An act relating to high school graduation requirements; providing a short title; amending s. 1002.3105, F.S.; revising the requirements for award of a standard high school diploma through Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) options; amending s. 1003.41, F.S.; revising the social studies standards for the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards to include financial literacy as a separate subject; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; revising the required credits for a standard high school diploma to include one-half credit in financial literacy and seven and one-half, rather than eight, credits in electives; requiring the state board to identify certain assessments for credit acceleration purposes; exempting certain students from meeting the financial literacy requirement under certain circumstances; amending s. 1003.4295, F.S.; providing that certain assessments identified in State Board of Education rule may be used by students to earn high school credit for certain courses; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act may be cited as the “Dorothy L. Hukill Financial Literacy Act.”

Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 1002.3105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1002.3105 Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) options.—

(5) AWARD OF A STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.—A student who meets the applicable grade 9 cohort graduation requirements of s. 1003.4282(3)(a)-(e) or s. 1003.4282(9)(a)1.-5., (b)1.-5., (c)1.-5., or (d)1.-5., earns two and one-half three credits in electives, and earns a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale shall be awarded a standard high school diploma in a form prescribed by the State Board of Education.

Section 3. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 1003.41, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.41 Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.—

(2) Next Generation Sunshine State Standards must meet the following requirements:

(d) Social Studies standards must establish specific curricular content for, at a minimum, geography, United States and world history, government, civics, humanities, and economics, and including financial literacy. Financial literacy includes the knowledge, understanding, skills, behaviors, attitudes, and values that will enable a student to make responsible and effective financial decisions on a daily basis. Financial literacy instruction shall be an integral part of instruction throughout the entire economics course and include information regarding earning income; buying goods and services; saving and financial investing; taxes; the use of credit and credit cards; budgeting and debt management, including student loans and secured loans; banking and financial services; planning for one’s financial future, including higher education and career planning; credit reports and scores; and fraud and
identity theft prevention.

Section 4. Paragraphs (d) and (g) of subsection (3) 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.—

(d) Three and one-half credits in social studies.—A student must earn one credit in United States History; one credit in World History; one-half credit in economics; one-half credit in, 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. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2019-2020 school year, a student must earn one-half credit in financial literacy. Students must earn the one-half credit in financial literacy in grades 11 or 12. The State Board of Education shall identify in rule one or more financial literacy assessments that are aligned to the state’s financial literacy standards for the purposes of credit acceleration under s. 1003.4295(3). A high school student who transfers into the state’s public school system from another country, another state, a private school, or a home education program is not required to meet the financial literacy requirement to earn a standard high school diploma if the student’s transcript documents passage of a course for financial literacy.

(g) Seven and one-half eight credits in electives.—School districts must develop and offer coordinated electives so that a student may develop knowledge and skills in his or her area of interest, such as electives with a STEM or liberal arts focus.
Such electives must include opportunities for students to earn college credit, including industry-certified career education programs or series of career-themed courses that result in industry certification or articulate into the award of college credit, or career education courses for which there is a statewide or local articulation agreement and which lead to college credit. A student entering grade 9 before the 2019-2020 school year must earn eight credits in electives. A student entering grade 9 in the 2019-2020 school year or thereafter must earn seven and one-half credits in electives.

Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 1003.4295, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.4295 Acceleration options.—

(3) The Credit Acceleration Program (CAP) is created for the purpose of allowing a student to earn high school credit in courses required for high school graduation through passage of an end-of-course assessment administered under s. 1008.22; an Advanced Placement Examination; or a College Level Examination Program (CLEP); or, for a financial literacy course, an appropriate assessment identified in state board rule. Notwithstanding s. 1003.436, a school district shall award course credit to a student who is not enrolled in the course, or who has not completed the course, if the student attains a passing score on the corresponding end-of-course assessment; an Advanced Placement Examination; or CLEP; or, for a financial literacy course, an appropriate assessment identified in state board rule. The school district shall permit a public school or home education student who is not enrolled in the course, or who has not completed the course, to take the assessment or
examination during the regular administration of the assessment
or examination.

      Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.