1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to corporal punishment in public
3	schools; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; prohibiting public
4	school employees from using corporal punishment on a
5	public school student; defining the term "corporal
6	punishment"; amending s. 1003.32, F.S.; removing
7	corporal punishment as an option for teachers and
8	other instructional personnel to use to manage student
9	behavior; amending ss. 414.1251, 1001.11, 1002.01,
10	1002.3105, 1002.385, 1002.42, 1002.43, 1003.01,
11	1003.03, 1003.21, 1003.26, 1003.52, 1006.07,
12	1012.2315, and 1012.28, F.S.; conforming cross-
13	references and conforming provisions to changes made
14	by the act; providing an effective date.
15	
16	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
17	
18	Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and paragraph
19	(c) of subsection (4) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, are
20	amended to read:
21	1002.20 K-12 student and parent rightsParents of public
22	school students must receive accurate and timely information
23	regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed
24	of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12
25	students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory
	Page 1 of 20

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26 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

27

(2) ATTENDANCE.-

28 (b) Regular school attendance.-Parents of students who 29 have attained the age of 6 years by February 1 of any school 30 year but who have not attained the age of 16 years must comply 31 with the compulsory school attendance laws. Parents have the 32 option to comply with the school attendance laws by attendance 33 of the student in a public school; a parochial, religious, or denominational school; a private school; a home education 34 35 program; or a private tutoring program, in accordance with s. 36 1003.01(12) the provisions of s. 1003.01(13).

37

(4)

38

DISCIPLINE.-Corporal punishment.-(C)

39 1. A public school employee may not use In accordance with the provisions of s. 1003.32, corporal punishment on of a public 40 school student. As used in this paragraph, the term "corporal 41 42 punishment" means the use of physical force or physical contact 43 to discipline a student or to enforce school rules. However, the 44 term does not include the use of reasonable force by a public 45 school employee acting in self-defense or in the protection of 46 other students from disruptive students may only be administered 47 by a teacher or school principal within guidelines of the school 48 principal and according to district school board policy. Another adult must be present and must be informed in the student's 49 50 presence of the reason for the punishment. Upon request, the

Page 2 of 20

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51 teacher or school principal must provide the parent with a 52 written explanation of the reason for the punishment and the 53 name of the other adult who was present. 54 2. A district school board having a policy authorizing the 55 use of corporal punishment as a form of discipline shall review 56 its policy on corporal punishment once every 3 years during a 57 district school board meeting held pursuant to s. 1001.372. The 58 district school board shall take public testimony at the board meeting. If such board meeting is not held in accordance with 59

this subparagraph, the portion of the district school board's
 policy authorizing corporal punishment expires.

62 Section 2. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) of section
63 1003.32, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

64 1003.32 Authority of teacher; responsibility for control 65 of students; district school board and principal duties.-Subject to law and to the rules of the district school board, each 66 67 teacher or other member of the staff of any school shall have 68 such authority for the control and discipline of students as may 69 be assigned to him or her by the principal or the principal's 70 designated representative and shall keep good order in the 71 classroom and in other places in which he or she is assigned to 72 be in charge of students.

(1) In accordance with this section and within the framework of the district school board's code of student conduct, teachers and other instructional personnel shall have

Page 3 of 20

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the authority to undertake any of the following actions in 76 77 managing student behavior and ensuring the safety of all 78 students in their classes and school and their opportunity to 79 learn in an orderly and disciplined classroom: 80 (k) Use corporal punishment according to school board policy and at least the following procedures, if a teacher feels 81 82 that corporal punishment is necessary: 83 1. The use of corporal punishment shall be approved in principle by the principal before it is used, but approval is 84 85 not necessary for each specific instance in which it is used. 86 The principal shall prepare guidelines for administering such 87 punishment which identify the types of punishable offenses, the 88 conditions under which the punishment shall be administered, and 89 the specific personnel on the school staff authorized to administer the punishment. 90 2. A teacher or principal may administer corporal 91 punishment only in the presence of another adult who is informed 92 93 beforehand, and in the student's presence, of the reason for the 94 punishment. 95 A teacher or principal who has administered punishment 3. 96 shall, upon request, provide the student's parent with a written explanation of the reason for the punishment and the name of the 97 98 other adult who was present. Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 414.1251, Florida 99 100 Statutes, is amended to read: Page 4 of 20

