
Sunshine State Standards. The criteria shall include, but not be
limited to, the number of:

(a) Fine arts courses offered.
12-01098-13

(b) Students enrolled in fine arts courses.

(c) Teachers certified in fine arts.

(3) The department shall annually collect school data from each kindergarten through grade 12 school, assign the school a fine arts grade, and publish the information on its website.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.