By Senator Montford

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to education accountability; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; requiring an application and charter for a high school charter school to require the administration of a specified assessment for graduation purposes; amending s. 1003.4156, F.S.; revising the mathematics and social studies requirements for student promotion to high school and for certain high school credits; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; revising the requirements for a standard high school diploma; deleting provisions requiring a student or transfer student to take a statewide, standardized Algebra II assessment or a Geometry or United States History end-of-course (EOC) assessment; amending s. 1003.4285, F.S.; revising the standard high school diploma designation requirements for mathematics and social studies; amending s. 1008.22, F.S.; revising the grades in which the statewide, standardized Reading assessment must be administered; revising the administration of the statewide, standardized Mathematics and Science assessments and the English Language Arts (ELA) assessment; deleting requirements that a student take an EOC assessment in Geometry, Algebra II, United States History, or Civics; deleting a provision authorizing the Commissioner of Education to establish a schedule for the development and administration of additional statewide, standardized EOC assessments; authorizing the Department of Education to expand

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languages in which statewide, standardized assessments are administered; requiring that such assessments be provided at no cost to the school districts; requiring the commissioner to provide a nonelectronic option for the administration of specified assessments; requiring the commissioner to implement contracts for the selection of nationally recognized alternate high school assessments; requiring the department to conduct a study regarding student performance on assessments; requiring specified ELA and Mathematics assessments to be held within a specified timeframe; requiring a report to the State Board of Education, the Governor, and the Legislature by a specified date; requiring the commissioner to provide a specified analysis to each school district regarding student achievement levels and Learning Gains on each statewide, standardized assessment; requiring the department to include a summary of a specified analysis in a report to the Governor and the Legislature; creating s. 1008.223, F.S.; providing a purpose; providing responsibilities of the commissioner to select and approve a nationally recognized high school assessment to administer in lieu of the Florida Standards Assessment; authorizing school districts to select the assessment; providing requirements for the assessment; requiring the commissioner to use an invitation to negotiate to fulfill certain requirements; requiring the commissioner to require certain entities to include

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specified information; requiring the commissioner to consult with, and receive recommendations for alternate assessments from, specified entities; providing that the nationally recognized high school assessment satisfies the high school graduation requirements; providing responsibilities of school districts; amending s. 1008.25, F.S.; requiring each district school board to include the results of a specified analysis in its annual report to parents; amending s. 1008.34, F.S.; redefining the term "Learning Gains"; revising the calculation for school grades; requiring that the commissioner develop models for a specified purpose; deleting obsolete language; amending s. 1008.345, F.S.; requiring the commissioner's report to the Legislature on education accountability to include a specified analysis; amending s. 1012.34, F.S.; deleting a provision requiring the department to approve the evaluation systems for instructional personnel and school administrators; revising the performance evaluation systems for instructional personnel and school administrators; requiring the board to adopt rules for the monitoring, rather than for the submission, review, and approval, of such systems; deleting provisions relating to the transition to statewide, standardized assessments; amending ss. 1002.331, 1012.341, and 1012.562, F.S.; conforming crossreferences; providing an effective date.

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WHEREAS, Florida has led the country in establishing and implementing a rigorous assessment and accountability system, but the testing of Florida's students, rather than actual instruction, now dominates classroom time, and

WHEREAS, the introduction and requirement of end-of-course assessments in middle and high school only serve to increase the overall number of assessments on students while diminishing instructional time, and

WHEREAS, Florida should reduce the overall number of assessments, including the 9th grade Florida Standards
Assessment, and should eliminate all end-of-course assessments, except for Algebra I and Biology I, to allow more instructional time for students at all levels, and

WHEREAS, Florida should authorize an alternate, nationally recognized assessment in high school that is also recognized by colleges and universities, to increase opportunities for students to be successful in college, and

WHEREAS, Florida has implemented numerous acceleration and choice programs at the college level for students that incorporate assessments as a measure of student performance, including advanced placement, International Baccalaureate, Advanced International Certificate of Education, dual enrollment, and certificate programs, and

WHEREAS, Florida should increase the acceleration and choice opportunities at the high school level by reducing overall required assessments, and

WHEREAS, Florida should increase instructional time by authorizing the use of paper and pencil assessments instead of online assessments that disrupt instruction, especially in high

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WHEREAS, assessments continue to drive the teacher and administrator performance evaluation system, and Florida should disentangle these evaluations from assessments in order to focus on classroom instruction, and

WHEREAS, Florida should take advantage of the flexibility afforded by the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6), paragraph (a) of subsection (7), paragraph (e) of subsection (10), and paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (15) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

(6) APPLICATION PROCESS AND REVIEW.—Charter school

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1002.33 Charter schools.-

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applications are subject to the following requirements:

(a) A person or entity seeking to open a charter school

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shall prepare and submit an application on a model application form prepared by the Department of Education which:

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1. Demonstrates how the school will use the guiding principles and meet the statutorily defined purpose of a charter school.

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2. Provides a detailed curriculum plan that illustrates how students will be provided services to attain the Sunshine State Standards.

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3. Contains goals and objectives for improving student learning and measuring that improvement. These goals and

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objectives must indicate how much academic improvement students are expected to show each year, how success will be evaluated, and the specific results to be attained through instruction. For a proposed high school charter school, the application must indicate that the charter school will administer the same grade 10 English Language Arts assessment for high school graduation purposes which is administered by the local school district.

- 4. Describes the reading curriculum and differentiated strategies that will be used for students reading at grade level or higher and a separate curriculum and strategies for students who are reading below grade level. A sponsor shall deny an application if the school does not propose a reading curriculum that is consistent with effective teaching strategies that are grounded in scientifically based reading research.
- 5. Contains an annual financial plan for each year requested by the charter for operation of the school for up to 5 years. This plan must contain anticipated fund balances based on revenue projections, a spending plan based on projected revenues and expenses, and a description of controls that will safeguard finances and projected enrollment trends.
- 6. Discloses the name of each applicant, governing board member, and all proposed education services providers; the name and sponsor of any charter school operated by each applicant, each governing board member, and each proposed education services provider that has closed and the reasons for the closure; and the academic and financial history of such charter schools, which the sponsor shall consider in deciding whether to approve or deny the application.
 - 7. Contains additional information a sponsor may require,

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which shall be attached as an addendum to the charter school application described in this paragraph.

- 8. For the establishment of a virtual charter school, documents that the applicant has contracted with a provider of virtual instruction services pursuant to s. 1002.45(1)(d).
- (7) CHARTER.—The major issues involving the operation of a charter school shall be considered in advance and written into the charter. The charter shall be signed by the governing board of the charter school and the sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.
- (a) The charter shall address and criteria for approval of the charter shall be based on:
- 1. The school's mission, the students to be served, and the ages and grades to be included.
- 2. The focus of the curriculum, the instructional methods to be used, any distinctive instructional techniques to be employed, and identification and acquisition of appropriate technologies needed to improve educational and administrative performance which include a means for promoting safe, ethical, and appropriate uses of technology which comply with legal and professional standards.
- a. The charter shall ensure that reading is a primary focus of the curriculum and that resources are provided to identify and provide specialized instruction for students who are reading below grade level. The curriculum and instructional strategies for reading must be consistent with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and grounded in scientifically based reading research.
 - b. In order to provide students with access to diverse

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instructional delivery models, to facilitate the integration of technology within traditional classroom instruction, and to provide students with the skills they need to compete in the 21st century economy, the Legislature encourages instructional methods for blended learning courses consisting of both traditional classroom and online instructional techniques. Charter schools may implement blended learning courses which combine traditional classroom instruction and virtual instruction. Students in a blended learning course must be fulltime students of the charter school and receive the online instruction in a classroom setting at the charter school. Instructional personnel certified pursuant to s. 1012.55 who provide virtual instruction for blended learning courses may be employees of the charter school or may be under contract to provide instructional services to charter school students. At a minimum, such instructional personnel must hold an active state or school district adjunct certification under s. 1012.57 for the subject area of the blended learning course. The funding and performance accountability requirements for blended learning courses are the same as those for traditional courses.