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101

2019

414.1251 Learnfare program.-

102 The department shall reduce the temporary cash (1)103 assistance for a participant's eligible dependent child or for an eligible teenage participant who has not been exempted from education participation requirements, if the eligible dependent child or eligible teenage participant has been identified either as a habitual truant, pursuant to s. 1003.01(7) s. 1003.01(8), or as a dropout, pursuant to s. 1003.01(8) s. 1003.01(9). For a student who has been identified as a habitual truant, the temporary cash assistance must be reinstated after a subsequent grading period in which the child's attendance has substantially improved. For a student who has been identified as a dropout, the temporary cash assistance must be reinstated after the student enrolls in a public school, receives a high school diploma or its equivalency, enrolls in preparation for the high school equivalency examination, or enrolls in other educational activities approved by the district school board. Good cause exemptions from the rule of unexcused absences include the following:

The student is expelled from school and alternative (a) schooling is not available.

No licensed day care is available for a child of teen (b) parents subject to Learnfare.

Prohibitive transportation problems exist (e.g., to (C) and from day care). 125

Page 5 of 20

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126 127 Within 10 days after sanction notification, the participant 128 parent of a dependent child or the teenage participant may file 129 an internal fair hearings process review procedure appeal, and a 130 no sanction may not shall be imposed until the appeal is 131 resolved. 132 Section 4. Subsection (7) of section 1001.11, Florida 133 Statutes, is amended to read: 1001.11 Commissioner of Education; other duties.-134 135 (7)The commissioner shall make prominently available on the department's website the following: links to the Internet-136 137 based clearinghouse for professional development regarding 138 physical education; the school wellness and physical education 139 policies and other resources required under s. 1003.453; and 140 other Internet sites that provide professional development for elementary teachers of physical education as defined in s. 141 142 1003.01 s. 1003.01(16). These links must provide elementary 143 teachers with information concerning current physical education 144 and nutrition philosophy and best practices that result in student participation in physical activities that promote 145 146 lifelong physical and mental well-being. 147 Section 5. Section 1002.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 148 1002.01 Definitions.-149 150 (1) A "home education program" means the sequentially Page 6 of 20

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progressive instruction of a student directed by his or her parent in order to satisfy the attendance requirements of ss. 1002.41, 1003.01(12) 1003.01(13), and 1003.21(1).

154 A "private school" is a nonpublic school defined as an (2) 155 individual, association, copartnership, or corporation, or 156 department, division, or section of such organizations, that 157 designates itself as an educational center that includes 158 kindergarten or a higher grade or as an elementary, secondary, 159 business, technical, or trade school below college level or any 160 organization that provides instructional services that meet the intent of s. 1003.01(12) s. 1003.01(13) or that gives 161 162 preemployment or supplementary training in technology or in 163 fields of trade or industry or that offers academic, literary, 164 or career training below college level, or any combination of 165 the above, including an institution that performs the functions 166 of the above schools through correspondence or extension, except 167 those licensed under the provisions of chapter 1005. A private school may be a parochial, religious, denominational, for-168 169 profit, or nonprofit school. This definition does not include 170 home education programs conducted in accordance with s. 1002.41. Section 6. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 171 172 1002.3105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 1002.3105 Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance 173

174 Learning (ACCEL) options.-

175

(3) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS.-When establishing

Page 7 of 20

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176 student eligibility requirements, principals and school 177 districts must consider, at a minimum:

(d) Recommendations from one or more of the student's teachers in core-curricula courses as defined in <u>s. 1003.01</u> s. 180 1003.01(14)(a)-(e).

