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By the Committee on Education; and Senator Brandes

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to education; amending s. 944.801, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Corrections to contract with charter schools to provide education services to the Correctional Education Program; creating s. 1003.631, F.S.; creating the Schools of Excellence Program; providing for designation as a School of Excellence; providing requirements for a School of Excellence; providing for redesignation; authorizing Schools of Excellence to have specified administrative flexibilities; authorizing certain teachers to earn a professional certificate by completing a specified program; amending s. 1012.28, F.S.; providing additional authority and responsibilities to the principal of a School of Excellence; providing that newly assigned principals of certain schools must be provided specified authority and responsibilities; amending s. 1012.56, F.S.; providing that successful completion of a specified program demonstrates mastery of certain skills; revising the criteria instructional personnel must meet to be issued a professional certificate; providing that an applicant for professional certification is not required to take or pass a specified examination under certain circumstances; providing requirements for the development and implementation of a comprehensive teacher mentorship certification program; providing the purpose of the program; requiring the Department of Education to

adopt standards for the approval of district-developed programs; providing requirements for such standards; providing program requirements; providing peer mentor requirements; amending s. 1012.585, F.S.; providing that instructional personnel may substitute 1 year of specified employment for a certain amount of inservice points within a certain cycle for certificate renewal; providing such employment does not satisfy a specified credit hour requirement; amending s. 1012.98, F.S.; revising the activities designed to implement the School Community Professional Development Act to include specified training relating to the comprehensive teacher mentorship program; revising requirements for school district professional development systems; requiring the department to disseminate professional development programs that meet specified criteria; creating s. 1013.29, F.S.; authorizing certain high school educational facilities to be located on a public or private postsecondary institution campus under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Present subsections (4) and (5) of section 944.801, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5) and (6), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

944.801 Education for state prisoners.-

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(4) The department may enter into a contract with a charter school authorized to operate under s. 1002.33 to provide education services for the Correctional Education Program.

Section 2. Section 1003.631, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

Program is established to provide administrative flexibility to the state's top schools so that the instructional personnel and administrative staff at such schools can continue to serve their communities and increase student learning to the best of their professional ability.

## (1) DESIGNATION.—

- (a) The State Board of Education shall designate a school as a School of Excellence if the school's percentage of possible points earned in its school grade calculation is in the 80th percentile or higher for schools comprised of the same grade groupings, including elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, and schools with a combination of grade levels, for at least 2 of the last 3 school years. The school must have data for each applicable school grade component pursuant to s.

  1008.34(3) to be eligible for designation as a School of Excellence. A qualifying school shall retain the designation as a School of Excellence for up to 3 years, at the end of which time the school may renew the designation, if:
- 1. The school was in the 80th percentile or higher pursuant to this subsection for 2 of the previous 3 years; and
- 2. The school did not receive a school grade lower than "B" pursuant to s. 1008.34 during any of the previous 3 years.
  - (b) A school that earns a school grade lower than "B"

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pursuant to s. 1008.34 during the 3-year period may not continue to be designated as a School of Excellence during the remainder of that 3-year period and loses the administrative flexibilities provided in subsection (2).

- (2) ADMINISTRATIVE FLEXIBILITIES.—A School of Excellence must be provided the following administrative flexibilities:
- (a) Exemption from any provision of law or rule that expressly requires a minimum period of daily or weekly instruction in a specified subject area.
  - (b) Principal autonomy as provided under s. 1012.28(8).
- (c) For instructional personnel, the substitution of 1 school year of employment at a School of Excellence for 20 inservice points toward the renewal of a professional certificate, up to 60 inservice points in a 5-year cycle, pursuant to s. 1012.585(3).
- (d) Exemption from compliance with district policies or procedures that establish times for the start and completion of the school day.
- (3) TEACHER CERTIFICATION.—A temporary certificateholder under s. 1012.56(7)(b) who is employed by a School of Excellence may earn a professional certificate by meeting the requirements of s. 1012.56(7)(a)3.
- Section 3. Subsection (8) of section 1012.28, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (9) is added to that section, to read:
- 1012.28 Public school personnel; duties of school principals.—
- 115 (8) The principal of <u>a School of Excellence or</u> a school
  116 participating in the Principal Autonomy Pilot Program Initiative

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under s. 1011.6202 has the following additional authority and responsibilities:

- (a) In addition to the authority provided in subsection (6), the authority to select qualified instructional personnel for placement or to refuse to accept the placement or transfer of instructional personnel by the district school superintendent. Placement of instructional personnel at a participating school in a participating school district does not affect the employee's status as a school district employee.
- (b) The authority to deploy financial resources to school programs at the principal's discretion to help improve student achievement, as defined in s. 1008.34(1), and meet performance goals identified in the principal autonomy proposal submitted pursuant to s. 1011.6202.
- (c) To annually provide to the district school superintendent and the district school board a budget for the operation of the participating school that identifies how funds provided pursuant to s. 1011.69(2) are allocated. The school district shall include the budget in the annual report provided to the State Board of Education pursuant to s. 1011.6202(6).
- (9) A school district must provide a principal newly assigned to a school with a school grade of "D" or "F" under s.

