



Journal of the Senate

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CALL TO ORDER

The Senate was called to order by President Albritton at 10:30 a.m. A quorum present—37:

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Pizzo
Arrington	Gaetz	Polsky
Avila	Garcia	Rodriguez
Berman	Grall	Rouson
Bernard	Gruters	Sharief
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bradley	Hooper	Smith
Brodeur	Ingoglia	Truenow
Burgess	Leek	Trumbull
Burton	Martin	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Collins	Osgood	
Davis	Passidomo	

Excused: Senators Jones; Avila at 5:53 p.m.; Rouson at 5:30 p.m.

PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Senior Associate Pastor Ron Camblin, Aloma Church of Winter Park:

Almighty God, I thank you for the privilege and opportunity to stand before you and the Senators of this great State of Florida. I thank you for everyone who stands with me today, who has committed their lives of service for the good of others. Father, it has been my greatest joy to yield my life in service to those whom you have placed in my care and know that these leaders in this chamber share my heart and passion.

Father, today the work that is taking place in the halls and chambers of our Capitol during this session has been challenging. They call for discerning minds, wisdom to see results from decisions being considered, and hearts that are open to the best conclusions that would impact the communities of our state. I am grateful that we can call upon you to guide us in these moments.

Lord God, as each one of us returns to our communities, may we reflect upon the example of the prophet Daniel who was one who was noted to be trustworthy, honest, and without negligence in serving well. May each of our days of service be a masterpiece of who you are, and may we continue to love you with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength and continue to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Father, I thank you for our nation. I thank you for our state. I thank you for our communities, and I seek your blessings on each one. I pray this all in Jesus' name. Amen.

PLEDGE

Senate Pages, Zara Khan of Tallahassee; Chloe Lawrence of Winter Haven; and Graysen Poole of Tallahassee, led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

DOCTOR OF THE DAY

The President recognized Dr. Michael Cromer of Tampa, sponsored by Senator Rouson, as the doctor of the day. Dr. Cromer specializes in family medicine.

MOTIONS RELATING TO COMMITTEE REFERENCE

On motion by Senator Passidomo, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HJR 1215** was withdrawn from the Committee on Appropriations and placed on the Special Order Calendar this day.

By direction of the President, the Senate proceeded to—

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR

SENATOR BRODEUR PRESIDING

HB 6503—A bill to be entitled An act for the relief of Mande Penney-Lemmon by Sarasota County; providing for an appropriation to compensate her for injuries sustained as a result of the negligence of Sarasota County through its employee; providing a limitation on compensation and the payment of attorney fees; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator DiCeglie, by two-thirds vote, **HB 6503** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—35

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Gaetz	Pizzo
Avila	Garcia	Polsky
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bradley	Hooper	Simon
Brodeur	Ingoglia	Smith
Burgess	Leek	Truenow
Burton	Martin	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Collins	Osgood	

Nays—None

HB 1123—A bill to be entitled An act relating to the sewer collection systems; amending s. 180.03, F.S.; authorizing municipalities to use certain funds for a specified purpose; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Pizzo, by two-thirds vote, **HB 1123** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—37

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Pizzo
Arrington	Gaetz	Polsky
Avila	Garcia	Rodriguez
Berman	Grall	Rouson
Bernard	Gruters	Sharief
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bradley	Hooper	Smith
Brodeur	Ingoglia	Truenow
Burgess	Leek	Trumbull
Burton	Martin	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Collins	Osgood	
Davis	Passidomo	

Nays—None

HB 211—A bill to be entitled An act relating to farm products; amending s. 163.3162, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “farm product”; providing that the collection, storage, processing, and distribution of a farm product is an activity of a bona fide farm operation which a governmental entity may not prohibit, restrict, regulate, or otherwise limit; reenacting s. 163.3177(7)(b), F.S., relating to the definition of the term “rural agricultural industrial center,” to incorporate the amendment made to s. 163.3162, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Truenow, by two-thirds vote, **HB 211** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—37

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Pizzo
Arrington	Gaetz	Polsky
Avila	Garcia	Rodriguez
Berman	Grall	Rouson
Bernard	Gruters	Sharief
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bradley	Hooper	Smith
Brodeur	Ingoglia	Truenow
Burgess	Leek	Trumbull
Burton	Martin	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Collins	Osgood	
Davis	Passidomo	

Nays—None

Consideration of **CS for CS for SB 736, CS for CS for SB 1726, SB 7032, CS for SB 1602, CS for SB 1242, and CS for CS for SB 1624** was deferred.

CS for HJR 1215—A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 3 of Article VII and the creation of a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution to exempt certain tangible personal property from ad valorem taxation.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment to Section 3 of Article VII and the creation of a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution are agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE VII

FINANCE AND TAXATION

SECTION 3. Taxes; exemptions.—

(a) All property owned by a municipality and used exclusively by it for municipal or public purposes shall be exempt from taxation. A municipality, owning property outside the municipality, may be required by general law to make payment to the taxing unit in which the property is located. Such portions of property as are used predominantly for educational, literary, scientific, religious or charitable purposes may be exempted by general law from taxation.

(b) There shall be exempt from taxation, cumulatively, to every head of a family residing in this state, household goods and personal effects to the value fixed by general law, not less than one thousand dollars, and to every widow or widower or person who is blind or totally and permanently disabled, property to the value fixed by general law not less than five hundred dollars.

(c) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this subsection and general law, grant community and economic development ad valorem tax exemptions to new businesses and expansions of existing businesses, as defined by general law. Such an exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county or municipality, and only after the electors of the county or municipality voting on such question in a referendum authorize the county or municipality to adopt such ordinances. An exemption so granted shall apply to improvements to real property made by or for the use of a new business and improvements to real property related to the expansion of an existing business and shall also apply to tangible personal property of such new business and tangible personal property related to the expansion of an existing business. The amount or limits of the amount of such exemption shall be specified by general law. The period of time for which such exemption may be granted to a new business or expansion of an existing business shall be determined by general law. The authority to grant such exemption shall expire ten years from the date of approval by the electors of the county or municipality, and may be renewable by referendum as provided by general law.

(d) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this subsection and general law, grant historic preservation ad valorem tax exemptions to owners of historic properties. This exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county or municipality. The amount or limits of the amount of this exemption and the requirements for eligible properties must be specified by general law. The period of time for which this exemption may be granted to a property owner shall be determined by general law.

(e) By general law and subject to conditions specified therein:

(1) Twenty-five thousand dollars of the assessed value of property subject to tangible personal property tax shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation.

(2) The assessed value of solar devices or renewable energy source devices subject to tangible personal property tax may be exempt from ad valorem taxation, subject to limitations provided by general law.

(f) There shall be granted an ad valorem tax exemption for real property dedicated in perpetuity for conservation purposes, including real property encumbered by perpetual conservation easements or by other perpetual conservation protections, as defined by general law.

(g) By general law and subject to the conditions specified therein, each person who receives a homestead exemption as provided in section 6 of this article; who was a member of the United States military or military reserves, the United States Coast Guard or its reserves, or the Florida National Guard; and who was deployed during the preceding calendar year on active duty outside the continental United States, Alaska, or Hawaii in support of military operations designated by the legislature shall receive an additional exemption equal to a percentage of the taxable value of his or her homestead property. The applicable percentage shall be calculated as the number of days during the preceding calendar year the person was deployed on active duty outside the continental United States, Alaska, or Hawaii in support of military operations designated by the legislature divided by the number of days in that year.

(h)(1) *Tangible personal property that meets all of the following conditions shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation:*

a. *Habitually located or typically present on land classified as agricultural.*

b. *Used in the production of agricultural products or for agritourism activities.*

c. *Owned by the landowner or leaseholder of the agricultural land.*

(2) *The exemption provided by this subsection is subject to conditions and limitations and reasonable definitions as specified by the legislature in general law.*

ARTICLE XII

SCHEDULE

Ad valorem exemption for tangible personal property on land classified as agricultural.—The amendment to Section 3 of Article VII, providing for a tax exemption for certain tangible personal property, and this section, shall take effect upon approval by the electors and shall first apply for assessments for tax years beginning January 1, 2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be placed on the ballot:

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ARTICLE VII, SECTION 3

ARTICLE XII

EXEMPTION OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY ON AGRICULTURAL LAND FROM TAXATION.—Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to exempt tangible personal property habitually located or typically present on land classified as agricultural, used in the production of agricultural products or for agritourism activities, and owned by the landowner or leaseholder of the agricultural land from ad valorem taxation. If approved this amendment would first apply for tax years beginning January 1, 2027.

—was read the second time by title. On motion by Senator Truenow, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HJR 1215** was read the third time by title, passed by the required constitutional three-fifths vote of the membership and, certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—37

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Pizzo
Arrington	Gaetz	Polsky
Avila	Garcia	Rodriguez
Berman	Grall	Rouson
Bernard	Gruters	Sharief
Boyd	Harrell	Simon
Bradley	Hooper	Smith
Brodeur	Ingoglia	Truenow
Burgess	Leek	Trumbull
Burton	Martin	Wright
Calatayud	McClain	Yarborough
Collins	Osgood	
Davis	Passidomo	

Nays—None

RECESS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate recessed at 10:48 a.m. to reconvene at 1:00 p.m. or upon call of the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Senate was called to order by Senator Brodeur at 1:00 p.m. A quorum present—34:

Mr. President	Berman	Brodeur
Arrington	Bernard	Burgess
Avila	Bradley	Burton

Collins	Ingoglia	Sharief
Davis	Martin	Simon
DiCeglie	McClain	Smith
Gaetz	Osgood	Truenow
Garcia	Passidomo	Trumbull
Grall	Pizzo	Wright
Gruters	Polsky	Yarborough
Harrell	Rodriguez	
Hooper	Rouson	

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has refused to concur in Senate Amendment 1 (689718) to House Amendment 1 (746171) to SB 994 and requests the Senate to recede.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

SB 994—A bill to be entitled An act relating to driver safety; amending s. 316.305, F.S.; revising penalties for the use of a wireless communications device while operating a motor vehicle; authorizing certain persons to participate in a distracted driving safety program approved by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; authorizing the waiver of certain penalties and associated costs, and requiring the waiver of the assessment of points, upon completion of such program; amending s. 316.306, F.S.; authorizing a person to participate in a distracted driving safety program, upon completion of which certain penalties and associated costs may, and the assessment of points must, be waived for certain offenses; amending s. 318.1451, F.S.; requiring the department to create a specified driver improvement course related to distracted driving which driver improvement schools shall offer to certain persons; requiring basic driver improvement courses to include certain content relating to distracted driving; amending s. 322.095, F.S.; specifying the age at which an applicant for a driver license must complete a traffic law and substance abuse education course; amending s. 322.1615, F.S.; requiring an applicant for a learner's driver license to complete a certain driver education course approved by the department; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Collins, the Senate receded from **Senate Amendment 1 (689718) to House Amendment 1 (746171)**.

SB 994 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed, and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—33

Mr. President	Gaetz	Pizzo
Arrington	Garcia	Polsky
Avila	Grall	Rodriguez
Berman	Gruters	Rouson
Bernard	Harrell	Sharief
Bradley	Hooper	Simon
Brodeur	Ingoglia	Smith
Burgess	Martin	Truenow
Burton	McClain	Trumbull
Collins	Osgood	Wright
DiCeglie	Passidomo	Yarborough

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Boyd, Leek

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 180, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 180—A bill to be entitled An act relating to emergency preparedness and response; amending s. 161.101, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to waive or reduce local government match requirements under certain circumstances; providing for future expiration; amending s. 193.4518, F.S.; providing a tangible personal property assessment limitation, during a certain timeframe and in certain counties, for certain agricultural equipment that is unable to be used due to Hurricanes Debby, Helene, or Milton; specifying conditions for applying for and receiving the assessment limitation; providing procedures for petitioning the value adjustment board if an application is denied; providing for retroactive application; amending s. 215.559, F.S.; deleting a reference to a certain report; revising public hurricane shelter funding prioritization requirements for the Division of Emergency Management; amending s. 250.375, F.S.; authorizing certain servicemembers to provide medical care in specified circumstances; amending s. 252.35, F.S.; providing legislative intent; revising the date by which the state comprehensive emergency management plan must be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature; revising the components of the plan; requiring the division to provide certain assistance to political subdivisions; revising requirements for training provided by the division; authorizing such training to be provided by a foundation under certain circumstances; revising inventory requirements; deleting a requirement for a certain biennial report; requiring the division to conduct an annual hurricane readiness session in each region designated by the division for a specified purpose; requiring all county emergency management directors, and authorizing other county and municipal personnel, to attend such session; requiring that the session include specified topics and needs; amending s. 252.355, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to provide certain information to specified clients or their caregivers; amending s. 252.3611, F.S.; directing specified entities to submit specified contracts and reports to the Legislature under specified conditions; requiring that such contracts be posted on a specified secure contract system; requiring the Auditor General to post the results of specified audits on his or her official website; requiring the division to report annually to the Legislature specified information on expenditures related to emergencies; providing requirements for such report; amending s. 252.365, F.S.; revising the responsibilities for agency emergency coordination officers; requiring agency heads to notify the Governor and the division of the person designated as the emergency coordination officer annually by a specified date; amending s. 252.3655, F.S.; creating the natural hazards risks and mitigation interagency coordinating group; providing the purpose of the group; providing for the membership and administration of the group; requiring agency representatives to provide information relating to natural hazards to this state, agency resources, efforts to address and mitigate risk and impacts of natural hazards; requiring the group to meet in person or by communication media technology at least quarterly for specified purposes; requiring specified agency heads to meet at least annually to strategize and prioritize state efforts; requiring the division, on behalf of the group, to prepare a certain progress report; revising the requirements of such report; revising requirements for an annual progress report by the division on behalf of the group; requiring the division, on behalf of the group, to submit such report to the Governor and the Legislature; amending s. 252.37, F.S.; requiring the division to notify the Legislature of its intent to accept or apply for federal funds under certain circumstances; requiring the division to take steps to maximize the availability and expedite distribution of financial assistance from the Federal Government to state and local agencies; requiring that such steps include the standardization and streamlining of the application process for federal financial assistance and the provision of assistance to those applicants for a specified purpose; requiring the division to use certain federal funds to implement such requirements; creating s. 252.3713, F.S.; requiring the division to administer the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program; authorizing the division to retain a specified percentage of the funds for use within the state; requiring that the remaining percentage be distributed for use by certain recipients; authorizing subrecipients to make a certain election for a specified use; requiring the prioritization of certain projects; authorizing the division to coordinate with specified entities under certain circumstances; requiring that such cooperation ensures certain requirements are met and certain projects are funded; authorizing fiscally constrained counties to request that the division administer the grant for such a county; authorizing such counties to request certain assistance from the division; requiring the division to provide a certain report annually to the Legislature; requiring the division to adopt rules; amending s. 252.373, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 252.38, F.S.; requiring

each political subdivision to notify the division of the designated emergency contact annually by a specified date; amending s. 252.385, F.S.; revising reporting requirements for the division; revising requirements for a specified list; requiring the Department of Health and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to assist the division with certain determinations; creating s. 252.392, F.S.; requiring counties and municipalities to develop a post-storm permitting plan; providing requirements for the plan; requiring annual updates to the plan by a specified date; requiring counties and municipalities to publish, and post on their websites, a specified storm recovery guide annually by a specified date; prohibiting certain counties and municipalities from increasing building permit or inspection fees within a specified timeframe; requiring, as soon as practicable, such counties and municipalities to have certain personnel available during normal business hours; amending s. 373.423, F.S.; defining the terms "MS4" and "MS4 entity"; requiring each MS4 entity to conduct an inspection of certain stormwater management systems in accordance with the MS4 permit; specifying requirements for such inspection; requiring certain structures be observed and reviewed annually; requiring each MS4 entity to complete a stormwater facility inspection checklist for inspections of such systems; requiring that such checklist be submitted to specified entities; providing applicability; amending s. 380.0552, F.S.; revising the maximum evacuation clearance time for permanent residents of the Florida Keys Area, which time is an element for which amendments to local comprehensive plans in the Florida Keys Area must be reviewed for compliance; providing legislative intent; amending s. 400.063, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 403.7071, F.S.; providing that private solid waste or debris management service providers are not required to collect storm-generated debris or waste unless such collection is specified in their contract or franchise agreement; providing that local governments are authorized and encouraged to add certain addenda to certain contracts or agreements; requiring counties and municipalities to apply to the Department of Environmental Protection for authorization to designate at least one debris management site; authorizing municipalities to apply jointly with a county or another adjacent municipality for authorization of a minimum number of debris management sites if such entities approve a memorandum of understanding; providing requirements for such memoranda; amending s. 553.73, F.S.; prohibiting certain local governments from adopting ordinances for substantial improvements or repairs to a structure which include cumulative substantial improvement periods; defining the term "cumulative substantial improvement period"; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct a study on certain local government actions after hurricanes; specifying requirements for the study and legislative recommendations; requiring the office to submit a report to the Legislature by a specified date; reenacting s. 252.55(6), F.S., relating to a certain biennial report submitted by the wing commander of the Civil Air Patrol, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 252.35, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing effective dates.

House Amendment 1 (392939) (with title amendment)—Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 83.63, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

83.63 Casualty damage.—If the premises are damaged or destroyed other than by the wrongful or negligent acts of the tenant so that the enjoyment of the premises is substantially impaired;

(1) The tenant may terminate the rental agreement and immediately vacate the premises. The tenant may vacate the part of the premises rendered unusable by the casualty, in which case the tenant's liability for rent shall be reduced by the fair rental value of that part of the premises damaged or destroyed. If the rental agreement is terminated, the landlord shall comply with s. 83.49(3).

(2) *The tenant must be given:*

(a) *The opportunity to collect his or her belongings from the premises when it is safe to do so; or*

(b) *Notice of the date by which the tenant will be able to collect his or her belongings from the premises, which must occur within a reasonable time.*

Section 2. Section 163.31795, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

163.31795 Participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.—

(1) *For purposes of this section, the term:*

(a) *“Cumulative substantial improvement period” means the period during which an aggregate of improvements or repairs are considered for purposes of determining substantial improvement as defined in s. 161.54(12).*

(b) *“Local government” has the same meaning as in s. 163.2514.*

(2) *A local government that is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program may not adopt or enforce an ordinance for substantial improvements or repairs to a structure which includes a cumulative substantial improvement period.*

Section 3. Subsection (14) is added to section 163.31801, Florida Statutes, to read:

163.31801 Impact fees; short title; intent; minimum requirements; audits; challenges.—

(14) *A local government, school district, or special district may not assess an impact fee for the reconstruction or replacement of a previously existing structure if the replacement structure is of the same land use as the original structure and does not increase the impact on public facilities beyond that of the original structure. However, if the replacement structure increases the demand on public facilities due to a significant increase in size, intensity, or capacity of use, a local government, school district, or special district may assess an impact fee in an amount proportional to the difference in the demand between the replacement structure and the original structure. Any such fee must be reasonably connected to, or have a rational nexus with, the need for additional capital facilities and the increased impact generated by the reconstruction or replacement of a previously existing structure.*

Section 4. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (4) of section 193.155, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

193.155 Homestead assessments.—Homestead property shall be assessed at just value as of January 1, 1994. Property receiving the homestead exemption after January 1, 1994, shall be assessed at just value as of January 1 of the year in which the property receives the exemption unless the provisions of subsection (8) apply.

(4)(a) *Except as provided in paragraph (b) and s. 193.624, changes, additions, or improvements to homestead property shall be assessed at just value as of the first January 1 after the changes, additions, or improvements are substantially completed. Maintenance or repair of the homestead property, including roof or window replacement, may not be considered to be a change, an addition, or an improvement under this subsection.*

(b)1. *Changes, additions, or improvements that replace all or a portion of homestead property, including ancillary improvements, damaged or destroyed by misfortune or calamity shall be assessed upon substantial completion as provided in this paragraph. Such assessment must be calculated using the homestead property's assessed value as of the January 1 immediately before the date on which the damage or destruction was sustained, subject to the assessment limitations in subsections (1) and (2), when:*

a. *The square footage of the homestead property as changed or improved does not exceed 130 ~~110~~ percent of the square footage of the homestead property before the damage or destruction; or*

b. *The total square footage of the homestead property as changed or improved does not exceed 2,000 ~~1,500~~ square feet.*

When a homestead property is elevated above the base flood elevation within a special flood hazard area, the square footage underneath the homestead property that is used only for parking, storage, or access is not included when determining the total square footage of the homestead property as changed or improved under this subparagraph.

2. *The homestead property's assessed value must be increased by the just value of that portion of the changed or improved homestead property which is in excess of 130 ~~110~~ percent of the square footage of the homestead property before the damage or destruction or of that portion exceeding 2,000 ~~1,500~~ square feet.*

3. *Homestead property damaged or destroyed by misfortune or calamity which, after being changed or improved, has a square footage of less than 100 percent of the homestead property's total square footage before the damage or destruction shall be assessed pursuant to subsection (5).*

4. *Changes, additions, or improvements assessed pursuant to this paragraph must be reassessed pursuant to subsection (1) in subsequent years. This paragraph applies to changes, additions, or improvements commenced within 5 years after the January 1 following the damage or destruction of the homestead.*

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 215.559, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.559 Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program.—A Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program is established in the Division of Emergency Management.

(1) *The Legislature shall annually appropriate \$10 million of the moneys authorized for appropriation under s. 215.555(7)(c) from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to the division for the purposes set forth in this section. Of the amount:*

(b) *Three million dollars in funds shall be used to construct or retrofit facilities used as public hurricane shelters. Each year the division shall prioritize the use of these funds for projects included in the annual report of the Shelter Development Report prepared in accordance with s. 252.385(3). The division shall ~~must~~ give funding priority to projects located in counties ~~regional planning council regions~~ that have shelter deficits, projects that are publicly owned, other than schools, and ~~to~~ projects that maximize the use of state funds.*

Section 6. Section 250.375, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

250.375 Medical officer authorization.—A servicemember trained to provide medical care who is serving under the direction of the Florida National Guard State Surgeon and is assigned to a military duty position and authorized by the Florida National Guard to provide medical care within the scope of the servicemember's professional licensure by virtue of such duty position may provide such medical care to military personnel and civilians within this state ~~physician who holds an active license to practice medicine in any state, a United States territory, or the District of Columbia, while serving as a medical officer with or in support of the Florida National Guard, pursuant to federal or state orders, may practice medicine on military personnel or civilians during an emergency or declared disaster or during federal military training.~~

Section 7. Paragraphs (y) through (dd) of subsection (2) of section 252.35, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (x) through (cc), respectively, paragraphs (a), (c), and (n) and present paragraph (x) of that subsection are amended, and a new paragraph (dd) is added to that subsection, to read:

252.35 Emergency management powers; Division of Emergency Management.—

(2) *The division is responsible for carrying out the provisions of ss. 252.31-252.90. In performing its duties, the division shall:*

(a) *Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management plan, which ~~shall~~ must be integrated into and coordinated with the emergency management plans and programs of the Federal Government. The division shall adopt the plan as a rule in accordance with chapter 120. The plan must be implemented by a continuous, integrated comprehensive emergency management program. The plan must contain provisions to ensure that the state is prepared for emergencies and minor, major, and catastrophic disasters, and the division shall work closely with local governments and agencies and organizations with emergency management responsibilities in preparing and maintaining the plan. The state comprehensive emergency management plan must be operations oriented and:*

1. Include an evacuation component that includes specific regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes intergovernmental coordination of evacuation activities. This component must, at a minimum: contain guidelines for lifting tolls on state highways; ensure coordination pertaining to evacuees crossing county lines; set forth procedures for directing people caught on evacuation routes to safe shelter; establish strategies for ensuring sufficient, reasonably priced fueling locations along evacuation routes; and establish policies and strategies for emergency medical evacuations.

2. Include a shelter component that includes specific regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes coordination of shelter activities between the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. This component must, at a minimum: contain strategies to ensure the availability of adequate public shelter space in each county ~~region of the state~~; establish strategies for refuge-of-last-resort programs; provide strategies to assist local emergency management efforts to ensure that adequate staffing plans exist for all shelters, including medical and security personnel; provide for a postdisaster communications system for public shelters; establish model shelter guidelines for operations, registration, inventory, power generation capability, information management, and staffing; and set forth policy guidance for sheltering people with special needs.

3. Include a postdisaster response and recovery component that includes specific regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes intergovernmental coordination of postdisaster response and recovery activities. This component must provide for postdisaster response and recovery strategies according to whether a disaster is minor, major, or catastrophic. The postdisaster response and recovery component must, at a minimum: establish the structure of the state's postdisaster response and recovery organization; establish procedures for activating the state's plan; set forth policies used to guide postdisaster response and recovery activities; describe the chain of command during the postdisaster response and recovery period; describe initial and continuous postdisaster response and recovery actions; identify the roles and responsibilities of each involved agency and organization; provide for a comprehensive communications plan; establish procedures for coordinating and monitoring statewide mutual aid agreements *reimbursable under federal public disaster assistance programs*; provide for rapid impact assessment teams; ensure the availability of an effective statewide urban search and rescue program coordinated with the fire services; ensure the existence of a comprehensive statewide medical care and relief plan administered by the Department of Health; and establish systems for coordinating volunteers and accepting and distributing donated funds and goods.

4. Include additional provisions addressing aspects of preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation as determined necessary by the division.

5. Address the need for coordinated and expeditious deployment of state resources, including the Florida National Guard. In the case of an imminent major disaster, procedures should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard, and, in the case of an imminent catastrophic disaster, procedures should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard and the United States Armed Forces.

6. Establish a system of communications and warning to ensure that the state's population and emergency management agencies are warned of developing emergency situations, including public health emergencies, and can communicate emergency response decisions.

7. Establish guidelines and schedules for annual exercises that evaluate the ability of the state and its political subdivisions to respond to minor, major, and catastrophic disasters and support local emergency management agencies. Such exercises shall be coordinated with local governments and, to the extent possible, the Federal Government.

8. Assign lead and support responsibilities to state agencies and personnel for emergency support functions and other support activities.

9. Include the public health emergency plan developed by the Department of Health pursuant to s. 381.00315.

10. *Include an update on the status of the emergency management capabilities of the state and its political subdivisions. The update must include the emergency management capabilities related to public health*

emergencies, as determined in collaboration with the Department of Health.

The complete state comprehensive emergency management plan must be submitted to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor on February 1 of every even-numbered year.

(c) Assist political subdivisions in preparing and maintaining emergency management plans. *Such assistance must include the development of a template for comprehensive emergency management plans, including plans for natural disasters, and guidance on the development of mutual aid agreements.*

(n) Implement training programs to maintain this state's status as a national leader in emergency management and improve the ability of state and local emergency management personnel to prepare and implement emergency management plans and programs. *This must shall include a continuous training program for agencies and individuals who that will be called on to perform key roles in state and local postdisaster response and recovery efforts and for local government personnel on federal and state postdisaster response and recovery strategies and procedures. The division shall specify requirements for the minimum number of training hours that county or municipal administrators, county or city managers, county or municipal emergency management directors, and county or municipal public works directors or other officials responsible for the construction and maintenance of public infrastructure must complete biennially in addition to the training required pursuant to s. 252.38(1)(b). Such training may be provided by the division or, for county personnel, by a foundation that is a not-for-profit corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and has a governing board that includes in its membership county commissioners and professional county staff. If training is provided by a foundation, such training must be approved by the division.*

~~(x) Report biennially to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the Governor, no later than February 1 of every odd-numbered year, the status of the emergency management capabilities of the state and its political subdivisions. This report must include the emergency management capabilities related to public health emergencies, as determined in collaboration with the Department of Health.~~

(dd) *Conduct, by April 1 of each year, an annual hurricane readiness session in each region designated by the division to facilitate coordination between all emergency management stakeholders. Each county emergency management director or his or her designee shall, and other county and municipal personnel may, attend the session for his or her region. A session must include, but is not limited to, guidance on timelines for preparation and response, information on state and federal postdisaster resources and assistance, guidance to promote efficient and expedited rebuilding of the community after a hurricane, best practices for coordination and communication among entities engaged in post-disaster response and recovery, and discussion of any outstanding county or municipal preparedness or readiness needs.*

Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 252.355, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (5), paragraph (b) of subsection (2) is amended, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

252.355 Registry of persons with special needs; notice; registration program.—

(2) In order to ensure that all persons with special needs may register, the division shall develop and maintain a special needs shelter registration program. During a public health emergency in which physical distancing is necessary, as determined by the State Health Officer, the division must maintain information on special needs shelter options that mitigate the threat of the spread of infectious diseases.