- 3. The current incoming baseline standard of student academic achievement, the outcomes to be achieved, and the method of measurement that will be used. The criteria listed in this subparagraph shall include a detailed description of:
- a. How the baseline student academic achievement levels and prior rates of academic progress will be established.
- b. How these baseline rates will be compared to rates of academic progress achieved by these same students while attending the charter school.

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c. To the extent possible, how these rates of progress will be evaluated and compared with rates of progress of other closely comparable student populations.

The district school board is required to provide academic student performance data to charter schools for each of their students coming from the district school system, as well as rates of academic progress of comparable student populations in the district school system.

- 4. The methods used to identify the educational strengths and needs of students and how well educational goals and performance standards are met by students attending the charter school. The methods shall provide a means for the charter school to ensure accountability to its constituents by analyzing student performance data and by evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of its major educational programs. Students in charter schools shall, at a minimum, participate in the statewide assessment program created under s. 1008.22.
- 5. In secondary charter schools, a method for determining that a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation in s. 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282.
- 6. In high school charter schools, a provision in the charter that specifies the charter school will administer the same grade 10 English Language Arts assessment for high school graduation purposes which is administered by the local school district.
- 7.6. A method for resolving conflicts between the governing board of the charter school and the sponsor.
 - 8.7. The admissions procedures and dismissal procedures,

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including the school's code of student conduct. Admission or dismissal must not be based on a student's academic performance.

- 9.8. The ways by which the school will achieve a racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves or within the racial/ethnic range of other public schools in the same school district.
- 10.9. The financial and administrative management of the school, including a reasonable demonstration of the professional experience or competence of those individuals or organizations applying to operate the charter school or those hired or retained to perform such professional services and the description of clearly delineated responsibilities and the policies and practices needed to effectively manage the charter school. A description of internal audit procedures and establishment of controls to ensure that financial resources are properly managed must be included. Both public sector and private sector professional experience shall be equally valid in such a consideration.
- $\underline{11.10.}$ The asset and liability projections required in the application which are incorporated into the charter and shall be compared with information provided in the annual report of the charter school.
- 12.11. A description of procedures that identify various risks and provide for a comprehensive approach to reduce the impact of losses; plans to ensure the safety and security of students and staff; plans to identify, minimize, and protect others from violent or disruptive student behavior; and the manner in which the school will be insured, including whether or not the school will be required to have liability insurance,

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and, if so, the terms and conditions thereof and the amounts of coverage.

13.12. The term of the charter which shall provide for cancellation of the charter if insufficient progress has been made in attaining the student achievement objectives of the charter and if it is not likely that such objectives can be achieved before expiration of the charter. The initial term of a charter shall be for 4 or 5 years. In order to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for charter school construction, charter schools that are operated by a municipality or other public entity as provided by law are eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the district school board. A charter lab school is eligible for a charter for a term of up to 15 years. In addition, to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for charter school construction, charter schools that are operated by a private, not-for-profit, s. 501(c)(3) status corporation are eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the district school board. Such long-term charters remain subject to annual review and may be terminated during the term of the charter, but only according to the provisions set forth in subsection (8).

14.13. The facilities to be used and their location. The sponsor may not require a charter school to have a certificate of occupancy or a temporary certificate of occupancy for such a facility earlier than 15 calendar days before the first day of school.

15.14. The qualifications to be required of the teachers and the potential strategies used to recruit, hire, train, and retain qualified staff to achieve best value.

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 $\underline{16.15.}$ The governance structure of the school, including the status of the charter school as a public or private employer as required in paragraph (12)(i).

17.16. A timetable for implementing the charter which addresses the implementation of each element thereof and the date by which the charter shall be awarded in order to meet this timetable.

18.17. In the case of an existing public school that is being converted to charter status, alternative arrangements for current students who choose not to attend the charter school and for current teachers who choose not to teach in the charter school after conversion in accordance with the existing collective bargaining agreement or district school board rule in the absence of a collective bargaining agreement. However, alternative arrangements shall not be required for current teachers who choose not to teach in a charter lab school, except as authorized by the employment policies of the state university which grants the charter to the lab school.

19.18. Full disclosure of the identity of all relatives employed by the charter school who are related to the charter school owner, president, chairperson of the governing board of directors, superintendent, governing board member, principal, assistant principal, or any other person employed by the charter school who has equivalent decisionmaking authority. For the purpose of this subparagraph, the term "relative" means father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother,

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stepsister, half brother, or half sister.

20.19. Implementation of the activities authorized under s. 1002.331 by the charter school when it satisfies the eligibility requirements for a high-performing charter school. A high-performing charter school shall notify its sponsor in writing by March 1 if it intends to increase enrollment or expand grade levels the following school year. The written notice shall specify the amount of the enrollment increase and the grade levels that will be added, as applicable.

- (10) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.-
- (e) A charter school may limit the enrollment process only to target the following student populations:
 - 1. Students within specific age groups or grade levels.
- 2. Students considered at risk of dropping out of school or academic failure. Such students shall include exceptional education students.
- 3. Students enrolling in a charter school-in-the-workplace or charter school-in-a-municipality established pursuant to subsection (15).
- 4. Students residing within a reasonable distance of the charter school, as described in paragraph (20)(c). Such students shall be subject to a random lottery and to the racial/ethnic balance provisions described in subparagraph (7)(a)9. (7)(a)8. or any federal provisions that require a school to achieve a racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves or within the racial/ethnic range of other public schools in the same school district.
- 5. Students who meet reasonable academic, artistic, or other eligibility standards established by the charter school

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and included in the charter school application and charter or, in the case of existing charter schools, standards that are consistent with the school's mission and purpose. Such standards shall be in accordance with current state law and practice in public schools and may not discriminate against otherwise qualified individuals.

- 6. Students articulating from one charter school to another pursuant to an articulation agreement between the charter schools that has been approved by the sponsor.
- 7. Students living in a development in which a business entity provides the school facility and related property having an appraised value of at least \$10 million to be used as a charter school for the development. Students living in the development shall be entitled to 50 percent of the student stations in the charter school. The students who are eligible for enrollment are subject to a random lottery, the racial/ethnic balance provisions, or any federal provisions, as described in subparagraph 4. The remainder of the student stations shall be filled in accordance with subparagraph 4.
- (15) CHARTER SCHOOLS-IN-THE-WORKPLACE; CHARTER SCHOOLS-IN-A-MUNICIPALITY.—
- (b) A charter school-in-the-workplace may be established when a business partner provides the school facility to be used; enrolls students based upon a random lottery that involves all of the children of employees of that business or corporation who are seeking enrollment, as provided for in subsection (10); and enrolls students according to the racial/ethnic balance provisions described in subparagraph (7)(a)9. (7)(a)8. Any portion of a facility used for a public charter school shall be

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exempt from ad valorem taxes, as provided for in s. 1013.54, for the duration of its use as a public school.

(c) A charter school-in-a-municipality designation may be granted to a municipality that possesses a charter; enrolls students based upon a random lottery that involves all of the children of the residents of that municipality who are seeking enrollment, as provided for in subsection (10); and enrolls students according to the racial/ethnic balance provisions described in subparagraph (7)(a)9. $\frac{(7)(a)8}{(7)(a)8}$. When a municipality has submitted charter applications for the establishment of a charter school feeder pattern, consisting of elementary, middle, and senior high schools, and each individual charter application is approved by the district school board, such schools shall then be designated as one charter school for all purposes listed pursuant to this section. Any portion of the land and facility used for a public charter school shall be exempt from ad valorem taxes, as provided for in s. 1013.54, for the duration of its use as a public school.

