



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
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Floor: 1/R/3R	.	Floor: AD
03/08/2024 02:24 PM	.	03/08/2024 01:48 PM
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Senator Perry moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Present paragraphs (h) through (r) of subsection  
(2) of section 110.123, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
paragraphs (i) through (s), respectively, a new paragraph (h) is  
added to that subsection, and paragraphs (c) and (e) and present  
paragraphs (j) and (l) of that subsection are amended, to read:

110.123 State group insurance program.—

(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in ss. 110.123-110.1239, the term:



12 (c) "Enrollee" means all state officers and employees,  
13 retired state officers and employees, surviving spouses of  
14 deceased state officers and employees, eligible former  
15 employees, and terminated employees or individuals with  
16 continuation coverage who are enrolled in an insurance plan  
17 offered by the state group insurance program. The term includes  
18 all state university officers and employees, retired state  
19 university officers and employees, surviving spouses of deceased  
20 state university officers and employees, and terminated state  
21 university employees or individuals with continuation coverage  
22 who are enrolled in an insurance plan offered by the state group  
23 insurance program. The term includes all participating college  
24 officers and employees, retired participating college officers  
25 and employees, surviving spouses of deceased participating  
26 community officers and employees, and terminated participating  
27 community employees or individuals with continuation coverage  
28 who are enrolled in an insurance plan offered by the state group  
29 insurance program. As used in this paragraph, state employees  
30 and retired state employees also include employees and retired  
31 employees of the Division of Rehabilitation and Liquidation.

32 (e) "Full-time state employees" means employees of all  
33 branches or agencies of state government holding salaried  
34 positions who are paid by state warrant or from agency funds and  
35 who work or are expected to work an average of at least 30 hours  
36 per week; employees of the Division of Rehabilitation and  
37 Liquidation who work or are expected to work an average of at  
38 least 30 hours per week; employees paid from regular salary  
39 appropriations for 8 months' employment, including university  
40 personnel on academic contracts; and employees paid from other-



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41 personal-services (OPS) funds as described in subparagraphs 1.  
42 and 2. The term includes all full-time employees of the state  
43 universities and the participating colleges. The term does not  
44 include seasonal workers who are paid from OPS funds.

45 1. For persons hired before April 1, 2013, the term  
46 includes any person paid from OPS funds who:

47 a. Has worked an average of at least 30 hours or more per  
48 week during the initial measurement period from April 1, 2013,  
49 through September 30, 2013; or

50 b. Has worked an average of at least 30 hours or more per  
51 week during a subsequent measurement period.

52 2. For persons hired after April 1, 2013, the term includes  
53 any person paid from OPS funds who:

54 a. Is reasonably expected to work an average of at least 30  
55 hours or more per week; or

56 b. Has worked an average of at least 30 hours or more per  
57 week during the person's measurement period.

58 (h) "Participating college" means a Florida College System  
59 institution that enrolls in the state group insurance program  
60 pursuant to s. 110.1229.

61 (k) ~~(j)~~ "Retired state officer or employee" or "retiree"  
62 means any state or state university or participating college  
63 officer or employee, or, beginning with the 2023 plan year, an  
64 employee of the Division of Rehabilitation and Liquidation, who  
65 retires under a state retirement system or a state optional  
66 annuity or retirement program or is placed on disability  
67 retirement, and who was insured under the state group insurance  
68 program or the Division of Rehabilitation and Liquidation's  
69 group insurance program at the time of retirement, and who



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70 begins receiving retirement benefits immediately after  
71 retirement from state or state university or participating  
72 college office or employment. The term also includes any state  
73 officer or state employee who retires under the Florida  
74 Retirement System Investment Plan established under part II of  
75 chapter 121 if he or she:

76 1. Meets the age and service requirements to qualify for  
77 normal retirement as set forth in s. 121.021(29); or

78 2. Has attained the age specified by s. 72(t)(2)(A)(i) of  
79 the Internal Revenue Code and has 6 years of creditable service.

80 (m)(1) "State agency" or "agency" means any branch,  
81 department, or agency of state government. "State agency" or  
82 "agency" includes any state university or participating college  
83 and the Division of Rehabilitation and Liquidation for purposes  
84 of this section only.

85 Section 2. Section 110.1229, Florida Statutes, is created  
86 to read:

87 110.1229 Participation by Florida College System  
88 institutions.-

89 (1) As used in this section, the term "college" means a  
90 Florida College System institution identified in s. 1000.21(5).

91 (2) The district board of trustees of a college may apply  
92 by August 1, 2024, for participation in the state group health  
93 insurance program authorized by s. 110.123 and the prescription  
94 drug coverage program authorized by s. 110.12315 by submitting  
95 an application along with a \$500 nonrefundable fee to the  
96 department.

