The Committee on Education Pre-K - 12 (Bullard) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 387 - 482 and insert:

school improvement ratings pursuant to s. 1008.341 for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 2013-2014 school years year shall be calculated based on statutes and rules in effect on June 30, 2014. To assist in the transition to 2014-2015 school grades, calculated based on new statewide, standardized assessments administered pursuant to s. 1008.22, the 2014-2015 school grades
shall serve as an informational baseline for schools to work toward improved performance in future years. Accordingly, notwithstanding any other provision of law:

(a) A school may not be required to select and implement a turnaround option pursuant to s. 1008.33 in the 2015-2016 or 2016-2017 school year based on the school’s 2014-2015 or 2015-2016 grade or school improvement rating under s. 1008.341, as applicable.

(b)1. A school or approved provider under s. 1002.45 that receives the same or a lower school grade or school improvement rating for the 2014-2015 school year compared to the 2013-2014 school year is not subject to sanctions or penalties that would otherwise occur as a result of the 2014-2015 or 2015-2016 school grade or rating. A charter school system or a school district designated as high performing may not lose the designation based on the 2014-2015 or 2015-2016 school grades of any of the schools within the charter school system or school district, as applicable.

2. The Florida School Recognition Program established under s. 1008.36 shall continue to be implemented as otherwise provided in the General Appropriations Act.

(c) For purposes of determining grade 3 retention pursuant to s. 1008.25(5) and high school graduation pursuant to s. 1003.4282, student performance on the 2014-2015 statewide, standardized assessments shall be linked to 2013-2014 student performance expectations.

This subsection is repealed July 1, 2017.
(7) and (8) of section 1012.34, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.34 Personnel evaluation procedures and criteria.—

(3) EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA.—Instructional personnel and school administrator performance evaluations must be based upon the performance of students assigned to their classrooms or schools, as provided in this section. Pursuant to this section, a school district’s performance evaluation is not limited to basing unsatisfactory performance of instructional personnel and school administrators solely upon student performance, but may include other criteria approved to evaluate instructional personnel and school administrators’ performance, or any combination of student performance and other approved criteria. Evaluation procedures and criteria must comply with, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) A performance evaluation must be conducted for each employee at least once a year, except that a classroom teacher, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), excluding substitute teachers, who is newly hired by the district school board must be observed and evaluated at least twice in the first year of teaching in the school district. The performance evaluation must be based upon sound educational principles and contemporary research in effective educational practices. The evaluation criteria must include:

1. Performance of students.—At least 50 percent of a performance evaluation must be based upon data and indicators of student learning growth assessed annually by statewide assessments or, for subjects and grade levels not measured by statewide assessments, by school district assessments pursuant
to subsection (7) as provided in s. 1008.22(6). Each school
district must use the formula adopted pursuant to paragraph
(7)(a) for measuring student learning growth in all courses
associated with statewide assessments and must select an equally
appropriate formula for measuring student learning growth for
all other grades and subjects, except as otherwise provided in
subsection (7).

a. For classroom teachers, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a),
excluding substitute teachers, the student learning growth
portion of the evaluation must include growth data for students
assigned to the teacher over the course of at least 3 years. If
less than 3 years of data are available, the years for which
data are available must be used and the percentage of the
evaluation based upon student learning growth may be reduced to
not less than 30 percent.

b. For instructional personnel who are not classroom
teachers, the student learning growth portion of the evaluation
must include growth data on statewide assessments for students
assigned to the instructional personnel over the course of at
least 3 years, or may include a combination of student learning
growth data and other measurable student outcomes that are
specific to the assigned position, provided that the student
learning growth data accounts for not less than 30 percent of
the evaluation. If less than 3 years of student growth data are
available, the years for which data are available must be used
and the percentage of the evaluation based upon student learning
growth may be reduced to not less than 20 percent.

c. For school administrators, the student learning growth
portion of the evaluation must include growth data for students
assigned to the school over the course of at least 3 years. If
less than 3 years of data are available, the years for which
data are available must be used and the percentage of the
evaluation based upon student learning growth may be reduced to
not less than 30 percent.

d. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, performance
evaluations based upon data and indicators for the 2014-2015 and
2015-2016 school years may not use student learning growth as
required under this subparagraph if such use would result in a
lower level of performance as specified in paragraph (2)(e) than
the level of performance which would result without the use of
student learning growth.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 40 - 44

and insert:

amending s. 1008.34, F.S.; providing that school
grades and school improvement ratings for specified
school years shall serve as an informational baseline;
prohibiting a school from being required to implement
a school turnaround option in a specified school year
based on certain school grades or improvement ratings;
prohibiting a virtual instruction program from being
subject to sanctions or penalties based on certain
school grades or improvement ratings; prohibiting a
charter school system or school district from losing a
designation as high performing based on certain school
grades or improvement ratings in a specified school
year; amending s. 1012.34, F.S.; revising the percentage thresholds for performance evaluation criteria for instructional personnel and school administrators; prohibiting the use of student learning growth in performance evaluations under certain circumstances; authorizing use of peer reviews