(b) To assist in identifying persons with special needs, home health agencies, hospices, nurse registries, home medical equipment providers, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Education, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Elderly Affairs, and memory disorder clinics shall, and any physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter

459 and any pharmacy licensed under chapter 465 may, annually provide registration information to all of their special needs clients or their caregivers. *The Florida Housing Finance Corporation shall enter into memoranda of understanding with the Department of Elderly Affairs and with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to ensure special needs registration information is provided to residents of low-income senior independent living properties and independent living properties for persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities funded by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, respectively.* The division shall develop a brochure that provides information regarding special needs shelter registration procedures. The brochure must be easily accessible on the division's website. All appropriate agencies and community-based service providers, including aging and disability resource centers, memory disorder clinics, home health care providers, hospices, nurse registries, and home medical equipment providers, shall, and any physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 may, assist emergency management agencies by annually registering persons with special needs for special needs shelters, collecting registration information for persons with special needs as part of the program intake process, and establishing programs to educate clients about the registration process and disaster preparedness safety procedures. A client of a state-funded or federally funded service program who has a physical, mental, or cognitive impairment or sensory disability and who needs assistance in evacuating, or when in a shelter, must register as a person with special needs. The registration program shall give persons with special needs the option of preauthorizing emergency response personnel to enter their homes during search and rescue operations if necessary to ensure their safety and welfare following disasters.

(4) *The caregiver of a person with special needs who is eligible for admission to a special needs shelter, and all persons for whom he or she is the caregiver, shall be allowed to shelter together in the special needs shelter. If a person with special needs is responsible for the care of persons without special needs, those persons shall be allowed to use the special needs shelter with the person with special needs.*

Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 252.3611, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

252.3611 Transparency; audits.—

(2) *If ~~When~~ the duration of a declaration of a state of an emergency issued by the Governor exceeds 90 days:*

(a)1. *The Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency, within 72 hours after ~~of~~ executing a contract executed with moneys authorized for expenditure to support the response to the declared state of emergency, must ~~the Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency shall~~ submit a copy of such contract to the Legislature. For contracts executed during the first 90 days of the declared state of emergency, the Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency shall submit a copy to the Legislature within the first 120 days of the declared state of emergency.*

2. *All contracts executed to support the response to a declared state of emergency, including contracts executed before a declared state of emergency to secure resources or services in advance or anticipation of an emergency, must be posted on the secure contract tracking system required under s. 215.985(14).*

(b) The Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency shall submit monthly reports to the Legislature of all state expenditures, revenues received, and funds transferred by an agency during the previous month to support the declared state of emergency.

(5) *Annually, by January 15, the division shall report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the appropriations committee of each house of the Legislature on expenditures related to emergencies incurred over the year from November 1 of the previous year. The report must include:*

(a) *A separate summary of each emergency event, whether complete or ongoing, and key actions taken by the division.*

(b) *Details of expenditures, separated by emergency event and agency, for preparing for, responding to, or recovering from the event. The report must specify detailed expenditures for the entire report time per-*

iod; specify total expenditures for the event; and indicate amounts that are being or are anticipated to be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or other federal entity, amounts ineligible for reimbursement, and any amounts deobligated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or other federal entity for reimbursement. The division shall review expenditures by state agencies to ensure that efforts, purchases, contracts, or expenditures are not duplicated.

(c) *An accounting of all inventory and assets purchased, separated by emergency event and agency, for preparing for, responding to, or recovering from the event, including motor vehicles, boats, computers, and other equipment, and the current status of such assets, including divestment, sale, or donation by the state. The report must include a detailed accounting for the entire report time period and specify a total for the event.*

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 252.363, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.363 Tolling and extension of permits and other authorizations.—

(1)(a) The declaration of a state of emergency issued by the Governor for a natural emergency tolls the period remaining to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization for the duration of the emergency declaration. Further, the emergency declaration extends the period remaining to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization for 24 months in addition to the tolled period. The extended period to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization may not exceed 48 months in total in the event of multiple natural emergencies for which the Governor declares a state of emergency. The tolling and extension of permits and other authorizations under this paragraph shall apply retroactively to September 28, 2022, *except in the case of the formal determination of the delineation of the extent of wetlands under s. 373.421, in which case tolling and extension of determinations under this paragraph shall apply retroactively to January 1, 2023.* This paragraph applies to the following:

1. The expiration of a development order issued by a local government.
2. The expiration of a building permit.
3. The expiration of a permit issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or a water management district pursuant to part IV of chapter 373.
4. Permits issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or a water management district pursuant to part II of chapter 373 for land subject to a development agreement under ss. 163.3220-163.3243 in which the permittee and the developer are the same or a related entity.
5. The buildout date of a development of regional impact, including any extension of a buildout date that was previously granted as specified in s. 380.06(7)(c).
6. The expiration of a development permit or development agreement authorized by Florida Statutes, including those authorized under the Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act, or issued by a local government or other governmental agency.
7. *The formal determination of the delineation of the extent of wetlands under s. 373.421.*

Section 11. Subsection (4) of section 252.365, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.365 Emergency coordination officers; disaster-preparedness plans.—

(4) *On or before May 1 of each year, the head of each agency shall notify the Governor and the division in writing of the person initially designated as the emergency coordination officer for such agency and her or his alternate and of any changes in persons so designated thereafter.*

Section 12. Section 252.3655, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.3655 Natural hazards risks and mitigation interagency coordinating group ~~workgroup~~.—

(1)(a) An interagency coordinating group ~~workgroup~~ is created for the purpose of sharing information on the current and potential risks and impacts of natural hazards throughout this the state, coordinating the ongoing efforts of state agencies in addressing and mitigating the risks and impacts of natural hazards, and collaborating on statewide initiatives to address and mitigate the risks and impacts of natural hazards. As used in this section, the term “natural hazards” includes, but is not limited to, extreme heat, drought, wildfire, sea-level change, high tides, storm surge, saltwater intrusion, stormwater runoff, flash floods, inland flooding, and coastal flooding.

(b) The agency head, or his or her designated senior manager, from each of the following agencies shall serve on the coordinating group:

1. Chief Resilience Officer of the Statewide Office of Resilience.
2. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
3. Department of Commerce.
4. Department of Environmental Protection.
5. Department of Financial Services.
6. Department of Law Enforcement.
7. Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.
8. Department of Military Affairs.
9. Division of Emergency Management.
10. Department of Transportation.
11. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
12. Office of Insurance Regulation.
13. Public Service Commission.

14. Each water management district ~~Each agency within the executive branch of state government, each water management district, and the Florida Public Service Commission shall select from within such agency a person to be designated as the agency liaison to the workgroup.~~

(c) The director of the Division of Emergency Management, or his or her designee, shall serve as the administrator ~~liaison to and coordinator~~ of the coordinating group ~~workgroup~~.

(d) Each agency representative ~~liaison~~ shall provide information from his or her respective agency, including all relevant reports, on the current and potential risks and impacts of natural hazards to this state ~~to his or her agency~~, agency resources available, and efforts made by the agency to address and mitigate the risks and impacts of ~~against~~ natural hazards, ~~and efforts made by the agency to address the impacts of natural hazards.~~

(e)1. The coordinating group ~~workgroup~~ shall meet in person or by means of communications media technology as provided in s. 120.54(5)(b)2. at least ~~teleconference on a~~ quarterly basis to share information, leverage agency resources, coordinate ongoing efforts, and provide information for inclusion in the annual progress report submitted pursuant to subsection (2). Agency heads for the agencies listed in paragraph (b) shall meet in person at least annually to collectively strategize and prioritize state efforts.

2. Information regarding the coordinating group, including meeting agendas and reports, must be posted in a conspicuous location on the division's website.

(2)(a) On behalf of the coordinating group ~~workgroup~~, the division of ~~Emergency Management~~ shall prepare an annual progress report on the implementation of the state's hazard mitigation plan, developed and submitted in accordance with 42 U.S.C. s. 5165 and any implementing regulations, as it relates to natural hazards. At a minimum, the annual progress report must:

1. Assess each agency's ~~the relevance, level, and significance of~~ current agency efforts to address and mitigate the risks and impacts of natural hazards; and

2. Strategize and prioritize ongoing efforts to address and mitigate the risks and impacts of natural hazards;

3. Provide recommendations regarding statutory changes and funding that may assist in addressing or mitigating the risks and impacts of natural hazards; and

4. Provide recommendations for state and local natural hazard mitigation strategies.

(b) ~~Each liaison is responsible for ensuring that the workgroup's annual progress report is posted on his or her agency's website.~~

(c) By January 1 of each year, ~~2019, and each year thereafter~~, the division on behalf of the coordinating group ~~workgroup~~ shall submit the annual progress report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 13. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (5) of section 252.37, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (d) and (e), respectively, a new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

252.37 Financing.—

(5) Unless otherwise specified in the General Appropriations Act:

(c) If the division intends to accept or apply for federal funds for a division-administered program that is new, that will be implemented in a manner that is innovative or significantly different from the manner in which the program is typically administered, or that will require a state match for which the division will be required to seek new budget authority, the division must notify the Legislature of its intent to accept or apply for the federal funds. The notice must detail the federal program under which the funds will be accepted or applied for, the intended purpose and use of the funds, and the amount of funds, including the estimated state match.

(7) The division shall take steps to maximize the availability and expedite the distribution of financial assistance from the Federal Government to state and local agencies. Such steps must include the standardization and streamlining of the application process for financial assistance through the federal Public Assistance Program and provision of assistance to applicants in order to mitigate the risk of noncompliance with federal program requirements. The division shall use federal funds allocated as management costs or other funds as appropriated to implement this subsection.

Section 14. Section 252.3713, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.3713 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.—

(1) The division shall administer the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program as authorized and described in s. 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended by Pub. L. No. 103-181, Pub. L. No. 103-337, and Pub. L. No. 106-390.

(2) The division may retain no more than 25 percent of the total federal allocation of funds received for use within the state. A minimum of 75 percent of any funds received pursuant to a declared disaster must be distributed for use by the subrecipients in the counties specified in the Presidential Disaster Declaration for that disaster. However, a subrecipient may elect to share some or all of its allocation with the division to be used for projects benefiting the region in which the subrecipient is located.

(3) The division and subrecipients shall consider projects that fulfill the following purposes when adopting mitigation strategies and plans and applying for funds under the grant program:

(a) Reducing shelter space deficits through retrofitting of existing shelters and hardening of public buildings that are not schools. Reducing deficits in shelter space intended to accommodate individuals with special needs must be prioritized before addressing deficits in other types

of shelter space. Additionally, general population shelters which are retrofitted must also account for federal accessibility standards and state accessibility standards in part II of chapter 553.

(b) *Mitigating impacts to public infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and stormwater, water, and sewer systems, to enhance resistance to natural hazards and prevent and reduce losses.*

(c) *Mitigating impacts to school facilities which will reduce future disaster losses and make the facilities more resistant to natural hazards.*

(d) *Retrofitting of regional and local emergency management or operations centers.*

(e) *Other projects that the division may define by rule.*

(4) *The division may coordinate with other state agencies and political subdivisions to develop and implement innovative approaches to funding mitigation projects using grants under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, including, but not limited to, combining funding received from multiple federal and state programs. The division, in cooperation with other state agencies that administer federal grant programs, shall ensure that:*

(a) *Projects funded through multiple programs comply with all applicable federal and state requirements of the respective programs under which funding was received.*

(b) *Funding is used for projects in the geographic areas specified in the grant of funding.*

(5) *A fiscally constrained county may request that the division administer the grant for such county. A fiscally constrained county may request additional assistance from the division in preparing applications for grants and developing a structure for implementing, monitoring the execution of, and closing out projects.*

(6) *The division shall adopt rules to implement this section.*

Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 252.373, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.373 Allocation of funds; rules.—

(2) The division shall allocate funds from the Emergency Management, Preparedness, and Assistance Trust Fund to local emergency management agencies and programs pursuant to criteria specified in rule. Such rules shall include, but are not limited to:

(a) Requiring that, at a minimum, a local emergency management agency either:

1. Have a program director who works at least 40 hours a week in that capacity; or

2. If the county has fewer than 75,000 population or is party to an interjurisdictional emergency management agreement entered into pursuant to s. 252.38(3)(c) ~~s. 252.38(2)(b)~~, that is recognized by the Governor by executive order or rule, have an emergency management coordinator who works at least 20 hours a week in that capacity.

Section 16. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3) of section 252.38, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (b) and (c), respectively, a new paragraph (a) is added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of subsection (1) is amended, to read:

252.38 Emergency management powers of political subdivisions.—Safeguarding the life and property of its citizens is an innate responsibility of the governing body of each political subdivision of the state.

(1) COUNTIES.—

(a) In order to provide effective and orderly governmental control and coordination of emergency operations in emergencies within the scope of ss. 252.31-252.90, each county within this state shall be within the jurisdiction of, and served by, the division. Except as otherwise provided in ss. 252.31-252.90, each local emergency management agency shall have jurisdiction over and serve an entire county. Unless part of an interjurisdictional emergency management agreement en-

tered into pursuant to paragraph (3)(c) ~~(2)(b)~~ which is recognized by the Governor by executive order or rule, each county must establish and maintain such an emergency management agency and shall develop a county emergency management plan and program that is coordinated and consistent with the state comprehensive emergency management plan and program. Counties that are part of an interjurisdictional emergency management agreement entered into pursuant to paragraph (3)(c) ~~(2)(b)~~ which is recognized by the Governor by executive order or rule shall cooperatively develop an emergency management plan and program that is coordinated and consistent with the state comprehensive emergency management plan and program.

(3) EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT POWERS; POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.—

(a) *Each political subdivision shall notify the division on or before May 1 each year of the person designated as the emergency contact for the political subdivision and his or her alternate and of any changes in persons so designated thereafter. For a county, the emergency contact must be the county emergency management director.*

Section 17. Section 252.381, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.381 Information related to natural emergencies; poststorm county and municipal permitting; operations.—

(1) *Each county and municipality must post on its publicly accessible website:*

(a) *A frequently asked questions web page related to natural emergency response, emergency preparedness, and public relief for residents following an emergency. The web page must answer questions concerning resident evacuations; safety tips; generator, food and drinking water, and wastewater and stormwater safety; damage assessment; debris cleanup; accessing assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and this state; building recovery; natural emergency guidance; applicable laws; and what to do before, during, and after an emergency.*

(b) *A disaster supply list and a list of emergency shelters.*

(c) *Links to information about flood zones.*

(d) *A checklist for residents explaining next steps to take during postdisaster recovery.*

(e) *Information specific to persons with disabilities, including, but not limited to, guidelines for special needs shelter registration; an explanation of how to register for special needs shelters and where to obtain assistance with that process; guidelines as to the level of care that is or is not provided at a special needs shelter as well as situations when either a general population shelter or hospital should be considered; and any other postdisaster assistance or resources available to affected persons with disabilities impacted by a disaster.*

(2)(a) *Each county and municipality shall develop a poststorm permitting plan to expedite recovery and rebuilding by providing for special building permit and inspection procedures after a hurricane or tropical storm. The plan must, at a minimum:*

1. *Ensure sufficient personnel are prepared and available to expeditiously manage postdisaster building inspection, permitting, and enforcement tasks. The plan must anticipate conditions that would necessitate supplemental personnel for such tasks and address methods for fulfilling such personnel needs, including through mutual aid agreements as authorized in s. 252.40, other arrangements, such as those with private sector contractors, or supplemental state or federal funding. The plan must include training requirements and protocols for supplemental personnel to ensure compliance with local floodplain management requirements that apply within the county or municipality.*

2. *Account for multiple or alternate locations where building permit services may be offered in person to the public following a hurricane or tropical storm during regular business hours.*

3. *Specify a protocol to expedite permitting procedures and, if practicable, for the waiver or reduction of applicable fees in accordance with and in addition to the procedures and waivers provided for under s.*

553.7922. The plan must identify the types of permits that are frequently requested following a hurricane or tropical storm and methods to expedite the processing of such permits.

4. Specify procedures and resources necessary to promote expeditious debris removal following a hurricane or tropical storm.

(b) Each county and municipality shall update the plan no later than May 1 annually.

(3)(a) By May 1 annually, each county and municipality shall publish on its website a hurricane and tropical storm recovery permitting guide for residential and commercial property owners. The guide must describe:

1. The types of poststorm repairs that require a permit and applicable fees.

2. The types of poststorm repairs that do not require a permit.

3. The poststorm permit application process and specific modifications the county or municipality commonly makes to expedite the process, including the physical locations where permitting services will be offered.

4. Local requirements for rebuilding specific to the county or municipality, including elevation requirements following substantial damage and substantial improvement pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and any local amendments to the building code.

(b) As soon as practicable following a hurricane or tropical storm, a county or municipality within the area for which a state of emergency pursuant to s. 252.36 for such hurricane or tropical storm is declared shall publish updates on its website to the information required under paragraph (a) which are specific to such storm, including any permitting fee waivers or reductions.

(4) For 180 days after a state of emergency is declared pursuant to s. 252.36 for a hurricane or tropical storm, a county or municipality within the area for which the state of emergency is declared may not increase building permit or inspection fees.

(5) On or before May 1, 2026, each county and municipality must provide an online option for receiving, reviewing, and accessing substantial damage and substantial improvement letters. The county or municipality must allow homeowners to provide an e-mail address where they can receive digital copies of such letters.

(6) As soon as reasonably practicable following the landfall and passage of a hurricane or tropical storm, each county and municipality that has experienced a direct impact from a natural emergency must use its best efforts to open a permitting office at which residents can access government services for at least 40 hours per week.

Section 18. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 252.385, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

252.385 Public shelter space; public records exemption.—

(2)(a) The division shall administer a program to survey existing schools, universities, community colleges, and other state-owned, municipally owned, and county-owned public buildings and any private facility that the owner, in writing, agrees to provide for use as a public hurricane evacuation shelter to identify those that are appropriately designed and located to serve as such shelters. The owners of the facilities must be given the opportunity to participate in the surveys. The state university boards of trustees, district school boards, community college boards of trustees, and the Department of Education are responsible for coordinating and implementing the survey of public schools, universities, and community colleges with the division or the local emergency management agency.

(b) ~~By January 31 of each even numbered year, the division shall prepare and submit a statewide emergency shelter plan to the Governor and Cabinet for approval, subject to the requirements for approval in s. 1013.37(2). The emergency shelter plan must project, for each of the next 5 years, the hurricane shelter needs of the state, including periods of time during which a concurrent public health emergency may necessitate more space for each individual to accommodate physical dis-~~

~~tancing. In addition to information on the general shelter needs throughout this state, the plan must identify the general location and square footage of special needs shelters, by regional planning council region. The plan must also include information on the availability of shelters that accept pets. The Department of Health shall assist the division in determining the estimated need for special needs shelter space and the adequacy of facilities to meet the needs of persons with special needs based on information from the registries of persons with special needs and other information.~~

(3)(a) The division shall annually provide by October 15 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report that includes, ~~and the Governor~~ a list of facilities recommended to be retrofitted using state funds. State funds should be maximized and targeted to projects in counties ~~regional planning council regions~~ with hurricane evacuation shelter deficits. Additionally, the division shall prioritize on the list of recommended facilities other state-owned, municipal-owned, and county-owned public buildings, other than schools, for retrofitting using state funds. The owner or lessee of a public hurricane evacuation shelter that is included on the list of facilities recommended for retrofitting is not required to perform any recommended improvements.

(b) The report required in paragraph (a) must include a statewide emergency shelter plan that must project, for each of the next 5 years, the hurricane shelter needs of the state. In addition to information on the general shelter needs throughout this state, the plan must identify, by county, the general location and square footage of special needs shelters. The plan must also include information on the availability of shelters that accept pets. The Department of Health and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities shall assist the division in determining the estimated need for special needs shelter space, the estimated need for general shelter space to accommodate persons with developmental disabilities, including, but not limited to, autism, and the adequacy of facilities to meet the needs of persons with special needs based on information from the registries of persons with special needs and other information.

Section 19. Section 252.421, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.421 Management of roadway debris related to natural emergencies.—The division shall coordinate with fiscally constrained counties, as described in s. 218.67(1), included in a declared state of emergency for a category 3 or higher hurricane and the Department of Transportation to provide such counties with state resources to remove debris from roadways, including roadways that are publicly accessible but not maintained by the county.

Section 20. Section 252.422, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.422 Restrictions on county or municipal regulations after a hurricane.—

(1) As used in this section, the term “impacted local government” means a county listed in a federal disaster declaration located entirely or partially within 100 miles of the track of a storm declared to be a hurricane by the National Hurricane Center while the storm was categorized as a hurricane or a municipality located within such a county.

(2) For 1 year after a hurricane makes landfall, an impacted local government may not propose or adopt:

(a) A moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of any property.

(b) A more restrictive or burdensome amendment to its comprehensive plan or land development regulations.

(c) A more restrictive or burdensome procedure concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan, development permit, or development order, to the extent that those terms are defined in s. 163.3164.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), a comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation amendment, site plan, development permit, or development order approved or adopted by an impacted local government before or after the effective date of this act may be enforced if:

(a) *The associated application is initiated by a private party other than the impacted local government and the property that is the subject of the application is owned by the initiating private party;*

(b) *The proposed comprehensive plan amendment was submitted to reviewing agencies pursuant to s. 163.3184 before landfall; or*

(c) *The proposed comprehensive plan amendment or land development regulation is approved by the state land planning agency pursuant to s. 380.05.*

(4)(a) *Any person may file suit against any impacted local government for declaratory and injunctive relief to enforce this section.*

(b) *A county or municipality may request a determination by a court of competent jurisdiction as to whether such action violates this section. Upon such a request, the county or municipality may not enforce the action until the court has issued a preliminary or final judgment determining whether the action violates this section.*

(c) *Before a plaintiff may file suit, the plaintiff shall notify the impacted local government by setting forth the facts upon which the complaint or petition is based and the reasons the impacted local government's action violates this section. Upon receipt of the notice, the impacted local government shall have 14 days to withdraw or revoke the action at issue or otherwise declare it void. If the impacted local government does not withdraw or revoke the action at issue within the time prescribed, the plaintiff may file suit. The plaintiff shall be entitled to entry of a preliminary injunction to prevent the impacted local government from implementing the challenged action during pendency of the litigation. In any action instituted pursuant to this paragraph, the prevailing plaintiff shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs.*

(d) *In any case brought under this section, any party is entitled to the summary procedure provided in s. 51.011, and the court shall advance the cause on the calendar.*

Section 21. Section 252.505, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.505 Breach of contract during emergency recovery periods for natural emergencies.—Each state or local government contract for goods or services related to emergency response for a natural emergency entered into, renewed, or amended on or after July 1, 2025, must include a provision that requires a vendor or service provider that breaches such contract during an emergency recovery period to pay a \$5,000 penalty and damages, which may be either actual and consequential damages or liquidated damages. As used in this section, the term “emergency recovery period” means a 1-year period that begins on the date that the Governor initially declared a state of emergency for a natural emergency.

Section 22. Subsection (4) is added to section 373.423, Florida Statutes, to read:

373.423 Inspection.—

(4)(a) *By September 1, 2026, the department shall submit a Flood Inventory and Restoration Report to the Division of Emergency Management. The department must work with water management districts, local governments, and operators of public and private stormwater management systems to compile the necessary information for the report, which must:*

1. *Identify priority infrastructure needs within each water management district jurisdiction that may result in flooding or property damage or threaten human health if left unaddressed;*

2. *Identify locations that have both historic flooding occurrences, based on flood zones identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the potential to flood from future significant storm events, such as hurricanes and tropical storms;*

3. *For each location identified in subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2., include an inspection and maintenance schedule and specific information on the age of the infrastructure, upstream impacts, and other factors that may lead to system failure if unaddressed; and*

4. *Include a list of facilities prioritized for funding to address flooding issues.*

(b) *The owner of any priority infrastructure identified in the report must submit an inspection and maintenance schedule to the department.*

(c) *The department must review and update the report on a biannual basis. The report must provide information regarding compliance with the inspection and maintenance schedules, include any additional revisions based on storm event experience, and revise the list of facilities as new flooding events take place and new projects are implemented to alleviate infrastructure deficiencies which led to flooding events. The department must submit an updated report to the Division of Emergency Management by September 1 of each year in which the report is due.*

Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 400.063, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.063 Resident protection.—

(1) *The Health Care Trust Fund shall be used for the purpose of collecting and disbursing funds generated from the license fees and administrative fines as provided for in ss. 393.0673(5), 400.062(3), 400.121(2), and 400.23(8). Such funds shall be for the sole purpose of paying for the appropriate alternate placement, care, and treatment of residents who are removed from a facility licensed under this part or a facility specified in s. 393.0678(1) in which the agency determines that existing conditions or practices constitute an immediate danger to the health, safety, or security of the residents. If the agency determines that it is in the best interest of the health, safety, or security of the residents to provide for an orderly removal of the residents from the facility, the agency may utilize such funds to maintain and care for the residents in the facility pending removal and alternative placement. The maintenance and care of the residents shall be under the direction and control of a receiver appointed pursuant to s. 393.0678(1) or s. 400.126(1). However, funds may be expended in an emergency upon a filing of a petition for a receiver, upon the declaration of a state of local emergency pursuant to s. 252.38(3)(b)5. ~~s. 252.38(3)(a)5,~~ or upon a duly authorized local order of evacuation of a facility by emergency personnel to protect the health and safety of the residents.*

Section 24. Subsection (7) of section 403.7071, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

403.7071 Management of storm-generated debris.—Solid waste generated as a result of a storm event that is the subject of an emergency order issued by the department may be managed as follows:

(7) *Unless otherwise specified in a contract or franchise agreement between a local government and a private solid waste or debris management service provider, a private solid waste or debris management service provider is not required to collect storm-generated yard trash, debris, or waste. Local governments are authorized and encouraged to add an addendum to existing contracts or franchise agreements for collection of storm-generated debris.*

(8)(a) *Each county and municipality shall apply to the department for authorization of at least one debris management site as described in subsection (2) and shall annually seek preauthorization for any previously approved debris management sites, as allowed by the department.*

(b) *A municipality may jointly apply for authorization of a debris management site with a county or at least one adjacent municipality, if the parties develop and approve a memorandum of understanding. Such memorandum must clearly outline the capacity of the debris management site and location of the site relative to each party. The memorandum of understanding must be approved annually as part of the preauthorization process described in paragraph (a).*

Section 25. Section 489.1132, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

489.1132 Regulation of hoisting equipment used in construction, demolition, or excavation work during a hurricane.—

(1) *As used in this section, the term:*

(a) *“Controlling entity” means the general contractor, prime contractor, or construction manager with overall responsibility for a construction project.*

(b) “Hoisting equipment” means power-operated cranes, derricks, and hoists used in construction, demolition, or excavation work that are regulated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

(c) “Mobile crane” means a type of hoisting equipment incorporating a cable-suspended latticed boom or hydraulic telescoping boom designed to be moved between operating locations by transport over a roadway. The term does not include a mobile crane with a boom length of less than 25 feet or a maximum rated load capacity of less than 15,000 pounds.

