1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Community Inclusion and Life 3 Transition Advisory Councils; providing legislative 4 intent; creating a Community Inclusion and Life 5 Transition Advisory Council in each congressional 6 district of the state; administratively housing the 7 councils within the Department of Education; providing for the appointment of council members and specifying 8 9 the composition of council membership; assigning 10 duties and responsibilities to the councils; requiring the councils to annually submit a report to boards of 11 12 county commissioners, the Governor, and the 13 Legislature; authorizing reimbursement for per diem 14 and travel expenses for council members; providing an 15 effective date. 16 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 18 19 Section 1. Community Inclusion and Life Transition 20 Advisory Councils.-21 (1)LEGISLATIVE INTENT.-The Legislature intends to assist 22 individuals with disabilities in making the transition from 23 situations that have resulted in hardship to situations that 24 allow them to pursue educational opportunities, gainful 25 employment, and volunteerism through the creation of a Community 26 Inclusion and Life Transition Advisory Council in each Page 1 of 4

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27 congressional district of this state. 28 CREATION.-A Community Inclusion and Life Transition (2) 29 Advisory Council is created in each congressional district of 30 this state. For administrative purposes only, the advisory councils are housed within the Department of Education, but 32 shall independently exercise the duties and responsibilities 33 specified in this section. 34 MEMBERSHIP.-Each advisory council shall consist of 11 (3) 35 members appointed by the Commissioner of Education with input 36 from district school boards and the boards of county 37 commissioners. The Commissioner of Education shall designate one 38 appointee to each advisory council as the chairperson, who may 39 vote only in the event of a tie. Members of the advisory council 40 shall be appointed to 2-year terms. However, in order to achieve staggered terms, initial appointments to each advisory council 41 42 shall consist of six members appointed to 1-year terms and five 43 members appointed to 2-year terms. A vacancy on the board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. A 44 45 vacancy that occurs before the scheduled expiration of the 46 member's term shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired 47 term. The advisory council membership should have general 48 knowledge about issues that relate to community inclusion and 49 life transition for persons with disabilities, and may include: 50 An attorney specializing in disability law. (a) 51 (b) A business owner who employs an individual with an 52 intellectual or physical disability.

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53	(c) A vocational rehabilitation counselor.
54	(d) The parent or guardian of an individual with an
55	intellectual or physical disability.
56	(e) A teacher with experience in providing transition
57	services.
58	(f) A teacher with experience in providing instruction to
59	exceptional students, as defined in s. 1003.01, Florida
60	Statutes.
61	(g) A representative of a postsecondary educational
62	institution that is in compliance with the Americans with
63	Disabilities Act.
64	(h) A student with experience in a leadership position,
65	with priority given to a student with an intellectual or
66	physical disability.
67	(i) A representative of an agency that provides services
68	to transitioning individuals.
69	(j) A student currently transitioning to adulthood.
70	(k) A representative of a local advisory board relating to
71	transition services established by a county government.
72	(4) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIESEach advisory council
73	shall, at a minimum:
74	(a) Conduct educational and outreach campaigns aimed at
75	transitioning individuals which demonstrate that working and
76	receiving benefits under the Social Security Disability
77	Insurance program or the Supplemental Security Income program
78	can result in a more sustainable and independent lifestyle.
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79 Seek funds for transition programs, participate in (b) 80 fundraising activities, and apply for grants. 81 Promote the creation of community partnerships that (C) 82 encourage greater community inclusion of all individuals, 83 including opportunities for volunteerism. 84 Determine the needs of transitioning individuals. (d) 85 (e) Recommend to boards of county commissioners, the 86 Governor, and the Legislature ways to improve programs or 87 services offered to assist transitioning individuals. 88 REPORT.-The advisory councils shall collaboratively (5) 89 prepare a report that contains a summary of the work of each 90 council during the preceding year and any recommendations made 91 by the councils pursuant to paragraph (4)(e). The report shall 92 be submitted to boards of county commissioners, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of 93 94 Representatives by December 1 of each year. 95 PER DIEM AND TRAVEL EXPENSES. - A member of an advisory (6) 96 council may not receive compensation for his or her service, but 97 is entitled to receive reimbursement for per diem and travel 98 expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties, as 99 provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes. 100 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

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