,		
COMMITTEE/SUBCOM	ACTION	
ADOPTED		(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED		(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	_	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	_	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	_	(Y/N)
OTHER		

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Education & Employment Committee

Representative Valdés offered the following:

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Amendment (with directory and title amendments)

Between lines 1974 and 1975, insert:

- (14) "Core-curricula courses" means:
- (a) Courses in language arts/reading, mathematics, social studies, and science in prekindergarten through grade 3, excluding extracurricular courses pursuant to subsection (15);
- (b) Courses in grades 4 through 8 in subjects that are measured by state assessment at any grade level and courses required for middle school promotion, excluding extracurricular courses pursuant to subsection (15);
- (c) Courses in grades 9 through 12 in subjects that are measured by state assessment at any grade level and courses that

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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 (15);

- (d) Exceptional student education courses; and
- (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(3)(e) 1002.321(4)(e), 1002.33(7)(a)2.b., 1002.37, 1002.45, and 1003.499.

Section 10. No later than November 1, 2023, the State

Board of Education shall develop and recommend to the Governor

and Legislature for adoption during the 2024 legislative session
repeals and revisions to the Florida Early Learning-20 Education
Code, chapters 1000-1013, Florida Statutes, to reduce regulation
on public schools. The state board shall review the entirety of
the Florida Early Learning-20 Education Code for potential
repeals and revisions. The state board must make recommendations
addressing repeals and revisions to the statutes governing the
transportation of students. The state board shall consider input
from teachers, superintendents, administrators, school boards,

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41	public and private postsecondary institutions, home educators,
42	and other entities identified by the state board.
43	Section 11. Subsection (10) is added to section 1001.10,
44	Florida Statutes, to read:
45	1001.10 Commissioner of Education; general powers and
46	duties
47	(10) Due to the range of school choice options and the
48	variety of ways that students learn, the Office of K-12 School
49	Choice shall develop an online portal that enables parents to
50	choose the best educational options for their student. The
51	<pre>portal, at a minimum, must:</pre>
52	(a) Recommend educational options based on questions about
53	the student, including the needs and interests of the student.
54	(b) Advise parents on the recommended educational options
55	for their student.
56	(c) Enable schools to develop a school profile and connect
57	directly with families who express interest in the school.
58	(d) Allow parents to complete the school enrolment
59	process.
60	Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 1003.25, Florida
61	Statutes, is amended to read:
62	1003.25 Procedures for maintenance and transfer of
63	student records
64	(2) The procedure for transferring and maintaining
65	records of students who transfer from school to school shall be

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prescribed by rules of the State Board of Education. The transfer of records shall occur within $\underline{5}$ 3 school days. The records shall include:

- (a) Verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns, including threat assessment evaluations and intervention services.
- (b) Psychological evaluations, including therapeutic treatment plans and therapy or progress notes created or maintained by school district or charter school staff, as appropriate.

Section 13. 1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—

- (4) ONLINE COURSE REQUIREMENT.—At least one course within the 24 credits required under this section must be completed through online learning.
- (a) An online course taken in grade 6, grade 7, or grade 8 fulfills the requirements of this subsection. The requirement is met through an online course offered by the Florida Virtual School, a virtual education provider approved by the State Board of Education, a high school, or an online dual enrollment course. A student who is enrolled in a full-time or part-time virtual instruction program under s. 1002.45 meets the requirement.
- (b) A district school board or a charter school governing board, as applicable, may allow a student to satisfy the online

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course requirements of this subsection by completing a blended learning course or a course in which the student earns a nationally recognized industry certification in information technology that is identified on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List pursuant to s. 1008.44 or passing the information technology certification examination without enrolling in or completing the corresponding course or courses, as applicable.

For purposes of this subsection, a school district may not require a student to take the online or blended learning course outside the school day or in addition to a student's courses for a given semester. This subsection does not apply to a student who has an individual education plan under s. 1003.57 which indicates that an online or blended learning course would be inappropriate or to an out-of-state transfer student who is enrolled in a Florida high school and has 1 academic year or less remaining in high school.