Section 2. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of section 1003.4156, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.4156 General requirements for middle grades promotion.—

- (1) In order for a student to be promoted to high school from a school that includes middle grades 6, 7, and 8, the student must successfully complete the following courses:
- (b) Three middle grades or higher courses in mathematics. Each school that includes middle grades must offer at least one high school level mathematics course for which students may earn high school credit. Successful completion of a high school level

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Algebra I or Geometry course is not contingent upon the student's performance on the statewide, standardized Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) assessment. To earn high school credit for Algebra I, a middle grades student must take the statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC assessment and pass the course, and, in addition, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter, a student's performance on the Algebra I EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade. To earn high school credit for a Geometry course, a middle grades student must take the statewide, standardized Geometry EOC assessment, which constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade, and earn a passing grade in the course.

(c) Three middle grades or higher courses in social studies. Beginning with students entering grade 6 in the 2012-2013 school year, One of these courses must be at least a onesemester civics education course that includes the roles and responsibilities of federal, state, and local governments; the structures and functions of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government; and the meaning and significance of historic documents, such as the Articles of Confederation, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States. Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, each student's performance on the statewide, standardized EOC assessment in civics education required under s. 1008.22 constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A middle grades student who transfers into the state's public school system from out of country, out of state, a private school, or a home education program after the beginning 3-00195C-17 2017964

of the second term of grade 8 is not required to meet the civics education requirement for promotion from the middle grades if the student's transcript documents passage of three courses in social studies or two year-long courses in social studies that include coverage of civics education.

Each school must inform parents about the course curriculum and activities. Each student shall complete a personal education plan that must be signed by the student and the student's parent. The Department of Education shall develop course frameworks and professional development materials for the career and education planning course. The course may be implemented as a stand-alone course or integrated into another course or courses. The Commissioner of Education shall collect longitudinal high school course enrollment data by student ethnicity in order to analyze course-taking patterns.

Section 3. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (3) and subsections (7) and (9) of section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.-

- (3) STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA; COURSE AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS.—
- (b) Four credits in mathematics.—A student must earn one credit in Algebra I and one credit in Geometry. A student's performance on the statewide, standardized Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student must pass the statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC assessment, or earn a comparative score, in order to earn a standard high school diploma. A

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student's performance on the statewide, standardized Geometry EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade. If the state administers a statewide, standardized Algebra II assessment, a student selecting Algebra II must take the assessment, and the student's performance on the assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the certification for one mathematics credit. Substitution may occur for up to two mathematics credits, except for Algebra I and Geometry.

- (d) Three credits in social studies.—A student must earn one credit in United States History; one credit in World History; one-half credit in economics, which must include financial literacy; and one-half credit in United States Government. The United States History EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade.
- (7) UNIFORM TRANSFER OF HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS. Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, If a student transfers to a Florida public high school from out of country, out of state, a private school, or a home education program and the student's transcript shows a credit in Algebra I, the student must pass the statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC assessment in order to earn a standard high school diploma unless the student earned a comparative score, passed a statewide assessment in Algebra I administered by the transferring entity, or passed the statewide Mathematics assessment the transferring entity uses to satisfy the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. s. 6301. If a student's transcript shows a credit in

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high school reading or English Language Arts II or III, in order to earn a standard high school diploma, the student must take and pass the statewide, standardized grade 10 Reading assessment or, when implemented, the grade 10 ELA assessment, or earn a concordant score. If a transfer student's transcript shows a final course grade and course credit in Algebra I or, Geometry, Biology I, or United States History, the transferring course final grade and credit shall be honored without the student taking the requisite statewide, standardized EOC assessment and without the assessment result results constituting 30 percent of the student's final course grade.

- (9) COHORT TRANSITION TO NEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of this section, in addition to applying to students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter, shall also apply to students entering grade 9 before the 2013-2014 school year, except as otherwise provided in this subsection.
- (a) A student entering grade 9 before the 2010-2011 school year must earn:
- 1. Four credits in English/ELA. A student must pass the statewide, standardized grade 10 Reading assessment, or earn a concordant score, in order to graduate with a standard high school diploma.
- 2. Four credits in mathematics, which must include Algebra I. A student must pass grade 10 FCAT Mathematics, or earn a concordant score, in order to graduate with a standard high school diploma. A student who takes Algebra I or Geometry after the 2010-2011 school year must take the statewide, standardized EOC assessment for the course but is not required to pass the

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assessment in order to earn course credit. A student's performance on the Algebra I or Geometry EOC assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the certification for one mathematics credit. Substitution may occur for up to two mathematics credits, except for Algebra I.

- 3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a laboratory component. A student who takes Biology I after the 2010-2011 school year must take the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC assessment but is not required to pass the assessment in order to earn course credit. A student's performance on the assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the certification for one science credit.
- 4. Three credits in social studies of which one credit in World History, one credit in United States History, one-half credit in United States Government, and one-half credit in economics are required. A student who takes United States History after the 2011-2012 school year must take the statewide, standardized United States History EOC assessment, but the student's performance on the assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade.
- 5. One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts as provided in paragraph (3)(e).

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6. One credit in physical education as provided in paragraph (3) (f).

- 7. Eight credits in electives.
- (b) A student entering grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year must earn:
- 1. Four credits in English/ELA. A student must pass the statewide, standardized grade 10 Reading assessment, or earn a concordant score, in order to graduate with a standard high school diploma.
- 2. Four credits in mathematics, which must include Algebra I and Geometry. The statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student who takes Algebra I or Geometry after the 2010-2011 school year must take the statewide, standardized EOC assessment for the course but is not required to pass the assessment in order to earn course credit. A student's performance on the Geometry EOC assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the certification for one mathematics credit. Substitution may occur for up to two mathematics credits, except for Algebra I and Geometry.
- 3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a laboratory component. A student who takes Biology I after the 2010-2011 school year must take the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC assessment but is not required to pass the assessment in order to earn course credit. A student's performance on the assessment is not required to constitute 30

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percent of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the certification for one science credit, except for Biology I.

- 4. Three credits in social studies of which one credit in World History, one credit in United States History, one-half credit in United States Government, and one-half credit in economics are required. A student who takes United States History after the 2011-2012 school year must take the statewide, standardized United States History EOC assessment, but the student's performance on the assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade.
- 5. One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts as provided in paragraph (3)(e).
- 6. One credit in physical education as provided in paragraph (3)(f).
 - 7. Eight credits in electives.
- (c) A student entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year must earn:
- 1. Four credits in English/ELA. A student must pass the statewide, standardized grade 10 Reading assessment, or earn a concordant score, in order to graduate with a standard high school diploma.
- 2. Four credits in mathematics, which must include Algebra I and Geometry. A student who takes Algebra I after the 2010-2011 school year must pass the statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC assessment, or earn a comparative score, in order to earn a standard high school diploma. A student who takes Algebra I or

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Geometry after the 2010-2011 school year must take the statewide, standardized EOC assessment but is not required to pass the Algebra I or Geometry EOC assessment in order to earn course credit. A student's performance on the Algebra I or Geometry EOC assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the certification for one mathematics credit. Substitution may occur for up to two mathematics credits, except for Algebra I and Geometry.

- 3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a laboratory component. One of the science credits must be Biology I. A student who takes Biology I after the 2010-2011 school year must take the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC assessment but is not required to pass the assessment in order to earn course credit. A student's performance on the assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the certification for one science credit, except for Biology I.
- 4. Three credits in social studies of which one credit in World History, one credit in United States History, one-half credit in United States Government, and one-half credit in economics are required. A student who takes United States History after the 2011-2012 school year must take the statewide, standardized United States History EOC assessment, but the student's performance on the assessment is not required to

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constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade.