97 (3) If the department determines that a college is eligible  
98 to enroll, the college must agree to the following terms and



99 conditions:

100 (a) The minimum enrollment or contractual period must be 3  
101 years.

102 (b) Termination of participation of a college requires  
103 written notice 1 year before the termination date.

104 (c) If participation is terminated, a college may not  
105 reapply for participation for a period of 2 years.

106 (d) If a college employer fails to make the payments  
107 required by this section to fully reimburse the state, the  
108 Department of Revenue or the Department of Financial Services  
109 shall, upon the request of the Department of Management  
110 Services, deduct the amount owed by the employer from any funds  
111 not pledged to bond debt service satisfaction which are to be  
112 distributed by it to the college. The amounts to be deducted  
113 must be transferred to the Department of Management Services for  
114 further distribution to the trust funds in accordance with this  
115 chapter.

116 (e) The college shall furnish the department any  
117 information requested by the department which the department  
118 considers necessary to administer the state group health  
119 insurance program and the prescription drug coverage program.

120 (f) The college shall adopt the state's eligibility rules.

121 (g) The college shall pay monthly premiums in amounts  
122 sufficient to cover claims costs and administrative costs.

123 (4) The enrollment period for colleges determined eligible  
124 by the department shall begin before July 31, 2025.

125 (5) The provisions of ss. 624.436-624.446 do not apply to  
126 the State Group Insurance Program or to this section.

127 Section 3. Section 985.176, Florida Statutes, is created to



128 read:  
129 985.176 AMIkids, Inc.—As authorized by and consistent with  
130 funding appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, the  
131 department, the Department of Education, and the Department of  
132 Children and Families may contract, in accordance with ss.  
133 394.457 and 985.644 and the statutes governing the Department of  
134 Education and the Department of Children and Families, with  
135 AMIkids, Inc., a nonprofit organization exempt from taxation  
136 pursuant to s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, to  
137 provide alternatives to institutionalization or commitment for  
138 young men and women by providing services, including, but not  
139 limited to, education, behavior modification, skills  
140 development, mental health, workforce development, family  
141 functioning, and advocacy.

142 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (17) of section  
143 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

144 1002.33 Charter schools.—

145 (17) FUNDING.—Students enrolled in a charter school,  
146 regardless of the sponsorship, shall be funded as if they are in  
147 a basic program or a special program, the same as students  
148 enrolled in other public schools in a school district. Funding  
149 for a charter lab school shall be as provided in s. 1002.32.

150 (b)1. The basis for the agreement for funding students  
151 enrolled in a charter school shall be the sum of the school  
152 district's operating funds from the Florida Education Finance  
153 Program as provided in s. 1011.62 and the General Appropriations  
154 Act, including gross state and local funds, discretionary  
155 lottery funds, and funds from the school district's current  
156 operating discretionary millage levy; divided by total funded



157 weighted full-time equivalent students in the school district;  
158 and multiplied by the weighted full-time equivalent students for  
159 the charter school. Charter schools whose students or programs  
160 meet the eligibility criteria in law are entitled to their  
161 proportionate share of categorical program funds included in the  
162 total funds available in the Florida Education Finance Program  
163 by the Legislature, including transportation, and the evidence-  
164 based reading allocation. Total funding for each charter school  
165 shall be recalculated during the year to reflect the revised  
166 calculations under the Florida Education Finance Program by the  
167 state and the actual weighted full-time equivalent students  
168 reported by the charter school during the full-time equivalent  
169 student survey periods designated by the Commissioner of  
170 Education. For charter schools operated by a not-for-profit or  
171 municipal entity, any unrestricted current and capital assets  
172 identified in the charter school's annual financial audit may be  
173 used for other charter schools operated by the not-for-profit or  
174 municipal entity within the school district. For charter schools  
175 operated by a not-for-profit entity, any unrestricted current or  
176 capital assets identified in the charter school's annual audit  
177 may be used for other charter schools operated by the not-for-  
178 profit entity which are located outside of the originating  
179 charter school's school district, but within the state, through  
180 an unforgivable loan that must be repaid within 5 years to the  
181 originating charter school by the receiving charter school.  
182 Unrestricted current assets shall be used in accordance with s.  
183 1011.62, and any unrestricted capital assets shall be used in  
184 accordance with s. 1013.62(2).