Section 14. Subsection (2) of section 1006.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.21 Duties of district school superintendent and district school board regarding transportation.—

(2) After considering recommendations of the district school superintendent, the district school board shall make provision for the transportation of students to the public schools or school activities they are required or expected to

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attend; authorize transportation routes arranged efficiently and economically; provide the necessary transportation facilities, and, when authorized under rules of the State Board of Education and if more economical to do so, provide limited subsistence in lieu thereof; and adopt the necessary rules to ensure safety, economy, and efficiency in the operation of all buses and other vehicles used to transport students, as prescribed in this chapter.

Section 15. Section 1006.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.22 Safety and health of students being transported.— Maximum regard for safety and adequate protection of health are primary requirements that must be observed by district school boards in routing buses, appointing drivers, and providing and operating equipment, in accordance with all requirements of law and rules of the State Board of Education in providing transportation pursuant to s. 1006.21:

(1) (a) District school boards shall use school buses, as defined in s. 1006.25, for all regular transportation. Regular transportation or regular use means transportation of students to and from school or school-related activities that are part of a scheduled series or sequence of events to the same location. "Students" means, for the purposes of this section, students enrolled in the public schools in prekindergarten disability programs and in kindergarten through grade 12. District school

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141	boards may regularly use motor vehicles other than school buses
142	only under the following conditions:
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144	or isolated students and the district school board has elected
145	to provide for the transportation of the student through written
146	or oral contracts or agreements.
147	2. When the transportation is a part of a comprehensive
148	contract for a specialized educational program between a
149	district school board and a service provider who provides
150	instruction, transportation, and other services.
151	3. When the transportation is provided through a public
152	transit system.
153	4. When the transportation is for trips to and from school
154	sites or agricultural education sites or for trips to and from
155	agricultural education-related events or competitions, but is
156	not for customary transportation between a student's residence
157	and such sites.
158	5. When the transportation is for trips to and from school
159	sites but is not for customary transportation between a
160	student's residence and such sites.
161	(b) When the transportation of students is provided, as
162	authorized in this subsection, in a vehicle other than a school
163	bus that is owned, operated, rented, contracted, or leased by a
164	school district or charter school, the following provisions
165	shall apply:

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166	1. The vehicle must be designed to transport fewer than 10
167	students or be a multifunction school activity bus, as defined
168	in 49 C.F.R. s. 571.3, if it is designed to transport more than
169	10 persons. Students must be transported in designated seating
170	positions and must use the occupant crash protection system
171	provided by the manufacturer unless the student's physical
172	condition prohibits such use.
173	2. An authorized vehicle may not be driven by a student on
174	a public right-of-way. An authorized vehicle may be driven by a
175	student on school or private property as part of the student's
176	educational curriculum if no other student is in the vehicle.
177	3. The driver of an authorized vehicle transporting
178	students must maintain a valid driver license and must comply
179	with the requirements of the school district's locally adopted
180	safe driver plan, which includes review of driving records for
181	disqualifying violations.
182	4. The district school board or charter school must adopt
183	a policy that addresses procedures and liability for trips under
184	this paragraph, including a provision that school buses are to
185	be used whenever practical and specifying consequences for
186	violation of the policy.
187	(2) Except as provided in subsection (1), district
188	<u>District</u> school boards may authorize the transportation of
189	students in privately owned motor vehicles on a case-by-case
100	basis only in the following sirgumstances:

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191	(a) When a student is ill or injured and must be taken
192	home or to a medical treatment facility under nonemergency
193	circumstances; and
194	1. The school has been unable to contact the student's
195	parent or the parent or responsible adult designated by the
196	parent is not available to provide the transportation;
197	2. Proper adult supervision of the student is available at
198	the location to which the student is being transported;
199	3. The transportation is approved by the school principal,
200	or a school administrator designated by the principal to grant
201	or deny such approval, or in the absence of the principal and
202	designee, by the highest ranking school administrator or teacher
203	available under the circumstances; and
204	4. If the school has been unable to contact the parent
205	prior to the transportation, the school shall continue to seek
206	to contact the parent until the school is able to notify the
207	parent of the transportation and the pertinent circumstances.
208	(b) When the transportation is in connection with a school
209	function or event regarding which the district school board or
210	school has undertaken to participate or to sponsor or provide
211	the participation of students; and
212	- 1. The function or event is a single event that is not
213	part of a scheduled series or sequence of events to the same
214	location, such as, but not limited to, a field trip, a
215	recreational outing, an interscholastic competition or