- 5. One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts as provided in paragraph (3)(e).
- 6. One credit in physical education as provided in paragraph (3)(f).
 - 7. Eight credits in electives.
 - 8. One online course as provided in subsection (4).
- (d) A student entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year must earn:
- 1. Four credits in English/ELA. A student must pass the statewide, standardized grade 10 Reading assessment, or earn a concordant score, in order to graduate with a standard high school diploma.
- 2. Four credits in mathematics, which must include Algebra I and Geometry. A student who takes Algebra I after the 2010-2011 school year must pass the statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC assessment, or earn a comparative score, in order to earn a standard high school diploma. A student who takes Geometry after the 2010-2011 school year must take the statewide, standardized Geometry EOC assessment. A student is not required to pass the statewide, standardized EOC assessment in Algebra I or Geometry in order to earn course credit. A student's performance on the Algebra I or Geometry EOC assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the certification for one mathematics credit. Substitution may occur for up to two mathematics credits, except for Algebra I and Geometry.

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3. Three credits in science, two of which must have a laboratory component. One of the science credits must be Biology I. A student who takes Biology I after the 2010-2011 school year must take the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC assessment but is not required to pass the assessment to earn course credit. A student's performance on the assessment is not required to constitute 30 percent of the student's final course grade. A student who earns an industry certification for which there is a statewide college credit articulation agreement approved by the State Board of Education may substitute the certification for one science credit, except for Biology I.

- 4. Three credits in social studies of which one credit in World History, one credit in United States History, one-half credit in United States Government, and one-half credit in economics are required. The statewide, standardized United States History EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade.
- 5. One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts as provided in paragraph (3)(e).
- 6. One credit in physical education as provided in paragraph (3)(f).
 - 7. Eight credits in electives.
 - 8. One online course as provided in subsection (4).
- (e) Policy adopted in rule by the district school board may require for any cohort of students that performance on a statewide, standardized EOC assessment constitute 30 percent of a student's final course grade.
 - (f) This subsection is repealed July 1, 2020.
 - Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section

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1003.4285, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.4285 Standard high school diploma designations.-

- (1) Each standard high school diploma shall include, as applicable, the following designations if the student meets the criteria set forth for the designation:
- (a) Scholar designation.—In addition to the requirements of s. 1003.4282, in order to earn the Scholar designation, a student must satisfy the following requirements:
- 1. Mathematics.—Earn one credit in Algebra II and one credit in statistics or an equally rigorous course. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year, pass the Algebra II and Geometry statewide, standardized assessments.
- 2. Science.—Pass the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC assessment and earn one credit in chemistry or physics and one credit in a course equally rigorous to chemistry or physics. However, a student enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Biology course who takes the respective AP, IB, or AICE Biology assessment and earns the minimum score necessary to earn college credit as identified pursuant to s. 1007.27(2) meets the requirement of this subparagraph without having to take the statewide, standardized Biology I EOC assessment.
- 3. Social studies.—Pass the statewide, standardized United States History EOC assessment. However, A student enrolled in an AP, IB, or AICE course that includes United States History topics who takes the respective AP, IB, or AICE assessment and earns the minimum score necessary to earn college credit as

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identified pursuant to s. 1007.27(2) meets the requirement of this subparagraph without having to take the statewide, standardized United States History EOC assessment.

- 4. Foreign language.—Earn two credits in the same foreign language.
- 5. Electives.—Earn at least one credit in an Advanced Placement, an International Baccalaureate, an Advanced International Certificate of Education, or a dual enrollment course.

Section 5. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) and paragraphs (a) and (e) of subsection (7) of section 1008.22, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (g) is added to subsection (11), to read:

1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.-

(3) STATEWIDE, STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.—The Commissioner of Education shall design and implement a statewide, standardized assessment program aligned to the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. The commissioner also must develop or select and implement a common battery of assessment tools that will be used in all juvenile justice education programs in the state. These tools must accurately measure the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. Participation in the assessment program is mandatory for all school districts and all students attending public schools, including adult students seeking a standard high school diploma under s. 1003.4282 and students in Department of Juvenile Justice education programs, except as otherwise provided by law. If a student does not participate in the assessment program, the

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school district must notify the student's parent and provide the parent with information regarding the implications of such nonparticipation. The statewide, standardized assessment program shall be designed and implemented as follows:

(a) Statewide, standardized comprehensive assessments.—The statewide, standardized Reading assessment shall be administered annually in grades 3 through 8 and grade 10. The statewide, standardized Writing assessment shall be administered annually at least once at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. When the Reading and Writing assessments are replaced by English Language Arts (ELA) assessments, ELA assessments shall be administered to students in grades 3 through 8 and annually in grade 10. Retake opportunities for the grade 10 Reading assessment or, upon implementation, the grade 10 ELA assessment must be provided. Students taking the ELA assessments may shall not take the statewide, standardized assessments in Reading or Writing. ELA assessments shall be administered online unless the provisions of paragraph (d) are implemented. The statewide, standardized Mathematics assessments shall be administered annually in grades 3 through 8, and shall be administered online unless the provisions of paragraph (d) are implemented. Students taking a revised Mathematics assessment may shall not take the discontinued assessment. The statewide, standardized Science assessment shall be administered annually at least once at the elementary and middle grades levels, and shall be administered online unless the provisions of paragraph (d) are implemented. In order to earn a standard high school diploma, a student who has not earned a passing score on the grade 10 Reading assessment or, upon implementation, the grade 10 ELA assessment

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or, upon implementation, a grade 10 nationally recognized high school assessment selected by a school district must earn a passing score on the assessment retake or earn a concordant score as authorized under subsection (8).

- (b) Algebra I and Biology I End-of-course (EOC) assessments.—The Algebra I and Biology I EOC assessments must be statewide, standardized, and developed or approved by the Department of Education. as follows:
- 1. EOC assessments for Algebra I and, Geometry, Algebra II, Biology I, United States History, and Civics shall be administered to students enrolled in such courses as specified in the course code directory.
- 2. Students enrolled in Algebra I and Biology I a course, as specified in the course code directory, with an associated statewide, standardized EOC assessment must take the EOC assessment for such course and may not take the corresponding subject or grade-level statewide, standardized assessment pursuant to paragraph (a). Sections 1003.4156 and 1003.4282 govern the use of statewide, standardized EOC assessment results for students.
- 3. The commissioner may select one or more nationally developed comprehensive examinations, which may include examinations for a College Board Advanced Placement course, International Baccalaureate course, or Advanced International Certificate of Education course, or industry-approved examinations to earn national industry certifications identified in the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List, for use as https://doi.org/10.1001/journal.org/ and Biology I EOC assessments under this paragraph if the commissioner determines that the content knowledge and

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skills assessed by the examinations meet or exceed the gradelevel expectations for Algebra I and Biology I the core
curricular content established for the course in the Next

Generation Sunshine State Standards. Use of any such examination
as an EOC assessment must be approved by the state board in
rule.

- 4. Contingent upon funding provided in the General Appropriations Act, including the appropriation of funds received through federal grants, the commissioner may establish an implementation schedule for the development and administration of additional statewide, standardized EOC assessments that must be approved by the state board in rule. If approved by the state board, student performance on such assessments constitutes 30 percent of a student's final course grade.
- 4.5. The Algebra I and Biology I All statewide, standardized EOC assessments must be administered online except as otherwise provided in paragraphs paragraph (c) and (d).
- (c) Students with disabilities; Florida Alternate Assessment.—
- 1. Each district school board must provide instruction to prepare students with disabilities in the core content knowledge and skills necessary for successful grade-to-grade progression and high school graduation.
- 2. A student with a disability, as defined in s. 1007.02, for whom the individual education plan (IEP) team determines that the statewide, standardized assessments under this section cannot accurately measure the student's abilities, taking into consideration all allowable accommodations, shall have

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assessment results waived for the purpose of receiving a course grade and a standard high school diploma. Such waiver shall be designated on the student's transcript. The statement of waiver shall be limited to a statement that performance on an assessment was waived for the purpose of receiving a course grade or a standard high school diploma, as applicable.