185       2.a. Funding for students enrolled in a charter school



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186 sponsored by a state university or Florida College System  
187 institution pursuant to paragraph (5) (a) shall be provided as  
188 follows: funded as if they are in a basic program or a special  
189 program in the school district. The basis for funding these  
190 students is the sum of the total operating funds from the  
191 Florida Education Finance Program for the school district in  
192 which the school is located as provided in s. 1011.62 and the  
193 General Appropriations Act, including gross state and local  
194 funds, discretionary lottery funds, and funds from each school  
195 district's current operating discretionary millage levy, divided  
196 by total funded weighted full-time equivalent students in the  
197 district, and multiplied by the full-time equivalent membership  
198 of the charter school. The Department of Education shall develop  
199 a tool that each state university or Florida College System  
200 institution sponsoring a charter school shall use for purposes  
201 of calculating the funding amount for each eligible charter  
202 school student. The total amount obtained from the calculation  
203 must be appropriated from state funds in the General  
204 Appropriations Act to the charter school.

205 (I) Each charter school shall receive state funds for  
206 operating purposes provided in the Florida Education Finance  
207 Program as defined in s. 1011.61(5) and as specified in the  
208 General Appropriations Act.

209 (II) The nonvoted required local effort millage established  
210 pursuant to s. 1011.71(1) which would otherwise be required for  
211 charter schools must be from state funds.

212 (III) An equivalent amount of funds for the operating  
213 discretionary millage authorized pursuant to s. 1011.71(1) must  
214 be allocated to each charter school through a state-funded



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215 discretionary contribution established pursuant to s.  
216 1011.62(6).

217 (IV) All operating funds provided under this section must  
218 be expended for the purposes of this section. The college or  
219 university sponsoring a charter school is the fiscal agent for  
220 such funds, and all rules of the institution governing the  
221 budgeting and expenditure of state funds apply to the funds  
222 unless otherwise provided by law or rule of the State Board of  
223 Education.

224 b. Capital outlay funding for a charter school sponsored by  
225 a state university or Florida College System institution  
226 pursuant to paragraph (5) (a) is determined pursuant to s.  
227 1013.62 and the General Appropriations Act.

228 Section 5. Subsection (5) is added to section 1002.391,  
229 Florida Statutes, to read:

230 1002.391 Auditory-oral education programs.—

231 (5) As authorized by and consistent with funding  
232 appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, the Bridge to  
233 Speech Program is created to fund auditory-oral education  
234 programs required at schools pursuant to this section. Funds  
235 shall be provided at the level of the published tuition rates up  
236 to the funds available as provided in the General Appropriations  
237 Act. The Department of Education must award these funds to  
238 eligible recipients no later than September 1 of each year, with  
239 subsequent payments monthly thereafter.

240 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (12) of section  
241 1002.394, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

242 1002.394 The Family Empowerment Scholarship Program.—

243 (12) SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING AND PAYMENT.—



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244 (a)1. Scholarships for students determined eligible  
245 pursuant to paragraph (3) (a) may be funded once all scholarships  
246 have been funded in accordance with s. 1002.395(6)(1)2. The  
247 calculated scholarship amount for a participating student  
248 determined eligible pursuant to paragraph (3) (a) shall be based  
249 upon the grade level and school district in which the student  
250 was assigned as 100 percent of the funds per unweighted full-  
251 time equivalent in the Florida Education Finance Program for a  
252 student in the basic program established pursuant to s.  
253 1011.62(1)(c)1., plus a per-full-time equivalent share of funds  
254 for the categorical programs established in s. 1011.62(5),  
255 (7) (a), and (16), as funded in the General Appropriations Act.

256 2. A scholarship of \$750 ~~or an amount equal to the school~~  
257 ~~district expenditure per student riding a school bus, as~~  
258 ~~determined by the department, whichever is greater,~~ may be  
259 awarded to a an-eligible student whose household income level  
260 does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level or who  
261 is currently placed, or during the previous state fiscal year  
262 was placed, in foster care or in out-of-home care as defined in  
263 s. 39.01 and who is enrolled in a Florida public school that is  
264 different from the school to which the student was assigned or  
265 in a lab school as defined in s. 1002.32 if the school district  
266 does not provide the student with transportation to the school.  
267 Only one scholarship may be awarded pursuant to this  
268 subparagraph per household.

269 3. The organization must provide the department with the  
270 documentation necessary to verify the student's participation.  
271 Upon receiving the documentation, the department shall transfer,  
272 beginning August 1, from state funds only, the amount calculated



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273 pursuant to subparagraph 2. to the organization for quarterly  
274 disbursement to parents of participating students each school  
275 year in which the scholarship is in force. For a student exiting  
276 a Department of Juvenile Justice commitment program who chooses  
277 to participate in the scholarship program, the amount of the  
278 Family Empowerment Scholarship calculated pursuant to  
279 subparagraph 2. must be transferred from the school district in  
280 which the student last attended a public school before  
281 commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice. When a student  
282 enters the scholarship program, the organization must receive  
283 all documentation required for the student's participation,  
284 including the private school's and the student's fee schedules,  
285 at least 30 days before the first quarterly scholarship payment  
286 is made for the student.