(d) “Tower crane” means a type of hoisting equipment using a vertical mast or tower to support a working boom in an elevated position if the working boom can rotate to move loads laterally either by rotating at the top of the mast or tower or by the rotation of the mast or tower itself, whether the mast or tower base is fixed in one location or ballasted and moveable between locations.

(2)(a) When a tower crane or mobile crane is located on a worksite, a hurricane preparedness plan for the crane must be available for inspection at the worksite.

(b) In preparation for a hurricane, the controlling entity must ensure that hoisting equipment is secured in the following manner no later than 24 hours before the impacts of the hurricane are anticipated to begin:

1. All hoisting equipment must be secured in compliance with manufacturer recommendations relating to hurricane and high-wind events, including any recommendations relating to the placement, use, and removal of advertising banners and rigging.

2. Tower crane turntables must be lubricated before the event.

3. Fixed booms on mobile cranes must be laid down whenever feasible.

4. Booms on hydraulic cranes must be retracted and stored.

5. The counterweights of any hoists must be locked below the top tie-in.

6. Tower cranes must be set in the weathervane position.

7. All rigging must be removed from hoist blocks.

8. All power at the base of tower cranes must be disconnected.

(3) A person licensed under this part who intentionally violates this section is subject to discipline under ss. 455.227 and 489.129.

(4) The Florida Building Commission shall establish best practices for the utilization of tower cranes and hoisting equipment on construction job sites during hurricane season and report its findings to the Legislature by December 31, 2026.

Section 26. Subsection (6) of section 553.902, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

553.902 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(6) “Renovated building” means a residential or nonresidential building undergoing alteration that varies or changes insulation, HVAC systems, water heating systems, or exterior envelope conditions, if the estimated cost of renovation exceeds 30 percent of the assessed value of the structure. However, if the alteration is a result of a natural disaster that is the subject of a declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor, the estimated cost of renovation must exceed 75 percent of the fair market value of the building before the natural disaster.

Section 27. The Division of Emergency Management shall consult with local governments, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, the Department of Environmental Protection, and any other appropriate agencies to develop recommendations for statutory changes necessary to streamline the permitting process for repairing and rebuilding structures damaged during natural emergencies. By July 1, 2026, the division shall provide a report containing such recommendations to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 28. (1) Each county listed in the Federal Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Debby (DR-4806), Hurricane Helene (DR-4828), or Hurricane Milton (DR-4834), and each municipality within one of those counties, may not propose or adopt any moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of any property damaged by such hurricanes; propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome amendments to its comprehensive plan or land development regulations; or propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome procedures concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan, development permit, or development order, to the extent that those terms are defined by s. 163.3164, Florida Statutes, before October 1, 2027, and any such moratorium or restrictive or burdensome comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure shall be null and void ab initio. This subsection applies retroactively to August 1, 2024.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), any comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation amendment, site plan, development permit, or development order approved or adopted by a county or municipality before or after the effective date of this act may be enforced if:

(a) The associated application is initiated by a private party other than the county or municipality.

(b) The property that is the subject of the application is owned by the initiating private party.

(3)(a) A resident of or the owner of a business in a county or municipality may bring a civil action for declaratory and injunctive relief against the county or municipality for a violation of this section. Pending adjudication of the action and upon filing of a complaint showing a violation of this section, the resident or business owner is entitled to a preliminary injunction against the county or municipality preventing implementation of the moratorium or the comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure. If such civil action is successful, the resident or business owner is entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs.

(b) Attorney fees and costs and damages may not be awarded pursuant to this subsection if:

1. The resident or business owner provides the governing body of the county or municipality written notice that a proposed or enacted moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure is in violation of this section; and

2. The governing body of the county or municipality withdraws the proposed moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure within 14 days; or, in the case of an adopted moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure, the governing body of a county or municipality notices an intent to repeal within 14 days after receipt of the notice and repeals the moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure within 14 days thereafter.

(4) This section expires June 30, 2028.

Section 29. The Division of Law Revision is directed to replace the phrase “the effective date of this act” wherever it occurs in this act with the date this act becomes a law.

Section 30. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert: A bill to be entitled An act relating to emergencies; amending s. 83.63, F.S.; requiring certain tenants to be given specified opportunities or notice; creating s. 163.31795, F.S.; defining the terms “cumulative substantial improvement period” and “local government”; prohibiting certain local governments from adopting ordinances for substantial improvements or repairs to a structure which include cumulative substantial improvement periods; amending s. 163.31801, F.S.; prohibiting certain entities from assessing impact fees for specified replacement structures; providing an exception; providing construction; amending s. 193.155, F.S.; providing that repair and maintenance of specified property is not a change, an addition, or an improvement under certain circumstances; revising the square footage limitations for certain changes, additions, and improvements to damaged property; providing construction;

amending s. 215.559, F.S.; removing a reference to a certain report; revising public hurricane shelter funding prioritization requirements for the Division of Emergency Management; amending s. 250.375, F.S.; authorizing certain servicemembers to provide medical care in specified circumstances; amending s. 252.35, F.S.; revising requirements for the state comprehensive emergency management plan; requiring such plan to include an update on the status of certain emergency management capabilities; requiring the division to collaborate with the Department of Health; revising responsibilities of the division; requiring the division to develop a certain template; revising the purpose of certain training programs; requiring the division to set the minimum number of training hours that specified individuals must complete biennially; authorizing such training to be provided by certain entities; requiring the division to conduct an annual hurricane readiness session in each region designated by the division for a specified purpose; requiring all county emergency management directors, and authorizing other county and municipal personnel, to attend such session; requiring that the session include specified topics and needs; removing a specified reporting requirement; amending s. 252.355, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to provide certain information to specified clients or their caregivers; requiring the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to enter into memoranda of understanding with specified agencies for a certain purpose; providing that specified persons may use special needs shelters in certain circumstances; amending s. 252.3611, F.S.; directing specified entities to submit specified contracts and reports to the Legislature under specified conditions; requiring such contracts to be posted on a specified secure contract system; requiring the division to report annually to the Legislature specified information on expenditures relating to emergencies; providing requirements for such report; amending s. 252.363, F.S.; providing for the tolling and extension of certain determinations; providing for retroactive application; amending s. 252.365, F.S.; requiring agency heads to notify the Governor and the division of the person designated as the emergency coordination officer annually by a specified date; amending s. 252.3655, F.S.; creating the natural hazards risks and mitigation interagency coordinating group; providing the purpose of the group; providing for the membership and administration of the group; requiring agency representatives to provide information relating to natural hazards to this state, agency resources, and efforts to address and mitigate risks and impacts of natural hazards; requiring the group to meet in person or by communications media technology at least quarterly for specified purposes; requiring specified agency heads to meet at least annually to strategize and prioritize state efforts; requiring the division, on behalf of the group, to prepare an annual progress report and submit such report to the Governor and Legislature; revising requirements for such report; amending s. 252.37, F.S.; requiring the division to notify the Legislature of its intent to accept or apply for federal funds under certain circumstances; requiring the division to take steps to maximize the availability and expedite the distribution of financial assistance from the Federal Government to state and local agencies; requiring that such steps include the standardization and streamlining of the application process for federal financial assistance and the provision of assistance to applicants for a specified purpose; requiring the division to use certain federal funds to implement such requirements; creating s. 252.3713, F.S.; requiring the division to administer the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program; authorizing the division to retain a specified percentage of the funds for use within this state; requiring the remaining percentage to be distributed for use by certain recipients; authorizing subrecipients to make a certain election for a specified use; requiring the consideration of certain projects; authorizing the division to coordinate with specified entities under certain circumstances; requiring the division to ensure that certain requirements are met and certain projects are funded; authorizing fiscally constrained counties to request that the division administer their grants; authorizing such counties to request certain assistance from the division; requiring the division to adopt rules; amending s. 252.373, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 252.38, F.S.; requiring political subdivisions to annually provide specified notification to the division before a specified date; creating s. 252.381, F.S.; requiring counties and municipalities to post certain information on their websites; requiring counties and municipalities to develop a poststorm permitting plan; providing requirements for such plan; requiring counties and municipalities to update such plan by a specified date annually; requiring counties and municipalities to publish on their websites a specified storm recovery guide by a specified date annually; providing requirements for such guide; requiring certain counties and municipalities to publish on their websites updates to such guide as soon as practicable following a storm; prohibiting certain

counties and municipalities from increasing building permit or inspection fees within a specified timeframe; requiring counties and municipalities to allow individuals to receive certain letters electronically on or before a specified date; requiring certain counties and municipalities to use their best efforts to open a permitting office for a minimum number of hours per week; amending s. 252.385, F.S.; revising reporting requirements for the division; revising requirements for a specified list; requiring the Department of Health and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to assist the division with certain determinations; creating s. 252.421, F.S.; requiring the division to coordinate with certain counties for a specified purpose; creating s. 252.422, F.S.; defining the term "impacted local government"; prohibiting impacted local governments from proposing or adopting certain moratoriums, amendments, or procedures for a specified timeframe; authorizing the enforcement of certain amendments, plans, permits, and orders under certain circumstances; authorizing any person to file suit to enforce specified provisions; authorizing counties and municipalities to request a specified determination by a court; prohibiting counties and municipalities from taking certain actions until the court has issued a preliminary or final judgment; requiring plaintiffs to provide certain notification before filing suit; requiring impacted local governments to take certain actions upon receipt of such notification or a suit may be filed; providing for reasonable attorney fees and costs; authorizing the use of a certain summary procedure; requiring the court to advance the cause on the calendar; creating s. 252.505, F.S.; requiring certain contracts to include a specified provision; defining the term "emergency recovery period"; amending s. 373.423, F.S.; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to submit a Flood Inventory and Restoration Report to the division by a specified date; requiring the department to work with specified entities to compile information for the report; providing specifications for the report; requiring the owner of certain infrastructure to submit certain information to the department; requiring the department to review and update the report biannually; requiring the department to submit an updated report to the division by a specified date; amending s. 400.063, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 403.7071, F.S.; providing that local governments are authorized and encouraged to add certain addendums to certain contracts and agreements; requiring counties and municipalities to apply to the department for authorization to designate at least one debris management site; authorizing municipalities to apply jointly with a county or adjacent municipality for authorization of a debris management site if such entities approve a memorandum of understanding; providing requirements for such memorandum; creating s. 489.1132, F.S.; providing definitions; requiring a hurricane preparedness plan to be available for inspection at certain worksites; requiring certain equipment to be secured in a specified manner no later than 24 hours before the impacts of a hurricane are anticipated to begin; providing penalties; requiring the Florida Building Commission to establish specified best practices and report findings to the Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 553.902, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "renovated building"; requiring the division to consult with specified entities to develop certain recommendations and provide a report to the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting certain counties from proposing or adopting certain moratoriums, amendments, or procedures for a specified timeframe; declaring that such moratoriums, amendments, or procedures are null and void; providing for retroactive application; authorizing the enforcement of certain amendments, plans, permits, and orders under certain circumstances; authorizing certain residents and business owners to bring a civil action for declaratory and injunctive relief against a county or municipality that violates specified provisions; providing for reasonable attorney fees and costs under specified circumstances; providing for future expiration; providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision; providing an effective date.

Senator DiCeglie moved the following amendment to **House Amendment 1 (392939)** which was adopted:

Senate Amendment 1 (461112) (with title amendment) to House Amendment 1 (392939)—Delete lines 59-1182 and insert:

Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 193.155, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

193.155 Homestead assessments.—Homestead property shall be assessed at just value as of January 1, 1994. Property receiving the homestead exemption after January 1, 1994, shall be assessed at just value as of January 1 of the year in which the property receives the exemption unless the provisions of subsection (8) apply.

(4)

(b)1. Changes, additions, or improvements that replace all or a portion of homestead property, including ancillary improvements, damaged or destroyed by misfortune or calamity shall be assessed upon substantial completion as provided in this paragraph. Such assessment must be calculated using the homestead property's assessed value as of the January 1 immediately before the date on which the damage or destruction was sustained, subject to the assessment limitations in subsections (1) and (2), when:

a. The square footage of the homestead property as changed or improved does not exceed 130 ~~110~~ percent of the square footage of the homestead property before the damage or destruction; or

b. The total square footage of the homestead property as changed or improved does not exceed 2,000 ~~1,500~~ square feet.

2. The homestead property's assessed value must be increased by the just value of that portion of the changed or improved homestead property which is in excess of 130 ~~110~~ percent of the square footage of the homestead property before the damage or destruction or of that portion exceeding 2,000 ~~1,500~~ square feet.

3. Homestead property damaged or destroyed by misfortune or calamity which, after being changed or improved, has a square footage of less than 100 percent of the homestead property's total square footage before the damage or destruction shall be assessed pursuant to subsection (5).

4. Changes, additions, or improvements assessed pursuant to this paragraph must be reassessed pursuant to subsection (1) in subsequent years. This paragraph applies to changes, additions, or improvements commenced within 5 years after the January 1 following the damage or destruction of the homestead.

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 215.559, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.559 Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program.—A Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program is established in the Division of Emergency Management.

(1) The Legislature shall annually appropriate \$10 million of the moneys authorized for appropriation under s. 215.555(7)(c) from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to the division for the purposes set forth in this section. Of the amount:

(b) Three million dollars in funds shall be used to construct or retrofit facilities used as public hurricane shelters. Each year the division shall prioritize the use of these funds for projects included in the annual report of the ~~Shelter Development Report~~ prepared in accordance with s. 252.385(3). The division ~~shall~~ ~~must~~ give funding priority to projects located in counties ~~regional planning council regions~~ that have shelter deficits, ~~projects that are publicly owned, other than schools, and to~~ projects that maximize the use of state funds.

Section 6. Section 250.375, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

250.375 Medical officer authorization.—~~A servicemember trained to provide medical care who is serving under the direction of the Florida National Guard State Surgeon and is assigned to a military duty position and authorized by the Florida National Guard to provide medical care within the scope of the servicemember's professional licensure by virtue of such duty position may provide such medical care to military personnel and civilians within this state~~ ~~physician who holds an active license to practice medicine in any state, a United States territory, or the District of Columbia, while serving as a medical officer with or in support of the Florida National Guard, pursuant to federal or state orders, may practice medicine on military personnel or civilians during an emergency or declared disaster or during federal military training.~~

Section 7. Paragraphs (y) through (dd) of subsection (2) of section 252.35, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (x) through (cc), respectively, paragraphs (a), (c), and (n) and present paragraph (x) of that subsection are amended, and a new paragraph (dd) is added to that subsection, to read:

252.35 Emergency management powers; Division of Emergency Management.—

(2) The division is responsible for carrying out the provisions of ss. 252.31-252.90. In performing its duties, the division shall:

(a) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management plan, which ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ be integrated into and coordinated with the emergency management plans and programs of the Federal Government. The division shall adopt the plan as a rule in accordance with chapter 120. The plan must be implemented by a continuous, integrated comprehensive emergency management program. The plan must contain provisions to ensure that the state is prepared for emergencies and minor, major, and catastrophic disasters, and the division shall work closely with local governments and agencies and organizations with emergency management responsibilities in preparing and maintaining the plan. The state comprehensive emergency management plan must be operations oriented and:

1. Include an evacuation component that includes specific regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes intergovernmental coordination of evacuation activities. This component must, at a minimum: contain guidelines for lifting tolls on state highways; ensure coordination pertaining to evacuees crossing county lines; set forth procedures for directing people caught on evacuation routes to safe shelter; establish strategies for ensuring sufficient, reasonably priced fueling locations along evacuation routes; and establish policies and strategies for emergency medical evacuations.

2. Include a shelter component that includes specific regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes coordination of shelter activities between the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. This component must, at a minimum: contain strategies to ensure the availability of adequate public shelter space in each ~~county~~ ~~region of the state~~; establish strategies for refuge-of-last-resort programs; provide strategies to assist local emergency management efforts to ensure that adequate staffing plans exist for all shelters, including medical and security personnel; provide for a postdisaster communications system for public shelters; establish model shelter guidelines for operations, registration, inventory, power generation capability, information management, and staffing; and set forth policy guidance for sheltering people with special needs.

3. Include a postdisaster response and recovery component that includes specific regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes intergovernmental coordination of postdisaster response and recovery activities. This component must provide for postdisaster response and recovery strategies according to whether a disaster is minor, major, or catastrophic. The postdisaster response and recovery component must, at a minimum: establish the structure of the state's postdisaster response and recovery organization; establish procedures for activating the state's plan; set forth policies used to guide postdisaster response and recovery activities; describe the chain of command during the postdisaster response and recovery period; describe initial and continuous postdisaster response and recovery actions; identify the roles and responsibilities of each involved agency and organization; provide for a comprehensive communications plan; establish procedures for coordinating and monitoring statewide mutual aid agreements ~~reimbursable under federal public disaster assistance programs~~; provide for rapid impact assessment teams; ensure the availability of an effective statewide urban search and rescue program coordinated with the fire services; ensure the existence of a comprehensive statewide medical care and relief plan administered by the Department of Health; and establish systems for coordinating volunteers and accepting and distributing donated funds and goods.

4. Include additional provisions addressing aspects of preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation as determined necessary by the division.

5. Address the need for coordinated and expeditious deployment of state resources, including the Florida National Guard. In the case of an imminent major disaster, procedures should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard, and, in the case of an imminent catastrophic disaster, procedures should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard and the United States Armed Forces.

6. Establish a system of communications and warning to ensure that the state's population and emergency management agencies are warned of developing emergency situations, including public health emergencies, and can communicate emergency response decisions.

7. Establish guidelines and schedules for annual exercises that evaluate the ability of the state and its political subdivisions to respond to minor, major, and catastrophic disasters and support local emergency management agencies. Such exercises shall be coordinated with local governments and, to the extent possible, the Federal Government.

8. Assign lead and support responsibilities to state agencies and personnel for emergency support functions and other support activities.

9. Include the public health emergency plan developed by the Department of Health pursuant to s. 381.00315.

10. *Include an update on the status of the emergency management capabilities of the state and its political subdivisions. The update must include the emergency management capabilities related to public health emergencies, as determined in collaboration with the Department of Health.*

The complete state comprehensive emergency management plan must be submitted to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor on February 1 of every even-numbered year.

(c) Assist political subdivisions in preparing and maintaining emergency management plans. *Such assistance must include the development of a template for comprehensive emergency management plans, including plans for natural disasters, and guidance on the development of mutual aid agreements.*

(n) Implement training programs to *maintain this state's status as a national leader in emergency management* and improve the ability of state and local emergency management personnel to prepare and implement emergency management plans and programs. *This must shall include a continuous training program for agencies and individuals who that will be called on to perform key roles in state and local postdisaster response and recovery efforts and for local government personnel on federal and state postdisaster response and recovery strategies and procedures. The division shall specify requirements for the minimum number of training hours that county or municipal administrators, county or city managers, county or municipal emergency management directors, and county or municipal public works directors or other officials responsible for the construction and maintenance of public infrastructure must complete biennially in addition to the training required pursuant to s. 252.38(1)(b). Such training may be provided by the division or, for county personnel, by a foundation that is a not-for-profit corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and has a governing board that includes in its membership county commissioners and professional county staff. If training is provided by a foundation, such training must be approved by the division.*

~~(x) Report biennially to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the Governor, no later than February 1 of every odd-numbered year, the status of the emergency management capabilities of the state and its political subdivisions. This report must include the emergency management capabilities related to public health emergencies, as determined in collaboration with the Department of Health.~~

(dd) Conduct, by April 1 of each year, an annual hurricane readiness session in each region designated by the division to facilitate coordination between all emergency management stakeholders. Each county emergency management director or his or her designee shall, and other county and municipal personnel may, attend the session for his or her region. A session must include, but is not limited to, guidance on time-lines for preparation and response, information on state and federal postdisaster resources and assistance, guidance to promote efficient and expedited rebuilding of the community after a hurricane, best practices for coordination and communication among entities engaged in post-disaster response and recovery, and discussion of any outstanding county or municipal preparedness or readiness needs.

Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 252.355, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (5), paragraph (b) of subsection (2) is amended, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

252.355 Registry of persons with special needs; notice; registration program.—

(2) In order to ensure that all persons with special needs may register, the division shall develop and maintain a special needs shelter registration program. During a public health emergency in which physical distancing is necessary, as determined by the State Health Officer, the division must maintain information on special needs shelter options that mitigate the threat of the spread of infectious diseases.

(b) To assist in identifying persons with special needs, home health agencies, hospices, nurse registries, home medical equipment providers, *the Department of Veterans' Affairs*, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Education, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Elderly Affairs, and memory disorder clinics shall, and any physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 and any pharmacy licensed under chapter 465 may, annually provide registration information to all of their special needs clients or their caregivers. *The Florida Housing Finance Corporation shall enter into memoranda of understanding with the Department of Elderly Affairs and with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to ensure special needs registration information is provided to residents of low-income senior independent living properties and independent living properties for persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities funded by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, respectively.* The division shall develop a brochure that provides information regarding special needs shelter registration procedures. The brochure must be easily accessible on the division's website. All appropriate agencies and community-based service providers, including aging and disability resource centers, memory disorder clinics, home health care providers, hospices, nurse registries, and home medical equipment providers, shall, and any physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 may, assist emergency management agencies by annually registering persons with special needs for special needs shelters, collecting registration information for persons with special needs as part of the program intake process, and establishing programs to educate clients about the registration process and disaster preparedness safety procedures. A client of a state-funded or federally funded service program who has a physical, mental, or cognitive impairment or sensory disability and who needs assistance in evacuating, or when in a shelter, must register as a person with special needs. The registration program shall give persons with special needs the option of preauthorizing emergency response personnel to enter their homes during search and rescue operations if necessary to ensure their safety and welfare following disasters.

(4) *The caregiver of a person with special needs who is eligible for admission to a special needs shelter, and all persons for whom he or she is the caregiver, shall be allowed to shelter together in the special needs shelter. If a person with special needs is responsible for the care of persons without special needs, those persons shall be allowed to use the special needs shelter with the person with special needs.*

Section 9. Effective January 1, 2026, subsection (2) of section 252.3611, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

252.3611 Transparency; audits.—

(2) ~~If~~ *When* the duration of a declaration of a state of ~~an~~ emergency issued by the Governor exceeds 90 days:

(a)1. *The Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency, within 72 hours after of executing a contract executed with moneys authorized for expenditure to support the response to the declared state of emergency, must the Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency shall submit a copy of such contract to the Legislature. For contracts executed during the first 90 days of the declared state of emergency, the Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency shall submit a copy to the Legislature within the first 120 days of the declared state of emergency.*

2. *All contracts executed to support the response to a declared state of emergency, including contracts executed before a declared state of*

emergency to secure resources or services in advance or anticipation of an emergency, must be posted on the secure contract tracking system required under s. 215.985(14).

(b) The Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency shall submit monthly reports to the Legislature of all state expenditures, revenues received, and funds transferred by an agency during the previous month to support the declared state of emergency.

(5) *Annually, by January 15, the division shall report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the appropriations committee of each house of the Legislature on expenditures related to emergencies incurred over the year from November 1 of the previous year. The report must include:*

(a) *A separate summary of each emergency event, whether complete or ongoing, and key actions taken by the division.*

(b) *Details of expenditures, separated by emergency event and agency, for preparing for, responding to, or recovering from the event. The report must specify detailed expenditures for the entire report time period; specify total expenditures for the event; and indicate amounts that are being or are anticipated to be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or other federal entity, amounts ineligible for reimbursement, and any amounts deobligated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or other federal entity for reimbursement. The division shall review expenditures by state agencies to ensure that efforts, purchases, contracts, or expenditures are not duplicated.*

(c) *An accounting of all inventory and assets purchased, separated by emergency event and agency, for preparing for, responding to, or recovering from the event, including motor vehicles, boats, computers, and other equipment, and the current status of such assets, including divestment, sale, or donation by the state. The report must include a detailed accounting for the entire report time period and specify a total for the event.*

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 252.363, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.363 Tolling and extension of permits and other authorizations.—

(1)(a) The declaration of a state of emergency issued by the Governor for a natural emergency tolls the period remaining to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization for the duration of the emergency declaration. Further, the emergency declaration extends the period remaining to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization for 24 months in addition to the tolled period. The extended period to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization may not exceed 48 months in total in the event of multiple natural emergencies for which the Governor declares a state of emergency. The tolling and extension of permits and other authorizations under this paragraph shall apply retroactively to September 28, 2022, *except in the case of the formal determination of the delineation of the extent of wetlands under s. 373.421, in which case tolling and extension of determinations under this paragraph shall apply retroactively to January 1, 2023.* This paragraph applies to the following:

1. The expiration of a development order issued by a local government.
2. The expiration of a building permit.
3. The expiration of a permit issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or a water management district pursuant to part IV of chapter 373.
4. Permits issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or a water management district pursuant to part II of chapter 373 for land subject to a development agreement under ss. 163.3220-163.3243 in which the permittee and the developer are the same or a related entity.

5. The buildout date of a development of regional impact, including any extension of a buildout date that was previously granted as specified in s. 380.06(7)(c).

6. The expiration of a development permit or development agreement authorized by Florida Statutes, including those authorized under the Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act, or issued by a local government or other governmental agency.

7. *The formal determination of the delineation of the extent of wetlands under s. 373.421.*

Section 11. Subsection (4) of section 252.365, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.365 Emergency coordination officers; disaster-preparedness plans.—

(4) *On or before May 1 of each year, the head of each agency shall notify the Governor and the division in writing of the person initially designated as the emergency coordination officer for such agency and her or his alternate and of any changes in persons so designated thereafter.*

Section 12. Section 252.3655, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.3655 Natural hazards risks and mitigation interagency coordinating group ~~workgroup~~.—

(1)(a) An interagency *coordinating group* ~~workgroup~~ is created for the purpose of sharing information on the current and potential risks and impacts of natural hazards throughout ~~this the~~ state, coordinating the ongoing efforts of state agencies in addressing and mitigating the risks and impacts of natural hazards, and collaborating on statewide initiatives to address and mitigate the risks and impacts of natural hazards. As used in this section, the term “natural hazards” includes, but is not limited to, extreme heat, drought, wildfire, sea-level change, high tides, storm surge, saltwater intrusion, stormwater runoff, flash floods, inland flooding, and coastal flooding.

(b) *The agency head, or his or her designated senior manager, from each of the following agencies shall serve on the coordinating group:*

1. Chief Resilience Officer of the Statewide Office of Resilience.
2. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
3. Department of Commerce.
4. Department of Environmental Protection.
5. Department of Financial Services.
6. Department of Law Enforcement.
7. Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.
8. Department of Military Affairs.
9. Division of Emergency Management.
10. Department of Transportation.
11. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
12. Office of Insurance Regulation.
13. Public Service Commission.

14. ~~Each water management district. Each agency within the executive branch of state government, each water management district, and the Florida Public Service Commission shall select from within such agency a person to be designated as the agency liaison to the workgroup.~~

(c) The director of the Division of Emergency Management, or his or her designee, shall serve as the ~~administrator liaison to and coordinator~~ of the coordinating group ~~workgroup~~.

(d) Each agency representative ~~liaison~~ shall provide information from his or her respective agency, *including all relevant reports, on the current and potential risks and impacts of natural hazards to this state to his or her agency, agency resources available, and efforts made by the agency to address and mitigate the risks and impacts of against natural*

~~hazards, and efforts made by the agency to address the impacts of natural hazards.~~

(e)1. The coordinating group ~~workgroup~~ shall meet in person or by means of communications media technology as provided in s. 120.54(5)(b)2. ~~at least teleconference on a quarterly basis~~ to share information, leverage agency resources, coordinate ongoing efforts, and provide information for inclusion in the annual progress report submitted pursuant to subsection (2). ~~Agency heads for the agencies listed in paragraph (b) shall meet in person at least annually to collectively strategize and prioritize state efforts.~~

2. Information regarding the coordinating group, including meeting agendas and reports, must be posted in a conspicuous location on the division's website.