  1008.34 with the additional authority and responsibilities provided in subsection (8). The district may revoke the principal's additional authority and responsibilities under this subsection after the school year following the first school year the school achieves a school grade of "C" or higher.
- Section 4. Subsection (6), paragraph (a) of subsection (7), and paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 1012.56, Florida

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Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.-

- (6) MASTERY OF PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND EDUCATION COMPETENCE.—Acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of professional preparation and education competence are:
- (a) Successful completion of an approved teacher preparation program at a postsecondary educational institution within this state and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;
- (b) Successful completion of a teacher preparation program at a postsecondary educational institution outside Florida and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;
- (c) Documentation of a valid professional standard teaching certificate issued by another state;
- (d) Documentation of a valid certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a national educator credentialing board approved by the State Board of Education;
- (e) Documentation of two semesters of successful, full-time or part-time teaching in a Florida College System institution, state university, or private college or university that awards an associate or higher degree and is an accredited institution or an institution of higher education identified by the Department of Education as having a quality program and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;
  - (f) Successful completion of professional preparation

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courses as specified in state board rule, successful completion of a professional preparation and education competence program pursuant to paragraph (8)(b), and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;

- (g) Successful completion of a <u>comprehensive teacher</u>

  <u>mentorship certification</u> <u>professional development certification</u>

  <u>and education competency</u> program <u>pursuant to</u>, <u>outlined in</u>

  paragraph (8)(a); or
- (h) Successful completion of a competency-based certification program pursuant to s. 1004.85 and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by rule of the State Board of Education.

The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement this subsection by December 31, 2014, including rules to approve specific teacher preparation programs that are not identified in this subsection which may be used to meet requirements for mastery of professional preparation and education competence.

- (7) 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 fulfills one of the following:
  - $\underline{1.}$  Meets all the requirements outlined in subsection (2) $\underline{.}$
- $\underline{2.}$  or, For a professional certificate covering grades 6 through 12, any applicant who:
  - $\underline{a.1.}$  Meets the requirements of paragraphs (2)(a)-(h).
- $\underline{\text{b.2.}}$  Holds a master's or higher degree in the area of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

 $\underline{\text{c.3.}}$  Teaches a high school course in the subject of the advanced degree.

- <u>d.4.</u> Is rated highly effective as determined by the teacher's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34, based in part on student performance as measured by a statewide, standardized assessment or an Advanced Placement, Advanced International Certificate of Education, or International Baccalaureate examination.
- $\underline{\text{e.5.}}$  Achieves a passing score on the Florida professional education competency examination required by state board rule.
- 3. Meets the requirements of paragraphs (2)(a)-(h) and completes a comprehensive teacher mentorship certification program pursuant to paragraph (8)(a). An applicant who completes the program and is rated highly effective as determined by his or her performance evaluation under s. 1012.34 is not required to take or achieve a passing score on the professional education competency examination in order to be awarded a professional certificate.

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 school 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 time period if the individual has not met the requirement

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of paragraph (2)(g). 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 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 district school superintendent, the governing authority of a university lab school, the governing authority of a state-supported school, or the governing authority of a private school.

- (8) <u>COMPREHENSIVE TEACHER MENTORSHIP CERTIFICATION PROGRAM</u>

  PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION COMPETENCY

  PROCRAM.—
- (a) The Department of Education shall develop and each school district may provide a cohesive competency-based, comprehensive teacher mentorship certification professional development certification and education competency program. The purpose of the program is to provide by which members of a school district's instructional staff supportive induction services through which they can demonstrate may satisfy the mastery of professional preparation and education competence requirements consistent with specified in subsection (6) and rules of the State Board of Education. Participants must hold a state-issued temporary certificate. A school district that implements the program shall provide a competency-based certification program developed by the Department of Education

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262 or developed by the district and approved by the Department of 263 Education. The department shall adopt standards for the approval 264 of district-developed comprehensive teacher mentorship 265 certification programs, including program administration and 266 evaluation; mentor roles, selection, and training; beginning 267 teacher assessment and professional development; and 268 instructional practices aligned to the Florida Educator 269 Accomplished Practices. The program shall include the following:

- 1. A minimum period of initial preparation before assuming duties as the teacher of record.
- 2. An option for collaboration between school districts and other supporting agencies or educational entities for implementation.
- 3. An experienced peer-mentor component. Each individual selected by the district as a peer mentor:
- $\underline{a}$ . Must hold a valid professional certificate issued pursuant to this section:
- $\underline{b}$ . Must have earned at least 3 years of teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12;  $_{7}$  and
- <u>c.</u> Must <u>have completed specialized training in clinical</u> supervision and participate in ongoing mentor training;
- d. Must have earned an effective or highly effective rating on the prior year's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34; and
- <u>e. May</u> or be a peer evaluator under the district's evaluation system approved under s. 1012.34.
- 4. Weekly opportunities for mentoring activities that include, at a minimum, common planning time, ongoing professional development targeted to a teacher's needs, opportunities for a teacher to observe other teachers, co-

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teaching experiences, and reflection and follow-up discussions.

Mentorship activities must be provided for a teacher's first

year in the program and may be provided until the teacher

attains his or her professional certificate in accordance with

this section.

- 5.4. An assessment of teaching performance aligned to the district's system for personnel evaluation under s. 1012.34 which provides for:
- a. An initial evaluation of each educator's competencies to determine an appropriate individualized professional development plan.
- b. A summative evaluation to assure successful completion of the program.
- <u>6.5.</u> Competency-based training on professional education preparation content knowledge that includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- a. The state standards provided under s. 1003.41, including scientifically based reading instruction, content literacy, and mathematical practices, for each subject identified on the temporary certificate.
- b. The educator-accomplished practices approved by the state board.
- c. A variety of data indicators for monitoring student progress.
  - d. Methodologies for teaching students with disabilities.
- e. Methodologies for teaching students of limited English proficiency appropriate for each subject area identified on the temporary certificate.
  - f. Techniques and strategies for operationalizing the role

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of the teacher in assuring a safe learning environment for students.

7.6. Required achievement of passing scores on the subject area and professional education competency examination required by State Board of Education rule. Mastery of general knowledge must be demonstrated as described in subsection (3).

Section 5. Subsection (3) and paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1012.585, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 1012.585 Process for renewal of professional certificates.—

- (3) For the renewal of a professional certificate, the following requirements must be met:
- (a) 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. 1004.04(5)(b) and credits or points that provide training in the area of scientifically researched, knowledge-based reading literacy and computational skills acquisition, 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. 1000.03(5) and 1008.345 may be applied toward any specialization area. Credits or points earned through approved summer institutes may be applied toward the

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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. 1012.98 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. 1001.452.

- (b) In lieu of college course credit or inservice points, the applicant may renew a subject area specialization by passage of a state board approved Florida-developed subject area examination or, if a Florida subject area examination has not been developed, a standardized examination specified in state board rule.
- (c) Instructional personnel may substitute 1 school year of employment at a School of Excellence, as defined in s. 1003.631, for 20 inservice points, up to a maximum of 60 inservice points in a 5-year cycle. However, inservice points earned under this paragraph may not be used to satisfy the 3 credit hour specialization area requirement under paragraph (a).
- (d) (e) 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.
- $\underline{\text{(e)}}$  The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the expanded use of training for renewal of the professional

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certificate for educators who are required to complete training in teaching students of limited English proficiency or students with disabilities and training in the teaching of reading as follows:

- 1. A teacher who holds a professional certificate may use college credits or inservice points earned through training in teaching students of limited English proficiency or students with disabilities and training in the teaching of reading in excess of 6 semester hours during one certificate-validity 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 earned through training in teaching students of limited English proficiency or students with disabilities and training in the teaching of reading 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.
- <u>(f) (e)</u> Beginning July 1, 2014, an applicant for renewal of a professional certificate must earn a minimum of one college credit or the equivalent inservice points in the area of instruction for teaching students with disabilities. The requirement in this paragraph may not add to the total hours required by the department for continuing education or inservice training.
- (5) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to allow the reinstatement of expired professional certificates. The department may reinstate an expired professional certificate if

the certificateholder:

(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) to include the credit required under paragraph (3)(f)  $\frac{(3)(e)}{(3)(e)}$ .