287 4. The initial payment shall be made after the  
288 organization's verification of admission acceptance, and  
289 subsequent payments shall be made upon verification of continued  
290 enrollment and attendance at the private school. Payment must be  
291 by funds transfer or any other means of payment that the  
292 department deems to be commercially viable or cost-effective. An  
293 organization shall ensure that the parent has approved a funds  
294 transfer before any scholarship funds are deposited.

295 5. An organization may not transfer any funds to an account  
296 of a student determined eligible pursuant to paragraph (3) (a)  
297 which has a balance in excess of \$24,000.

298 Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (11) of section  
299 1002.395, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

300 1002.395 Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program.—

301 (11) SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT AND PAYMENT.—



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302 (a) The scholarship amount provided to any student for any  
303 single school year by an eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding  
304 organization from eligible contributions shall be for total  
305 costs authorized under paragraph (6)(d), not to exceed annual  
306 limits, which shall be determined as follows:

307 1. For a student who received a scholarship in the 2018-  
308 2019 school year, who remains eligible, and who is enrolled in  
309 an eligible private school, the amount shall be the greater  
310 amount calculated pursuant to subparagraph 2. or a percentage of  
311 the unweighted FTE funding amount for the 2018-2019 state fiscal  
312 year and thereafter as follows:

313 a. Eighty-eight percent for a student enrolled in  
314 kindergarten through grade 5.

315 b. Ninety-two percent for a student enrolled in grade 6  
316 through grade 8.

317 c. Ninety-six percent for a student enrolled in grade 9  
318 through grade 12.

319 2. For students initially eligible in the 2019-2020 school  
320 year or thereafter, the calculated amount for a student to  
321 attend an eligible private school shall be calculated in  
322 accordance with s. 1002.394(12)(a).

323 3. The scholarship amount awarded to a student whose  
324 household income level does not exceed 185 percent of the  
325 federal poverty level or who is currently placed, or during the  
326 previous state fiscal year was placed, in foster care or in out-  
327 of-home care as defined in s. 39.01 and who is enrolled in a  
328 Florida public school that is different from the school to which  
329 the student was assigned, or in a lab school as defined in s.  
330 1002.32, must be ~~an amount equal to the school district~~



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331 ~~expenditure per student riding a school bus, as determined by~~  
332 ~~the department, or \$750, whichever is greater. Only one~~  
333 ~~scholarship may be awarded pursuant to this subparagraph per~~  
334 ~~household.~~

335 Section 8. Subsection (7) of section 1002.71, Florida  
336 Statutes, is amended to read:

337 1002.71 Funding; financial and attendance reporting.-

338 (7) The department shall require that administrative  
339 expenditures be kept to the minimum necessary for efficient and  
340 effective administration of the Voluntary Prekindergarten  
341 Education Program. Administrative policies and procedures must  
342 ~~shall~~ be revised, to the maximum extent practicable, to  
343 incorporate the use of automation and electronic submission of  
344 forms, including those required for child eligibility and  
345 enrollment, provider and class registration, and monthly  
346 certification of attendance for payment. A school district may  
347 use its automated daily attendance reporting system for the  
348 purpose of transmitting attendance records to the early learning  
349 coalition in a mutually agreed-upon format. In addition, actions  
350 must ~~shall~~ be taken to reduce paperwork, eliminate the  
351 duplication of reports, and eliminate other duplicative  
352 activities. Each early learning coalition may retain and expend  
353 no more than 5 ~~4.0~~ percent of the funds paid by the coalition to  
354 private prekindergarten providers and public schools under  
355 paragraph (5) (b). Funds retained by an early learning coalition  
356 under this subsection may be used only for administering the  
357 Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program and may not be used  
358 for the school readiness program or other programs.

359 Section 9. Section 1003.4206, Florida Statutes, is created



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360 to read:

361 1003.4206 Charity for Change program.—As authorized by and  
362 consistent with funding appropriated in the General  
363 Appropriations Act, the Charity for Change program is created to  
364 implement the character education standards required pursuant to  
365 s. 1003.42(2)(t). The program may use third-party providers to  
366 deliver after-school and summer services that empower students  
367 with an evidence-based curriculum that integrates character  
368 education, service learning, charitable and community  
369 engagement, and academics.

370 Section 10. Subsection (3) of section 1003.435, Florida  
371 Statutes, is amended to read:

372 1003.435 High school equivalency diploma program.—

373 (3) Each district school board shall:

374 (a) Offer and administer the high school equivalency  
375 diploma examinations and the subject area examinations to all  
376 candidates pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education.