Section 7. Paragraph (h) of subsection (5) and paragraph (a) of subsection (11) of section 1002.385, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

184

1002.385 The Gardiner Scholarship.-

185 (5) AUTHORIZED USES OF PROGRAM FUNDS.-Program funds must
186 be used to meet the individual educational needs of an eligible
187 student and may be spent for the following purposes:

188 (h) Tuition and fees for part-time tutoring services 189 provided by a person who holds a valid Florida educator's 190 certificate pursuant to s. 1012.56; a person who holds an 191 adjunct teaching certificate pursuant to s. 1012.57; a person 192 who has a bachelor's degree or a graduate degree in the subject 193 area in which instruction is given; or a person who has 194 demonstrated a mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to s. 195 1012.56(5). As used in this paragraph, the term "part-time 196 tutoring services" does not qualify as regular school attendance 197 as defined in s. 1003.01(12)(e) s. 1003.01(13)(e).

198

A provider of any services receiving payments pursuant to thissubsection may not share, refund, or rebate any moneys from the

Page 8 of 20

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Gardiner Scholarship with the parent or participating student in any manner. A parent, student, or provider of any services may not bill an insurance company, Medicaid, or any other agency for the same services that are paid for using Gardiner Scholarship funds.

206 (11)PARENT AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROGRAM 207 PARTICIPATION.-A parent who applies for program participation 208 under this section is exercising his or her parental option to 209 determine the appropriate placement or the services that best meet the needs of his or her child. The scholarship award for a 210 student is based on a matrix that assigns the student to support 211 212 Level III services. If a parent receives an IEP and a matrix of 213 services from the school district pursuant to subsection (7), 214 the amount of the payment shall be adjusted as needed, when the 215 school district completes the matrix.

(a) To satisfy or maintain program eligibility, including
eligibility to receive and spend program payments, the parent
must sign an agreement with the organization and annually submit
a notarized, sworn compliance statement to the organization to:

1. Affirm that the student is enrolled in a program that meets regular school attendance requirements as provided in <u>s.</u> $\frac{1003.01(12)(b)-(d)}{s. 1003.01(13)(b)-(d)}$

223 2. Affirm that the program funds are used only for
224 authorized purposes serving the student's educational needs, as
225 described in subsection (5).

Page 9 of 20

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226 Affirm that the parent is responsible for the education 3. 227 of his or her student by, as applicable: 228 Requiring the student to take an assessment in a. 229 accordance with paragraph (8) (b); 230 b. Providing an annual evaluation in accordance with s. 231 1002.41(1)(f); or 232 с. Requiring the child to take any preassessments and 233 postassessments selected by the provider if the child is 4 years of age and is enrolled in a program provided by an eligible 234 235 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program provider. A student 236 with disabilities for whom a preassessment and postassessment is 237 not appropriate is exempt from this requirement. A participating 238 provider shall report a student's scores to the parent. 239 4. Affirm that the student remains in good standing with 240 the provider or school if those options are selected by the 241 parent. 242 243 A parent who fails to comply with this subsection forfeits the 244 Gardiner Scholarship. 245 Section 8. Subsection (7) of section 1002.42, Florida 246 Statutes, is amended to read: 247 1002.42 Private schools.-ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS.-Attendance of a student at a 248 (7) private, parochial, religious, or denominational school 249 250 satisfies the attendance requirements of ss. 1003.01(12) ss. Page 10 of 20