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

Section 6. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (3) of section 1012.98, Florida Statutes, and paragraph (b) of subsection (4) and subsections (10) and (11) of that section are amended, to read:

1012.98 School Community Professional Development Act.-

- (3) The activities designed to implement this section must:
- (e) Provide training to teacher mentors as part of the comprehensive teacher mentorship certification program under s. 1012.56(8)(a). The training must include components on teacher development, peer coaching, time management, and other related topics as determined by the Department of Education.
- (4) The Department of Education, school districts, schools, Florida College System institutions, and state universities share the responsibilities described in this section. These responsibilities include the following:
- (b) Each school district shall develop a professional development system as specified in subsection (3). The system shall be developed in consultation with teachers, teachereducators of Florida College System institutions and state

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universities, business and community representatives, and local education foundations, consortia, and professional organizations. The professional development system must:

- 1. Be approved by the department. All substantial revisions to the system shall be submitted to the department for review for continued approval.
- 2. Be based on analyses of student achievement data and instructional strategies and methods that support rigorous, relevant, and challenging curricula for all students. Schools and districts, in developing and refining the professional development system, shall also review and monitor school discipline data; school environment surveys; assessments of parental satisfaction; performance appraisal data of teachers, managers, and administrative personnel; and other performance indicators to identify school and student needs that can be met by improved professional performance.
- 3. Provide inservice activities coupled with followup support appropriate to accomplish district-level and school-level improvement goals and standards. The inservice activities for instructional personnel shall focus on analysis of student achievement data, ongoing formal and informal assessments of student achievement, identification and use of enhanced and differentiated instructional strategies that emphasize rigor, relevance, and reading in the content areas, enhancement of subject content expertise, integrated use of classroom technology that enhances teaching and learning, classroom management, parent involvement, and school safety.
- 4. Provide inservice activities and support targeted to the individual needs of new teachers participating in a

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comprehensive teacher mentor certification program pursuant to
s. 1012.56(8)(a).

5.4. Include a master plan for inservice activities, pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education, for all district employees from all fund sources. The master plan shall be updated annually by September 1, must be based on input from teachers and district and school instructional leaders, and must use the latest available student achievement data and research to enhance rigor and relevance in the classroom. Each district inservice plan must be aligned to and support the school-based inservice plans and school improvement plans pursuant to s. 1001.42(18). Each district inservice plan must provide a description of the training that middle grades instructional personnel and school administrators receive on the district's code of student conduct adopted pursuant to s. 1006.07; integrated digital instruction and competency-based instruction and CAPE Digital Tool certificates and CAPE industry certifications; classroom management; student behavior and interaction; extended learning opportunities for students; and instructional leadership. District plans must be approved by the district school board annually in order to ensure compliance with subsection (1) and to allow for dissemination of researchbased best practices to other districts. District school boards must submit verification of their approval to the Commissioner of Education no later than October 1, annually. Each school principal may establish and maintain an individual professional development plan for each instructional employee assigned to the school as a seamless component to the school improvement plans developed pursuant to s. 1001.42(18). An individual professional

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development plan must be related to specific performance data for the students to whom the teacher is assigned, define the inservice objectives and specific measurable improvements expected in student performance as a result of the inservice activity, and include an evaluation component that determines the effectiveness of the professional development plan.

- <u>6.5.</u> Include inservice activities for school administrative personnel that address updated skills necessary for instructional leadership and effective school management pursuant to s. 1012.986.
- 7.6. Provide for systematic consultation with regional and state personnel designated to provide technical assistance and evaluation of local professional development programs.
- 8.7. Provide for delivery of professional development by distance learning and other technology-based delivery systems to reach more educators at lower costs.
- 9.8. Provide for the continuous evaluation of 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.
  - 10.9. For middle grades, emphasize:
- a. Interdisciplinary planning, collaboration, and instruction.
- b. Alignment of curriculum and instructional materials to the state academic standards adopted pursuant to s. 1003.41.
- c. Use of small learning communities; problem-solving, inquiry-driven research and analytical approaches for students;

strategies and tools based on student needs; competency-based instruction; integrated digital instruction; and project-based instruction.

Each school that includes any of grades 6, 7, or 8 must include in its school improvement plan, required under s. 1001.42(18), a description of the specific strategies used by the school to implement each item listed in this subparagraph.

- (10) For instructional personnel and administrative personnel who have been evaluated as less than effective, a district school board shall require participation in specific professional development programs as provided in subparagraph (4) (b) 5. (4) (b) 4. as part of the improvement prescription.
- community proven model professional development programs that have demonstrated success in increasing rigorous and relevant content, increasing student achievement and engagement, and meeting identified student needs, and providing effective mentorship activities to new teachers and training to teacher mentors. The methods of dissemination must include a web-based statewide performance-support system including a database of exemplary professional development activities, a listing of available professional development resources, training programs, and available technical assistance.

Section 7. Section 1013.29, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1013.29 High school educational facilities on a public or private postsecondary institution campus.—A county in which a public or private postsecondary institution is located may

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552	authorize a public high school educational facility, including a
553	charter school educational facility, which meets the
554	requirements of this chapter to be located on the postsecondary
555	institution's campus.
556	Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.