377 (b) Notify each candidate of adult secondary and  
378 postsecondary education options available in or near the  
379 district. The candidate must also be informed of the eligibility  
380 requirements and any minimum academic requirements for each  
381 available option.

382 Section 11. Section 1004.933, Florida Statutes, is created  
383 to read:

384 1004.933 Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education  
385 (GATE) Program.—

386 (1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—It is the intent of the Legislature  
387 that each high school student have the opportunity to earn  
388 postsecondary course credits at no cost to the student while



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389 pursuing the completion of a standard high school diploma or  
390 equivalent credential. Furthermore, to help meet this state's  
391 workforce skill needs, it is the intent of the Legislature that  
392 high school students have access to high-quality workforce  
393 education programs that can help them build their basic  
394 education abilities and attain industry-recognized postsecondary  
395 credentials.

396 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

397 (a) "Career education program" means an applied technology  
398 diploma program as defined in s. 1004.02(7) or a career  
399 certificate program as defined in s. 1004.02(20).

400 (b) "Institution" means a school district career center  
401 under s. 1001.44, a charter technical career center under s.  
402 1002.34, or a Florida College System institution under s.  
403 1000.21.

404 (3) ESTABLISHMENT; PURPOSE.—The Graduation Alternative to  
405 Traditional Education (GATE) Program is created within the  
406 Department of Education for the following purposes:

407 (a) Assisting students who may have challenges in  
408 completing the requirements for a standard high school diploma  
409 in a traditional setting.

410 (b) Creating an alternative education pathway that supports  
411 this state's commitment to educational accessibility for all  
412 students by providing additional opportunities for students 16  
413 to 21 years of age who have discontinued enrollment in  
414 traditional high school programs.

415 (c) Increasing the number of students who successfully earn  
416 a high school credential in this state.

417 (d) Increasing the interest and participation of students



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418 in career and technical education (CTE) programs.

419 (4) PAYMENT EXEMPTION; ELIGIBILITY.—

420 (a) Any student enrolled in the GATE Program is exempt from  
421 the payment of registration, tuition, laboratory, and  
422 examination fees to a participating institution. Instructional  
423 materials assigned for use under the GATE Program must be made  
424 available to GATE Program students free of charge. An  
425 institution may not require payment by students of instructional  
426 material costs eligible for reimbursement under s. 1009.711.

427 (b) To be eligible for participation in the GATE Program, a  
428 student may not have earned a standard high school diploma  
429 pursuant to s. 1003.4282 or a high school equivalency diploma  
430 pursuant to s. 1003.435 before enrolling in the GATE Program and  
431 must:

432 1. Be a resident of this state as defined in s. 1009.21;  
433 2. Be concurrently enrolled in an adult secondary education  
434 program as defined in s. 1004.02(4) and a career education  
435 program at a Florida College System institution, a school  
436 district career center, or a charter technical career center;

437 3. Be 16 to 21 years of age at the time of initial  
438 enrollment;

439 4. Select the CTE pathway or program of his or her choice  
440 at the time of enrollment. The student may not change the  
441 requested pathway after enrollment;

442 5. Maintain a 2.0 GPA for CTE coursework; and

443 6. Complete the programs under subparagraph 2. within 3  
444 years after initial enrollment unless the institution determines  
445 that an extension is warranted due to extenuating circumstances.

446 (c) An institution may not impose additional criteria to



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447 determine a student's eligibility to receive a waiver under this  
448 section.

449 (5) RULES.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules  
450 to implement this section.

451 Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section  
452 1008.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

453 1008.34 School grading system; school report cards;  
454 district grade.—

455 (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL GRADES.—

456 (b)1. A school's grade shall be based on the following  
457 components, each worth 100 points:

458 a. The percentage of eligible students passing statewide,  
459 standardized assessments in English Language Arts under s.  
460 1008.22(3).

461 b. The percentage of eligible students passing statewide,  
462 standardized assessments in mathematics under s. 1008.22(3).

463 c. The percentage of eligible students passing statewide,  
464 standardized assessments in science under s. 1008.22(3).

465 d. The percentage of eligible students passing statewide,  
466 standardized assessments in social studies under s. 1008.22(3).

467 e. The percentage of eligible students who make Learning  
468 Gains in English Language Arts as measured by statewide,  
469 standardized assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3).

470 f. The percentage of eligible students who make Learning  
471 Gains in mathematics as measured by statewide, standardized  
472 assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3).

473 g. The percentage of eligible students in the lowest 25  
474 percent in English Language Arts, as identified by prior year  
475 performance on statewide, standardized assessments, who make



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476 Learning Gains as measured by statewide, standardized English  
477 Language Arts assessments administered under s. 1008.22(3).