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251	1003.01(13) and 1003.21(1).
252	Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 1002.43, Florida
253	Statutes, is amended to read:
254	1002.43 Private tutoring programs
255	(1) Regular school attendance as defined in <u>s. 1003.01</u> s.
256	1003.01(13) may be achieved by attendance in a private tutoring
257	program if the person tutoring the student meets the following
258	requirements:
259	(a) Holds a valid Florida certificate to teach the
260	subjects or grades in which instruction is given.
261	(b) Keeps all records and makes all reports required by
262	the state and district school board and makes regular reports on
263	the attendance of students in accordance with the provisions of
264	s. 1003.23(2).
265	(c) Requires students to be in actual attendance for the
266	minimum length of time prescribed by s. 1011.60(2).
267	Section 10. Subsections (7) and (14) of section 1003.01,
268	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
269	1003.01 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:
270	(7) "Corporal punishment" means the moderate use of
271	physical force or physical contact by a teacher or principal as
272	may be necessary to maintain discipline or to enforce school
273	rule. However, the term "corporal punishment" does not include
274	the use of such reasonable force by a teacher or principal as
275	may be necessary for self-protection or to protect other

Page 11 of 20

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276 students from disruptive students. 277 (13) (14) "Core-curricula courses" means: 278 Courses in language arts/reading, mathematics, social (a) 279 studies, and science in prekindergarten through grade 3, 280 excluding extracurricular courses pursuant to subsection (14) 281 (15);282 (b) Courses in grades 4 through 8 in subjects that are

282 (b) Courses in grades 4 through 8 in subjects that are 283 measured by state assessment at any grade level and courses 284 required for middle school promotion, excluding extracurricular 285 courses pursuant to subsection <u>(14)</u> (15);

(c) Courses in grades 9 through 12 in subjects that are measured by state assessment at any grade level and courses that are specifically identified by name in statute as required for high school graduation and that are not measured by state assessment, excluding extracurricular courses pursuant to subsection (14) (15);

292

(d) Exceptional student education courses; and

293 294

(e) English for Speakers of Other Languages courses.

The term is limited in meaning and used for the sole purpose of designating classes that are subject to the maximum class size requirements established in s. 1, Art. IX of the State Constitution. This term does not include courses offered under ss. 1002.321(4)(e), 1002.33(7)(a)2.b., 1002.37, 1002.45, and 1003.499.

Page 12 of 20

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301 Section 11. Subsection (6) of section 1003.03, Florida 302 Statutes, is amended to read:

303

1003.03 Maximum class size.-

(6) COURSES FOR COMPLIANCE.-Consistent with <u>s. 1003.01(13)</u>
305 <u>s. 1003.01(14)</u>, the Department of Education shall identify from
306 the Course Code Directory the core-curricula courses for the
307 purpose of satisfying the maximum class size requirement in this
308 section. The department may adopt rules to implement this
309 subsection, if necessary.

310 Section 12. Subsection (4) of section 1003.21, Florida 311 Statutes, is amended to read:

312

1003.21 School attendance.-

313 Before admitting a child to kindergarten, the (4) 314 principal shall require evidence that the child has attained the 315 age at which he or she should be admitted in accordance with the 316 provisions of subparagraph (1)(a)2. The district school 317 superintendent may require evidence of the age of any child who 318 is being enrolled in public school and who the district school 319 superintendent believes to be within the limits of compulsory 320 attendance as provided for by law; however, the district school 321 superintendent may not require evidence from any child who meets 322 regular attendance requirements by attending a school or program listed in s. 1003.01(12)(b)-(e) s. 1003.01(13)(b)-(e). If the 323 324 first prescribed evidence is not available, the next evidence obtainable in the order set forth below shall be accepted: 325

Page 13 of 20

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(a) A duly attested transcript of the child's birth record
filed according to law with a public officer charged with the
duty of recording births;

329 (b) A duly attested transcript of a certificate of baptism
330 showing the date of birth and place of baptism of the child,
331 accompanied by an affidavit sworn to by the parent;

(c) An insurance policy on the child's life that has been in force for at least 2 years;

(d) A bona fide contemporary religious record of the child's birth accompanied by an affidavit sworn to by the parent;

337 (e) A passport or certificate of arrival in the United338 States showing the age of the child;