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cooperative event, an event connected with an extracurricular activity offered by the school, or an event connected to an educational program, such as, but not limited to, a job interview as part of a cooperative education program;

- 2. Transportation is not available, as a practical matter, using a school bus or school district passenger car; and
- 3. Each student's parent is notified, in writing, regarding the transportation arrangement and gives written consent before a student is transported in a privately owned motor vehicle.
- (c) When a district school board requires employees such as school social workers and attendance officers to use their own motor vehicles to perform duties of employment, and such duties include the occasional transportation of students.
- (11) The district school superintendent shall notify the district school board of any school bus or other vehicle used to transport students that does not meet all requirements of law and rules of the State Board of Education, and the district school board shall, if the school bus is in an unsafe condition, withdraw it from use as a school bus until the bus meets the requirements. The department may inspect or have inspected any school bus to determine whether the bus meets requirements of law and rules of the State Board of Education. The department may, after due notice to a district school board that any school bus does not meet certain requirements of law and rules of the

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State Board of Education, rule that the bus must be withdrawn from use as a school bus, this ruling to be effective immediately or upon a date specified in the ruling, whereupon the district school board shall withdraw the school bus from use as a school bus until it meets requirements of law and rules of the State Board of Education and until the department has officially revoked the pertinent ruling. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, general purpose urban transit systems are declared qualified to transport students to and from school.

(13) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to implement this section as are necessary or desirable in the interest of to protect student health and safety.

Section 16. Section 1006.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.27 Pooling of school buses and related purchases by district school boards; transportation services contracts.—

(1) The department shall assist district school boards in securing school buses and other vehicles for transporting students, contractual needs, equipment, and supplies at as reasonable prices as possible by providing a plan under which district school boards may voluntarily pool their bids for such purchases. The department shall prepare bid forms and specifications, obtain quotations of prices and make such information available to district school boards in order to

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facilitate this service. District school boards from time to time, as prescribed by State Board of Education rule, shall furnish the department with information concerning the prices paid for such items and the department shall furnish to district school boards periodic information concerning the lowest prices at which school buses, equipment, and related supplies are available based upon comparable specifications.

Section 17. Paragraph (k) is added to subsection (2) of section 1011.71, Florida Statutes, to read:
1011.71 District school tax.—

- (2) In addition to the maximum millage levy as provided in subsection (1), each school board may levy not more than 1.5 mills against the taxable value for school purposes for charter schools pursuant to s. 1013.62(1) and (3) and for district schools to fund:
- (k) Payment of salaries and benefits to employees whose job duties support activities funded by this subsection.

Section 18. Subsection (3), paragraph (d) of subsection (5), paragraphs (f), (g), and (h) of subsection (6), and paragraphs (b), (d), and (e) of subsection (7) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (i) is added to subsection (6) of that section, to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.-

(3) MASTERY OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.—Acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of general knowledge are:

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A school district that employs an individual who does not achieve passing scores on any subtest of the general knowledge examination must provide information regarding the availability of state-level and district-level supports and instruction to assist him or her in achieving a passing score. Such information must include, but need not be limited to, state-level test information guides, school district test preparation resources, and preparation courses offered by state universities and Florida College System institutions. The requirement of mastery of general knowledge shall be waived for an individual who has been provided 3 years of supports and instruction and who has been rated effective or highly effective for each of the last 3 years.

- (5) MASTERY OF SUBJECT AREA KNOWLEDGE.—Acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of subject area knowledge are:
- (d) For a subject requiring a master's or higher degree, completion of the subject area specialization requirements specified in state board rule and achievement of a passing score on the Florida-developed subject area examination or a standardized examination that is directly related to the subject specified in state board rule;

School districts are encouraged to provide mechanisms for middle grades teachers holding only a K-6 teaching certificate to

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obtain	a	subje	ct	area	COZ	<i>r</i> era	age	for	mic	ddle	gr	ades	th	roug	gh
postsec	cor	ndary	COL	ırsewo	ork	or	dis	stric	ct a	add-o	on	cert	ifi	cat	ion.