478 h. The percentage of eligible students in the lowest 25  
479 percent in mathematics, as identified by prior year performance  
480 on statewide, standardized assessments, who make Learning Gains  
481 as measured by statewide, standardized Mathematics assessments  
482 administered under s. 1008.22(3).

483 i. For schools comprised of middle grades 6 through 8 or  
484 grades 7 and 8, the percentage of eligible students passing high  
485 school level statewide, standardized end-of-course assessments  
486 or attaining national industry certifications identified in the  
487 CAPE Industry Certification Funding List pursuant to state board  
488 rule.

489 j. Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, for schools  
490 comprised of grade levels that include grade 3, the percentage  
491 of eligible students who score an achievement level 3 or higher  
492 on the grade 3 statewide, standardized English Language Arts  
493 assessment administered under s. 1008.22(3).

494  
495 In calculating Learning Gains for the components listed in sub-  
496 subparagraphs e.-h., the State Board of Education shall require  
497 that learning growth toward achievement levels 3, 4, and 5 is  
498 demonstrated by students who scored below each of those levels  
499 in the prior year. In calculating the components in sub-  
500 subparagraphs a.-d., the state board shall include the  
501 performance of English language learners only if they have been  
502 enrolled in a school in the United States for more than 2 years.

503 2. For a school comprised of grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, or  
504 grades 10, 11, and 12, the school's grade shall also be based on



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505 the following components, each worth 100 points:

506 a. The 4-year high school graduation rate of the school as  
507 defined by state board rule. Students enrolled in high school  
508 who choose to enroll in the GATE Program pursuant to s. 1004.933  
509 may not be included in their school's graduation rate.

510 b. The percentage of students who were eligible to earn  
511 college and career credit through an assessment identified  
512 pursuant to s. 1007.27(2), College Board Advanced Placement  
513 examinations, International Baccalaureate examinations, dual  
514 enrollment courses, including career dual enrollment courses  
515 resulting in the completion of 300 or more clock hours during  
516 high school which are approved by the state board as meeting the  
517 requirements of s. 1007.271, or Advanced International  
518 Certificate of Education examinations; who, at any time during  
519 high school, earned national industry certification identified  
520 in the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List, pursuant to  
521 rules adopted by the state board; or who earned an Armed  
522 Services Qualification Test score that falls within Category II  
523 or higher on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and  
524 earned a minimum of two credits in Junior Reserve Officers'  
525 Training Corps courses from the same branch of the United States  
526 Armed Forces.

527 Section 13. Section 1009.711, Florida Statutes, is created  
528 to read:

529 1009.711 GATE Scholarship Program.—

530 (1) The GATE Scholarship Program is created to financially  
531 support institutions in providing the GATE Program established  
532 pursuant to s. 1004.933.

533 (2) The Department of Education shall administer the GATE



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534 Scholarship Program in accordance with rules adopted by the  
535 State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (6).

536 (3) The program shall reimburse eligible institutions for  
537 registration, tuition, laboratory, and examination fees and  
538 related instructional materials costs for students enrolled in  
539 the GATE Program. School district career centers and Florida  
540 College System institutions must be reimbursed at the in-state  
541 resident tuition rate established in s. 1009.22(3)(c).

542 (4) Each participating institution shall report to the  
543 department all students enrolled in the GATE Scholarship Program  
544 during the fall, spring, or summer terms within 30 days after  
545 the end of regular registration. For each eligible student, the  
546 institution shall report the total reimbursable expenses by  
547 category, which the department must consider in determining an  
548 institution's award under this section. The department shall  
549 reimburse each participating institution no later than 30 days  
550 after the institution has reported enrollment for that term.

551 (5) Reimbursements from the GATE Scholarship Program are  
552 contingent upon an annual appropriation in the General  
553 Appropriations Act. If the statewide reimbursement amount is  
554 greater than the appropriation, the institutional reimbursement  
555 amounts specified in subsection (3) must be prorated among the  
556 institutions that have timely reported eligible students to the  
557 department.

558 (6) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to  
559 implement this section.

560 Section 14. Subsection (9) of section 1011.62, Florida  
561 Statutes, is amended to read:

562 1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual



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563 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each  
564 district for operation of schools is not determined in the  
565 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing  
566 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as  
567 follows:

568 (9) CALCULATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOCATION FOR JUVENILE  
569 JUSTICE EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—The juvenile justice education  
570 supplement is created to provide supplemental funding to support  
571 the education of students in juvenile justice education  
572 programs. The supplemental allocation must be the sum of the  
573 class-size-reduction allocation and the student allocation.