- 3. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules, based upon recommendations of the commissioner, for the provision of assessment accommodations for students with disabilities and for students who have limited English proficiency.
- a. Accommodations that negate the validity of a statewide, standardized assessment are not allowed during the administration of the assessment. However, instructional accommodations are allowed in the classroom if identified in a student's IEP. Students using instructional accommodations in the classroom that are not allowed on a statewide, standardized assessment may have assessment results waived if the IEP team determines that the assessment cannot accurately measure the student's abilities.
- b. If a student is provided with instructional accommodations in the classroom that are not allowed as accommodations for statewide, standardized assessments, the district must inform the parent in writing and provide the parent with information regarding the impact on the student's ability to meet expected performance levels. A parent must provide signed consent for a student to receive classroom instructional accommodations that would not be available or permitted on a statewide, standardized assessment and acknowledge in writing that he or she understands the

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implications of such instructional accommodations.

c. If a student's IEP states that online administration of a statewide, standardized assessment will significantly impair the student's ability to perform, the assessment shall be administered in hard copy.

- 4. For students with significant cognitive disabilities, the Department of Education shall provide for implementation of the Florida Alternate Assessment to accurately measure the core curricular content established in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.
- 5. The Department of Education may expand the languages in which statewide, standardized assessments are administered. A school district shall be provided such assessments at no cost.
- (d) Nonelectronic option.—The commissioner shall provide an alternative, nonelectronic option for the administration of the ELA statewide, standardized assessment, including Writing; the nationally recognized assessment approved pursuant to s.

 1008.223; the Mathematics statewide, standardized assessment; and the Algebra I and Biology I EOC assessments. The commissioner shall provide the nonelectronic option to reduce the time spent on assessments; increase instructional time for students; and ensure that students demonstrate more successfully a mastery of the standards being measured, that students have the time to develop the word processing and computer skills necessary to take any statewide, standardized assessment, and that school districts have the capacity on both the school and district levels to administer the assessments online.
 - (e) (d) Implementation schedule.-
 - 1. The Commissioner of Education shall establish and

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publish on the department's website an implementation schedule to transition from the statewide, standardized Reading and Writing assessments to the ELA assessments and to the revised Mathematics assessments, including the Algebra I and Geometry EOC assessment assessments. The schedule must take into consideration funding, sufficient field and baseline data, access to assessments, instructional alignment, and school district readiness to administer the assessments online. All such assessments must be delivered through computer-based testing, however, the following assessments must be delivered in a computer-based format, as follows: the grade 3 ELA assessment, beginning in the 2017-2018 school year; the grade 3 Mathematics assessment beginning in the 2016-2017 school year; the grade 4 ELA assessment, beginning in the 2015-2016 school year; and the grade 4 Mathematics assessment, beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

- 2. The Department of Education shall publish minimum and recommended technology requirements that include specifications for hardware, software, networking, security, and broadband capacity to facilitate school district compliance with the requirement that assessments be administered online.
 - (f) (e) Assessment scores and achievement levels.-
- 1. The All statewide, standardized Algebra I EOC assessment assessments and ELA, Mathematics, and Science assessments shall use scaled scores and achievement levels. Achievement levels shall range from 1 through 5, with level 1 being the lowest achievement level, level 5 being the highest achievement level, and level 3 indicating satisfactory performance on an assessment.

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2. The state board shall designate by rule a passing score for each statewide, standardized assessment.

- 3. If the commissioner seeks to revise a statewide, standardized assessment and the revisions require the state board to modify performance level scores, including the passing score, the commissioner shall provide a copy of the proposed scores and implementation plan to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives at least 90 days before submission to the state board for review. Until the state board adopts the modifications by rule, the commissioner shall use calculations for scoring the assessment that adjust student scores on the revised assessment for statistical equivalence to student scores on the former assessment. The state board shall adopt by rule the passing score for the revised assessment that is statistically equivalent to the passing score on the discontinued assessment for a student who is required to attain a passing score on the discontinued assessment. The commissioner may, with approval of the state board, discontinue administration of the former assessment upon the graduation, based on normal student progression, of students participating in the final regular administration of the former assessment. If the commissioner revises a statewide, standardized assessment and the revisions require the state board to modify the passing score, only students taking the assessment for the first time after the rule is adopted are affected.
- (g) (f) Prohibited activities.—A district school board shall prohibit each public school from suspending a regular program of curricula for purposes of administering practice assessments or engaging in other assessment-preparation activities for a

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statewide, standardized assessment. However, a district school board may authorize a public school to engage in the following assessment-preparation activities:

- 1. Distributing to students sample assessment books and answer keys published by the Department of Education.
- 2. Providing individualized instruction in assessmenttaking strategies, without suspending the school's regular program of curricula, for a student who scores Level 1 or Level 2 on a prior administration of an assessment.
- 3. Providing individualized instruction in the content knowledge and skills assessed, without suspending the school's regular program of curricula, for a student who scores Level 1 or Level 2 on a prior administration of an assessment or a student who, through a diagnostic assessment administered by the school district, is identified as having a deficiency in the content knowledge and skills assessed.
- 4. Administering a practice assessment or engaging in other assessment-preparation activities that are determined necessary to familiarize students with the organization of the assessment, the format of assessment items, and the assessment directions or that are otherwise necessary for the valid and reliable administration of the assessment, as set forth in rules adopted by the State Board of Education with specific reference to this paragraph.
 - (h) (g) Contracts for assessments.-
- 1. The commissioner shall provide for the assessments to be developed or obtained, as appropriate, through contracts and project agreements with private vendors, public vendors, public agencies, postsecondary educational institutions, or school

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2. The commissioner shall implement s. 1008.223, relating to the selection by school districts of a nationally recognized high school assessment as an alternate assessment for high school.

- 3. The commissioner may enter into contracts for the continued administration of the assessments authorized and funded by the Legislature. Contracts may be initiated in 1 fiscal year and continue into the next fiscal year and may be paid from the appropriations of either or both fiscal years. The commissioner may negotiate for the sale or lease of tests, scoring protocols, test scoring services, and related materials developed pursuant to law.
- 4.2. A student's performance results on statewide, standardized assessments, Algebra I and Biology I EOC assessments, and Florida Alternative Assessments administered pursuant to this subsection must be provided to the student's teachers and parents within 30 days or by the end of the school year, whichever occurs earlier, unless the commissioner determines that extenuating circumstances exist and reports the extenuating circumstances to the State Board of Education and to school districts. This subparagraph does not apply to existing contracts for such assessments, but applies shall apply to new contracts and any renewal of existing contracts for such assessments. The Department of Education shall conduct a study to identify barriers to and make recommendations for improving student performance results within 72 hours after completion of all statewide, standardized assessments, the Algebra I and Biology I EOC assessments, and any nationally recognized high

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school assessment selected by a school district as an alternate assessment pursuant to s. 1008.223. Recommendations may include modification of assessment administration for students with disabilities. A report of the study shall be submitted to the State Board of Education, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than January 31, 2018.

- 5. The administration of the statewide, standardized ELA and Mathematics assessments in grades 3 through 8 may not occur earlier than the last 4 weeks of school.
- <u>6.3.</u> If liquidated damages are applicable, the department shall collect liquidated damages that are due in response to the administration of the spring 2015 computer-based assessments of the department's Florida Standards Assessment contract with American Institutes for Research, and expend the funds to reimburse parties that incurred damages.
- ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.—Each public school shall participate in the statewide, standardized assessment program in accordance with the assessment and reporting schedules and the minimum and recommended technology requirements published by the Commissioner of Education. A district school superintendent shall notify the commissioner of the schools that will use a nonelectronic option, and the commissioner shall provide an alternative, nonelectronic option to the school district for the successful and timely administration of the statewide, standardized assessments and the reporting of assessment results to the Department of Education, as specified in paragraph (3) (d). District school boards may shall not establish school

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calendars that conflict with or jeopardize implementation of the assessment program. All district school boards shall report assessment results using the state management information system. Performance data shall be analyzed and reported to parents, the community, and the state. Student performance data shall be used by districts in developing objectives for the school improvement plan, evaluating instructional personnel and administrative personnel, assigning staff, allocating resources, acquiring instructional materials and technology, implementing performance-based budgeting, and promoting and assigning students to educational programs. The analysis of student performance data must also identify strengths and needs in the educational program and trends over time. The analysis must be used in conjunction with the budgetary planning processes developed pursuant to s. 1008.385 and the development of remediation programs.