- (i) For a subject requiring only a baccalaureate degree for which a Florida subject area examination has been developed, documentation of receipt of a master's or higher degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution that the Department of Education has identified as having a quality program resulting in a baccalaureate degree or higher in the certificate subject area as identified by state board rule.
- (6) MASTERY OF PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND EDUCATION COMPETENCE.—Acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of professional preparation and education competence are:
- (f) <u>Documentation of 3 years of effective or highly</u>
 <u>effective teaching in a Florida public school while teaching</u>
 <u>under a temporary certification;</u>
- (g) Successful completion of professional preparation courses as specified in state board rule, successful completion of a professional preparation and education competence program pursuant to paragraph (8)(b), and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;
- $\underline{\text{(h)}}$ Successful completion of a professional development certification and education competency program, outlined in paragraph (8)(a); or
- (i)(h) Successful completion of a competency-based 897137 h0001-line 1974.docx

certification program pursuant to s. 1004.85 and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by rule of the State Board of Education.

- The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement this subsection by December 31, 2014, including rules to approve specific teacher preparation programs that are not identified in this subsection which may be used to meet requirements for mastery of professional preparation and education competence.
 - (7) TYPES AND TERMS OF CERTIFICATION. -
- (b) The department shall issue a temporary certificate to any applicant who:
- 1. Completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs (2)(a)-(f) and completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule or demonstrates mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5) and holds an accredited degree or a degree approved by the Department of Education at the level required for the subject area specialization in state board rule; or
- 2. For a subject area specialization for which the state board otherwise requires a bachelor's degree, documents 48 months of active-duty military service with an honorable discharge or a medical separation; completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs (2)(a), (b), and (d)-(f); completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule

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or demonstrates mastery of subject area knowledge pursuant to subsection (5); and documents completion of 60 college credits with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, as provided by one or more accredited institutions of higher learning or a nonaccredited institution of higher learning identified by the Department of Education as having a quality program resulting in a bachelor's degree or higher.

- (d) A person who is issued a temporary certificate under paragraph (b) subparagraph (b) 2. must be assigned a teacher mentor for a minimum of 2 school years after commencing employment. Each teacher mentor selected by the school district, charter school, or charter management organization must:
- 1. Hold a valid professional certificate issued pursuant to this section;
- 2. Have earned at least 3 years of teaching experience in prekindergarten through grade 12; and
- 3. Have earned an effective or highly effective rating on the prior year's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34.
- (e) $\frac{1}{1}$. A temporary certificate issued under <u>paragraph</u> (b) subparagraph (b) 1. is valid for $\frac{5}{3}$ school fiscal years and is nonrenewable.
- 2. A temporary certificate issued under subparagraph (b)2. is valid for 5 school fiscal years, is limited to a one-time issuance, and is nonrenewable.

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At least 1 year before an individual's temporary certificate is set to expire, the department shall electronically notify the individual of the date on which his or her certificate will expire and provide a list of each method by which the qualifications for a professional certificate can be completed. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to allow the department to extend the validity period of a temporary certificate for 2 years when the requirements for the professional certificate were not completed due to the serious illness or injury of the applicant, the military service of an applicant's spouse, other extraordinary extenuating circumstances, or if the certificateholder is rated highly effective in the immediate prior year's performance evaluation pursuant to s. 1012.34 or has completed a 2-year mentorship program pursuant to subsection (8). The department shall extend the temporary certificate upon approval by the Commissioner of Education. A written request for extension of the certificate shall be submitted by the district school superintendent, the governing authority of a university lab school, the governing authority of a state-supported school, or the governing authority of a private school. Section 19. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (6) of

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section 1013.64, Florida Statutes, to read:

construction cost maximums for school district capital

1013.64 Funds for comprehensive educational plant needs;

projects.—Allocations from the Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund to the various boards for capital outlay projects shall be determined as follows:

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(e) Notwithstanding the requirements of this subsection, an unfinished construction project for new construction of educational plant space that was started on or before July 1, 2026, is exempt from the total cost per student station requirements established in paragraph (b).

Section 20. Present subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 1002.321, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (3), (4), and (5), respectively, and present subsection (3) of that section is amended, to read:

1002.321 Digital learning.-

(3) DIGITAL PREPARATION.—As required under s. 1003.4282, A student entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year and thereafter who seeks a high school diploma must take at least one online course.

