**By** Senator Berman

1A bill to be entitled2An act relating to minimum base salary for full-time classroom teachers; providing a short title; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; increasing the minimum base salary for full-time classroom teachers and certain prekindergarten teachers; providing an effective date.7Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:9Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Save Our Teachers Act."10Section 2. Subsection (14) of section 1011.62, Florida13Statutes, is amended to read: 1011.62 Funds for operation of schoolsIf the annual allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each district for operations act, it shall be determined as follows:20(14) CLASSROM TEACHER AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL SALARY INCREASEThe Legislature shall annually apportion an amount of funds provided in the Florida Education Finance Program to assist school districts and charter schools in their compliance with the requirement that the minimum base salary for full-time classroom teachers, as defined in s. 1012.01(2) (a), and certified prekindergarten teachers funded in the Florida Education Finance Program is at least <u>\$65,000</u> 447, <del>500</del> or to provide salary increases to instructional personnel, as defined in s. 1012.01(2) (a) (d), in a manner that best meets the needs		26-00235-24 2024136
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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

26-00235-24 2024136 30 of the school district or charter school. This subsection does 31 not apply to substitute teachers. The amount and distribution 32 methodology for the funding shall be specified in the General 33 Appropriations Act. 34 (a) The term "minimum base salary" means the lowest annual 35 base salary reported on the salary schedule for a full-time 36 classroom teacher. A full-time classroom teacher may not receive 37 a salary less than the minimum base salary as adjusted by this subsection. 38 39 (b) A school district or charter school shall maintain the 40 minimum base salary achieved for classroom teachers provided in 41 the prior fiscal year and may not reduce the salary increases in any subsequent fiscal year. 42 (c) Before distributing any additional funds received over 43 44 the prior fiscal year, each school district and each charter school shall develop a salary distribution plan that clearly 45 46 delineates the planned distribution of funds in accordance with 47 modified salary schedules, as necessary, for the implementation of this subsection. 48 49 1. Each school district superintendent and each charter 50 school administrator must submit its proposed salary 51 distribution plan to the district school board or the charter 52 school governing body, as appropriate, for approval. 53 2. Each school district shall submit the approved district

54 salary distribution plan and the approved salary distribution 55 plan for each charter school in the district to the department 56 by October 1 of each fiscal year.

(d) Beginning August 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, ina format specified by the department, each school district shall

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26-00235-24 2024136 59 provide a report to the department that includes a detailed 60 summary explaining the school district's prior year's 61 expenditures pursuant to this subsection. The report must 62 include the amount of the increase to the minimum base salary 63 for classroom teachers and the school district's salary schedule for the prior fiscal year and the fiscal year in which the base 64 65 salary is increased. Each charter school governing board shall 66 submit the information required under this subparagraph to the district school board for inclusion in the school district's 67 68 report to the department. 69 (e) Although district school boards and charter school 70 governing boards are not precluded from bargaining over wages, 71 the classroom teacher and other instructional personnel salary 72 increase must be used solely to comply with the requirements of 73 this subsection. A district school board or charter school 74 governing board that is unable to meet the reporting 75

75 requirements in paragraph (d) due to a collective bargaining 76 impasse must provide written notification to the department or 77 the district school board, as applicable, detailing the reasons 78 for the impasse with a proposed timeline and details for a 79 resolution.

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Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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