(2)(a) On behalf of the coordinating group ~~workgroup~~, the division of ~~Emergency Management~~ shall prepare an annual progress report on the implementation of the state's hazard mitigation plan, developed and submitted in accordance with 42 U.S.C. s. 5165 and any implementing regulations, as it relates to natural hazards. At a minimum, the annual progress report must:

1. Assess ~~each agency's the relevance, level, and significance of current agency~~ efforts to address and mitigate the risks and impacts of natural hazards; ~~and~~

2. Strategize and prioritize ongoing efforts to address ~~and mitigate the risks and~~ impacts of natural hazards;

3. Provide recommendations regarding statutory changes and funding that may assist in addressing or mitigating the risks and impacts of natural hazards; and

4. Provide recommendations for state and local natural hazard mitigation strategies.

(b) ~~Each liaison is responsible for ensuring that the workgroup's annual progress report is posted on his or her agency's website.~~

(c) By January 1 of each year, ~~2019, and each year thereafter~~, the division on behalf of the coordinating group ~~workgroup~~ shall submit the annual progress report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 13. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (5) of section 252.37, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (d) and (e), respectively, a new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

252.37 Financing.—

(5) Unless otherwise specified in the General Appropriations Act:

(c) If the division intends to accept or apply for federal funds for a division-administered program that is new, that will be implemented in a manner that is innovative or significantly different from the manner in which the program is typically administered, or that will require a state match for which the division will be required to seek new budget authority, the division must notify the Legislature of its intent to accept or apply for the federal funds. The notice must detail the federal program under which the funds will be accepted or applied for, the intended purpose and use of the funds, and the amount of funds, including the estimated state match.

(7) The division shall take steps to maximize the availability and expedite the distribution of financial assistance from the Federal Government to state and local agencies. Such steps must include the standardization and streamlining of the application process for financial assistance through the federal Public Assistance Program and provision of assistance to applicants in order to mitigate the risk of noncompliance with federal program requirements. The division shall use federal funds allocated as management costs or other funds as appropriated to implement this subsection.

Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 252.373, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.373 Allocation of funds; rules.—

(2) The division shall allocate funds from the Emergency Management, Preparedness, and Assistance Trust Fund to local emergency management agencies and programs pursuant to criteria specified in rule. Such rules shall include, but are not limited to:

(a) Requiring that, at a minimum, a local emergency management agency either:

1. Have a program director who works at least 40 hours a week in that capacity; or

2. If the county has fewer than 75,000 population or is party to an interjurisdictional emergency management agreement entered into pursuant to s. 252.38(3)(c) ~~or 252.38(3)(b)~~, that is recognized by the Governor by executive order or rule, have an emergency management coordinator who works at least 20 hours a week in that capacity.

Section 15. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3) of section 252.38, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (b) and (c), respectively, a new paragraph (a) is added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of subsection (1) is amended, to read:

252.38 Emergency management powers of political subdivisions.—Safeguarding the life and property of its citizens is an innate responsibility of the governing body of each political subdivision of the state.

(1) COUNTIES.—

(a) In order to provide effective and orderly governmental control and coordination of emergency operations in emergencies within the scope of ss. 252.31-252.90, each county within this state shall be within the jurisdiction of, and served by, the division. Except as otherwise provided in ss. 252.31-252.90, each local emergency management agency shall have jurisdiction over and serve an entire county. Unless part of an interjurisdictional emergency management agreement entered into pursuant to paragraph (3)(c) ~~(3)(b)~~ which is recognized by the Governor by executive order or rule, each county must establish and maintain such an emergency management agency and shall develop a county emergency management plan and program that is coordinated and consistent with the state comprehensive emergency management plan and program. Counties that are part of an interjurisdictional emergency management agreement entered into pursuant to paragraph (3)(c) ~~(3)(b)~~ which is recognized by the Governor by executive order or rule shall cooperatively develop an emergency management plan and program that is coordinated and consistent with the state comprehensive emergency management plan and program.

(3) EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT POWERS; POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.—

(a) Each political subdivision shall notify the division on or before May 1 each year of the person designated as the emergency contact for the political subdivision and his or her alternate and of any changes in persons so designated thereafter. For a county, the emergency contact must be the county emergency management director.

Section 16. Section 252.381, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.381 Information related to natural emergencies; poststorm county and municipal permitting; operations.—

(1) Each county and municipality must post on its publicly accessible website:

(a) A frequently asked questions web page related to natural emergency response, emergency preparedness, and public relief for residents following an emergency. The web page must answer questions concerning resident evacuations; safety tips; generator, food and drinking water, and wastewater and stormwater safety; damage assessment; debris cleanup; accessing assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and this state; building recovery; natural emergency guidance; applicable laws; and what to do before, during, and after an emergency.

(b) A disaster supply list and a list of emergency shelters.

(c) Links to information about flood zones.

(d) A checklist for residents explaining next steps to take during postdisaster recovery.

(e) Information specific to persons with disabilities, including, but not limited to, guidelines for special needs shelter registration; an explanation of how to register for special needs shelters and where to obtain assistance with that process; guidelines as to the level of care that is or is not provided at a special needs shelter as well as situations when either a general population shelter or hospital should be considered; and any other postdisaster assistance or resources available to affected persons with disabilities impacted by a disaster.

(2)(a) Each county and municipality shall develop a poststorm permitting plan to expedite recovery and rebuilding by providing for special building permit and inspection procedures after a hurricane or tropical storm. The plan must, at a minimum:

1. Ensure sufficient personnel are prepared and available to expeditiously manage postdisaster building inspection, permitting, and enforcement tasks. The plan must anticipate conditions that would necessitate supplemental personnel for such tasks and address methods for fulfilling such personnel needs, including through mutual aid agreements as authorized in s. 252.40, other arrangements, such as those with private sector contractors, or supplemental state or federal funding. The plan must include training requirements and protocols for supplemental personnel to ensure compliance with local floodplain management requirements that apply within the county or municipality.

2. Account for multiple or alternate locations where building permit services may be offered in person to the public following a hurricane or tropical storm during regular business hours.

3. Specify a protocol to expedite permitting procedures and, if practicable, for the waiver or reduction of applicable fees in accordance with and in addition to the procedures and waivers provided for under s. 553.7922. The plan must identify the types of permits that are frequently requested following a hurricane or tropical storm and methods to expedite the processing of such permits.

4. Specify procedures and resources necessary to promote expeditious debris removal following a hurricane or tropical storm.

(b) Each county and municipality shall update the plan no later than May 1 annually.

(3)(a) By May 1 annually, each county and municipality shall publish on its website a hurricane and tropical storm recovery permitting guide for residential and commercial property owners. The guide must describe:

1. The types of poststorm repairs that require a permit and applicable fees.

2. The types of poststorm repairs that do not require a permit.

3. The poststorm permit application process and specific modifications the county or municipality commonly makes to expedite the process, including the physical locations where permitting services will be offered.

4. Local requirements for rebuilding specific to the county or municipality, including elevation requirements following substantial damage and substantial improvement pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and any local amendments to the building code.

(b) As soon as practicable following a hurricane or tropical storm, a county or municipality within the area for which a state of emergency pursuant to s. 252.36 for such hurricane or tropical storm is declared shall publish updates on its website to the information required under paragraph (a) which are specific to such storm, including any permitting fee waivers or reductions.

(4) For 180 days after a state of emergency is declared pursuant to s. 252.36 for a hurricane or tropical storm, a county or municipality within the area for which the state of emergency is declared may not increase building permit or inspection fees.

(5) On or before May 1, 2026, each county and municipality must provide an online option for receiving, reviewing, and accessing sub-

stantial damage and substantial improvement letters. The county or municipality must allow homeowners to provide an e-mail address where they can receive digital copies of such letters.

(6) As soon as reasonably practicable following the landfall and passage of a hurricane or tropical storm, each county and municipality that has experienced a direct impact from a natural emergency must use its best efforts to open a permitting office at which residents can access government services for at least 40 hours per week.

Section 17. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 252.385, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

252.385 Public shelter space; public records exemption.—

(2)(a) The division shall administer a program to survey existing schools, universities, community colleges, and other state-owned, municipally owned, and county-owned public buildings and any private facility that the owner, in writing, agrees to provide for use as a public hurricane evacuation shelter to identify those that are appropriately designed and located to serve as such shelters. The owners of the facilities must be given the opportunity to participate in the surveys. The state university boards of trustees, district school boards, community college boards of trustees, and the Department of Education are responsible for coordinating and implementing the survey of public schools, universities, and community colleges with the division or the local emergency management agency.

~~(b) By January 31 of each even-numbered year, the division shall prepare and submit a statewide emergency shelter plan to the Governor and Cabinet for approval, subject to the requirements for approval in s. 1013.37(2). The emergency shelter plan must project, for each of the next 5 years, the hurricane shelter needs of the state, including periods of time during which a concurrent public health emergency may necessitate more space for each individual to accommodate physical distancing. In addition to information on the general shelter needs throughout this state, the plan must identify the general location and square footage of special needs shelters, by regional planning council region. The plan must also include information on the availability of shelters that accept pets. The Department of Health shall assist the division in determining the estimated need for special needs shelter space and the adequacy of facilities to meet the needs of persons with special needs based on information from the registries of persons with special needs and other information.~~

(3)(a) The division shall annually provide by October 15 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report that includes, ~~and the Governor~~ a list of facilities recommended to be retrofitted using state funds. State funds should be maximized and targeted to projects in counties ~~regional planning council regions~~ with hurricane evacuation shelter deficits. Additionally, the division shall prioritize on the list of recommended facilities other state-owned, municipal-owned, and county-owned public buildings, other than schools, for retrofitting using state funds. The owner or lessee of a public hurricane evacuation shelter that is included on the list of facilities recommended for retrofitting is not required to perform any recommended improvements.

(b) The report required in paragraph (a) must include a statewide emergency shelter plan that must project, for each of the next 5 years, the hurricane shelter needs of the state. In addition to information on the general shelter needs throughout this state, the plan must identify, by county, the general location and square footage of special needs shelters. The plan must also include information on the availability of shelters that accept pets. The Department of Health and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities shall assist the division in determining the estimated need for special needs shelter space, the estimated need for general shelter space to accommodate persons with developmental disabilities, including, but not limited to, autism, and the adequacy of facilities to meet the needs of persons with special needs based on information from the registries of persons with special needs and other information.

Section 18. Section 252.422, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.422 Restrictions on county or municipal regulations after a hurricane.—

(1) As used in this section, the term “impacted local government” means a county listed in a federal disaster declaration located entirely or partially within 100 miles of the track of a storm declared to be a hurricane by the National Hurricane Center while the storm was categorized as a hurricane or a municipality located within such a county.

(2) For 1 year after a hurricane makes landfall, an impacted local government may not propose or adopt:

(a) A moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of any property.

(b) A more restrictive or burdensome amendment to its comprehensive plan or land development regulations.

(c) A more restrictive or burdensome procedure concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan, development permit, or development order, to the extent that those terms are defined in s. 163.3164.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), a comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation amendment, site plan, development permit, or development order approved or adopted by an impacted local government before or after the effective date of this act may be enforced if:

(a) The associated application is initiated by a private party other than the impacted local government and the property that is the subject of the application is owned by the initiating private party;

(b) The proposed comprehensive plan amendment was submitted to reviewing agencies pursuant to s. 163.3184 before landfall; or

(c) The proposed comprehensive plan amendment or land development regulation is approved by the state land planning agency pursuant to s. 380.05.

(4)(a) Any person may file suit against any impacted local government for declaratory and injunctive relief to enforce this section.

(b) A county or municipality may request a determination by a court of competent jurisdiction as to whether such action violates this section. Upon such a request, the county or municipality may not enforce the action until the court has issued a preliminary or final judgment determining whether the action violates this section.

(c) Before a plaintiff may file suit, the plaintiff shall notify the impacted local government by setting forth the facts upon which the complaint or petition is based and the reasons the impacted local government’s action violates this section. Upon receipt of the notice, the impacted local government shall have 14 days to withdraw or revoke the action at issue or otherwise declare it void. If the impacted local government does not withdraw or revoke the action at issue within the time prescribed, the plaintiff may file suit. The plaintiff shall be entitled to entry of a preliminary injunction to prevent the impacted local government from implementing the challenged action during pendency of the litigation. In any action instituted pursuant to this paragraph, the prevailing plaintiff shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs.

(d) In any case brought under this section, all parties are entitled to the summary procedure provided in s. 51.011, and the court shall advance the cause on the calendar.

(5) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall conduct a study on actions taken by local governments after hurricanes which are related to comprehensive plans, land development regulations, and procedures for review, approval, or issuance of site plans, permits, or development orders. The study must focus on the impact that local governmental actions, including moratoriums, ordinances, and procedures, have had or may have on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of any property damaged by hurricanes. In its research, OPPAGA shall survey stakeholders that play integral parts in the rebuilding and recovery process. OPPAGA shall make recommendations for legislative options to remove impediments to the construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of any property damaged by a hurricane and prevent the implementation by local governments of burdensome or restrictive procedures and processes. OPPAGA shall submit the report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1, 2025.

Section 19. Effective January 1, 2026, section 252.505, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.505 *Breach of contract during emergency recovery periods for natural emergencies.*—Each state or local government contract for goods or services related to emergency response for a natural emergency entered into, renewed, or amended on or after July 1, 2025, must include a provision that requires a vendor or service provider that breaches such contract during an emergency recovery period to pay a \$5,000 penalty and damages, which may be either actual and consequential damages or liquidated damages. As used in this section, the term “emergency recovery period” means a 1-year period that begins on the date that the Governor initially declared a state of emergency for a natural emergency.

Section 20. Subsection (4) is added to section 373.423, Florida Statutes, to read:

373.423 Inspection.—

(4)(a) By September 1, 2026, the department shall submit a Flood Inventory and Restoration Report to the Division of Emergency Management. The department must work with water management districts, local governments, and operators of public and private stormwater management systems to compile the necessary information for the report, which must:

1. Identify priority infrastructure needs within each water management district jurisdiction that may result in flooding or property damage or threaten human health if left unaddressed;

2. Identify locations that have both historic flooding occurrences, based on flood zones identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the potential to flood from future significant storm events, such as hurricanes and tropical storms;

3. For each location identified in subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2., include an inspection and maintenance schedule and specific information on the age of the infrastructure, upstream impacts, and other factors that may lead to system failure if unaddressed; and

4. Include a list of facilities prioritized for funding to address flooding issues.

(b) The owner of any priority infrastructure identified in the report must submit an inspection and maintenance schedule to the department.

(c) The department must review and update the report on a biannual basis. The report must provide information regarding compliance with the inspection and maintenance schedules, include any additional revisions based on storm event experience, and revise the list of facilities as new flooding events take place and new projects are implemented to alleviate infrastructure deficiencies which led to flooding events. The department must submit an updated report to the Division of Emergency Management by September 1 of each year in which the report is due.

Section 21. Paragraph (a) of subsection (9) of section 380.0552, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

380.0552 Florida Keys Area; protection and designation as area of critical state concern.—

(9) MODIFICATION TO PLANS AND REGULATIONS.—

(a) Any land development regulation or element of a local comprehensive plan in the Florida Keys Area may be enacted, amended, or rescinded by a local government, but the enactment, amendment, or rescission becomes effective only upon approval by the state land planning agency. The state land planning agency shall review the proposed change to determine if it is in compliance with the principles for guiding development specified in chapter 27F-8, Florida Administrative Code, as amended effective August 23, 1984, and must approve or reject the requested changes within 60 days after receipt. Amendments to local comprehensive plans in the Florida Keys Area must also be reviewed for compliance with the following:

1. Construction schedules and detailed capital financing plans for wastewater management improvements in the annually adopted capital improvements element, and standards for the construction of wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or collection systems that meet

or exceed the criteria in s. 403.086(11) for wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or s. 381.0065(4)(l) for onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems.

2. Goals, objectives, and policies to protect public safety and welfare in the event of a natural disaster by maintaining a hurricane evacuation clearance time for permanent residents of no more than 24.5 ~~24~~ hours. The hurricane evacuation clearance time shall be determined by a hurricane evacuation study conducted in accordance with a professionally accepted methodology and approved by the state land planning agency. For purposes of hurricane evacuation clearance time:

- a. Mobile home residents are not considered permanent residents.
- b. The City of Key West Area of Critical State Concern established by chapter 28-36, Florida Administrative Code, shall be included in the hurricane evacuation study and is subject to the evacuation requirements of this subsection.

Section 22. *The Department of Commerce shall conduct baseline modeling scenarios and gather data in order to determine a number of building permit allocations to be distributed in the Florida Keys Area based upon the hurricane evacuation clearance time provided in s. 380.0552(9)(a), Florida Statutes, as amended by this act. The permit allocations must be distributed to counties and municipalities based on the number of vacant buildable lots within each jurisdiction. The permit allocations must be distributed over a period of at least 10 years but may not exceed 900 total permit allocations. All permits must be issued for vacant, buildable parcels, of which only one may be awarded for any individual parcel, and the distribution of which must prioritize allocations for owner-occupied residences, affordable housing, and workforce housing.*

Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 400.063, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.063 Resident protection.—

(1) The Health Care Trust Fund shall be used for the purpose of collecting and disbursing funds generated from the license fees and administrative fines as provided for in ss. 393.0673(5), 400.062(3), 400.121(2), and 400.23(8). Such funds shall be for the sole purpose of paying for the appropriate alternate placement, care, and treatment of residents who are removed from a facility licensed under this part or a facility specified in s. 393.0678(1) in which the agency determines that existing conditions or practices constitute an immediate danger to the health, safety, or security of the residents. If the agency determines that it is in the best interest of the health, safety, or security of the residents to provide for an orderly removal of the residents from the facility, the agency may utilize such funds to maintain and care for the residents in the facility pending removal and alternative placement. The maintenance and care of the residents shall be under the direction and control of a receiver appointed pursuant to s. 393.0678(1) or s. 400.126(1). However, funds may be expended in an emergency upon a filing of a petition for a receiver, upon the declaration of a state of local emergency pursuant to s. 252.38(3)(b)5, ~~s. 252.38(3)(a)5~~, or upon a duly authorized local order of evacuation of a facility by emergency personnel to protect the health and safety of the residents.

Section 24. Subsection (7) of section 403.7071, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

403.7071 Management of storm-generated debris.—Solid waste generated as a result of a storm event that is the subject of an emergency order issued by the department may be managed as follows:

(7) Unless otherwise specified in a contract or franchise agreement between a local government and a private solid waste or debris management service provider, a private solid waste or debris management service provider is not required to collect storm-generated yard trash, debris, or waste. Local governments are authorized and encouraged to add an addendum to existing contracts or franchise agreements for collection of storm-generated debris.

(8)(a) *Each county and municipality shall apply to the department for authorization of at least one debris management site as described in subsection (2) and shall annually seek preauthorization for any pre-*

viously approved debris management sites, as allowed by the department.

(b) *A municipality may jointly apply for authorization of a debris management site with a county or at least one adjacent municipality, if the parties develop and approve a memorandum of understanding. Such memorandum must clearly outline the capacity of the debris management site and location of the site relative to each party. The memorandum of understanding must be approved annually as part of the preauthorization process described in paragraph (a).*

Section 25. Section 489.1132, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

489.1132 *Regulation of hoisting equipment used in construction, demolition, or excavation work during a hurricane.—*

(1) *As used in this section, the term:*

(a) *“Controlling entity” means the general contractor, prime contractor, or construction manager with overall responsibility for a construction project.*

(b) *“Hoisting equipment” means power-operated cranes, derricks, and hoists used in construction, demolition, or excavation work that are regulated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.*

(c) *“Mobile crane” means a type of hoisting equipment incorporating a cable-suspended latticed boom or hydraulic telescoping boom designed to be moved between operating locations by transport over a roadway. The term does not include a mobile crane with a boom length of less than 25 feet or a maximum rated load capacity of less than 15,000 pounds.*

(d) *“Tower crane” means a type of hoisting equipment using a vertical mast or tower to support a working boom in an elevated position if the working boom can rotate to move loads laterally either by rotating at the top of the mast or tower or by the rotation of the mast or tower itself, whether the mast or tower base is fixed in one location or ballasted and moveable between locations.*

(2)(a) *When a tower crane or mobile crane is located on a worksite, a hurricane preparedness plan for the crane must be available for inspection at the worksite.*

(b) *In preparation for a hurricane, the controlling entity must ensure that hoisting equipment is secured in the following manner no later than 24 hours before the impacts of the hurricane are anticipated to begin:*

1. *All hoisting equipment must be secured in compliance with manufacturer recommendations relating to hurricane and high-wind events, including any recommendations relating to the placement, use, and removal of advertising banners and rigging.*

2. *Tower crane turntables must be lubricated before the event.*

3. *Fixed booms on mobile cranes must be laid down whenever feasible.*

4. *Booms on hydraulic cranes must be retracted and stored.*

5. *The counterweights of any hoists must be locked below the top tie-in.*

6. *Tower cranes must be set in the weathervane position.*

7. *All rigging must be removed from hoist blocks.*

8. *All power at the base of tower cranes must be disconnected.*

(3) *A person licensed under this part who intentionally violates this section is subject to discipline under ss. 455.227 and 489.129.*

(4) *The Florida Building Commission shall establish best practices for the utilization of tower cranes and hoisting equipment on construction job sites during hurricane season and report its findings to the Legislature by December 31, 2026.*

Section 26. Subsection (6) of section 553.902, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

553.902 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(6) “Renovated building” means a residential or nonresidential building undergoing alteration that varies or changes insulation, HVAC systems, water heating systems, or exterior envelope conditions, if the estimated cost of renovation exceeds 30 percent of the assessed value of the structure. *However, if the alteration is a result of a natural disaster that is the subject of a declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor, the estimated cost of renovation must exceed 75 percent of the fair market value of the building before the natural disaster.*

Section 27. *The Division of Emergency Management shall consult with local governments, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, the Department of Environmental Protection, and any other appropriate agencies to develop recommendations for statutory changes necessary to streamline the permitting process for repairing and rebuilding structures damaged during natural emergencies. By July 1, 2026, the division shall provide a report containing such recommendations to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

Section 28. (1) *Each county listed in the Federal Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Debby (DR-4806), Hurricane Helene (DR-4828), or Hurricane Milton (DR-4834), and each municipality within one of those counties, may not propose or adopt any moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment of any property damaged by such hurricanes; propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome amendments to its comprehensive plan or land development regulations; or propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome procedures concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan, development permit, or development order, to the extent that those terms are defined by s. 163.3164, Florida Statutes, before October 1, 2027, and any such moratorium or restrictive or burdensome comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure shall be null and void ab initio. This subsection applies retroactively to August 1, 2024.*

(2) *Notwithstanding subsection (1), any comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation amendment, site plan, development permit, or development order approved or adopted by a county or municipality before or after the effective date of this act may be enforced if:*

(a) *The associated application is initiated by a private party other than the county or municipality.*

(b) *The property that is the subject of the application is owned by the initiating private party.*

(3)(a) *A resident of or the owner of a business in a county or municipality may bring a civil action for declaratory and injunctive relief against the county or municipality for a violation of this section. Pending adjudication of the action and upon filing of a complaint showing a violation of this section, the resident or business owner is entitled to a preliminary injunction against the county or municipality preventing implementation of the moratorium or the comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure. If such civil action is successful, the resident or business owner is entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs.*

(b) *Attorney fees and costs and damages may not be awarded pursuant to this subsection if:*

1. *The resident or business owner provides the governing body of the county or municipality written notice that a proposed or enacted moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure is in violation of this section; and*

2. *The governing body of the county or municipality withdraws the proposed moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure within 14 days; or, in the case of an adopted moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure, the governing body of a county or municipality notices an intent to repeal within 14 days after receipt of the notice and repeals the moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure within 14 days thereafter.*

(4) *This section expires June 30, 2028.*

Section 29. *The Division of Law Revision is directed to replace the phrase “the effective date of this act” wherever it occurs in this act with the date this act becomes a law.*

Section 30. Except as otherwise provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 1201-1398 and insert: 193.155, F.S.; revising the square footage limitations for certain changes, additions, and improvements to damaged property; amending s. 215.559, F.S.; removing a reference to a certain report; revising public hurricane shelter funding prioritization requirements for the Division of Emergency Management; amending s. 250.375, F.S.; authorizing certain servicemembers to provide medical care in specified circumstances; amending s. 252.35, F.S.; revising requirements for the state comprehensive emergency management plan; requiring such plan to include an update on the status of certain emergency management capabilities; requiring the division to collaborate with the Department of Health; revising responsibilities of the division; requiring the division to develop a certain template; revising the purpose of certain training programs; requiring the division to set the minimum number of training hours that specified individuals must complete biennially; authorizing such training to be provided by certain entities; requiring the division to conduct an annual hurricane readiness session in each region designated by the division for a specified purpose; requiring all county emergency management directors, and authorizing other county and municipal personnel, to attend such session; requiring that the session include specified topics and needs; removing a specified reporting requirement; amending s. 252.355, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Veterans’ Affairs to provide certain information to specified clients or their caregivers; requiring the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to enter into memoranda of understanding with specified agencies for a certain purpose; providing that specified persons may use special needs shelters in certain circumstances; amending s. 252.3611, F.S.; directing specified entities to submit specified contracts and reports to the Legislature under specified conditions; requiring such contracts to be posted on a specified secure contract system; requiring the division to report annually to the Legislature specified information on expenditures relating to emergencies; providing requirements for such report; amending s. 252.363, F.S.; providing for the tolling and extension of certain determinations; providing for retroactive application; amending s. 252.365, F.S.; requiring agency heads to notify the Governor and the division of the person designated as the emergency coordination officer annually by a specified date; amending s. 252.3655, F.S.; creating the natural hazards risks and mitigation interagency coordinating group; providing the purpose of the group; providing for the membership and administration of the group; requiring agency representatives to provide information relating to natural hazards to this state, agency resources, and efforts to address and mitigate risks and impacts of natural hazards; requiring the group to meet in person or by communications media technology at least quarterly for specified purposes; requiring specified agency heads to meet at least annually to strategize and prioritize state efforts; requiring the division, on behalf of the group, to prepare an annual progress report and submit such report to the Governor and Legislature; revising requirements for such report; amending s. 252.37, F.S.; requiring the division to notify the Legislature of its intent to accept or apply for federal funds under certain circumstances; requiring the division to take steps to maximize the availability and expedite the distribution of financial assistance from the Federal Government to state and local agencies; requiring that such steps include the standardization and streamlining of the application process for federal financial assistance and the provision of assistance to applicants for a specified purpose; requiring the division to use certain federal funds to implement such requirements; amending s. 252.373, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 252.38, F.S.; requiring political subdivisions to annually provide specified notification to the division before a specified date; creating s. 252.381, F.S.; requiring counties and municipalities to post certain information on their websites; requiring counties and municipalities to develop a poststorm permitting plan; providing requirements for such plan; requiring counties and municipalities to update such plan by a specified date annually; requiring counties and municipalities to publish on their websites a specified storm recovery guide by a specified date annually; providing requirements for such guide; requiring certain counties and municipalities to publish on their websites updates to such guide as soon as practicable following a storm; prohibiting certain counties and municipalities from increasing building

permit or inspection fees within a specified timeframe; requiring counties and municipalities to allow individuals to receive certain letters electronically on or before a specified date; requiring certain counties and municipalities to use their best efforts to open a permitting office for a minimum number of hours per week; amending s. 252.385, F.S.; revising reporting requirements for the division; revising requirements for a specified list; requiring the Department of Health and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to assist the division with certain determinations; creating s. 252.422, F.S.; defining the term “impacted local government”; prohibiting impacted local governments from proposing or adopting certain moratoriums, amendments, or procedures for a specified timeframe; authorizing the enforcement of certain amendments, plans, permits, and orders under certain circumstances; authorizing any person to file suit to enforce specified provisions; authorizing counties and municipalities to request a specified determination by a court; prohibiting counties and municipalities from taking certain actions until the court has issued a preliminary or final judgment; requiring plaintiffs to provide certain notification before filing suit; requiring impacted local governments to take certain actions upon receipt of such notification or a suit may be filed; providing for reasonable attorney fees and costs; authorizing the use of a certain summary procedure; requiring the court to advance the cause on the calendar; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct a study on certain local government actions after hurricanes; specifying requirements for the study and legislative recommendations; requiring the office to submit a report to the Legislature by a specified date; creating s. 252.505, F.S.; requiring that certain contracts include a specified provision; defining the term “emergency recovery period”; amending s. 373.423, F.S.; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to submit a Flood Inventory and Restoration Report to the division by a specified date; requiring the department to work with specified entities to compile information for the report; providing specifications for the report; requiring the owner of certain infrastructure to submit certain information to the department; requiring the department to review and update the report biannually; requiring the department to submit an updated report to the division by a specified date; amending s. 380.0552, F.S.; revising the maximum evacuation clearance time for permanent residents of the Florida Keys Area, which time is an element for which amendments to local comprehensive plans in the Florida Keys Area must be reviewed for compliance; requiring the Department of Commerce to conduct baseline modeling scenarios and gather data to determine the number of building permit allocations for distribution in the Florida Keys Area; requiring that such allocations be distributed in a specified manner and over a specified timeframe; prohibiting such allocations from exceeding a specified number; requiring that permits be issued for certain parcels and the distribution of such permits prioritize specified allocations; amending s. 400.063, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 403.7071, F.S.; providing that local governments are authorized and encouraged to add certain addendums to certain contracts and agreements; requiring counties and municipalities to apply to the department for authorization to designate at least one debris management site; authorizing municipalities to apply jointly with a county or adjacent municipality for authorization of a debris management site if such entities approve a memorandum of understanding; providing requirements for such memorandum; creating s. 489.1132, F.S.; providing definitions; requiring a hurricane preparedness plan to be available for inspection at certain worksites; requiring certain equipment to be secured in a specified manner no later than 24 hours before the impacts of a hurricane are anticipated to begin; providing penalties; requiring the Florida Building Commission to establish specified best practices and report findings to the Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 553.902, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “renovated building”; requiring the division to consult with specified entities to develop certain recommendations and provide a report to the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting certain counties from proposing or adopting certain moratoriums, amendments, or procedures for a specified timeframe; declaring that such moratoriums, amendments, or procedures are null and void; providing for retroactive application; authorizing the enforcement of certain amendments, plans, permits, and orders under certain circumstances; authorizing certain residents and business owners to bring a civil action for declaratory and injunctive relief against a county or municipality that violates specified provisions; providing for reasonable attorney fees and costs under specified circumstances; providing for future expiration; providing a directive to the Division of Law Revision; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator DiCeglie, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (392939)**, as amended, and requested the House to concur in **Senate Amendment 1 (461112) to House Amendment 1 (392939)**.