- (5) REQUIRED ANALYSES.—The commissioner shall provide, at a minimum, statewide, standardized assessment data analysis showing student achievement levels and Learning Gains by teacher, school, and school district. As part of the analysis, the commissioner shall provide all of the following information to school districts for student achievement levels and Learning Gains on each statewide, standardized assessment:
 - (a) The percent of correct items by cognitive complexity.
- (b) The percent of correct items for each measured standard.
- (c) The identification of each standard measured on the assessment.
 - (d) At item analysis of the standard measured on each

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assessment.

(e) The reading level at which each reading assessment is administered.

- (7) ASSESSMENT SCHEDULES AND REPORTING OF RESULTS.-
- (a) The Commissioner of Education shall establish schedules for the administration of statewide, standardized assessments and the reporting of student assessment results. The commissioner shall consider the observance of religious and school holidays when developing the schedules. The assessment and reporting schedules must provide the earliest possible reporting of student assessment results to the school districts, consistent with the requirements of paragraph (3)(h) (3)(g). Assessment results for the statewide, standardized ELA and Mathematics assessments and the all statewide, standardized Algebra I and Biology I EOC assessments must be made available no later than the week of June 8, except for results of assessments administered in the 2014-2015 school year. School districts shall administer statewide, standardized assessments in accordance with the schedule established by the commissioner.
- (e) The Algebra I and Biology I A statewide, standardized EOC assessments assessment must be used as the final cumulative examination for its associated course. No additional final assessment may be administered in an Algebra I or Biology I a course with a statewide, standardized EOC assessment. A district-required local assessment may be used as the final cumulative examination for its associated course in accordance with the school district's policy.
- (11) REPORTS.—The Department of Education shall annually provide a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,

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1132 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which shall 1133 include the following: 1134 (g) A summary of the analysis required under subsection 1135 (5). 1136 Section 6. Section 1008.223, Florida Statutes, is created 1137 to read: 1138 1008.223 Selection of a nationally recognized alternate 1139 high school assessment.-1140 (1) PURPOSE.— 1141 (a) This section provides a school district the option of 1142 selecting a nationally recognized high school assessment in lieu of administering the Florida Standards Assessment to students in 1143 1144 grade 10, and is in compliance with the federal Every Student 1145 Succeeds Act provisions authorizing the selection by a school 1146 district of a nationally recognized high school assessment to 1147 administer as an alternate assessment in high school. 1148 (b) The student assessment program in high school must be 1149 implemented in a way that does not substantially disrupt 1150 instruction to students or displace students from using a 1151 classroom computer that is needed for instruction. The 1152 assessment results must be returned within 30 days after 1153 administration of the assessment or by the end of the school 1154 year, whichever occurs earlier, to allow a student and parent to 1155 know whether the student is achieving at grade level and to 1156 allow the school district to make more timely decisions 1157 regarding promotion, retention, summer school placement, and 1158 scheduling for the next school year. A nationally recognized 1159 high school assessment that is substantially aligned with the

applicable state standards will allow a parent to know how a

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1161 student compares nationally and even internationally.

- (2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION.—In addition to the requirements of s. 1008.22, the commissioner shall provide an approved list of nationally recognized high school assessments from which a school district may select as an alternate assessment to administer to students in grade 10 for English Language Arts in lieu of the Florida Standards Assessment.
- (a) The nationally recognized high school assessment must meet all of the following requirements:
- 1. Be available to school districts no later than the 20182019 school year;
- 2. Be substantially aligned with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards;
- 3. Provide for differentiation and comparability between schools and districts;
- 4. Provide the same or additional accommodations to students with disabilities and other students which are provided for the Florida Standards Assessment and other statewide, standardized assessments;
- 5. Meet applicable assessment security requirements determined by the commissioner for the state and for school districts;
- 6. Meet reasonable technical specification requirements
 determined by the commissioner which allow for implementation by
 the state and by school districts; and
- 1187 7. Satisfy any threshold legal requirement, including, but
 1188 not limited to, the standard set forth in Debra P. v.
 1189 Turlington, 474 F. Supp. 244 (M.D. Fla. 1979).

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(b) The commissioner must use an invitation to negotiate, as defined in s. 287.012, to fulfill the requirements of this section. The commissioner must require each entity that responds to an invitation to negotiate to include information demonstrating compliance with paragraph (a).

- (c) The commissioner shall consult with and receive recommendations for alternate assessments from education stakeholders, including district school superintendents, testing and measurement administrators, curriculum directors, principals, teachers, and other educators who have experience and expertise in the administration of high school assessments.
- (d) The nationally recognized high school assessment, if administered, satisfies the high school graduation requirements contained in s. 1003.4282.
- (3) RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS.—A district school superintendent may recommend, and the school board may approve, the administration of the state-approved nationally recognized high school assessment to be administered in lieu of the Florida Standards Assessment in grade 10. Administrators, teachers, and parents of high school students must be notified at the beginning of each school year that an assessment other than the Florida Standards Assessment will be administered in grade 10.

Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 1008.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.25 Public school student progression; student support; reporting requirements.—

- (8) ANNUAL REPORT.-
- (a) In addition to the requirements in paragraph (5)(b), each district school board must annually report to the parent of

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each student the progress of the student toward achieving state and district expectations for proficiency in English Language Arts, science, social studies, and mathematics. The district school board must report to the parent the student's results on each statewide, standardized assessment. The report must include the results of the analysis required under s. 1008.22(5). The evaluation of each student's progress must be based upon the student's classroom work, observations, tests, district and state assessments, and other relevant information. Progress reporting must be provided to the parent in writing in a format adopted by the district school board.

Section 8. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3), and subsections (4), (6), and (7) of section 1008.34, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1008.34 School grading system; school report cards; district grade.—

- (1) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of the statewide, standardized assessment program and school grading system, the following terms are defined:
- (b) "Learning Gains," "annual learning gains," or "student learning gains" means the degree of student learning growth occurring from one school year to the next as required by state board rule for purposes of calculating school grades under this section. For the purpose of school grades, maintaining achievement level 3, level 4, or level 5 or increasing such achievement level constitutes Learning Gains.
 - (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES.-
- (a) Each school must assess at least 95 percent of its eligible students, except as provided under s. 1008.341 for

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alternative schools. Each school shall receive a school grade based on the school's performance on the components listed in subparagraphs (b)1. and 2. If a school does not have at least 10 students with complete data for one or more of the components listed in subparagraphs (b)1. and 2., those components may not be used in calculating the school's grade. In addition to statewide, standardized assessments, a school grade shall be based on any nationally recognized high school assessment used pursuant to s. 1008.223, an assessment used for concordant scores pursuant to s. 1008.22(8), and any comparative score for an end-of-course assessment used pursuant to s. 1008.22(9). The grades for acceleration courses taken in middle school must also be reflected in the school grade for the high school to which the student will transfer.

- 1. An alternative school may choose to receive a school grade under this section or a school improvement rating under s. 1008.341. For charter schools that meet the definition of an alternative school pursuant to State Board of Education rule, the decision to receive a school grade is the decision of the charter school governing board.
- 2. A school that serves any combination of students in kindergarten through grade 3 and that does not receive a school grade because its students are not tested and included in the school grading system shall receive the school grade designation of a K-3 feeder pattern school identified by the Department of Education and verified by the school district. A school feeder pattern exists if at least 60 percent of the students in the school serving a combination of students in kindergarten through grade 3 are scheduled to be assigned to the graded school.