574 (a) The class-size-reduction allocation shall be calculated  
575 by multiplying the total kindergarten through grade 12 weighted  
576 full-time equivalent student membership in juvenile justice  
577 education programs in each school district ~~shall be multiplied~~  
578 by the amount of the state average class-size-reduction factor  
579 multiplied by the comparable wage factor for the school district  
580 established in subsection (2). ~~An amount equal to the sum of~~  
581 this calculation shall be allocated in the Florida Education  
582 Finance Program to each school district to supplement other  
583 sources of funding for students in juvenile justice education  
584 programs.

585 (b) The student allocation shall be calculated based on the  
586 number of students reported in a juvenile justice education  
587 program. The total kindergarten through grade 12 unweighted  
588 full-time equivalent student membership in juvenile justice  
589 education programs in each school district, excluding students  
590 with disabilities, shall be multiplied by a percentage of the  
591 base student allocation as provided in the General



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592 Appropriations Act. The total kindergarten through grade 12  
593 unweighted full-time equivalent student membership in juvenile  
594 justice education programs in each school district, for students  
595 with disabilities, shall be multiplied by an additional  
596 percentage of the base student allocation as provided in the  
597 General Appropriations Act. The base amount and the amount for  
598 students with disabilities shall be summed to provide the  
599 student allocation.

600 (c) Funds allocated under this subsection shall be used to  
601 provide the juvenile justice education programs pursuant to s.  
602 1003.52 and may be used to pay for the high school equivalency  
603 examination fees for juvenile justice students who pass the high  
604 school equivalency examination in full, or in part, while in a  
605 juvenile justice education program, the industry credentialing  
606 testing fees for such students, and the costs associated with  
607 such juvenile justice students enrolled in career and technical  
608 education courses that lead to industry-recognized  
609 certifications.

610 Section 15. Subsection (10) of section 1011.80, Florida  
611 Statutes, is amended to read:

612 1011.80 Funds for operation of workforce education  
613 programs.—

614 (10) A high school student dually enrolled under s.  
615 1007.271 in a workforce education program operated by a Florida  
616 College System institution or school district career center  
617 generates the amount calculated for workforce education funding,  
618 including any payment of performance funding, and the  
619 proportional share of full-time equivalent enrollment generated  
620 through the Florida Education Finance Program for the student's



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621 enrollment in a high school. If a high school student is dually  
622 enrolled in a Florida College System institution program,  
623 including a program conducted at a high school, the Florida  
624 College System institution earns the funds generated for  
625 workforce education funding, and the school district earns the  
626 proportional share of full-time equivalent funding from the  
627 Florida Education Finance Program. If a student is dually  
628 enrolled in a career center operated by the same district as the  
629 district in which the student attends high school, that district  
630 earns the funds generated for workforce education funding and  
631 also earns the proportional share of full-time equivalent  
632 funding from the Florida Education Finance Program. If a student  
633 is dually enrolled in a workforce education program provided by  
634 a career center operated by a different school district, the  
635 funds must be divided between the two school districts  
636 proportionally from the two funding sources. A student may not  
637 be reported for funding in a dual enrollment workforce education  
638 program unless the student has completed the basic skills  
639 assessment pursuant to s. 1004.91. A student who is coenrolled  
640 in a K-12 education program and an adult education program may  
641 be reported for purposes of funding in an adult education  
642 program. If a student is coenrolled in ~~core curricula~~ courses  
643 for credit recovery or dropout prevention purposes and does not  
644 have a pattern of excessive absenteeism or habitual truancy or a  
645 history of disruptive behavior in school, the student may be  
646 reported for funding for up to four ~~two~~ courses per year. Such a  
647 student is exempt from the payment of the block tuition for  
648 adult general education programs provided in s. 1009.22(3)(c).  
649 ~~The Department of Education shall develop a list of courses to~~



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650 ~~be designated as core curricula courses for the purposes of~~  
651 ~~enrollment.~~

652 Section 16. Section 1011.804, Florida Statutes, is created  
653 to read:

654 1011.804 GATE Program Student Success Incentive Fund.—

655 (1) A GATE Program Student Success Incentive Fund is  
656 created to reward school districts and Florida College System  
657 institutions for the documented success of students  
658 participating in the GATE Program established under s. 1004.933.

659 (2) As used in this section, the term "institution" means a  
660 school district career center established under s. 1001.44, a  
661 charter technical career center established under s. 1002.34, or  
662 a Florida College System institution identified in s. 1000.21,  
663 which offers the GATE Program pursuant to s. 1004.933.

664 (3) Subject to legislative appropriation, each  
665 participating institution must receive an allocation based on  
666 the performance of students in its GATE Program according to the  
667 following metrics:

668 (a) The number of students obtaining a standard high school  
669 diploma or high school equivalency diploma while participating  
670 in the program.