CS for CS for SB 180 as amended, passed by the required constitutional two-thirds vote of the membership, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	Gaetz	Polsky
Arrington	Garcia	Rodriguez
Avila	Grall	Rouson
Berman	Gruters	Sharief
Bernard	Harrell	Simon
Bradley	Hooper	Smith
Brodeur	Ingoglia	Truenow
Burgess	Martin	Trumbull
Burton	McClain	Wright
Calatayud	Osgood	Yarborough
Collins	Passidomo	
DiCeglie	Pizzo	

Nays—1

Davis

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Boyd, Leek

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (413632) with House Amendment 1 (117705), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/HB 1609 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee and Representative(s) Weinberger, Borrero, Mooney, Rizo—

CS for HB 1609—A bill to be entitled An act relating to waste incineration; amending ss. 403.706 and 403.707, F.S.; prohibiting a local government or the Department of Environmental Protection, respectively, from issuing a construction permit for a certain new solid waste disposal facility or a waste-to-energy facility in specified areas; providing applicability; conforming cross-references; amending ss. 403.703, 403.7049, and 403.705, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (117705) to Senate Amendment 1 (413632) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 5-363 of the amendment and insert:

Section 1. Present subsections (2) through (23) of section 403.706, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4) through (25), respectively, and present subsections (4), (6), (7), and (20) are amended, and new subsections (2) and (3) are added to that section, to read:

403.706 Local government solid waste responsibilities.—

(2) *A local government may not issue a construction permit pursuant to this section for a new solid waste disposal facility that uses an ash-producing incinerator or for a waste-to-energy facility, if the proposed location of such facility is sited within a 1-mile radius of any school or any property zoned for residential use within that same county which has a density of one or more dwelling units per acre. The 1-mile radius must be measured from the stack of the facility. This subsection does not apply to any existing construction, current operation, or modification to such structure or operation in existence as of July 1, 2025.*

(3) A county with a population of 1.7 million or greater, or a municipality located in such county, may not issue a construction permit pursuant to this section for the expansion of any existing landfill that is located within a 1-mile radius of any property zoned residential unless the following requirements are met:

(a) A feasibility study is conducted before the permit is issued that:

1. Identifies potential alternatives to expanding the landfill, such as waste-to-energy technologies and processes that reduce landfill dependence and greenhouse gas emissions including, but not limited to, anaerobic digestion, plasma arc technology, and mixed waste processing.

2. Evaluates the financial costs of using such technologies and processes and the benefits of local siting and government ownership.

3. Evaluates the technical feasibility of expansion, considering engineering requirements, infrastructure needs, technological advancements, and regulatory compliance.

4. Evaluates relevant and appropriate data and analyses, such as surveys, studies, community goals and vision, and data used in preparation of the comprehensive plan, from professionally accepted sources.

5. Identifies and evaluates potential risks and challenges associated with the project.

(b) The county or municipality holds a public meeting to review and discuss the results of the feasibility study and provides a rationale for expanding the landfill.

(6)(a)(4)(a) In order to promote the production of renewable energy from solid waste, each megawatt-hour produced by a renewable energy facility using solid waste as a fuel shall count as 1 ton of recycled material and shall be applied toward meeting the recycling goals set forth in this section. If a county creating renewable energy from solid waste implements and maintains a program to recycle at least 50 percent of municipal solid waste by a means other than creating renewable energy, that county shall count 1.25 tons of recycled material for each megawatt-hour produced. If waste originates from a county other than the county in which the renewable energy facility resides, the originating county shall receive such recycling credit. Any byproduct resulting from the creation of renewable energy that is recycled shall count towards the county recycling goals in accordance with the methods and criteria developed pursuant to paragraph (4)(h) (2)(b).

(b) A county may receive credit for one-half of the recycling goal set forth in subsection (4) (2) from the use of yard trash, or other clean wood waste or paper waste, in innovative programs including, but not limited to, programs that produce alternative clean-burning fuels such as ethanol or that provide for the conversion of yard trash or other clean wood waste or paper waste to clean-burning fuel for the production of energy for use at facilities other than a waste-to-energy facility as defined in s. 403.7061. The provisions of this paragraph apply only if a county can demonstrate that:

1. The county has implemented a yard trash mulching or composting program, and

2. As part of the program, compost and mulch made from yard trash is available to the general public and in use at county-owned or maintained and municipally owned or maintained facilities in the county and state agencies operating in the county as required by this section.

(c) A county with a population of 100,000 or less may provide its residents with the opportunity to recycle in lieu of achieving the goal set forth in this section. For the purposes of this section, the "opportunity to recycle" means that the county:

1.a. Provides a system for separating and collecting recyclable materials prior to disposal that is located at a solid waste management facility or solid waste disposal area; or

b. Provides a system of places within the county for collection of source-separated recyclable materials.

2. Provides a public education and promotion program that is conducted to inform its residents of the opportunity to recycle, encourages

source separation of recyclable materials, and promotes the benefits of reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting materials.

(8)(6) The department may reduce or modify the municipal solid waste recycling goal that a county is required to achieve pursuant to subsection (4) (2) if the county demonstrates to the department that:

(a) The achievement of the goal set forth in subsection (4) (2) would have an adverse effect on the financial obligations of a county that are directly related to a waste-to-energy facility owned or operated by or on behalf of the county; and

(b) The county cannot remove normally combustible materials from solid waste that is to be processed at a waste-to-energy facility because of the need to maintain a sufficient amount of solid waste to ensure the financial viability of the facility.

The goal shall not be waived entirely and may only be reduced or modified to the extent necessary to alleviate the adverse effects of achieving the goal on the financial viability of a county's waste-to-energy facility. Nothing in this subsection shall exempt a county from developing and implementing a recycling program pursuant to this act.

(9)(7) In order to assess the progress in meeting the goal set forth in subsection (4) (2), each county shall, by April 1 each year, provide information to the department regarding its annual solid waste management program and recycling activities.

(a) The information submitted to the department by the county must, at a minimum, include:

1. The amount of municipal solid waste disposed of at solid waste disposal facilities, by type of waste such as yard trash, white goods, clean debris, tires, and unseparated solid waste;

2. The amount and type of materials from the municipal solid waste stream that were recycled; and

3. The percentage of the population participating in various types of recycling activities instituted.

(b) Beginning with the data for the 2012 calendar year, the department shall by July 1 each year post on its website the recycling rates of each county for the prior calendar year.

(22)(20) In addition to any other penalties provided by law, a local government that does not comply with the requirements of subsections (4) and (6) is (2) and (4) shall not be eligible for grants from the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund, and the department may notify the Chief Financial Officer to withhold payment of all or a portion of funds payable to the local government by the department from the General Revenue Fund or by the department from any other state fund, to the extent not pledged to retire bonded indebtedness, unless the local government demonstrates that good faith efforts to meet the requirements of subsections (4) and (6) (2) and (4) have been made or that the funds are being or will be used to finance the correction of a pollution control problem that spans jurisdictional boundaries.

Section 2. Present subsections (6) through (14) of section 403.707, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (7) through (15), respectively, and new subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

403.707 Permits.—

(6) The department may not issue a construction permit pursuant to this section for a new solid waste disposal facility that uses an ash-producing incinerator or for a waste-to-energy facility, if the proposed location of such facility is sited within a 1-mile radius of any school or any property zoned for residential use within that same county which has a density of one or more dwelling units per acre. The 1-mile radius must be measured from the stack of the facility. This subsection does not apply to any existing construction, current operation, or modification to such structure or operation in existence as of July 1, 2025.

Section 3. Subsections (6), (7), and (21) of section 403.703, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

403.703 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(6) “Construction and demolition debris” means discarded materials generally considered to be not water-soluble and nonhazardous in nature, including, but not limited to, steel, glass, brick, concrete, asphalt roofing material, pipe, gypsum wallboard, and lumber, from the construction or destruction of a structure as part of a construction or demolition project or from the renovation of a structure, and includes rocks, soils, tree remains, trees, and other vegetative matter that normally results from land clearing or land development operations for a construction project, including such debris from construction of structures at a site remote from the construction or demolition project site. Mixing of construction and demolition debris with other types of solid waste will cause the resulting mixture to be classified as other than construction and demolition debris. The term also includes:

(a) Clean cardboard, paper, plastic, wood, and metal scraps from a construction project;

(b) Except as provided in s. 403.707(10)(j) ~~s. 403.707(9)(j)~~, yard trash and unpainted, nontreated wood scraps and wood pallets from sources other than construction or demolition projects;

(c) Scrap from manufacturing facilities which is the type of material generally used in construction projects and which would meet the definition of construction and demolition debris if it were generated as part of a construction or demolition project. This includes debris from the construction of manufactured homes and scrap shingles, wallboard, siding concrete, and similar materials from industrial or commercial facilities; and

(d) De minimis amounts of other nonhazardous wastes that are generated at construction or destruction projects, provided such amounts are consistent with best management practices of the industry.

(7) “County,” or any like term, means a political subdivision of the state established pursuant to s. 1, Art. VIII of the State Constitution and, when s. 403.706(21) ~~s. 403.706(19)~~ applies, means a special district or other entity.

(21) “Municipality,” or any like term, means a municipality created pursuant to general or special law authorized or recognized pursuant to s. 2 or s. 6, Art. VIII of the State Constitution and, when s. 403.706(21) ~~s. 403.706(19)~~ applies, means a special district or other entity.

Section 4. Subsection (5) of section 403.7049, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7049 Determination of full cost for solid waste management; local solid waste management fees.—

(5) In order to assist in achieving the municipal solid waste reduction goal and the recycling provisions of s. 403.706(4) ~~s. 403.706(2)~~, a county or a municipality which owns or operates a solid waste management facility is hereby authorized to charge solid waste disposal fees which may vary based on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the amount, characteristics, and form of recyclable materials present in the solid waste that is brought to the county's or the municipality's facility for processing or disposal.

Section 5. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) and subsection (3) of section 403.705, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

403.705 State solid waste management program.—

(2) The state solid waste management program shall include, at a minimum:

(c) Planning guidelines and technical assistance to counties and municipalities to aid in meeting the municipal solid waste recycling goals established in s. 403.706(4) ~~s. 403.706(2)~~.

(3) The department shall evaluate and report biennially to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the state's success in meeting the solid waste recycling goal as described in s. 403.706(4) ~~s. 403.706(2)~~.

Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 370-406 of the amendment and insert: An act relating to waste management; amending s. 403.706, F.S.; prohibiting a local government from issuing a construction permit for a certain new solid waste disposal facility or a waste-to-energy facility in specified areas; providing applicability; prohibiting a local government from issuing a permit for the expansion of certain existing landfills unless a feasibility study is conducted; specifying requirements for the feasibility study; requiring the local government to review and discuss at a certain meeting the results of the feasibility study and provide a rationale for expanding the landfill; conforming cross-references; amending s. 403.707, F.S.; prohibiting the Department of Environmental Protection from issuing a construction permit for a certain new solid waste disposal facility or a waste-to-energy facility in specified areas; providing applicability; amending ss. 403.703, 403.7049, and 403.705, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

Senator Martin moved the following amendment to **House Amendment 1 (117705)** which was adopted:

Senate Amendment 1 (159170) (with title amendment) to House Amendment 1 (117705) to Senate Amendment 1 (413632)—Delete lines 5-238 and insert:

Section 1. Present subsections (2) through (48) of section 403.703, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as sections (3) through (49), respectively, a new subsection (2) is added to that section, and present subsections (6), (7), (21), and (35) of that section are amended, to read:

403.703 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(2) “Auxiliary container” means a reusable or single-use bag, cup, bottle, can, or other packaging that meets both of the following requirements:

(a) Is made of cloth; paper; plastic, including, but not limited to, foamed plastic, expanded plastic, or polystyrene; cardboard; corrugated material; molded fiber; aluminum; glass; postconsumer recycled material; or similar material or substrates, including coated, laminated, or multilayer substrates.

(b) Is designed for transporting, consuming, or protecting merchandise, food, or beverages from or at a public food service establishment as defined in s. 509.013(5), a food establishment as defined in s. 500.03(1), or a retailer as defined in s. 212.02(13).

(7)(6) “Construction and demolition debris” means discarded materials generally considered to be not water-soluble and nonhazardous in nature, including, but not limited to, steel, glass, brick, concrete, asphalt roofing material, pipe, gypsum wallboard, and lumber, from the construction or destruction of a structure as part of a construction or demolition project or from the renovation of a structure, and includes rocks, soils, tree remains, trees, and other vegetative matter that normally results from land clearing or land development operations for a construction project, including such debris from construction of structures at a site remote from the construction or demolition project site. Mixing of construction and demolition debris with other types of solid waste will cause the resulting mixture to be classified as other than construction and demolition debris. The term also includes:

(a) Clean cardboard, paper, plastic, wood, and metal scraps from a construction project;

(b) Except as provided in s. 403.707(10)(j) ~~s. 403.707(9)(j)~~, yard trash and unpainted, nontreated wood scraps and wood pallets from sources other than construction or demolition projects;

(c) Scrap from manufacturing facilities which is the type of material generally used in construction projects and which would meet the definition of construction and demolition debris if it were generated as part of a construction or demolition project. This includes debris from the construction of manufactured homes and scrap shingles, wallboard, siding concrete, and similar materials from industrial or commercial facilities; and

(d) De minimis amounts of other nonhazardous wastes that are generated at construction or destruction projects, provided such amounts are consistent with best management practices of the industry.

(8)(7) “County,” or any like term, means a political subdivision of the state established pursuant to s. 1, Art. VIII of the State Constitution and, when s. 403.706(21) ~~s. 403.706(19)~~ applies, means a special district or other entity.

(22)(21) “Municipality,” or any like term, means a municipality created pursuant to general or special law authorized or recognized pursuant to s. 2 or s. 6, Art. VIII of the State Constitution and, when s. 403.706(21) ~~s. 403.706(19)~~ applies, means a special district or other entity.

(36)(35) “Solid waste” means sludge unregulated under the federal Clean Water Act or Clean Air Act, sludge from a waste treatment works, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility, or garbage, rubbish, refuse, special waste, or other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from domestic, industrial, commercial, mining, agricultural, or governmental operations. Recovered materials as defined in subsection (29) ~~(28)~~ and post-use polymers as defined in subsection (25) ~~(24)~~ are not solid waste.

Section 2. Section 403.7033, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

~~403.7033 Preemption of regulation for auxiliary containers—Departmental analysis of particular recyclable materials.—The Legislature finds that prudent regulation of recyclable materials is crucial to the ongoing welfare of Florida’s ecology and economy. As such, the Department of Environmental Protection shall review and update its 2010 report on retail bags analyzing the need for new or different regulation of auxiliary containers, wrappings, or disposable plastic bags used by consumers to carry products from retail establishments. The updated report must include input from state and local government agencies, stakeholders, private businesses, and citizens and must evaluate the efficacy and necessity of both statewide and local regulation of these materials. To ensure consistent and effective implementation, the department shall submit the updated report with conclusions and recommendations to the Legislature no later than December 31, 2021. Until such time that the Legislature adopts the recommendations of the department,~~

(1) *Except as provided in s. 500.90, the regulation of auxiliary containers is expressly preempted to the state. A local government, local governmental agency, or state governmental agency may not enact or enforce any rule, regulation, or ordinance regarding the use, disposition, sale, prohibition, restriction, or tax of such auxiliary containers unless explicitly permitted by statute.*

(2) *Rules, regulations, or ordinances restricting the use of glass auxiliary containers within the boundaries of any public beach are explicitly permitted.*

(3) *The Division of Recreation and Parks of the Department of Environmental Protection may regulate auxiliary containers within state parks consistent with its grant of authority in s. 258.004, wrappings, or disposable plastic bags.*

(4) *Local ordinances and restrictions authorized under s. 500.90 are explicitly permitted.*

Section 3. Present subsections (2) through (23) of section 403.706, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4) through (25), respectively, new subsections (2) and (3) are added to that section, and present subsections (4), (6), (7), and (20) of that section are amended, to read:

403.706 Local government solid waste responsibilities.—

(2) *A local government may not issue a construction permit pursuant to this section for a new solid waste disposal facility that uses an ash-producing incinerator or for a waste-to-energy facility, if the proposed location of such facility is sited within a 1-mile radius of any school or any property zoned for residential use within that same county which has a density of one or more dwelling units per acre. The 1-mile radius must be measured from the stack of the facility. This subsection applies only to a county as defined in s. 125.011(1).*

(3) *A county with a population of 1.7 million or greater, or a municipality located in such county, may not issue a construction permit pursuant to this section for the expansion of any existing landfill that is*

located within a 1-mile radius of any property zoned residential unless the following requirements are met:

(a) *A feasibility study is conducted before the permit is issued that:*

1. *Identifies potential alternatives to expanding the landfill, such as waste-to-energy technologies and processes that reduce landfill dependence and greenhouse gas emissions including, but not limited to, anaerobic digestion, plasma arc technology, and mixed waste processing.*

2. *Evaluates the financial costs of using such technologies and processes and the benefits of local siting and government ownership.*

3. *Evaluates the technical feasibility of expansion, considering engineering requirements, infrastructure needs, technological advancements, and regulatory compliance.*

4. *Evaluates relevant and appropriate data and analyses, such as surveys, studies, community goals and vision, and data used in preparation of the comprehensive plan, from professionally accepted sources.*

5. *Identifies and evaluates potential risks and challenges associated with the project.*

(b) *The county or municipality holds a public meeting to review and discuss the results of the feasibility study and provides a rationale for expanding the landfill.*

(6)(a)(4)(a) *In order to promote the production of renewable energy from solid waste, each megawatt-hour produced by a renewable energy facility using solid waste as a fuel shall count as 1 ton of recycled material and shall be applied toward meeting the recycling goals set forth in this section. If a county creating renewable energy from solid waste implements and maintains a program to recycle at least 50 percent of municipal solid waste by a means other than creating renewable energy, that county shall count 1.25 tons of recycled material for each megawatt-hour produced. If waste originates from a county other than the county in which the renewable energy facility resides, the originating county shall receive such recycling credit. Any byproduct resulting from the creation of renewable energy that is recycled shall count towards the county recycling goals in accordance with the methods and criteria developed pursuant to paragraph (4)(h) ~~(2)(b)~~.*

(b) *A county may receive credit for one-half of the recycling goal set forth in subsection (4) ~~(2)~~ from the use of yard trash, or other clean wood waste or paper waste, in innovative programs including, but not limited to, programs that produce alternative clean-burning fuels such as ethanol or that provide for the conversion of yard trash or other clean wood waste or paper waste to clean-burning fuel for the production of energy for use at facilities other than a waste-to-energy facility as defined in s. 403.7061. The provisions of this paragraph apply only if a county can demonstrate that:*

1. *The county has implemented a yard trash mulching or composting program, and*

2. *As part of the program, compost and mulch made from yard trash is available to the general public and in use at county-owned or maintained and municipally owned or maintained facilities in the county and state agencies operating in the county as required by this section.*

(c) *A county with a population of 100,000 or less may provide its residents with the opportunity to recycle in lieu of achieving the goal set forth in this section. For the purposes of this section, the “opportunity to recycle” means that the county:*

1.a. *Provides a system for separating and collecting recyclable materials prior to disposal that is located at a solid waste management facility or solid waste disposal area; or*

b. *Provides a system of places within the county for collection of source-separated recyclable materials.*

2. *Provides a public education and promotion program that is conducted to inform its residents of the opportunity to recycle, encourages source separation of recyclable materials, and promotes the benefits of reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting materials.*

~~(8)(6)~~ The department may reduce or modify the municipal solid waste recycling goal that a county is required to achieve pursuant to subsection ~~(4)~~ ~~(2)~~ if the county demonstrates to the department that:

(a) The achievement of the goal set forth in subsection ~~(4)~~ ~~(2)~~ would have an adverse effect on the financial obligations of a county that are directly related to a waste-to-energy facility owned or operated by or on behalf of the county; and

(b) The county cannot remove normally combustible materials from solid waste that is to be processed at a waste-to-energy facility because of the need to maintain a sufficient amount of solid waste to ensure the financial viability of the facility.

The goal shall not be waived entirely and may only be reduced or modified to the extent necessary to alleviate the adverse effects of achieving the goal on the financial viability of a county's waste-to-energy facility. Nothing in this subsection shall exempt a county from developing and implementing a recycling program pursuant to this act.

~~(9)(7)~~ In order to assess the progress in meeting the goal set forth in subsection ~~(4)~~ ~~(2)~~, each county shall, by April 1 each year, provide information to the department regarding its annual solid waste management program and recycling activities.

(a) The information submitted to the department by the county must, at a minimum, include:

1. The amount of municipal solid waste disposed of at solid waste disposal facilities, by type of waste such as yard trash, white goods, clean debris, tires, and unseparated solid waste;

2. The amount and type of materials from the municipal solid waste stream that were recycled; and

3. The percentage of the population participating in various types of recycling activities instituted.

(b) Beginning with the data for the 2012 calendar year, the department shall by July 1 each year post on its website the recycling rates of each county for the prior calendar year.

~~(22)(20)~~ In addition to any other penalties provided by law, a local government that does not comply with the requirements of subsections ~~(4)~~ and ~~(6)~~ ~~is (2) and (4) shall not be eligible for grants from the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund, and the department may notify the Chief Financial Officer to withhold payment of all or a portion of funds payable to the local government by the department from the General Revenue Fund or by the department from any other state fund, to the extent not pledged to retire bonded indebtedness, unless the local government demonstrates that good faith efforts to meet the requirements of subsections (4) and (6) (2) and (4) have been made or that the funds are being or will be used to finance the correction of a pollution control problem that spans jurisdictional boundaries.~~

Section 4. Present subsections (6) through (14) of section 403.707, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (7) through (15), respectively, a new subsection (6) is added to that section, and paragraph (j) of present subsection (9) of that section is amended, to read:

403.707 Permits.—

(6) The department may not issue a construction permit pursuant to this section for a new solid waste disposal facility that uses an ash-producing incinerator or for a waste-to-energy facility, if the proposed location of such facility is sited within a 1-mile radius of any school or any property zoned for residential use within that same county which has a density of one or more dwelling units per acre. The 1-mile radius must be measured from the stack of the facility. This subsection applies only to a county as defined in s. 125.011(1).

~~(10)(9)~~ The department shall establish a separate category for solid waste management facilities that accept only construction and demolition debris for disposal or recycling. The department shall establish a reasonable schedule for existing facilities to comply with this section to avoid undue hardship to such facilities. However, a permitted solid waste disposal unit that receives a significant amount of waste prior to the compliance deadline established in this schedule shall not be required to be retrofitted with liners or leachate control systems.

(j) The Legislature recognizes that recycling, waste reduction, and resource recovery are important aspects of an integrated solid waste management program and as such are necessary to protect the public health and the environment. If necessary to promote such an integrated program, the county may determine, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing prior to April 30, 2008, that some or all of the material described in s. 403.703(7)(b) ~~s. 403.703(6)(b)~~ shall be excluded from the definition of "construction and demolition debris" in s. 403.703(7) ~~s. 403.703(6)~~ within the jurisdiction of such county. The county may make such a determination only if it finds that, prior to June 1, 2007, the county has established an adequate method for the use or recycling of such wood material at an existing or proposed solid waste management facility that is permitted or authorized by the department on June 1, 2007. The county is not required to hold a hearing if the county represents that it previously has held a hearing for such purpose, or if the county represents that it previously has held a public meeting or hearing that authorized such method for the use or recycling of trash or other nonputrescible waste materials and that such materials include those materials described in s. 403.703(7)(b) ~~s. 403.703(6)(b)~~. The county shall provide written notice of its determination to the department by no later than April 30, 2008; thereafter, the materials described in s. 403.703(7) ~~s. 403.703(6)~~ shall be excluded from the definition of "construction and demolition debris" in s. 403.703(7) ~~s. 403.703(6)~~ within the jurisdiction of such county. The county may withdraw or revoke its determination at any time by providing written notice to the department.

Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 403.7049, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7049 Determination of full cost for solid waste management; local solid waste management fees.—

(5) In order to assist in achieving the municipal solid waste reduction goal and the recycling provisions of s. 403.706(4) ~~s. 403.706(2)~~, a county or a municipality which owns or operates a solid waste management facility is hereby authorized to charge solid waste disposal fees which may vary based on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the amount, characteristics, and form of recyclable materials present in the solid waste that is brought to the county's or the municipality's facility for processing or disposal.

Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) and subsection (3) of section 403.705, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

403.705 State solid waste management program.—

(2) The state solid waste management program shall include, at a minimum:

(c) Planning guidelines and technical assistance to counties and municipalities to aid in meeting the municipal solid waste recycling goals established in s. 403.706(4) ~~s. 403.706(2)~~.

(3) The department shall evaluate and report biennially to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the state's success in meeting the solid waste recycling goal as described in s. 403.706(4) ~~s. 403.706(2)~~.

