Amendment No. 2

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Education Committee
Representative Fetterhoff offered the following:

Amendment to Amendment (918751) by Representative Massullo
(with title amendment)
Between lines 93 and 94 of the amendment, insert:
Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1002.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1002.45 Virtual instruction programs.—
(2) PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS.—
(a) The department shall annually publish online a list of providers approved to offer virtual instruction programs. To be approved by the department, a provider must document that it:
1. Is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and operations;
2. Complies with the antidiscrimination provisions of s. 1000.05;

3. Locates an administrative office or offices in this state, requires its administrative staff to be state residents, requires all instructional staff to be Florida-certified teachers under chapter 1012 and conducts background screenings for all employees or contracted personnel, as required by s. 1012.32, using state and national criminal history records;

4. Provides to parents and students specific information posted and accessible online that includes, but is not limited to, the following teacher-parent and teacher-student contact information for each course:
   a. How to contact the instructor via phone, e-mail, or online messaging tools.
   b. How to contact technical support via phone, e-mail, or online messaging tools.
   c. How to contact the administration office via phone, e-mail, or online messaging tools.
   d. Any requirement for regular contact with the instructor for the course and clear expectations for meeting the requirement.
   e. The requirement that the instructor in each course must, at a minimum, conduct one contact via phone with the parent and the student each month;
5. Possesses prior, successful experience offering online courses to elementary, middle, or high school students. Successful experience in the state may be demonstrated by showing quantified student learning gains in each subject area and grade level provided. Successful experience may also be demonstrated by showing quantified student learning gains for students outside of the state using other statewide assessments, nationally recognized assessments, or other third party preassessments and postassessments for consideration as an instructional program option. However, for a provider without sufficient prior, successful experience offering online courses, the department may conditionally approve the provider to offer courses measured pursuant to subparagraph (8)(a)2. Conditional approval shall be valid for 2 years only and, based on the provider's experience in offering the courses, the department shall determine whether to grant approval to offer a virtual instruction program;

6. Is accredited by a regional accrediting association as defined by State Board of Education rule;

7. Ensures instructional and curricular quality through a detailed curriculum and student performance accountability plan that addresses every subject and grade level it intends to provide through contract with the school district, including:
a. Courses and programs that meet the standards of the International Association for K-12 Online Learning and the Southern Regional Education Board.

b. Instructional content and services that align with, and measure student attainment of, student proficiency in the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

c. Mechanisms that determine and ensure that a student has satisfied requirements for grade level promotion and high school graduation with a standard diploma, as appropriate;

8. Publishes for the general public, in accordance with disclosure requirements adopted in rule by the State Board of Education, as part of its application as a provider and in all contracts negotiated pursuant to this section:

a. Information and data about the curriculum of each full-time and part-time program.

b. School policies and procedures.

c. Certification status and physical location of all administrative and instructional personnel.

d. Hours and times of availability of instructional personnel.

e. Student-teacher ratios.

f. Student completion and promotion rates.

g. Student, educator, and school performance accountability outcomes;
9. If the provider is a Florida College System institution, employs instructors who meet the certification requirements for instructional staff under chapter 1012; and

10. Performs an annual financial audit of its accounts and records conducted by an independent certified public accountant which is in accordance with rules adopted by the Auditor General, is conducted in compliance with generally accepted auditing standards, and includes a report on financial statements presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

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TITLE AMENDMENT

Remove line 594 of the amendment and insert:

graduation option; amending s. 1002.45, F.S.; revising virtual education program provider requirements;

amending s. 1003.4156, F.S.; requiring