(f) A transcript of record of age shown in the child's school record of at least 4 years prior to application, stating date of birth; or

If none of these evidences can be produced, an 342 (a) 343 affidavit of age sworn to by the parent, accompanied by a 344 certificate of age signed by a public health officer or by a 345 public school physician, or, if these are not available in the county, by a licensed practicing physician designated by the 346 347 district school board, which states that the health officer or physician has examined the child and believes that the age as 348 stated in the affidavit is substantially correct. Children and 349 350 youths who are experiencing homelessness and children who are

Page 14 of 20

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351 known to the department, as defined in s. 39.0016, shall be 352 given temporary exemption from this section for 30 school days. 353 Section 13. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 354 1003.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

355 1003.26 Enforcement of school attendance.-The Legislature 356 finds that poor academic performance is associated with 357 nonattendance and that school districts must take an active role 358 in promoting and enforcing attendance as a means of improving student performance. It is the policy of the state that each 359 360 district school superintendent be responsible for enforcing 361 school attendance of all students subject to the compulsory 362 school age in the school district and supporting enforcement of school attendance by local law enforcement agencies. The 363 364 responsibility includes recommending policies and procedures to 365 the district school board that require public schools to respond 366 in a timely manner to every unexcused absence, and every absence 367 for which the reason is unknown, of students enrolled in the 368 schools. District school board policies shall require the parent 369 of a student to justify each absence of the student, and that 370 justification will be evaluated based on adopted district school 371 board policies that define excused and unexcused absences. The 372 policies must provide that public schools track excused and unexcused absences and contact the home in the case of an 373 374 unexcused absence from school, or an absence from school for 375 which the reason is unknown, to prevent the development of

Page 15 of 20

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376 patterns of nonattendance. The Legislature finds that early 377 intervention in school attendance is the most effective way of 378 producing good attendance habits that will lead to improved 379 student learning and achievement. Each public school shall 380 implement the following steps to promote and enforce regular 381 school attendance:

382

(1) CONTACT, REFER, AND ENFORCE.-

383 (f)1. If the parent of a child who has been identified as 384 exhibiting a pattern of nonattendance enrolls the child in a 385 home education program pursuant to chapter 1002, the district 386 school superintendent shall provide the parent a copy of s. 387 1002.41 and the accountability requirements of this paragraph. The district school superintendent shall also refer the parent 388 389 to a home education review committee composed of the district 390 contact for home education programs and at least two home 391 educators selected by the parent from a district list of all 392 home educators who have conducted a home education program for 393 at least 3 years and who have indicated a willingness to serve 394 on the committee. The home education review committee shall 395 review the portfolio of the student, as defined by s. 1002.41, 396 every 30 days during the district's regular school terms until 397 the committee is satisfied that the home education program is in compliance with s. 1002.41(1)(d). The first portfolio review 398 399 must occur within the first 30 calendar days of the 400 establishment of the program. The provisions of subparagraph 2.

Page 16 of 20

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401 do not apply once the committee determines the home education 402 program is in compliance with s. 1002.41(1)(d).

403 2. If the parent fails to provide a portfolio to the 404 committee, the committee must shall notify the district school 405 superintendent. The district school superintendent shall then 406 terminate the home education program and require the parent to 407 enroll the child in an attendance option that meets the definition of "regular school attendance" under s. 408 409 1003.01(12)(a), (b), (c), or (e) s. 1003.01(13)(a), (b), (c), or 410 (e), within 3 days. Upon termination of a home education program 411 pursuant to this subparagraph, the parent is shall not be 412 eligible to reenroll the child in a home education program for 413 180 calendar days. Failure of a parent to enroll the child in an 414 attendance option as required by this subparagraph after 415 termination of the home education program pursuant to this 416 subparagraph shall constitute noncompliance with the compulsory 417 attendance requirements of s. 1003.21 and may result in criminal prosecution under s. 1003.27(2). Nothing contained herein shall 418 419 restrict the ability of the district school superintendent, or 420 the ability of his or her designee, to review the portfolio 421 pursuant to s. 1002.41(1)(e).