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 243-262 and insert: An act relating to waste management; amending s. 403.703, F.S.; defining the term "auxiliary container"; conforming cross-references; amending s. 403.7033, F.S.; deleting obsolete provisions that provide legislative findings and require the Department of Environmental Protection to review and update a specified report; preempting the regulation of auxiliary containers to the state; permitting rules, regulations, or ordinances restricting the use of glass auxiliary containers within the boundaries of a public beach; authorizing the Division of Recreation and Parks to regulate auxiliary containers within state parks; expressly authorizing certain local ordinances; amending s. 403.706, F.S.; prohibiting a local government from issuing a construction permit for certain solid waste disposal facilities in certain counties; providing applicability; prohibiting a local government meeting certain criteria from issuing a permit for the expansion of certain existing landfills unless a feasibility study is conducted; speci-

fying requirements for the feasibility study; requiring such local government to review and discuss at a certain meeting the results of the feasibility study and provide a rationale for expanding the landfill; amending s. 403.707, F.S.; prohibiting the Department of Environmental Protection from issuing a construction permit for certain solid waste disposal facilities in certain counties; providing applicability; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; conforming cross-references; amending ss. 403.7049 and 403.705, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Martin, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (117705) to Senate Amendment 1 (413632)**, as amended, and requested the House to concur in **Senate Amendment 1 (159170) to House Amendment 1 (117705)**.

CS for HB 1609 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—26

Mr. President	Gaetz	Pizzo
Avila	Grall	Polsky
Boyd	Gruters	Rodriguez
Brodeur	Harrell	Simon
Burgess	Hooper	Truenow
Burton	Ingoglia	Trumbull
Calatayud	Martin	Wright
Collins	McClain	Yarborough
DiCeglie	Passidomo	

Nays—10

Arrington	Davis	Sharief
Berman	Garcia	Smith
Bernard	Osgood	
Bradley	Rouson	

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Leek

Yea to Nay—Rodriguez

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (476344) with House Amendment 3 (258567), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/HB 1205 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By State Affairs Committee and Representative(s) Persons-Mulicka—

CS for HB 1205—A bill to be entitled An act relating to amendments to the State Constitution; providing legislative findings and intent; amending s. 15.21, F.S.; requiring the Secretary of State to immediately submit an initiative petition to the Attorney General under certain circumstances; amending s. 97.021, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "petition circulator"; amending and reenacting s. 99.097, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 100.371, F.S.; requiring the sponsor of an initiative petition to obtain a certain letter within a specified timeframe; providing that certain initiative petition signatures expire and the sponsor's political committee is disbanded under specified conditions; providing that such sponsor is not precluded from refiling the proposed amendment as a new petition; prohibiting sponsors of initiative amendments from sponsoring more than one such amendment; providing requirements for sponsors before they obtain signatures; requiring a sponsor to post a specified bond; authorizing alternatives for such bond; providing requirements for specified petition forms; revising requirements for a person who collects or handles petitions; providing requirements for a person to be registered as a petition circulator; requiring a certain background check to be paid for by specified persons; requiring the Division of Elections to provide specified notification under certain circumstances; requiring the division to develop specified training; providing requirements for

such training; revising requirements for petition circulator registration applications; authorizing the division to revoke a petition circulator's registration under certain circumstances; prohibiting specified compensation for petition circulators; revising the information included on the Petition Circulator's Affidavit; providing that certain acts by a person collecting initiative petition forms are violations of a specified law; providing penalties; providing that copying a completed petition or retaining specified information is a felony; providing and revising penalties; revising the frequency with which petition forms must be delivered to a supervisor of elections; prohibiting certain acts by initiative petition sponsors and persons collecting initiative petition forms; providing penalties; requiring a supervisor of elections to record the date on which each petition form is received; requiring the division to be notified of certain misfiled petitions; revising the information required on petition forms; requiring a supervisor of elections to electronically transmit signature forms to the division; providing requirements for such transmission; requiring a supervisor of elections to retain petition forms in a specified manner for a certain period of time; requiring a supervisor of elections to mail certain notification to specified voters; providing notification requirements; requiring the division to contact certain voters and provide the voters with a complaint form; requiring the division to verify signatures and revoke certain petitions; providing construction; prohibiting certain signatures from being revoked; revising the frequency with which actual costs of signature verification are posted and what is included in such costs; requiring a supervisor of elections to notify the Office of Election Crimes and Security upon a specified event; authorizing the office to investigate such event and report findings to certain authorities; authorizing a voter to challenge ballot placement certifications in a specified manner; providing requirements for such challenges; revising the voting membership of the Financial Impact Estimating Conference; amending s. 101.161, F.S.; authorizing the Legislature to define and describe elements of proposed constitutional amendments; amending s. 102.121, F.S.; requiring the Elections Canvassing Commission to make and sign separate constitutional amendment certificates; providing requirements for such certificates; amending s. 102.168, F.S.; providing that certification of the adoption of a constitutional amendment may be contested in court; providing requirements for such proceedings; amending s. 104.185, F.S.; providing criminal penalties for filling in missing information on certain petitions; amending s. 104.186, F.S.; providing a cross-reference for a specified violation of law; amending s. 104.187, F.S.; increasing criminal penalties for certain violations of law; creating s. 106.151, F.S.; defining the term "public funds"; prohibiting the expenditure of public funds for certain purposes; providing applicability; providing construction; amending s. 895.02, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "racketeering activity"; providing applicability; prohibiting the verification of a signed petition form for a specified period of time; providing construction; providing requirements for the Department of State; providing that certain registrations expire on a specified date; authorizing a supervisor of elections to increase the cost of a certain signature verification within a specified timeframe; requiring such cost to be posted on a specified website; authorizing the department to adopt certain emergency rules; amending s. 212.055, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 3 (258567) to Senate Amendment 1 (476344)—Remove lines 80-979 of the amendment and insert: *delivers, or otherwise physically possesses no more than 25 signed petition forms in addition to his or her own signed petition form or a signed petition form belonging to the person's spouse, or the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the person or the person's spouse.*

Section 5. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (4) of section 99.097, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of that section is reenacted, to read:

99.097 Verification of signatures on petitions.—

(1)

(b) Rules and guidelines for petition verification shall be adopted by the Department of State. Rules and guidelines for a random sample method of verification may include a requirement that petitions bear an additional number of names and signatures, not to exceed 15 percent of the names and signatures otherwise required. If the petitions do not meet such criteria or if the petitions are prescribed by s. 100.371, the use of the random sample method of verification is not available to supervisors.

(4)(a) The supervisor must be paid in advance the sum of 10 cents for each signature checked or the actual cost of checking such signature, whichever is less, by the candidate or, in the case of a petition to have a local issue placed on the ballot, by the person or organization submitting the petition. In the case of a petition to place a statewide issue on the ballot, the person or organization submitting the petition must pay the supervisor in advance the cost posted by the supervisor pursuant to s. 100.371(14) ~~s. 100.371(11) for the actual cost of checking signatures to place a statewide issue on the ballot.~~

(d) *Except as provided in s. 100.371(14)(d),* petitions must be retained by the supervisors for a period of 1 year following the election for which the petitions were circulated.

Section 6. Section 100.371, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

100.371 Initiatives; procedure for placement on ballot.—

(1)(a) Constitutional amendments proposed by initiative shall be placed on the ballot for the general election, provided the initiative petition has been filed with the Secretary of State no later than February 1 of the year the general election is held. A petition shall be deemed to be filed with the Secretary of State upon the date the secretary determines that valid and verified petition forms have been signed by the constitutionally required number and distribution of voters ~~electors~~ under this code.

(b) A sponsor of an initiative petition must obtain, at least every third election cycle, a letter pursuant to s. 15.21(1)(c). Failure to obtain such letter results in expiration of the initiative petition's signatures and disbanding of the sponsor's political committee.

(c) Initiative petition signatures expire and the sponsor's political committee is disbanded if a constitutional amendment proposed by initiative submitted to the Secretary of State before February 1, 2022, fails to obtain a letter pursuant to s. 15.21(1)(c) on or before February 1, 2026. This paragraph does not preclude such a sponsor from refiling the proposed amendment as a new petition.

(2) The sponsor of an initiative amendment may not sponsor more than one amendment and must ~~shall~~, before circulating any petition forms ~~prior to obtaining any signatures~~, register as a political committee pursuant to s. 106.03 and submit the ballot title, ballot summary, article and section of the State Constitution being amended, and full text of the proposed amendment to the Secretary of State. The proposed amendment and all forms filed in connection with this section must, upon request, be made available in alternative formats, ~~with the form on which the signatures will be affixed, and shall obtain the approval of the Secretary of State of such form.~~ Upon receipt, the Secretary of State shall assign the initiative petition a petition number and submit a copy of the proposed amendment to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for review, analysis, and estimation of the financial impact of the proposed amendment. After the review by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference, the division shall publish the forms with the information provided for in subsection (3) and on which signatures for the initiative petition will be affixed. ~~The Secretary of State shall adopt rules pursuant to s. 120.54 prescribing the style and requirements of such form. Upon filing with the Secretary of State, the text of the proposed amendment and all forms filed in connection with this section must, upon request, be made available in alternative formats.~~

(3)(a) Beginning July 1, 2025, the petition form must prominently display all of the following:

1. The petition number.
2. The ballot title.
3. The ballot summary.
4. A notice that the form becomes a public record upon receipt by the supervisor.
5. A notice that it is a misdemeanor of the first degree to knowingly sign the petition more than once.
6. A notice that the form will not be validated if all of the requested information is not completed.

7. For a proposed amendment submitted to the Secretary of State after the effective date of this act, the financial impact statement.

(b) The petition form must also include all of the following:

1. The full text of the proposed amendment.
2. The name and address of the sponsor.
3. The date received by the Secretary of State.
4. A bar code or serial number associated with the initiative petition.

(c) The petition form must solicit and require all of the following information:

1. The full name of the voter.
2. The voter's address and county of legal residence.
3. The voter's Florida voter registration number or date of birth.
4. The voter's Florida driver license number or the voter's Florida identification card number issued pursuant to s. 322.051, or the last four digits of the voter's social security number.
5. An attestation that the voter is a registered Florida voter and is petitioning the Secretary of State to place the proposed amendment on the ballot.
6. The voter's signature and the date on which the voter signed the form.

(d) A petition form distributed by a petition circulator must also include all of the following:

1. The Petition Circulator's Affidavit with the circulator's name, permanent address, and petition circulator number or barcode.
2. The following statement, which must be signed and dated by the circulator:

By my signature below, as petition circulator, I verify that the petition was completed and signed by the voter in my presence. Under penalty of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing Petition Circulator's Affidavit, and that the facts stated in it are true, and that if I was paid to circulate or collect this petition, payment was not on a per signature basis.

(e) A petition form distributed by a person other than a petition circulator must also include, in lieu of the Petition Circulator's Affidavit, the following notice:

This form is for PERSONAL USE only. Unless registered as a petition circulator, it is a third degree felony to collect, deliver, or otherwise physically possess more than 25 signed petition forms in addition to your own or those of immediate family members.

(f) The petition form must be in a type not less than 10 points, except for the full text of the proposed amendment, which may be in a type not less than 6 points if 10-point type would cause the length of the petition form to exceed one page front and back.

(4)(a) Beginning July 1, 2025, unless registered as a petition circulator with the Secretary of State and issued a petition circulator number, a person may not collect, deliver, or otherwise physically possess more than 25 signed petition forms in addition to his or her own signed petition form or a signed petition form belonging to an immediate family member. This paragraph may not be construed to prohibit a person from distributing petition forms designated for personal use as described in paragraph (3)(e). For the purposes of this subsection, the term "immediate family" means a person's spouse, or the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the person or the person's spouse ~~signatures or initiative petitions for compensation unless the person is registered as a petition circulator with the Secretary of State.~~

(b) A person may not collect signatures or initiative petitions if he or she:

1. *Has been convicted of a felony violation and has not had his or her right to vote restored.*
2. *Is not a citizen of the United States.*
3. *Is not a resident of this state.*

~~(b) A citizen may challenge a petition circulator's registration under this section by filing a petition in circuit court. If the court finds that the respondent is not a registered petition circulator, the court may enjoin the respondent from collecting signatures or initiative petitions for compensation until she or he is lawfully registered.~~

(c)(4) An application for registration must be submitted in the format required by the Secretary of State and must include the following:

1.(a) The information required to be on the petition form under s. 101.161, including the ballot summary and title as received ~~approved~~ by the Secretary of State.

2.(b) The applicant's name, permanent address, temporary address, if applicable, and date of birth, *Florida driver license or Florida identification card number, and the last four digits of his or her social security number.*

3.(c) An address in this state at which the applicant will accept service of process related to disputes concerning the petition process; ~~if the applicant is not a resident of this state.~~

4.(d) A statement that the applicant consents to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state in resolving disputes concerning the petition process.

5.(e) Any information required by the Secretary of State to verify the applicant's identity or address.

6. *Whether the applicant has been convicted of a felony violation and has not had his or her right to vote restored, by including the statement, "I affirm that I am not a convicted felon, or, if I am, my right to vote has been restored," and providing a box for the applicant to check to affirm the statement.*

7. *Whether the applicant is a citizen of the United States, by asking the question, "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?" and providing boxes for the applicant to check whether the applicant is or is not a citizen of the United States.*

8. *Whether the applicant is a Florida resident by asking the question, "Are you a resident of the state of Florida?" and providing boxes for the applicant to check whether the applicant is or is not a resident of the state of Florida.*

9. *The signature of the applicant under penalty of perjury for false swearing pursuant to s. 104.011, by which the applicant swears or affirms that the information contained in the application is true.*

~~(d) A citizen may challenge a petition circulator's registration under this section by filing a petition in circuit court. If the court finds that the respondent is not a registered petition circulator, the court may enjoin the respondent from collecting signatures or initiative petitions until he or she is lawfully registered.~~

(e) The division may revoke a petition circulator's registration upon the written request of the sponsor of the initiative petition or if the circulator violates this section.

(f) A person may not register to collect signatures or initiative petitions until he or she has completed the training concerning the requirements for petition circulators. The training must be developed by the division and must be in an electronic format available on the division's public website. The training must, at a minimum, include the following:

1. *An overview of the petition-gathering process.*
2. *An overview of the petition circulator registration requirements.*
3. *An explanation that the sponsor of an initiative amendment serves as a fiduciary to each voter who signs a petition.*

4. *An explanation that the Florida Election Code prohibits compensation or provision of any benefit based on the number of petition forms gathered or the time within which a number of petition forms are gathered.*

5. *The specific criminal penalties to which a petition circulator may be subject for violating the Florida Election Code.*

(g) *The sponsor of the initiative amendment is liable for a fine in the amount of \$50,000 for each person the sponsor knowingly allows to collect petition forms on behalf of the sponsor in violation of this subsection.*

(5) A sponsor may not compensate a petition circulator based on the number of petition forms gathered or the time within which a number of petition forms are gathered. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, paying a specified amount per petition form gathered, basing an hourly rate on the number of petition forms gathered over a specified period of time, or providing any other benefit or form of compensation based on the number of petition forms gathered. ~~All petitions collected by a petition circulator must contain, in a format required by the Secretary of State, a completed Petition Circulator's Affidavit which includes:~~

~~(a) The circulator's name and permanent address;~~

~~(b) The following statement, which must be signed by the circulator:~~

~~By my signature below, as petition circulator, I verify that the petition was signed in my presence. Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing Petition Circulator's Affidavit and the facts stated in it are true.~~

(6) The division ~~or the supervisor of elections~~ shall make ~~hard copy~~ ~~petition forms or~~ electronic portable document format petition forms available to registered petition circulators. All such forms must contain information identifying the petition circulator to whom ~~which~~ the forms are provided. The division shall maintain a database of all registered petition circulators and the petition forms assigned to each. Each supervisor of elections shall provide to the division information on petition forms ~~assigned to and~~ received from petition circulators. The information must be provided in a format and at times as required by the division by rule. The division must update information on petition forms daily and make the information publicly available.

(7)(a) A sponsor that collects petition forms or uses a petition circulator to collect petition forms serves as a fiduciary to the voter ~~elector~~ signing the petition form and shall ensure, ~~ensuring~~ that any petition form entrusted to the sponsor or petition circulator is ~~shall be~~ promptly delivered to the supervisor of elections in the county in which the voter resides within 10 ~~30~~ days after the voter ~~elector~~ signs the form. If a petition form collected by the sponsor or any petition circulator is not promptly delivered to the supervisor of elections, the sponsor is liable for the following fines:

1. A fine in the amount of \$50 per each day late for each petition form received by the supervisor of elections in the county in which the voter resides more than 10 ~~30~~ days after the voter ~~elector~~ signed the petition form ~~or the next business day, if the office is closed~~. A fine in the amount of \$2,500 ~~\$250~~ for each petition form received if the sponsor or petition circulator acted willfully.

2. A fine in the amount of \$100 per each day late, up to a maximum of \$5,000, for each petition form collected by a sponsor or a petition circulator, signed by a voter on or before February 1 of the year the general election is held and received by the supervisor of elections in the county in which the voter resides after the deadline for such election. A fine in the amount of \$5,000 for each such petition form received if the sponsor or petition circulator acted willfully.

3. A fine in the amount of \$500 for each petition form collected by a petition circulator which is not submitted to the supervisor of elections in the county in which the voter resides. A fine in the amount of \$5,000 ~~\$1,000~~ for any petition form not so submitted if the sponsor or petition circulator acting on its behalf acted willfully.

(b) A showing by the sponsor that the failure to deliver the petition form within the required timeframe is based upon force majeure or impossibility of performance is an affirmative defense to a violation of this subsection. The fines described in this subsection may be waived

upon a showing that the failure to deliver the petition form promptly is based upon force majeure or impossibility of performance.

(8) *If a person collecting petition forms on behalf of a sponsor of an initiative petition signs another person's name or a fictitious name to any petition, or fills in missing information on a signed petition, to secure a ballot position in violation of s. 104.185(2), the sponsor of the initiative petition is liable for a fine in the amount of \$5,000 for each such petition.*

(9) *If a person collecting petition forms on behalf of a sponsor of an initiative petition copies or retains a voter's personal information, such as the voter's Florida driver license number, Florida identification card number, social security number, or signature, for any reason other than to provide such information to the sponsor of the initiative petition, the person commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.*

(10) *A sponsor of an initiative petition or a person collecting petition forms on behalf of a sponsor of an initiative petition may not mail or otherwise provide a petition form upon which any information about a voter has been filled in before it is provided to the voter. The sponsor of an initiative petition is liable for a fine in the amount of \$50 for each petition form that is a violation of this subsection.*

(11)(9) *If the Secretary of State reasonably believes that a person or entity has committed a violation of this section, the secretary may refer the matter to the Attorney General for enforcement. The Attorney General may institute a civil action for a violation of this section or to prevent a violation of this section. An action for relief may include a permanent or temporary injunction, a restraining order, or any other appropriate order. If the sponsor of an initiative petition discovers a violation of this section and reports the violation as soon as practicable to the secretary, the sponsor may not be fined for such violation.*

(12)(9) *The division shall adopt by rule a complaint form for a voter ~~an elector~~ who claims to have had his or her signature misrepresented, forged, or not delivered to the supervisor. The division shall also adopt rules to ensure the integrity of the petition form gathering process, including rules requiring sponsors to account for all petition forms used by their agents. Such rules may require a sponsor or petition circulator to provide identification information on each petition form as determined by the department as needed to assist in the accounting of petition forms.*

(13)(10) *The date on which a voter ~~an elector~~ signs a petition form is presumed to be the date on which the petition circulator received or collected the petition form.*

(14)(a)(11)(a) *An initiative petition form circulated for signature may not be bundled with or attached to any other petition. Each signature shall be dated when made and shall be valid until the next February 1 occurring in an even-numbered year for the purpose of the amendment appearing on the ballot for the general election occurring in that same year, provided all other requirements of law are met. The sponsor shall submit signed and dated forms to the supervisor of elections for the county of residence listed by the person signing the form for verification of the number of valid signatures obtained.*

(b) *The supervisor shall record the date each submitted petition is received. If a signature on a petition is from a registered voter in another county, the supervisor must ~~shall~~ notify the petition sponsor and the division of the misfiled petition. The supervisor shall promptly verify the signatures within 60 days after receipt of the petition forms and payment and processing of a fee for the actual cost of signature verification incurred by the supervisor. However, for petition forms submitted less than 60 days before February 1 of an even-numbered year, the supervisor shall promptly verify the signatures within 30 days after receipt of the form and payment of the fee for signature verification.*

(c) *Beginning July 1, 2025, the supervisor shall promptly record, in the manner prescribed by the Secretary of State, the date each form is received by the supervisor, and the date the signature on the form is verified as valid. The supervisor may verify that the signature on a form is valid only if:*

1. The form contains the original signature of the purported voter ~~elector~~.

2. The purported voter ~~elector~~ has accurately recorded on the form the date on which he or she signed the form.

3. The form sets forth the purported voter's: ~~elector's~~

a. Full name;

b. Address and, ~~city~~, county of residence; ~~and~~

c. Voter registration number or date of birth; and

d. Florida driver license or Florida identification card number issued pursuant to s. 322.051 or the last four digits of the voter's social security number.

4. The purported voter ~~elector~~ is, at the time he or she signs the form and at the time the form is verified, a duly qualified and registered voter ~~elector~~ in the state.

5. The signature was obtained legally, including that if a ~~paid~~ petition circulator was used, the circulator was validly registered under subsection (4) ~~(3)~~ when the signature was obtained.

~~The supervisor shall retain all signature forms, separating forms verified as valid from those deemed invalid, for at least 1 year following the election for which the petition was circulated.~~

(d)1.(b) *On the last day of each month, or on the last day of each week from December 1 of an odd-numbered year through February 1 of the following year, each supervisor shall electronically transmit all received petition forms to the division. The digital images of the scanned petition forms must be of high enough quality that division personnel are able to accurately discern elements contained in such forms. Forms must be identified as valid or as invalid.*

2. *Each supervisor shall retain all petition forms, identifying forms verified as valid from those deemed invalid, until all petition forms have been processed following the February 1 deadline. As soon as practicable following the processing of the last timely submitted petition form, but not later than March 15 following the February 1 deadline, the supervisor shall deliver the physical forms to the division. The division shall retain all petition forms for 1 year following the election for which the petition was circulated.*

(e) *Beginning October 1, 2025, when the signature on the petition form is verified as valid, the supervisor shall, as soon as practicable, notify the voter by mail at the mailing address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System.*

1. *Such notice must be sent by forwardable mail with a postage prepaid preaddressed form, which may be returned to the Office of Election Crimes and Security. The notice must include contact information for the Office of Election Crimes and Security, including the telephone number, fax number, mailing address, and e-mail address. The notice must include all of the following statements or information in substantially the following form:*

NOTICE

A petition to place a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot for the next general election, bearing your name and signature, has been received and verified by the Supervisor of Elections Office in ... (insert county)....

The petition is for ...(insert the petition serial number and ballot title)... and was signed on ...(insert the date the voter signed the petition)....

Check this box ☐, sign, and return this notice to the Office of Election Crimes and Security if you believe your signature has been misrepresented or forged on a petition. The petition form in question will be invalidated and will not be counted toward the number of signatures required to place this proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot.

A notice being returned must be received by the Office of Election Crimes and Security on or before February 1 ... (insert the year in which the general election is held)....

...(Insert the voter's Florida voter registration number, and if applicable, the petition circulator's number)....

By signing below, I swear or affirm that my signature was misrepresented or forged on the petition form indicated in this notice.

...(Voter's Signature)... (Date)...

This notice becomes a public record upon receipt by the Office of Election Crimes and Security. It is a second degree misdemeanor, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, Florida Statutes, or s. 772.083, Florida Statutes, for a person to knowingly make a false official statement pursuant to s. 837.06, Florida Statutes.

2. Upon receiving a completed notice, the Office of Election Crimes and Security shall transmit a copy of such notices to the division. The division shall deem the voter's petition form invalid.

(f) Each supervisor shall post the actual cost of signature verification for petition forms received more than 60 days before February 1 of an even-numbered year and for petition forms received less than 60 days before February 1 of an even-numbered year on his or her website, and may increase such cost, as necessary, annually on March 1 ~~February 2~~ of each even-numbered year. These costs include operating and personnel costs associated with comparing signatures, printing and all postage costs related to the verification notice required by paragraph (e), and transmitting petition forms to the division. The division shall also publish each county's current cost on its website. The division and each supervisor shall biennially review available technology aimed at reducing verification costs.

(g)(e) On the last day of each month, or on the last day of each week from December 1 of an odd-numbered year through February 1 of the following year, each supervisor shall post on his or her website the total number of signatures submitted, the total number of invalid signatures, the total number of signatures processed, and the aggregate number of verified valid signatures and the distribution of such signatures by congressional district for each proposed amendment proposed by initiative, along with the following information specific to the reporting period: the total number of signed petition forms received, the total number of signatures verified, the distribution of verified valid signatures by congressional district, and the total number of verified petition forms forwarded to the Secretary of State. For any reporting period in which the percentage of petition forms deemed invalid by the supervisor exceeds a total of 25 percent of the petition forms received by the supervisor for that reporting period, the supervisor shall notify the Office of Election Crimes and Security. The Office of Election Crimes and Security shall conduct a preliminary investigation into the activities of the sponsor, one or more petition circulators, or a person collecting petition forms on behalf of a sponsor, to determine whether the invalidated petitions are a result of fraud or any other violation of this section. As authorized by ss. 97.012(15) and 97.022(1), the Office of Elections Crimes and Security may, if warranted, report findings to the statewide prosecutor or the state attorney for the judicial circuit in which the alleged violation occurred for prosecution.

(h) A signed petition form submitted by an ineligible or unregistered petition circulator must be invalidated and may not be counted toward the number of necessary signatures for placement on the ballot.

(15)(12) The Secretary of State shall determine from the signatures verified by the supervisors of elections the total number of verified valid signatures, less any signatures that were invalidated pursuant to subsection (14), and the distribution of such signatures by congressional districts, and the division shall post such information on its website at the same intervals specified in paragraph (14)(g) ~~(11)(e)~~. Upon a determination that the requisite number and distribution of valid signatures have been obtained, the secretary shall issue a certificate of ballot position for that proposed amendment and shall assign a designating number pursuant to s. 101.161. The secretary must rescind the certificate of ballot position if an advisory opinion issued by the Supreme Court pursuant to s. 16.061(1) deems the initiative petition invalid.

(16)(a)(13)(a) Upon receipt of a proposed revision or amendment from the Secretary of State, the coordinator of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall contact the person identified as the sponsor to request an official list of all persons authorized to speak on behalf of the named sponsor and, if there is one, the sponsoring organization at

meetings held by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference. All other persons must be deemed interested parties or proponents or opponents of the initiative. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall provide an opportunity for any representative of the sponsor, interested parties, and proponents or opponents of the initiative to submit information and may solicit information or analysis from any other entities or agencies, including the Office of Economic and Demographic Research. At the same time the Secretary of State submits an initiative petition to the Attorney General pursuant to s. 15.21, the secretary shall submit a copy of the initiative petition to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference.

(b) Within 75 days after receipt of a proposed revision or amendment to the State Constitution by initiative petition from the Secretary of State, the Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall complete an analysis and financial impact statement to be placed on the ballot of the estimated increase or decrease in any revenues or costs to state or local governments and the overall impact to the state budget resulting from the proposed initiative. The 75-day time limit is tolled when the Legislature is in session. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall submit the financial impact statement to the Attorney General and Secretary of State. If the initiative petition has been submitted to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference but the validity of signatures has expired and the initiative petition no longer qualifies for ballot placement at the ensuing general election, the Secretary of State must notify the Financial Impact Estimating Conference. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference does not need to complete an analysis and financial impact statement for an initiative petition that fails to meet the requirements of subsection (1) for placement on the ballot before the 75-day time limit, including any tolling period, expires, the ballot must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(e). The initiative petition may be resubmitted to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference if the initiative petition meets the requisite criteria for a subsequent general election cycle. A new Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall be established at such time as the initiative petition again satisfies the criteria in s. 15.21(1).