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3. If a collocated school does not earn a school grade or school improvement rating for the performance of its students, the student performance data of all schools operating at the same facility must be aggregated to develop a school grade that will be assigned to all schools at that location. A collocated school is a school that has its own unique master school identification number, provides for the education of each of its enrolled students, and operates at the same facility as another school that has its own unique master school identification number and provides for the education of each of its enrolled students.

- (b)1. Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, a school's grade shall be based on the following components, each worth 100 points:
- a. The percentage of eligible students passing statewide, standardized assessments in English Language Arts under s. 1008.22(3).
- b. The percentage of eligible students passing statewide, standardized assessments in mathematics under s. 1008.22(3).
- c. The percentage of eligible students passing statewide, standardized assessments in science under s. 1008.22(3).
- d. The percentage of eligible students passing statewide, standardized assessments in social studies under s. 1008.22(3).
- <u>d.e.</u> The percentage of eligible students who make Learning Gains in English Language Arts as measured by statewide, standardized assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3).
- $\underline{\text{e.f.}}$ The percentage of eligible students who make Learning Gains in mathematics as measured by statewide, standardized assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3).

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 $\underline{\text{f.g.}}$ The percentage of eligible students in the lowest 25 percent in English Language Arts, as identified by prior year performance on statewide, standardized assessments, who make Learning Gains as measured by statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3).

g.h. The percentage of eligible students in the lowest 25 percent in mathematics, as identified by prior year performance on statewide, standardized assessments, who make Learning Gains as measured by statewide, standardized Mathematics assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3).

<u>h.i.</u> For schools <u>consisting</u> comprised of middle grades 6 through 8 or grades 7 and 8, the percentage of eligible students passing high school level statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments or attaining national industry certifications identified in the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

In calculating Learning Gains for the components listed in subsubparagraphs <u>d.-g.</u> <u>e.-h.</u>, the State Board of Education shall require that learning growth toward achievement levels 3, 4, and 5 is demonstrated by students who scored below <u>or remained at achievement level 3</u>, level 4, or level 5 <u>each of those levels</u> in the prior year. In calculating the components in subsubparagraphs <u>a.-c.</u> <u>a.-d.</u>, the state board shall include the performance of English language learners only if they have been enrolled in a school in the United States for more than 2 years.

2. For a school <u>consisting</u> comprised of grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, or grades 10, 11, and 12, the school's grade shall also be based on the following components, each worth 100 points:

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a. The 4-year high school graduation rate of the school as defined by state board rule.

- b. The percentage of students who were eligible to earn college and career credit through College Board Advanced Placement examinations, International Baccalaureate examinations, dual enrollment courses, or Advanced International Certificate of Education examinations; or who, at any time during high school, earned national industry certification identified in the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to rules adopted by the state board.
- (4) SCHOOL REPORT CARD.—The Department of Education shall annually develop, in collaboration with the school districts, a school report card to be provided by the school district to parents within the district. The report card shall include the school's grade; student performance in English Language Arts, mathematics and, science, and social studies; information regarding school improvement; an explanation of school performance as evaluated by the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), 20 U.S.C. ss. 6301 et seq.; and indicators of return on investment. The report card must incorporate the summary results of the analysis required in s. 1008.22(5). Each school's report card shall be published annually by the department on its website based upon the most recent data available.
 - (6) 2018-2019 SCHOOL GRADE CALCULATION.
- (a) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the school's grade shall also be based on the following components:
- 1. The extended-year adjusted cohort graduation rate for schools consisting of grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, or grades 10,

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1364 11, and 12.

2. At least one indicator of school quality or student access which is measurable and may include, but is not limited to, student engagement; educator engagement; student access to and completion of advanced coursework, postsecondary readiness, school climate and safety; student attendance; or student persistence, for at least 10 percent of the school grade.

- (b) Learning Gains shall be calculated in English Language

 Arts for students who take the statewide, standardized

 assessment or the approved nationally recognized high school

 assessment. The Learning Gains shall be calculated based on the

 performance on the English Language Arts assessments

 administered in grade 8 under s. 1008.22(3).
- (c) The commissioner shall develop models that may be used for differentiation and comparability between schools and districts that use an approved nationally recognized high school assessment pursuant to s. 1008.223.
- $\underline{\text{(7)}}$ RULES.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this section.
- (7) TRANSITION.—School grades pursuant to this section and school improvement ratings pursuant to s. 1008.341 for the 2013-2014 school 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 and school improvement ratings, calculated based on new statewide, standardized assessments administered pursuant to s. 1008.22, the 2014-2015 school grades and school improvement ratings shall serve as an informational baseline for schools to work toward improved performance in future years. Accordingly, notwithstanding any other provision of law:

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(a) A school may not be required to select and implement a turnaround option pursuant to s. 1008.33 in the 2015-2016 school year based on the school's 2014-2015 grade or school improvement rating under s. 1008.341, as applicable. The benefits of s. 1008.33(4)(c), relating to a school being released from implementation of the turnaround option, and s. 1008.33(4)(d), relating to a school implementing strategies identified in its school improvement plan, apply to a school using turnaround options pursuant to s. 1008.33 which improves at least one letter grade during the 2014-2015 school year.

(b) 1. A school or approved provider under s. 1002.45 which 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 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 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) Until such time as an independent verification of the psychometric validity of the statewide, standardized assessments first implemented in 2014-2015 is provided, for purposes of grade 3 English Language Arts student performance and high school graduation requirements pursuant to s. 1003.4282, student performance on the 2014-2015 statewide, standardized assessments shall be linked to 2013-2014 student performance expectations.

3-00195C-17 2017964 1422 Students who score in the bottom quintile on the 2014-2015 grade 1423 3 English Language Arts assessment shall be identified as students at risk of retention. School districts must notify 1424 1425 parents of such students, provide evidence as outlined in s. 1426 1008.25(6)(b), and provide the appropriate intervention and 1427 support services for student success in grade 4. 1428 1429 This subsection is repealed July 1, 2017. 1430 Section 9. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (5) of 1431 section 1008.345, Florida Statutes, to read: 1432 1008.345 Implementation of state system of school 1433 improvement and education accountability.-1434 (5) The commissioner shall report to the Legislature and 1435 recommend changes in state policy necessary to foster school 1436 improvement and education accountability. The report shall 1437 include: (d) The results of the analysis required under s. 1438 1439 1008.22(5). 1440 1441 School reports shall be distributed pursuant to this subsection 1442 and s. 1001.42(18)(c) and according to rules adopted by the 1443 State Board of Education. 1444 Section 10. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1), 1445 paragraph (a) of subsection (3), and subsections (6) through (9) of section 1012.34, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 1446 1447 1012.34 Personnel evaluation procedures and criteria.-1448 (1) EVALUATION SYSTEM APPROVAL AND REPORTING.-1449 (b) The department must approve each school district's

instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation

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systems. The department shall monitor each district's implementation of its instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems for compliance with the requirements of this section.

- (c) Annually, by February 1, the Commissioner of Education shall publish on the department's website the status of each school district's instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems. This information must include:
- $\frac{1}{1}$ performance evaluation results for the prior school year for instructional personnel and school administrators using the four levels of performance specified in paragraph (2) (e). The performance evaluation results for instructional personnel shall be disaggregated by classroom teachers, as defined in s. 1012.01(2) (a), excluding substitute teachers, and all other instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2) (b)-(d).
- 2. An analysis that compares performance evaluation results calculated by each school district to indicators of performance calculated by the department using the standards for performance levels adopted by the state board under subsection (8).
 - 3. Data reported under s. 1012.341.
- (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 system is not limited to basing unsatisfactory performance of instructional personnel and school administrators solely upon student performance, but may include other criteria to evaluate instructional personnel and school administrators' performance,

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or any combination of student performance and other 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 one-third of a performance evaluation must be based upon data and indicators of student performance in accordance with subsection (7). This portion of the evaluation must include growth or achievement data of the teacher's students or, for a school administrator, the students attending 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. The proportion of growth or achievement data may be determined by instructional assignment.
- 2. Instructional practice.—For instructional personnel, the remainder at least one—third of the performance evaluation must be based upon instructional practice and other indicators of performance. The performance evaluation must include, but is not limited to, practices and indicators that relate to the following:
 - a. Comprehensive knowledge of the subject taught;

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b. Instruction in the applicable Next Generation Sunshine

b. Instruction in the applicable Next Generation Sunshine

State Standards with rigor and fidelity;

- c. The planning and delivery of instruction using technology in the classroom;
- d. The application of data from assessments and measures to diagnose learning needs and to use applicable instructional strategies;
- <u>e. The ability to maintain appropriate classroom</u> discipline;
- <u>f. The ability to establish and maintain a positive</u> <u>collaborative relationship with students' families to increase</u> student achievement;
- g. Adherence to the Code of Ethics and the Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida; and
- h. Adherence to the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices and other professional competencies, responsibilities, and requirements as established by rules of the State Board of Education and policies of the district school board.

