

By Senator Montford

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to high school graduation
3 requirements; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; authorizing
4 the use of credits earned upon completion of a
5 registered apprenticeship or preapprenticeship to
6 satisfy specified high school graduation credit
7 requirements; requiring that the State Board of
8 Education approve and identify apprenticeship and
9 preapprenticeship programs for such purpose; providing
10 an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section
15 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

16 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—

17 (8) CAREER EDUCATION COURSES THAT SATISFY HIGH SCHOOL
18 CREDIT REQUIREMENTS.—

19 (a) Participation in career education courses engages
20 students in their high school education, increases academic
21 achievement, enhances employability, and increases postsecondary
22 success. By July 1, 2014, the department shall develop, for
23 approval by the State Board of Education, multiple, additional
24 career education courses or a series of courses that meet the
25 requirements set forth in s. 1003.493(2), (4), and (5) and this
26 subsection and allow students to earn credit in both the career
27 education course and courses required for high school graduation
28 under this section and s. 1003.4281.

29 1. The state board must determine if sufficient academic

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30 standards are covered to warrant the award of academic credit.

31 2. Career education courses must include workforce and
32 digital literacy skills and the integration of required course
33 content with practical applications and designated rigorous
34 coursework that results in one or more industry certifications
35 or clearly articulated credit or advanced standing in a 2-year
36 or 4-year certificate or degree program, which may include high
37 school junior and senior year work-related internships or
38 apprenticeships. The department shall negotiate state licenses
39 for material and testing for industry certifications. The
40 instructional methodology used in these courses must be
41 comprised of authentic projects, problems, and activities for
42 contextually learning the academics.

43 3. A student who earns credit upon completion of an
44 apprenticeship or preapprenticeship program registered with the
45 Department of Education under chapter 446 may use such credit to
46 satisfy the high school graduation credit requirements in
47 paragraph (3) (e) or paragraph (3) (g). The state board shall
48 approve and identify in the Course Code Directory the
49 apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs from which earned
50 credit may be used pursuant to this subparagraph.

51 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.