(b) Immediately upon receipt of a proposed revision or amendment from the Secretary of State, the coordinator of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall contact the person identified as the sponsor to request an official list of all persons authorized to speak on behalf of the named sponsor and, if there is one, the sponsoring organization at meetings held by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference. All other persons shall be deemed interested parties or proponents or opponents of the initiative. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall provide an opportunity for any representatives of the sponsor, interested parties, proponents, or opponents of the initiative to submit information and may solicit information or analysis from any other entities or agencies, including the Office of Economic and Demographic Research.

(c) The Financial Impact Estimating Conference may be convened only by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, jointly. All meetings of the Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall be open to the public. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, jointly, shall be the sole judge for the interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of this subsection.

1. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference is established to review, analyze, and estimate the financial impact of amendments to or revisions of the State Constitution proposed by initiative. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall be composed ~~consist~~ of four principals: one person from the professional staff of the Executive Office of the Governor or from a state agency, designated by the Governor; the coordinator of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, or his or her designee; one person from the professional staff of the Senate, designated by the President of the Senate; and one person from the professional staff of the House of Representatives, designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Each principal shall have appropriate fiscal expertise in the subject matter of the initiative. A Financial Impact Estimating Conference may be appointed for each initiative.

2. Principals of the Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall reach a consensus or majority concurrence on a clear and unambiguous financial impact statement, no more than 150 words in length, and immediately submit the statement to the Attorney General. Nothing in

this subsection prohibits the Financial Impact Estimating Conference from setting forth a range of potential impacts in the financial impact statement. ~~Any financial impact statement that a court finds not to be in accordance with this section shall be remanded solely to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for redrafting. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall redraft the financial impact statement within 15 days.~~

~~3. If the Supreme Court has rejected the initial submission by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference and no redraft has been approved by the Supreme Court by 5 p.m. on the 75th day before the election, the following statement shall appear on the ballot: "The impact of this measure, if any, has not been determined at this time."~~

(d) The financial impact statement must be separately contained on the petition form and the ballot and be set forth after the ballot summary as required in s. 101.161(1).

1. If the financial impact statement projects a net negative impact on the state budget, the ballot must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(b).

2. If the financial impact statement projects a net positive impact on the state budget, the ballot must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(c).

3. If the financial impact statement estimates an indeterminate financial impact or if the members of the Financial Impact Estimating Conference are unable to agree on the statement required by this subsection, the ballot must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(d).

4. *If the financial impact statement was not produced or if the Financial Impact Estimating Conference did not meet to produce the financial statement, the ballot must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(e).*

~~(e)1. Any financial impact statement that the Supreme Court finds not to be in accordance with this subsection shall be remanded solely to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for redrafting, provided the court's advisory opinion is rendered at least 75 days before the election at which the question of ratifying the amendment will be presented. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall prepare and adopt a revised financial impact statement no later than 5 p.m. on the 15th day after the date of the court's opinion. The sponsor of the initiative must refile the petition with the revised financial impact statement with the Secretary of State as a new petition.~~

~~2. If, by 5 p.m. on the 75th day before the election, the Supreme Court has not issued an advisory opinion on the initial financial impact statement prepared by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for an initiative amendment that otherwise meets the legal requirements for ballot placement, the financial impact statement shall be deemed approved for placement on the ballot.~~

~~(f)2. In addition to the financial impact statement required by this subsection, the Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall draft an initiative financial information statement. The initiative financial information statement should describe in greater detail than the financial impact statement any projected increase or decrease in revenues or costs that the state or local governments would likely experience if the ballot measure were approved. If appropriate, the initiative financial information statement may include both estimated dollar amounts and a description placing the estimated dollar amounts into context. The initiative financial information statement must include both a summary of not more than 500 words and additional detailed information that includes the assumptions that were made to develop the financial impacts, workpapers, and any other information deemed relevant by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference.~~

~~(g)4. The Department of State shall have printed, and shall furnish to each supervisor of elections, a copy of the summary from the initiative financial information statements. The supervisors shall have the summary from the initiative financial information statements available at each polling place and at the main office of the supervisor of elections upon request.~~

~~(h)5. The Secretary of State and the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall make available on the Internet each initiative financial information statement in its entirety. In addition, each supervisor of elections whose office has a website shall post the summary from each initiative financial information statement on the website. Each supervisor shall include a copy of each summary from the initiative financial information statements and the Internet addresses for the information statements on the Secretary of State's and the Office of Economic and Demographic Research's websites in the publication or mailing required by s. 101.20.~~

~~(17)(14) The Department of State may adopt rules in accordance with s. 120.54 to implement this section carry out the provisions of subsections (1)-(14).~~

~~(18)(15) No provision of this code shall be deemed to prohibit a private person exercising lawful control over privately owned property, including property held open to the public for the purposes of a commercial enterprise, from excluding from such property persons seeking to engage in activity supporting or opposing initiative amendments.~~

Section 7. (1) *By July 1, 2025, the Department of State shall update the forms as required by the amendments made to s. 100.371(3), Florida Statutes, for any proposed amendments received before July 1, 2025.*

(2)(a) By June 1, 2025, the Department of State shall make available a new petition circulator application to incorporate the amendments made to s. 100.371(4), Florida Statutes.

(b)1. Effective July 1, 2025, the registration of each petition circulator expires.

2. No later than 7 days after this section becomes law, the Department of State shall notify each petition circulator that his or her registration expires on July 1, 2025, and that he or she may reregister by completing a new application that will be available before the current registration expires.

(c) By June 1, 2025, the Department of State shall develop the training required by s. 100.371(4)(f), Florida Statutes.

(3) No later than October 1, 2025, a supervisor of elections may increase the cost of signature verification pursuant to the amendments made to s. 100.371(14)(f), Florida Statutes. A supervisor shall post the cost of signature verification on his or her publicly available website as soon as such cost is determined.

Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 101.161, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (e) is added to that subsection, to read:

101.161 Referenda; ballots.—

(1) Whenever a constitutional amendment or other public measure is submitted to the vote of the people, a ballot summary of such amendment or other public measure shall be printed in clear and unambiguous language on the ballot after the list of candidates, followed by the word "yes" and also by the word "no," and shall be styled in such a manner that a "yes" vote will indicate approval of the proposal and a "no" vote will indicate rejection. The ballot summary of the amendment or other public measure and the ballot title to appear on the ballot shall be embodied in the constitutional revision commission proposal, constitutional convention proposal, taxation and budget reform commission proposal, or enabling resolution or ordinance. The ballot summary of the amendment or other public measure shall be an explanatory statement, not exceeding 75 words in length, of the chief purpose of the measure. In addition, for every constitutional amendment proposed by initiative, the ballot shall include, following the ballot summary, in the following order:

(a) A separate financial impact statement concerning the measure prepared by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference in accordance with s. 100.371(16) ~~s. 100.371(13).~~

(e) If the financial impact statement was not produced or if the Financial Impact Estimating Conference did not meet to produce the financial impact statement, the following statement in bold print:

THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THIS AMENDMENT, IF ANY, HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED AT THIS TIME.

The ballot title shall consist of a caption, not exceeding 15 words in length, by which the measure is commonly referred to or spoken of. This subsection does not apply to constitutional amendments or revisions proposed by joint resolution.

Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 102.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.111 Elections Canvassing Commission.—

(2) The Elections Canvassing Commission shall meet at 8 a.m. on the 9th day after a primary election and at 8 a.m. on the 14th day after a general election to certify the returns of the election for each federal, state, and multicounty office *and for each constitutional amendment*. If a member of a county canvassing board that was constituted pursuant to s. 102.141 determines, within 5 days after the certification by the Elections Canvassing Commission, that a typographical error occurred in the official returns of the county, the correction of which could result in a change in the outcome of an election, the county canvassing board must certify corrected returns to the Department of State within 24 hours, and the Elections Canvassing Commission must correct and re-certify the election returns as soon as practicable.

Section 10. Section 102.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.121 Elections Canvassing Commission to issue certificates.—The Elections Canvassing Commission shall make and sign separate certificates of the result of the election for federal officers, ~~and~~ state officers, *and constitutional amendments*, which certificates *must* ~~shall~~ be written and contain the total number of votes cast for *and against* each person for each office *and the total number of votes cast for and against each constitutional amendment*. The certificates, the one including the result of the election for presidential electors and representatives to Congress, and the other including the result of the election for state officers, shall be recorded in the Department of State in a book to be kept for that purpose.

Section 11. Subsections (1), (3), and (4) of section 102.168, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

102.168 Contest of election.—

(1) Except as provided in s. 102.171, the certification of election or nomination of any person to office, or of the *adoption of a constitutional amendment or the result on any question submitted by referendum*, may be contested in the circuit court by any unsuccessful candidate for such office or nomination thereto or by any ~~voter elector~~ qualified to vote in the election related to such candidacy *or constitutional amendment*, or by any taxpayer, respectively.

(3) The complaint *must* ~~shall~~ set forth the grounds on which the contestant intends to establish his or her right to such office; or set aside the result of the election on a ~~submitted referendum or constitutional amendment~~. The grounds for contesting an election *or a constitutional amendment* under this section are:

(a) Misconduct, fraud, or corruption on the part of any election official or any member of the canvassing board sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of the election.

(b) Ineligibility of the successful candidate for the nomination or office in dispute *or of the proposed constitutional amendment for placement on the ballot*.

(c) Receipt of a number of illegal votes or rejection of a number of legal votes sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of the election.

(d) Proof that any ~~voter elector~~, election official, or canvassing board member was given or offered a bribe or reward in money, property, or any other thing of value for the purpose of procuring the successful candidate's nomination or election or determining the result on any question ~~submitted~~ by referendum *or constitutional amendment*.

(4) The canvassing board responsible for canvassing the election is an indispensable party defendant in county and local elections. The

Elections Canvassing Commission is an indispensable party defendant in federal, state, and multicounty elections, *in elections for constitutional amendments*, and in elections for justice of the Supreme Court, judge of a district court of appeal, and judge of a circuit court. The successful candidate is an indispensable party to any action brought to contest the election or nomination of a candidate. *The sponsor of a constitutional amendment proposed by initiative petition, identified pursuant to s. 100.371, is an indispensable party to any action brought to contest such election.*

Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 104.185, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.185 Petitions; knowingly signing more than once; signing another person's name or a fictitious name.—

(2) A person who signs another person's name or a fictitious name to any petition, *or who fills in missing information on a signed petition*, to secure ballot position for a candidate, a minor political party, or an issue commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 13. Section 104.186, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.186 Initiative petitions; violations.—A person who compensates a petition circulator as defined in s. 97.021 based on the number of petition forms gathered, *as prohibited by s. 100.371(5)*, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. This section does not prohibit employment relationships that do not base payment on the number of signatures collected.

Section 14. Section 104.187, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.187 Initiative petitions; registration.—A person who violates s. 100.371(4)(a) ~~s. 100.371(3)~~ commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 15. Effective July 1, 2025, section 104.188, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

104.188 *Petition forms gathered from immediate family; violations.—*

(1) *For the purposes of this section, the term “immediate family” means a person’s spouse or the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the person or the person’s spouse.*

(2) *A person who collects, delivers, or otherwise physically possesses more than 25 signed petition forms in*

On motion by Senators Gaetz and Grall, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 3 (258567) to Senate Amendment 1 (476344).**

CS for HB 1205 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—28

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Avila	Garcia	Pizzo
Boyd	Grall	Rodriguez
Bradley	Gruters	Simon
Brodeur	Harrell	Truenow
Burgess	Hooper	Trumbull
Burton	Ingoglia	Wright
Calatayud	Leek	Yarborough
Collins	Martin	
DiCeglie	McClain	

Nays—9

Arrington	Davis	Rouson
Berman	Osgood	Sharief
Bernard	Polsky	Smith

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has insisted on House Amendment 1 (469307) to SB 234 and requests the Senate to concur.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

SB 234—A bill to be entitled An act relating to criminal offenses against law enforcement officers and other personnel; providing a short title; amending s. 776.051, F.S.; revising a prohibition on the use or threatened use of force to resist arrest or detention; defining the term “acting in good faith”; amending s. 782.065, F.S.; providing for enhanced punishment for manslaughter when committed against specified officers; revising applicability; amending s. 784.07, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “law enforcement officer”; revising provisions concerning assault or battery upon specified officers and other personnel; amending s. 843.01, F.S.; revising a provision concerning resisting, obstructing, or opposing specified officers or legally authorized persons; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.; increasing the level on the offense severity ranking chart for committing battery on law enforcement officers and other specified personnel; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Leek, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (469307)** to **SB 234** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 116, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 116—A bill to be entitled An act relating to veterans; amending s. 265.003, F.S.; revising the maximum number of nominees for the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame submitted by the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame Council to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for submission to the Governor and the Cabinet; amending s. 292.05, F.S.; requiring the Department of Veterans' Affairs to conduct a study that includes a survey evaluating the extent to which specified persons are aware of certain existing programs or services; requiring that such survey also include specified recommendations; requiring that a certain report include additional actions taken by the Department of Veterans' Affairs and other information and recommendations as the department determines are necessary; requiring that a specified report include an evaluation of the health literacy of veterans in this state and recommendations on how to increase knowledge of programs and services available to such veterans; requiring the department to ensure coordination to the greatest extent possible with the United States Department of Defense for a specified purpose; authorizing the Department of Veterans' Affairs to engage county and city veteran service officers for assistance; amending s. 292.115, F.S.; revising the purpose of the Veteran Suicide Prevention Training Pilot Program to include specialized mental health training; requiring individuals electing to participate in the pilot program to be trained to identify indicators of mental health conditions; requiring the department to contract with an organization developing and implementing veteran-relevant and evidence-based mental health assistance training; amending s. 295.124, F.S.; revising a reference to the United States Code; amending s. 295.21, F.S.; requiring Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., to advise the Department of Veterans' Affairs on specified problems or needs of certain military personnel and their spouses; amending s. 295.22, F.S.; revising the collaborators of the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program to include a specified direct-support organization; amending s. 296.43, F.S.; requiring the Department of Veterans' Affairs to develop a plan to establish adult day health care facilities across this state to serve veterans and their families; requiring that such plans include specified information; requiring the department to provide a specified report to the Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 320.08058, F.S.; authorizing the use of a specified percentage of proceeds from the sale of a specified specialty license plate for the promotion and administrative costs of the plate; providing appropriations; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (646315) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 238-251

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 53-54 and insert: administrative costs of the plate; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Burgess, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (646315)** to **CS for CS for SB 116** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 168, with 3 amendments, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 168—A bill to be entitled An act relating to mental health; providing a short title; amending s. 394.658, F.S.; expanding the programs and diversion initiatives supported by implementation or expansion grants to include training for 911 public safety telecommunicators and emergency medical technicians for certain purposes and to include veterans treatment court programs; exempting certain fiscally constrained counties from local match requirements for specified grants; amending s. 916.105, F.S.; providing legislative intent; creating s. 916.135, F.S.; defining terms; encouraging communities to apply for specified grants to establish misdemeanor or ordinance violation mental health diversion programs; providing a model process for such mental health diversion programs; requiring adherence to specified provisions to the extent of available resources; authorizing specified entities to collaborate to establish certain policies and procedures and to develop a certain consent form; providing consent form requirements; requiring defendants to sign the consent form to participate in the diversion program; authorizing the screening of certain defendants and prompt evaluation for involuntary examination under certain circumstances; specifying procedures if the evaluation demonstrates that the defendant meets the criteria for involuntary examination; authorizing a court to consider releasing a defendant on his or her own recognizance under certain circumstances; requiring a court to order that a defendant be assessed for outpatient treatment under certain circumstances; authorizing the state attorney, the defense attorney, or the court to, at any stage of the criminal proceedings, request that such a defendant be screened pursuant to certain provisions; authorizing defendants out of custody to be evaluated pursuant to certain provisions; requiring the state attorney to consider dismissal of the charges upon a defendant's successful completion of all treatment recommendations from a mental health assessment; authorizing the court to exhaust therapeutic interventions aimed at improving compliance before a defendant is returned to jail; creating s. 916.136, F.S.; defining terms; encouraging communities to apply for specified grants to establish pretrial felony mental health diversion programs; providing a model process for such mental health diversion programs; authorizing specified entities to collaborate to establish certain policies and procedures and to develop a certain consent form; providing consent form requirements; requiring defendants to sign the consent form to participate in the diversion program; specifying criteria under which a defendant may be eligible for the mental health diversion program; specifying that the state attorney has the sole discretion to determine a defendant's pretrial felony mental health diversion eligibility; authorizing the state attorney to recommend that certain defendants be screened and offered pretrial felony mental health diversion; requiring defendants to sign the consent form to participate in the diversion program; requiring that a defendant be assessed for outpatient treatment upon his or her agreeing to participate in the mental health diversion program; requiring the state attorney to consider dismissal of the charges upon a defendant's successful completion of all treatment recommendations from a mental health assessment; authorizing the state attorney to revoke the defendant's participation in such mental health diversion program under specified circumstances; amending s. 916.185, F.S.; expanding eligibility for the Forensic Hospital Diversion Pilot Program to include Hillsborough County; creating s. 945.093, F.S.; requiring the Department of Corrections to evaluate the physical and mental health of each inmate eligible for work assignments and correctional work programs;

requiring the department to document eligibility before the inmate receives orders for an assignment or program; creating s. 948.0395, F.S.; requiring mental health evaluations and the following of all recommendations as conditions of probation for specified defendants; amending s. 1004.649, F.S.; specifying that the Northwest Regional Data Center is responsible for creating, operating, and managing, including the research conducted by, the Florida Behavioral Health Care Data Repository; specifying the purposes of the data repository; requiring the Northwest Regional Data Center to develop a specified plan; requiring the Northwest Regional Data Center to submit, by a specified date, a certain developed plan to the Governor and the Legislature; requiring the Florida Behavioral Health Care Data Repository to submit, by a specified date and annually thereafter, a specified report to the Governor and the Legislature; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (149231) (with title amendment)—Between lines 259 and 260, insert:

Section 3. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (2) of section 395.902, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

395.902 Behavioral health teaching hospitals.—

(2) To be designated as a behavioral health teaching hospital, a hospital must meet all of the following criteria:

(b) Offer a psychiatric residency program accredited through the Residency Review Committee of the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education and offer, ~~or have filed an application for approval to establish, an accredited postdoctoral clinical psychology fellowship program.~~

(d) Establish and maintain an affiliation with a university in this state with one of the accredited Florida-based medical schools listed under s. 458.3145(1)(i) 1.-6., 8., or 10., to create and maintain integrated workforce development programs for students of the university's colleges or schools of medicine, nursing, psychology, social work, or public health related to the entire continuum of behavioral health care, including, at a minimum, screening, therapeutic and supportive services, community outpatient care, crisis stabilization, short-term residential treatment, and long-term care. Notwithstanding paragraphs (4)(b) and (c), a university may affiliate with only one hospital; *however, a university with an allopathic medical school and an osteopathic medical school may affiliate with one hospital for each type of medical school.*

And the title is amended as follows:

Between lines 10 and 11, insert: 395.902, F.S.; revising criteria for a hospital to be designated as a behavioral health teaching hospital; authorizing a university with allopathic and osteopathic medical schools to affiliate with more than one hospital; amending s.

House Amendment 2 (870331) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 295-513 and insert:

(2) *Each judicial circuit must establish a misdemeanor or ordinance violation mental health diversion program to divert clinically appropriate defendants from jails to treatment. Each judicial circuit shall adopt the program model established in this section.*

(a) *Local sheriffs' departments, the state attorney, the public defender, courts, and local treatment providers shall collaborate to establish policies and procedures to meet the specific needs of each community and to develop a form that a participating defendant must sign to consent to treatment.*

(b) *A consent form must include the defendant's consent to treatment and to the release of any records necessary to demonstrate compliance with and completion of treatment. Additionally, the consent form must include that the defendant agrees to waive his or her right to a speedy trial by participating in the diversion program. A defendant must sign the consent form to participate in the diversion program.*

(3) *Within 24 hours after a defendant is booked into a jail, the jail's corrections or medical staff must screen the defendant using a standardized, validated mental health screening instrument to determine if there is an indication of a mental illness. If there is an indication of a mental illness, the defendant must be promptly evaluated for in-*

voluntary examination under chapter 394 by a qualified mental health professional. In conducting this evaluation, the qualified mental health professional must evaluate the defendant as if he or she is at liberty in the community and may not rely on the person's incarcerated status to defeat the involuntary examination criteria provided for in s. 394.463.

(a) *If the evaluation demonstrates that the defendant meets the criteria for involuntary examination under s. 394.463, the qualified mental health professional may issue a professional certificate referring the defendant to a receiving facility.*

(b) *Upon the issuance of a professional certificate, the defendant must be transported within 72 hours to a receiving facility for further evaluation for involuntary examination under chapter 394. Such transport may be made with a hold for jail custody notation so that the receiving facility may only release the defendant back to jail custody. Alternatively, the court may request on the transport order that the defendant be transported back to appear before the court, depending upon the outcome of the evaluation at the receiving facility, the court's availability of other resources and diversion programs, and the willingness of the defendant to receive treatment.*

(c) *Once at the receiving facility, the defendant must be assessed and evaluated to determine whether he or she meets the criteria for involuntary services under chapter 394. If the criteria are met, the receiving facility must forward the court a discharge plan when the defendant no longer meets criteria for inpatient treatment, or an outpatient treatment plan, as appropriate, as soon as such a plan is developed. If the defendant does not meet the criteria for involuntary services, the receiving facility must issue an outpatient treatment plan and forward it to the court as soon as such plan is developed. If appropriate, the receiving facility must notify the court that no treatment is necessary.*

(d) *Upon receipt of a discharge plan or an outpatient treatment plan, the court may consider releasing the defendant on his or her own recognizance on the condition that he or she comply fully with the discharge plan or outpatient treatment plan. The state attorney and the defense attorney must have an opportunity to be heard before the court releases the defendant.*

(e) *If a professional certificate is not issued under paragraph (a), but the defendant has a mental illness, the court must order that the defendant be assessed for outpatient treatment by a local mental health treatment center. This assessment must be completed:*

1. *At the jail via telehealth assessment by the local mental health treatment center;*

2. *At the local mental health treatment center after the sheriff or jail authorities transport the defendant to and from the treatment center; or*

3. *By releasing the defendant on his or her own recognizance on the conditions that the assessment be completed at the local mental health treatment center within 48 hours after his or her release and that all treatment recommendations be followed.*

If the assessment under this paragraph results in an outpatient treatment plan, and the defendant has not already been released, the defendant may be released on his or her own recognizance on the condition that all treatment recommendations must be followed. The state attorney and the defense attorney must have an opportunity to be heard before the court releases the defendant.

(f) *If the defendant is released from the custody of the jail on pretrial release at any point before the completion of the process in this section, evaluation or assessment of the defendant under this section by a qualified mental health professional may be initiated at any time by order of the court at the request of the state attorney or the defense attorney, or on the court's own motion. If this process results in the creation of a discharge plan by a receiving facility or an outpatient treatment plan by the local mental health treatment center, the court must set as a condition of the defendant's continued pretrial release compliance with all of the terms of the discharge plan or outpatient treatment plan.*

(4) *If a defendant has not been referred to the diversion program under this section, the state attorney, the defense attorney, or the court may, at any stage of the criminal proceedings, request that the defendant be screened pursuant to subsection (3) to determine if there is an in-*

dication of mental illness. If the defendant is no longer in custody, the defendant may be evaluated or assessed pursuant to paragraph (3)(f).

(5) Upon the defendant's successful completion of all of the treatment recommendations from any mental health evaluation or assessment completed pursuant to this section, the state attorney may dismiss the charges. If dismissal of the charges is deemed inappropriate by the state attorney, the state attorney may refer the defendant's case to mental health court or another available mental health diversion program.

(6) If the defendant fails to comply with any aspect of his or her discharge or outpatient treatment plan under this section, the court may exhaust therapeutic interventions aimed at improving compliance before considering returning the defendant to the jail.

Section 5. Section 916.136, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

916.136 Pretrial felony mental health diversion program.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Conviction" means a determination of guilt that is the result of a plea agreement, including a plea of nolo contendere, or trial. For purposes of this section, a conviction does not include an offense for which an adjudication of guilt was withheld.

(b) "Court" means a circuit court or any court presiding over felony violations under the laws of this state or any of its political subdivisions.

(c) "Defendant" means a person who has been charged as an adult by a law enforcement agency or a state attorney with a felony of the second degree or felony of the third degree, and who is eligible for the diversion program as provided in subsection (3).

(d) "Qualified mental health professional" means a physician, a physician assistant, a clinical psychologist, a psychiatric nurse, an advanced practice registered nurse registered under s. 464.0123, or a mental health counselor, a marriage and family therapist, or a clinical social worker, as those terms are defined in s. 394.455.

(2) Each judicial circuit must establish a pretrial felony mental health diversion program to divert clinically appropriate defendants from jails to treatment. Each judicial circuit must follow the model process established in this section.

(a) Local sheriffs' departments, the state attorney, the public defender, courts, and local treatment providers must collaborate to establish policies and procedures to meet the specific needs of each community and to develop a form that a participating defendant must sign to consent to treatment.

(b) A consent form must include the defendant's consent to treatment and to the release of any records necessary to demonstrate compliance with and completion of treatment. Additionally, such form must include that the defendant agrees to waive his or her right to a speedy trial by participating in the diversion program. A defendant must sign the consent form to participate in the diversion program.

(3) A defendant may be eligible for the pretrial felony mental health diversion program under this section if he or she meets the following criteria:

(a) Has a mental illness;

(b) Has no more than three prior felony convictions in the past 5 years;

(c) Is not charged with a violent felony; and

(d) Does not have a significant history of violence.

The state attorney has the sole discretion to determine a defendant's eligibility for the pretrial felony mental health diversion program. Meeting the criteria in this subsection does not guarantee eligibility. Additionally, the state attorney may, in extenuating circumstances, waive the criteria in this subsection if he or she finds that it is in the interest of justice.

(4) At any stage in the pretrial process, the state attorney may recommend that a defendant be screened using a standardized, validated mental health screening instrument to determine if there is an indication of mental illness. Such screening must be completed by the jail's corrections or medical staff or by any qualified mental health professional. The results of such screening must be forwarded to the state attorney and the defense attorney.

(5) If a defendant meets the eligibility criteria in subsection (3), the state attorney may consider an offer of pretrial felony mental health diversion under this section. Entry into the diversion program is voluntary, and the defendant must sign the consent form as described in subsection (2) before participating in the program.

(6) Upon the defendant agreeing to participate in pretrial felony mental health diversion under this section, the defendant must be assessed for outpatient treatment by a local mental health treatment center. This assessment must be completed:

(a) At the jail via telehealth assessment by the local mental health treatment center;

(b) At the local mental health treatment center after the sheriff or jail authorities transport the defendant to and from the treatment center; or

(c) By releasing the defendant on his or her own recognizance on the conditions that the assessment be completed at the local mental health treatment center within 48 hours after his or her release and that all treatment recommendations be followed.

If the assessment under this subsection results in an outpatient treatment plan, and the defendant has not already been released, the defendant may be released on his or her own recognizance on the condition that all treatment recommendations be followed.