Evaluation criteria used when annually observing classroom teachers, as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a), excluding substitute teachers, must include indicators based upon each of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices adopted by the State Board of Education. For instructional personnel who are not classroom teachers, evaluation criteria must be based upon indicators of the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices and may include specific job expectations related to student support.

3. Instructional leadership.—For school administrators, the

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remainder at least one-third of the performance evaluation must be based on the Florida Principal Leadership Standards and other indicators of performance instructional leadership. Evaluation criteria for instructional leadership must include indicators based upon each of the leadership standards adopted by the State Board of Education under s. 1012.986, including performance measures related to the effectiveness of classroom teachers in the school, the administrator's appropriate use of evaluation criteria and procedures, recruitment and retention of effective and highly effective classroom teachers, improvement in the percentage of instructional personnel evaluated at the highly effective or effective level, and other leadership practices that result in student learning growth. The system may include a means to give parents and instructional personnel an opportunity to provide input into the administrator's performance evaluation.

- 4. Other indicators of performance. For instructional personnel and school administrators, the remainder of a performance evaluation may include, but is not limited to, professional and job responsibilities as recommended by the State Board of Education or identified by the district school board and, for instructional personnel, peer reviews, objectively reliable survey information from students and parents based on teaching practices that are consistently associated with higher student achievement, and other valid and reliable measures of instructional practice.
- (6) ANNUAL REVIEW OF AND REVISIONS TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT EVALUATION SYSTEMS.—The district school board shall establish a procedure for annually reviewing instructional personnel and

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school administrator evaluation systems to determine compliance with this section. All substantial revisions to the an approved system must be reviewed and approved by the district school board before being used to evaluate instructional personnel or school administrators. Upon request by a school district, the department shall provide assistance in developing, improving, or reviewing an evaluation system.

(7) MEASUREMENT OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE.

(a) The Commissioner of Education shall approve a formula to measure individual student learning growth on the statewide, standardized assessments in English Language Arts and mathematics administered under s. 1008.22. The formula must take into consideration each student's prior academic performance. The formula must not set different expectations for student learning growth based upon a student's gender, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status. In the development of the formula, the commissioner shall consider other factors such as a student's attendance record, disability status, or status as an English language learner. The commissioner may select additional formulas to measure student performance as appropriate for the remainder of the statewide, standardized assessments included under s. 1008.22 and continue to select formulas as new assessments are implemented in the state system. After the commissioner approves the formula to measure individual learning growth, the State Board of Education shall adopt these formulas in rule.

(b) Each school district shall measure student learning growth using the formulas approved by the commissioner under paragraph (a) and the standards for performance levels adopted

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by the state board under subsection (8) for courses associated with the statewide, standardized assessments administered under s. 1008.22 no later than the school year immediately following the year the formula is approved by the commissioner. For grades and subjects not assessed by statewide, standardized assessments, each school district shall measure student performance using a methodology determined by the district.

(7) (8) RULEMAKING.—No later than August 1, 2015, The State Board of Education shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 which establish uniform procedures and format for the monitoring submission, review, and approval of district evaluation systems and reporting requirements for the annual evaluation of instructional personnel and school administrators; specific, discrete standards for each performance level required under subsection (2), based on student learning growth models approved by the commissioner, to ensure clear and sufficient differentiation in the performance levels and to provide consistency in meaning across school districts; the measurement of student learning growth and associated implementation procedures required under subsection (7); and a process for monitoring school district implementation of evaluation systems in accordance with this section.

(9) TRANSITION TO NEW STATEWIDE, STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENTS.—Standards for each performance level required under subsection
(2) shall be established by the State Board of Education
beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.

Section 11. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 1002.331, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.331 High-performing charter schools.-

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- (2) A high-performing charter school is authorized to:
- (e) Receive a modification of its charter to a term of 15 years or a 15-year charter renewal. The charter may be modified or renewed for a shorter term at the option of the high-performing charter school. The charter must be consistent with $\underline{s.\ 1002.33(7)(a)20.}\ \underline{s.\ 1002.33(7)(a)19.}\ and (10)(h)$ and (i), is subject to annual review by the sponsor, and may be terminated during its term pursuant to $\underline{s.\ 1002.33(8)}.$

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A high-performing charter school shall notify its sponsor in writing by March 1 if it intends to increase enrollment or expand grade levels the following school year. The written notice shall specify the amount of the enrollment increase and the grade levels that will be added, as applicable. If a charter school notifies the sponsor of its intent to expand, the sponsor shall modify the charter within 90 days to include the new enrollment maximum and may not make any other changes. The sponsor may deny a request to increase the enrollment of a highperforming charter school if the commissioner has declassified the charter school as high-performing. If a high-performing charter school requests to consolidate multiple charters, the sponsor shall have 40 days after receipt of that request to provide an initial draft charter to the charter school. The sponsor and charter school shall have 50 days thereafter to negotiate and notice the charter contract for final approval by the sponsor.

Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 1012.341, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.341 Exemption from performance evaluation system and

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compensation and salary schedule requirements.-

(2) By October 1 annually, the superintendent of Hillsborough County School District shall attest, in writing, to the Commissioner of Education that:

(b) The instructional personnel and school administrator evaluation systems adopt the Commissioner of Education's student learning growth formula for statewide assessments as provided under s. $1012.34 ext{ s. } 1012.34(7)$.

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This section is repealed August 1, 2017, unless reviewed and reenacted by the Legislature.

Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 1012.562, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.562 Public accountability and state approval of school leader preparation programs. - The Department of Education shall establish a process for the approval of Level I and Level II school leader preparation programs that will enable aspiring school leaders to obtain their certificate in educational leadership under s. 1012.56. School leader preparation programs must be competency-based, aligned to the principal leadership standards adopted by the state board, and open to individuals employed by public schools, including charter schools and virtual schools. Level I programs may be offered by school districts or postsecondary institutions and lead to initial certification in educational leadership for the purpose of preparing individuals to serve as school administrators. Level II programs may be offered by school districts, build upon Level I training, and lead to renewal certification as a school principal.

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- (2) LEVEL I PROGRAMS.—
- (b) Renewal of a Level I program's approval shall be for a period of 5 years and shall be based upon evidence of the program's continued ability to meet the requirements of paragraph (a). A postsecondary institution or school district must submit an institutional program evaluation plan in a format prescribed by the department for a Level I program to be considered for renewal. The plan must include:
- 1. The percentage of personnel who complete the program and are placed in school leadership positions in public schools within the state.
- 2. Results from the personnel evaluations required under s. 1012.34 for personnel who complete the program.
- 3. The passage rate of personnel who complete the program on the Florida Education Leadership Examination.
- 4. The impact personnel who complete the program have on student learning as measured by the formulas developed by the commissioner pursuant to s. $1012.34 \cdot (7)$.
 - 5. Strategies for continuous improvement of the program.
- 6. Strategies for involving personnel who complete the program, other school personnel, community agencies, business representatives, and other stakeholders in the program evaluation process.
- 7. Additional data included at the discretion of the postsecondary institution or school district.
- Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.