422 Section 14. Subsection (4) of section 1003.52, Florida 423 Statutes, is amended to read:

424 1003.52 Educational services in Department of Juvenile
425 Justice programs.-

Page 17 of 20

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426 (4) Educational services shall be provided at times of the 427 day most appropriate for the juvenile justice program. School 428 programming in juvenile justice detention, prevention, day 429 treatment, and residential programs shall be made available by 430 the local school district during the juvenile justice school 431 year, as provided in s. 1003.01(10) s. 1003.01(11). In addition, 432 students in juvenile justice education programs shall have 433 access to courses offered pursuant to ss. 1002.37, 1002.45, and 1003.498. The Department of Education and the school districts 434 shall adopt policies necessary to provide such access. 435

436 Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraph 437 (b) of subsection (2) of section 1006.07, Florida Statutes, are 438 amended to read:

439 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student 440 discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall 441 provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the 442 attendance and control of students at school, and for proper 443 attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the 444 welfare of students, including:

445

(1) CONTROL OF STUDENTS.-

(a) Adopt rules for the control, discipline, in-school
suspension, suspension, and expulsion of students and decide all
cases recommended for expulsion. Suspension hearings are <u>exempt</u>
exempted from the provisions of chapter 120. Expulsion hearings
shall be governed by ss. 120.569 and 120.57(2) and are exempt

Page 18 of 20

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451 from s. 286.011. However, the student's parent must be given 452 notice of the provisions of s. 286.011 and may elect to have the 453 hearing held in compliance with that section. The district 454 school board may prohibit the use of corporal punishment, if the 455 district school board adopts or has adopted a written program of 456 alternative control or discipline.

457 (2) CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT.-Adopt a code of student 458 conduct for elementary schools and a code of student conduct for 459 middle and high schools and distribute the appropriate code to all teachers, school personnel, students, and parents, at the 460 461 beginning of every school year. Each code shall be organized and 462 written in language that is understandable to students and 463 parents and shall be discussed at the beginning of every school 464 year in student classes, school advisory council meetings, and 465 parent and teacher association or organization meetings. Each 466 code shall be based on the rules governing student conduct and 467 discipline adopted by the district school board and shall be made available in the student handbook or similar publication. 468 469 Each code shall include, but is not limited to:

470 Procedures to be followed for acts requiring (b) 471 discipline, including corporal punishment.

472 Section 16. Paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 1012.2315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 473 474

1012.2315 Assignment of teachers.-

475 (6) ASSIGNMENT OF TEACHERS BASED UPON PERFORMANCE

Page 19 of 20

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476 EVALUATIONS.-

477 For a student enrolling in an extracurricular course (C) 478 as defined in s. 1003.01 s. 1003.01(15), a parent may choose to 479 have the student taught by a teacher who received a performance 480 evaluation of "needs improvement" or "unsatisfactory" in the 481 preceding school year if the student and the student's parent 482 receive an explanation of the impact of teacher effectiveness on 483 student learning and the principal receives written consent from 484 the parent.

485 Section 17. Subsection (5) of section 1012.28, Florida 486 Statutes, is amended to read:

487 1012.28 Public school personnel; duties of school 488 principals.-

489 (5) Each school principal shall perform such duties as may 490 be assigned by the district school superintendent, pursuant to 491 the rules of the district school board. Such rules shall 492 include, but are not limited to, rules relating to 493 administrative responsibility, instructional leadership in 494 implementing the Sunshine State Standards and the overall 495 educational program of the school to which the school principal 496 is assigned, submission of personnel recommendations to the 497 district school superintendent, administrative responsibility for records and reports, administration of corporal punishment, 498 and student suspension. 499

500

Section 18. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

Page 20 of 20

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