Section 21. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) of section 1003.5716, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.5716 Transition to postsecondary education and career opportunities.—All students with disabilities who are 3 years of age to 21 years of age have the right to a free, appropriate public education. As used in this section, the term "IEP" means individual education plan.

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- (2) Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the student enters high school, attains the age of 14, or when determined appropriate by the parent and the IEP team, whichever occurs first, the IEP must include the following statements that must be updated annually:
- (a) A statement of intent to pursue a standard high school diploma and a Scholar or Merit designation, pursuant to s. 1003.4285, as determined by the parent.
- 1. The statement must document discussion of the process for a student with a disability who meets the requirements for a standard high school diploma to defer the receipt of such diploma pursuant to s. 1003.4282(8)(c) s. 1003.4282(9)(c).
- 2. For the IEP in effect at the beginning of the school year the student is expected to graduate, the statement must include a signed statement by the parent, the guardian, or the student, if the student has reached the age of majority and rights have transferred to the student, that he or she understands the process for deferment and identifying if the student will defer the receipt of his or her standard high school diploma.
- (b) A statement of intent to receive a standard high school diploma before the student attains the age of 22 and a description of how the student will fully meet the requirements in s. 1003.4282, including, but not limited to, a portfolio pursuant to <u>s. 1003.4282(8)(b)</u> s. 1003.4282(9)(b) which meets

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the criteria specified in State Board of Education rule. The IEP must also specify the outcomes and additional benefits expected by the parent and the IEP team at the time of the student's graduation.

Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 1003.499, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.499 Florida Approved Courses and Tests (FACT) Initiative.—

- (2) FLORIDA APPROVED COURSES.—The Department of Education shall annually publish online a list of providers approved to offer Florida approved courses which shall be listed in the online catalog pursuant to s. 1002.321(5) s. 1002.321(6).
- (a) As used in this section, the term "Florida approved courses" means online courses provided by individuals which include, but are not limited to, massive open online courses or remedial education associated with the courses that are measured pursuant to s. 1008.22. Massive open online courses may be authorized in the following subject areas: Algebra I, biology, geometry, and civics. Courses may be applied toward requirements for promotion or graduation in whole, in subparts, or in a combination of whole and subparts. A student may not be required to repeat subparts that are satisfactorily completed.
- (b) A Florida approved course must be annually identified, approved, published, and shared for consideration by interested students and school districts. The Commissioner of Education

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shall approve each Florida approved course for application in K-12 public schools in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education.

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DIRECTORY AMENDMENT

Remove lines 1960-1962 and insert:

Remove line 61 and insert:

Section 9. Paragraph (d) and (e) of subsection (13) and subsection (14) of section 1003.01, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (f) is added to subsection (13), to read:

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TITLE AMENDMENT

provisions to changes made by the act; requiring the State Board of Education to provide recommendations by a specified date to the Governor and the Legislature for repeals and revisions of the Florida Early Learning-20 Education Code to be considered in the 2024 legislative session; amending s. 1001.10, F.S.; requiring the Commissioner of Education to develop an online portal; specifies minimum requirements for the portal; amending s. 1003.25, F.S.; revising the time in which student records must be transferred; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; deleting the

online course requirement for a standard high school diploma;

amending s. 1006.21, F.S.; authorizing a district school board

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to use other vehicles to transport students; amending s. 1006.22, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; deleting a requirement for district school boards to use school buses for all regular transportation; deleting provisions relating to circumstances in which students may be transported in privately owned motor vehicles; amending s. 1006.27, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1011.71, F.S.; authorizing a specified district school board levy to be used to fund salaries and benefits for specified employees; amending s. 1012.56, F.S.; providing a waiver for the acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of general knowledge for specified individuals; revising the acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of subject area knowledge; revising acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of professional preparation and education competence; revising requirements for the department to issue temporary certificates; revising how long a temporary certificate is valid; amending s. 1013.64, F.S.; providing that certain construction projects are exempt from the total cost per student station requirements; amending ss. 1002.321, 1003.5716, and 1003.499, F.S.; conforming crossreferences and provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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