671 (b) The number of postsecondary industry certifications or  
672 other program completion credentials earned by students  
673 participating in the program. Eligible industry certifications  
674 must be identified on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding  
675 List approved by the State Board of Education under s. 1008.44.

676 (c) Unless otherwise specified in the General  
677 Appropriations Act, each institution must be provided \$750 per  
678 student described in paragraph (a) and \$1,000 per student



679 earning certificates or credentials as provided in paragraph  
680 (b). If funds are insufficient to fully fund the calculated  
681 total award, such funds must be prorated among the institutions.

682 Section 17. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

683

684 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

685 And the title is amended as follows:

686 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
687 and insert:

688 A bill to be entitled  
689 An act relating to education; amending s. 110.123,  
690 F.S.; revising definitions; defining the term  
691 "participating college"; creating s. 110.1229, F.S.;  
692 defining the term "college"; authorizing the district  
693 board of trustees of a college to apply by a specified  
694 date for participation in the state group health  
695 insurance program and the prescription drug coverage  
696 program; requiring the college to agree to specified  
697 conditions; providing a timeframe for the enrollment  
698 period; providing applicability; creating s. 985.176,  
699 F.S.; subject to legislative appropriation,  
700 authorizing specified entities to contract with  
701 AMIkids, Inc., for specified purposes; amending s.  
702 1002.33, F.S.; revising funding methods for students  
703 enrolled in certain charter schools; requiring a  
704 charter school to receive certain funds; requiring  
705 that certain funds be expended; amending s. 1002.391,  
706 F.S.; subject to legislative appropriation, creating  
707 the Bridge to Speech Program; providing for the use of



708 funds; requiring the Department of Education to award  
709 funds by a specified date; amending s. 1002.394, F.S.;  
710 revising requirements for the Family Empowerment  
711 Scholarship Program; amending s. 1002.395, F.S.;  
712 revising requirements for the Florida Tax Credit  
713 Scholarship Program; amending s. 1002.71, F.S.;  
714 revising the percentage of certain funds that may be  
715 expended by an early learning coalition; making  
716 technical changes; creating s. 1003.4206, F.S.;  
717 subject to legislative appropriation, creating the  
718 Charity for Change program; authorizing the program to  
719 use third-party providers to deliver specified  
720 services; amending s. 1003.435, F.S.; requiring  
721 district school boards to notify all candidates for  
722 the high school equivalency diploma of adult secondary  
723 and postsecondary education options; creating s.  
724 1004.933, F.S.; providing legislative intent; defining  
725 the terms "career education program" and  
726 "institution"; establishing the Graduation Alternative  
727 to Traditional Education (GATE) Program within the  
728 Department of Education; providing the purposes of the  
729 program; providing that students enrolled in the  
730 program are exempt from payments for registration,  
731 tuition, laboratory, and examination fees; providing  
732 eligibility requirements; prohibiting an institution  
733 from imposing additional eligibility requirements;  
734 requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules;  
735 amending s. 1008.34, F.S.; providing that students in  
736 high school who enroll in the GATE Program may not be



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737 included in their school's graduation rate; creating  
738 s. 1009.711, F.S.; creating the GATE Scholarship  
739 Program; requiring the department to administer the  
740 program; requiring the program to reimburse eligible  
741 institutions for student costs; requiring  
742 participating institutions to report to the department  
743 all students enrolled in the program; requiring the  
744 department to reimburse participating institutions  
745 within a specified timeframe; providing that  
746 reimbursements are contingent on legislative  
747 appropriations and may be prorated in the event that  
748 total reimbursements owed exceed available funds;  
749 requiring the state board to adopt rules; amending s.  
750 1011.62, F.S.; creating the juvenile justice education  
751 supplement; providing the purpose of the supplemental  
752 allocation for juvenile justice education programs;  
753 providing for calculation of the supplement as the sum  
754 of specified allocations; revising the calculation of  
755 the class-size-reduction allocation and specifying the  
756 manner for calculating the student allocation;  
757 amending s. 1011.80, F.S.; revising the number of  
758 courses that certain students may be reported for,  
759 relating to funding purposes; providing that such  
760 courses do not have to be core curricula courses;  
761 deleting a requirement for the department to develop a  
762 list of courses to be designated as core curricula  
763 courses; creating s. 1011.804, F.S.; creating the GATE  
764 Program Student Success Incentive Fund for a specified  
765 purpose; defining the term "institution"; providing



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766 that, subject to the appropriation of funds by the  
767 Legislature, each participating institution must  
768 receive specified allocations; providing for proration  
769 of funds, as necessary; providing an effective date.