(7) Upon the defendant's successful completion of all treatment recommendations from the mental health evaluation or assessment completed pursuant to this section, the state attorney may dismiss the charges.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 12-68 and insert: s. 916.135, F.S.; defining terms; requiring judicial circuits to establish misdemeanor or ordinance violation mental health diversion programs; requiring judicial circuits to adopt a program model for such mental health diversion programs; requiring specified entities to collaborate to establish certain policies and procedures and to develop a certain consent form; providing consent form requirements; requiring defendants to sign the consent form to participate in the diversion program; requiring the screening of certain defendants and prompt evaluation for involuntary examination under certain circumstances; specifying procedures if the evaluation demonstrates that the defendant meets the criteria for involuntary examination; authorizing a court to consider releasing a defendant on his or her own recognizance under certain circumstances; requiring a court to order that a defendant be assessed for outpatient treatment under certain circumstances; authorizing the state attorney, the defense attorney, or the court to, at any stage of the criminal proceedings, request that such a defendant be screened pursuant to certain provisions; authorizing defendants no longer in custody to be evaluated pursuant to certain provisions; authorizing the state attorney to dismiss charges or take other specified action upon a defendant's successful completion of all treatment recommendations from a mental health evaluation or assessment; authorizing the court to exhaust therapeutic interventions aimed at improving compliance before a defendant is returned to jail; creating s. 916.136, F.S.; defining terms; requiring judicial circuits to establish pretrial felony mental health diversion programs; requiring judicial circuits to follow a model process for such mental health diversion programs; requiring specified entities to collaborate to establish certain policies and procedures and to develop a certain consent form; providing consent form requirements; requiring defendants to sign the consent form to participate in the diversion program; specifying criteria under which a defendant may be eligible for the mental health diversion program; authorizing the state attorney to recommend that certain defendants be screened and offered pretrial felony mental health diversion; requiring defendants to sign the consent form to participate in the diversion program; requiring that a defendant be assessed for outpatient treatment upon his or her agreeing to participate in mental

health diversion; authorizing the state attorney to dismiss the charges upon a defendant's successful completion of all treatment recommendations from a mental health evaluation or assessment; authorizing the state attorney to revoke

House Amendment 3 (463357) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 623-627 and insert:

(e) As authorized by and consistent with funding specifically appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, the Northwest Regional Data Center shall establish the Florida Behavioral Health Care Data Repository, develop a plan as specified in paragraph (b), and submit such plan, proposed budget, and reports to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove line 95 and insert: subject to and consistent with funds appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, requiring the Northwest Regional Data Center to develop a specified plan and submit certain reports to the Governor and Legislature; providing an effective

On motion by Senator Bradley, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (149231)**, **House Amendment 2 (870331)**, and **House Amendment 3 (463357)** to **CS for CS for SB 168** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 1620, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 1620—A bill to be entitled An act relating to mental health and substance use disorders; amending s. 394.457, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and Families to require certain providers to use a specified assessment tool; revising the minimum standards for a mobile crisis response service; amending s. 394.459, F.S.; requiring facilities to update treatment plans within specified timeframes; amending s. 394.468, F.S.; revising requirements for discharge planning regarding medications; amending s. 394.495, F.S.; requiring use of a specified assessment tool; providing an exception; requiring the Department of Children and Families, in consultation with the Department of Education, to conduct a review biennially of school-based behavioral health access through telehealth; providing requirements for review; requiring the Department of Children and Families to submit its findings to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; providing for expiration of the review; amending s. 394.659, F.S.; requiring the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center at the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute at the University of South Florida to disseminate among grantees certain evidence-based practices and best practices; defining the term "person-first language"; amending s. 394.875, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and Families, in consultation with the Agency for Health Care Administration, to conduct a review biennially to identify needs regarding short-term residential treatment facilities and beds; specifying actions the department must take under certain conditions; amending s. 394.9082, F.S.; requiring managing entities to promote use of person-first language and trauma-informed care and require use of a specified assessment tool; amending s. 1004.44, F.S.; revising the assistance and services the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute is required to provide; revising the requirements of the Florida Center for Behavioral Health Workforce to promote behavioral health professions; creating the Senator Darryl E. Rouson Center for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Research within the institute; specifying the purpose of the center; specifying the goals of the center; specifying the responsibilities of the center; requiring the center to submit a report by a specified date each year to the Governor and the Legislature; specifying the contents of the report; amending s. 1006.041, F.S.; revising the plan components for mental health assistance programs; reenacting s. 394.463(2)(g), F.S., relating to involuntary examination, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 394.468, F.S., in a reference thereto; reenacting s. 394.4955(2)(c) and (6), F.S., relating to coordinated system of care and child and adolescent mental health treatment and support, to incorporate the amendment

made to s. 394.495, F.S., in references thereto; reenacting s. 1001.212(7), F.S., relating to the Office of Safe Schools, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 1004.44, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (852013) (with directory and title amendments)—Remove lines 366-440

And the directory clause is amended as follows:

Remove line 292 and insert:

subsection (1) of that section, to

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 42-49 and insert: behavioral health professions; amending s.

On motion by Senator Rouson, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (852013)**.

CS for CS for SB 1620 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—34

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Polsky
Arrington	Gaetz	Rodriguez
Avila	Garcia	Rouson
Berman	Grall	Sharief
Bernard	Gruters	Simon
Boyd	Harrell	Smith
Bradley	Ingoglia	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	McClain	Wright
Burton	Osgood	Yarborough
Calatayud	Passidomo	
Davis	Pizzo	

Nays—3

Collins	Hooper	Martin
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The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (102254) with House Amendment 1 (458307), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/HB 1549 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Insurance & Banking Subcommittee and Representative(s) Maggard—

CS for HB 1549—A bill to be entitled An act relating to financial institutions; amending s. 655.047, F.S.; requiring state financial institutions to pay a semiannual assessment for specified time periods; requiring that the semiannual assessment be received by the Office of Financial Regulation in a specified manner and by specified dates; amending s. 655.414, F.S.; authorizing the office to issue a specified certificate under certain circumstances; amending s. 657.002, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "equity"; amending s. 657.028, F.S.; authorizing an elected officer, director, or committee member of a credit union to be reimbursed for certain expenses; amending s. 657.043, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 658.235, F.S.; revising the timeframe for certain requirements by the directors of a proposed bank or trust company; amending s. 658.25, F.S.; revising the timeframe within which a bank or trust company corporation is required to open and conduct specified business; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (458307) to Senate Amendment 1 (102254) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 376-411 of the amendment

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 492-505 of the amendment and insert: certificate under certain circumstances; amending

On motion by Senator Grall, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (458307) to Senate Amendment 1 (102254)**.

CS for HB 1549 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—36

Mr. President	Davis	Passidomo
Arrington	DiCeglie	Pizzo
Avila	Gaetz	Polsky
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Bernard	Gruters	Rouson
Boyd	Harrell	Sharief
Bradley	Hooper	Simon
Brodeur	Ingolia	Smith
Burgess	Leek	Truenow
Burton	Martin	Trumbull
Calatayud	McClain	Wright
Collins	Osgood	Yarborough

Nays—1

Garcia

Vote after roll call:

Nay to Yea—Garcia

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (525084) with House Amendment 1 (170953), concurred in the same as amended, and passed HB 1101 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Representative(s) Albert, López, J.—

HB 1101—A bill to be entitled An act relating to out-of-network providers; amending s. 456.0575, F.S.; requiring a health care practitioner to notify a patient in writing upon referring the patient to certain providers; providing requirements for such notice; providing requirements for a practitioner to confirm network status; providing for health care practitioner disciplinary action under certain conditions; amending s. 627.6471, F.S.; requiring certain health insurers to apply payments for services provided by nonpreferred providers toward insureds' deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums if specified conditions are met; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (170953) to Senate Amendment 1 (525084) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 5-25 of the amendment and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 456.0575, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (3), and a new subsection (2) is added to that section to read:

456.0575 Duty to notify patients.—

(2) A health care practitioner shall notify a patient in writing upon referring the patient to a nonparticipating provider for nonemergency services, as those terms are defined in s. 627.64194(1), or to a provider, as defined in s. 641.47, that is not under contract with the patient's health maintenance organization. Such notice must state that the services will be provided on an out-of-network basis, which may result in additional cost-sharing responsibilities for the patient, and such notice must be documented in the patient's medical record. The practitioner or his or her employee may confirm the referral provider's participation by contacting the referral provider or the patient's health insurer or health

maintenance organization, as necessary, or may rely on the online provider directory of the health insurer or health maintenance organization. Failure to comply with this subsection, without good cause, shall result in disciplinary action against the health care practitioner.

Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 627.6471, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (8), and a new subsection (7) is added to that section to read:

627.6471 Contracts for reduced rates of payment; limitations; coinsurance and deductibles.—

(7) Any insurer issuing a policy of health insurance in this state shall apply the payment for a service provided to an insured by a nonpreferred provider toward the insured's deductible and out-of-pocket maximum as if the service had been provided by a preferred provider if all of the following apply:

(a) The insured requests that the insurer apply the payment for the service provided to the insured by the nonpreferred provider toward the insured's deductible and out-of-pocket maximum.

(b) The service provided to the insured by the nonpreferred provider is within the scope of services covered under the insured's policy.

(c) The amount that the nonpreferred provider charged the insured for the service is the same as or less than:

1. The average amount that the insured's preferred provider network charges for the service; or

2. The statewide average amount for the service based on data reported on the Florida Health Price Finder website.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 32-37 of the amendment and insert: An act relating to out-of-network providers; amending s. 456.0575, F.S.; requiring a health care practitioner to notify a patient in writing upon referring the patient to certain providers; providing requirements for such notice; providing requirements for a practitioner to confirm network status; providing for health care practitioner disciplinary action under certain conditions; amending s. 627.6471, F.S.; requiring certain health insurers to apply payments for services provided by nonpreferred providers toward insureds' deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums if specified conditions are met; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Burton, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (170953) to Senate Amendment 1 (525084) to HB 1101** and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

RECESS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate recessed at 2:02 p.m. to reconvene in one hour or upon call of the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION, Continued

The Senate was called to order by Senator Brodeur at 3:00 p.m. A quorum present—32:

Arrington	DiCeglie	Osgood
Avila	Gaetz	Rodriguez
Berman	Garcia	Rouson
Bernard	Grall	Sharief
Boyd	Gruters	Simon
Bradley	Harrell	Smith
Brodeur	Hooper	Truenow
Burgess	Ingolia	Trumbull
Burton	Leek	Wright
Collins	Martin	Yarborough
Davis	McClain	

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR, continued

CS for CS for SB 736—A bill to be entitled An act relating to brownfields; amending s. 376.303, F.S.; deleting a provision requiring certain property owners to provide information regarding institutional controls to the local government for mapping purposes; deleting local government requirements for such mapping; requiring that sites issued a site rehabilitation completion order without institutional controls be removed from the registry of all contaminated sites located in a brownfield area; amending s. 376.30781, F.S.; revising the conditions under which an applicant who has rehabilitated a contaminated site may submit and claim certain tax credits; specifying a timeframe within which such tax credit application must be submitted; revising the criteria for determining applicants who are redeveloping brownfield sites who may be eligible for certain tax credits; deleting the definition of the term “monetary compensation”; revising the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection must issue annual site rehabilitation tax credit certificate awards; revising the amount of time the department has to respond to a tax credit applicant regarding a certain notice; amending s. 376.78, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 376.79, F.S.; revising definitions, defining the terms “brownfield” and “brownfield site”; amending s. 376.81, F.S.; providing legislative findings; prohibiting the department or a delegated local pollution control program from denying a specified status or refusing to issue a specified order for certain brownfield sites that are only a portion of larger contaminated sites; providing applicability; amending s. 376.82, F.S.; revising the persons and sites eligible for participation in the brownfield program; revising requirements for such participation; requiring that completion of the performance of remediation obligations at the brownfield site be evidenced by a site rehabilitation completion order; revising the information necessary from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the department for a person’s participation in the program; specifying that certain brownfield sites are eligible to participate in the brownfield program under certain circumstances; amending ss. 196.1995 and 288.1175, F.S.; conforming cross-references; reenacting s. 1004.53(1), F.S., relating to the Center for Brownfield Rehabilitation Assistance, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 376.79, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an effective date.

—was read the second time by title.

Pending further consideration of **CS for CS for SB 736**, pursuant to Rule 3.11(3), there being no objection, **CS for HB 733** was withdrawn from the Committee on Rules.

On motion by Senator Truenow—

CS for HB 733—A bill to be entitled An act relating to brownfields; amending s. 376.303, F.S.; deleting a provision requiring certain property owners to provide information regarding institutional controls to the local government for mapping purposes; deleting local government requirements for such mapping; requiring that sites issued a site rehabilitation completion order without institutional controls be removed from the registry of all contaminated sites located in a brownfield area; amending s. 376.30781, F.S.; revising the conditions under which an applicant who has rehabilitated a contaminated site may submit and claim certain tax credits; specifying a timeframe within which such tax credit application must be submitted; revising the criteria for determining applicants who are redeveloping brownfield sites who may be eligible for certain tax credits; deleting the definition of the term “monetary compensation”; revising the date by which the Department of Environmental Protection must issue annual site rehabilitation tax credit certificate awards; revising the amount of time the department has to respond to a tax credit applicant regarding a certain notice; amending s. 376.78, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 376.79, F.S.; revising and providing definitions; amending s. 376.81, F.S.; providing legislative findings; prohibiting the department or a delegated local pollution control program from denying a specified status or refusing to issue a specified order for certain brownfield sites that are only a portion of larger contaminated sites; providing applicability; amending s. 376.82, F.S.; revising the persons and sites eligible for participation in the brownfield program; revising requirements for such participation; requiring that completion of the performance of remediation obligations at the brownfield site be evidenced by a site rehabilitation completion order; revising the information necessary from the United States Environmental Protection

Agency and the department for a person’s participation in the program; specifying that certain brownfield sites are eligible to participate in the brownfield program under certain circumstances; amending ss. 196.1995 and 288.1175, F.S.; conforming cross-references; reenacting s. 1004.53(1), F.S., relating to the Center for Brownfield Rehabilitation Assistance, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 376.79, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an effective date.

—a companion measure, was substituted for **CS for CS for SB 736** and read the second time by title.

On motion by Senator Truenow, by two-thirds vote, **CS for HB 733** was read the third time by title, passed, and certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—32

Arrington	DiCeglie	Osgood
Avila	Gaetz	Rodriguez
Berman	Garcia	Rouson
Bernard	Grall	Sharief
Boyd	Gruters	Simon
Bradley	Harrell	Smith
Brodeur	Hooper	Truenow
Burgess	Ingolia	Trumbull
Burton	Leek	Wright
Collins	Martin	Yarborough
Davis	McClain	

Nays—None

Vote after roll call:

Yea—Mr. President, Passidomo

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed CS/CS/SB 492, with 1 amendment, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CS for CS for SB 492—A bill to be entitled An act relating to land development; amending s. 373.4136, F.S.; beginning on a specified date, revising the schedule for credit release upon issuance of a mitigation bank credit permit; providing specifications for such schedule; authorizing a mitigation bank applicant to propose an alternative credit release schedule; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection or water management district to modify an existing permitted credit release schedule upon request under certain circumstances; prohibiting mitigation credits from being released for freshwater wetland creation until certain conditions are met; authorizing one-time use of mitigation credits outside the mitigation bank service area in certain circumstances; requiring the department and water management districts to apply proximity factor multipliers in a specified manner; specifying that the use of certain multipliers meets certain requirements; requiring the department or water management district to request an accounting of credit availability from mitigation banks within a specified timeframe; specifying the timeframe to reply to such request; requiring the permit applicant to be notified of credits available; providing a presumption if a mitigation bank does not respond within a certain timeframe; limiting the timeframe for the permit applicant to rely on a credit availability determination for specified purposes; requiring each mitigation bank to submit an accounting of credits; requiring the department or water management district to compile such accountings for a specified purpose and to submit a report including certain information to the Legislature on a specified date and annually thereafter; amending s. 376.308, F.S.; providing conditions for a cause of action against certain former phosphate mine sites; creating s. 378.213, F.S.; authorizing landowners to record certain notice of former phosphate mines; specifying require-

ments for such notice; defining the term "former phosphate mine"; creating s. 404.0561, F.S.; requiring the Department of Health to conduct gamma radiation surveys of former phosphate land parcels upon petition; creating s. 768.405, F.S.; requiring that specified documentation of radiation levels be submitted in certain civil actions related to phosphate mining; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (893499) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 298-376

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 2-47 and insert: An act relating to mitigation banks; amending s. 373.4136, F.S.; beginning on a specified date, revising the schedule for credit release upon issuance of a mitigation bank credit permit; providing specifications for such schedule; authorizing a mitigation bank applicant to propose an alternative credit release schedule; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection or water management district to modify an existing permitted credit release schedule upon request under certain circumstances; prohibiting mitigation credits from being released for freshwater wetland creation until certain conditions are met; authorizing one-time use of mitigation credits outside the mitigation bank service area in certain circumstances; requiring the department and water management districts to apply proximity factor multipliers in a specified manner; specifying that the use of certain multipliers meets certain requirements; requiring the department or water management district to request an accounting of credit availability from mitigation banks within a specified timeframe; specifying the timeframe to reply to such request; requiring the permit applicant to be notified of credits available; providing a presumption if a mitigation bank does not respond within a certain timeframe; limiting the timeframe for the permit applicant to rely on a credit availability determination for specified purposes; requiring each mitigation bank to submit an accounting of credits; requiring the department or water management district to compile such accountings for a specified purpose and to submit a report including certain information to the Legislature on a specified date and annually thereafter; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator McClain, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (893499)**.

CS for CS for SB 492 passed, as amended, was ordered engrossed and then enrolled. The action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—30

Arrington	DiCeglie	McClain
Avila	Gaetz	Passidomo
Bernard	Garcia	Rodriguez
Boyd	Grall	Rouson
Bradley	Gruters	Sharief
Brodeur	Harrell	Simon
Burgess	Hooper	Truenow
Burton	Ingoglia	Trumbull
Collins	Leek	Wright
Davis	Martin	Yarborough

Nays—3

Berman	Osgood	Smith
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Vote after roll call:

Yea—Mr. President

RECESS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate recessed at 3:11 p.m. to reconvene in 45 minutes or upon call of the President.

EVENING SESSION

The Senate was called to order by Senator Brodeur at 5:30 p.m. A quorum present—31:

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Gaetz	Rodriguez
Avila	Garcia	Sharief
Berman	Grall	Simon
Boyd	Gruters	Smith
Bradley	Harrell	Truenow
Brodeur	Hooper	Trumbull
Burgess	Ingoglia	Wright
Burton	Leek	Yarborough
Calatayud	Martin	
Collins	McClain	

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the time of adjournment was extended until 7:00 p.m.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has refused to concur in Senate amendment 1 (159170) to House Amendment 1 (117705) to Senate Amendment 1 (413632) to CS/HB 1609 and requests the Senate to recede.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee and Representative(s) Weinberger, Borrero, Mooney, Rizo—

CS for HB 1609—A bill to be entitled An act relating to waste incineration; amending ss. 403.706 and 403.707, F.S.; prohibiting a local government or the Department of Environmental Protection, respectively, from issuing a construction permit for a certain new solid waste disposal facility or a waste-to-energy facility in specified areas; providing applicability; conforming cross-references; amending ss. 403.703, 403.7049, and 403.705, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Martin, the Senate refused to recede from **Senate Amendment 1 (159170) to House Amendment 1 (117705) to CS for HB 1609** and again requested that the House concur. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

RECESS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate recessed at 5:35 p.m. to reconvene at 7:00 p.m. or upon call of the President.

EVENING SESSION, Continued

The Senate was called to order by Senator Brodeur at 6:45 p.m. A quorum present—28:

Mr. President	Grall	Pizzo
Arrington	Gruters	Rodriguez
Berman	Harrell	Simon
Boyd	Hooper	Smith
Bradley	Ingoglia	Truenow
Brodeur	Leek	Trumbull
Burgess	Martin	Wright
Collins	McClain	Yarborough
DiCeglie	Osgood	
Gaetz	Passidomo	

MOTIONS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the time of adjournment was extended until 11:59 p.m.

RECESS

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate recessed at 6:53 p.m. to reconvene upon call of the President.

EVENING SESSION, Continued

The Senate was called to order by Senator Brodeur at 9:15 p.m. A quorum present—30:

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Berman	Grall	Pizzo
Boyd	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bradley	Harrell	Simon
Brodeur	Hooper	Smith
Burgess	Ingoglia	Truenow
Burton	Leek	Trumbull
Calatayud	Martin	Wright
Collins	McClain	Yarborough

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (351932) with House Amendment 1 (087219), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/CS/HB 1255 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Education & Employment Committee, Student Academic Success Subcommittee and Representative(s) Trabulsy, Barnaby, Benarroch, Gossett-Seidman, Maney, Plasencia—

CS for CS for HB 1255—A bill to be entitled An act relating to education; amending s. 11.45, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 110.211, F.S.; authorizing recruiting within the career service system to include the use of certain apprenticeship programs; providing that open competition is not required under certain circumstances relating to the career service system; amending s. 125.901, F.S.; revising the composition and terms of membership for councils on children's services; amending ss. 216.251, 447.203, and 1000.04, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1000.40, F.S.; revising the scheduled repeal date of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; amending s. 1001.03, F.S.; renaming critical teacher shortage areas as "high-demand teacher needs areas"; amending s. 1001.20, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; creating s. 1001.325, F.S.; prohibiting the expenditure of funds by public schools, charter schools, school districts, charter school administrators, or direct-support organizations to purchase membership in, or goods or services from, any organization that discriminates on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or religion; prohibiting the expenditure of funds by public schools, charter schools, school districts, charter school administrators, or direct-support organizations to promote, support, or maintain certain programs or activities; authorizing the use of student fees and school or district facilities by student-led organizations under certain circumstances; providing construction; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules; amending s. 1001.452, F.S.; deleting a provision requiring the Commissioner of Education to determine whether school districts have maximized efforts to include minority persons and persons of lower socioeconomic status on their school advisory councils; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; authorizing public schools to purchase or enter into arrangements for certain emergency opioid antagonists, rather than only for naloxone; revising specified liability protections to include public school employees who administer an emergency opioid antagonist; requiring that district school board po-

licies authorizing corporal punishment include a requirement that parental consent be provided before the administration of corporal punishment; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; requiring a charter school to comply with provisions relating to corporal punishment; prohibiting local governing authorities from imposing or enforcing certain building requirements and restrictions on charter school facilities; requiring the local governing authority to administratively approve a charter school if certain requirements are met; amending the statutory cause of action for an aggrieved school or entity; prohibiting local governing authorities from requiring charter schools to obtain a special exemption or conditional use approval unless otherwise specified; repealing s. 1002.351, F.S., relating to the Florida School for Competitive Academics; amending ss. 1002.394 and 1002.395, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1002.421, F.S.; revising the background screening requirements for certain private school personnel; amending s. 1002.71, F.S.; revising the conditions under which a student may withdraw from a prekindergarten program and reenroll in another program; amending s. 1003.05, F.S.; requiring that strategies addressed in specified memoranda of agreement between school districts and military installations include the development and implementation of a specified training module; requiring the Department of Education to provide the training module to each district school board; requiring each district school board to provide such module to each public and charter K-12 school in its district; requiring district school boards to make certain training available to certain employees; amending s. 1003.41, F.S.; requiring that certain standards documents contain only academic standards and benchmarks; requiring the commissioner to revise currently approved standards documents and submit them to the state board by a specified date; amending s. 1003.42, F.S.; requiring health education for students in grades 6 through 12 to include instruction on human embryologic development; providing requirements for such instruction; requiring the state board to adopt rules relating to such instruction; providing parental exemption for instruction on human embryologic development; requiring school districts to notify parents of the right to an exemption; amending s. 1003.4201, F.S.; revising the requirements for certain reading instruction plans to include specified instruction and information; requiring the department to approve school district reading instruction plans; creating s. 1003.4202, F.S.; requiring school districts to implement a certain system of comprehensive mathematics instruction for certain students; defining the term "evidence-based"; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; providing additional components for required instruction on financial literacy; amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; revising the uniform core curricula for state-approved teacher preparation programs to include specified mathematics content; amending s. 1004.85, F.S.; revising the requirements for postsecondary educator preparation institutes to include certain instruction and assessments on specified mathematics content; amending s. 1006.09, F.S.; expanding the duties of school principals relating to student discipline and school safety; amending s. 1006.13, F.S.; requiring district school superintendents to provide a determination to extend the expulsion period for students; providing requirements for such determination; requiring such determination be provided to students and parents; amending s. 1007.27, F.S.; authorizing the department to join or establish a national consortium as an additional alternative method to develop and implement advanced placement courses; amending s. 1007.35, F.S.; authorizing public high schools to provide the Classic Learning Test 10 to specified students; amending s. 1008.25, F.S.; requiring certain provisions to be defined in state board rules; requiring parents of a student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in mathematics to be notified in writing of information about the student's eligibility for the New Worlds Scholarship Accounts and the New Worlds Tutoring Program; amending s. 1008.365, F.S.; expanding the types of tutoring hours that may be counted toward meeting the community service requirements for the Bright Futures scholarship to include paid tutoring hours; amending s. 1008.366, F.S.; requiring the New Worlds Tutoring Program to provide best practice guidelines for mathematics tutoring in consultation with the Office of Mathematics and Sciences; revising the submission date for a specified report relating to the New Worlds Tutoring Program; repealing s. 1011.58, F.S., relating to procedures for legislative budget requests for the Florida School for Competitive Academics; repealing s. 1011.59, F.S.; relating to funds for the Florida School for Competitive Academics; amending s. 1011.71, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "casualty insurance" for specified purposes; amending ss. 1012.07 and 1012.22, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1012.315, F.S.; revising the background screening requirements for certain private school personnel; providing that certain background screening re-

quirements remain in place for a specified period of time for certain personnel; amending s. 1012.56, F.S.; requiring competency-based professional learning certification programs to include specified mathematics content; amending s. 1012.586, F.S.; amending reading endorsements and subject area examinations to address identifications of the characteristics of dyscalculia; removing the requirement for school districts' reading endorsement add-on programs to be resubmitted for approval by a date certain; requiring the department to adopt mathematics endorsement pathways; amending s. 1012.77, F.S.; deleting obsolete language; authorizing certain charter school consortia to submit nominees for the Teacher of the Year and Ambassador for Education; providing effective dates.

House Amendment 1 (087219) to Senate Amendment 1 (351932) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 5-2456 of the amendment and insert:

Section 1. Paragraphs (d) and (f) of subsection (2) of section 11.45, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

11.45 Definitions; duties; authorities; reports; rules.—

(2) DUTIES.—The Auditor General shall:

(d) Annually conduct financial audits of the accounts and records of all district school boards in counties with populations of ~~less~~ **fewer** than 150,000, according to the most recent federal decennial statewide census; ~~and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind; and the Florida School for Competitive Academics.~~

(f) At least every 3 years, conduct operational audits of the accounts and records of state agencies, state universities, state colleges, district school boards, the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation, water management districts, ~~and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, and the Florida School for Competitive Academics.~~

The Auditor General shall perform his or her duties independently but under the general policies established by the Legislative Auditing Committee. This subsection does not limit the Auditor General's discretionary authority to conduct other audits or engagements of governmental entities as authorized in subsection (3).

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 110.211, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

110.211 Recruitment.—

(3) Recruiting shall seek efficiency in advertising and may be assisted by a contracted vendor responsible for maintenance of the personnel data. *Recruiting may include the use of an apprenticeship program as defined in s. 446.021(6). Open competition is not required for a position that will be filled by a person who has successfully completed an apprenticeship program with the hiring agency.*

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 125.901, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

125.901 Children's services; independent special district; council; powers, duties, and functions; public records exemption.—

(1) Each county may by ordinance create an independent special district, as defined in ss. 189.012 and 200.001(8)(e), to provide funding for children's services throughout the county in accordance with this section. The boundaries of such district shall be coterminous with the boundaries of the county. The county governing body shall obtain approval at a general election, as defined in s. 97.021, by a majority vote of those electors voting on the question, to annually levy ad valorem taxes which shall not exceed the maximum millage rate authorized by this section. Any district created pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall be required to levy and fix millage subject to the provisions of s. 200.065. Once such millage is approved by the electorate, the district shall not be required to seek approval of the electorate in future years to levy the previously approved millage. However, a referendum to increase the millage rate previously approved by the electors must be held at a general election, and the referendum may be held only once during the 48-month period preceding the effective date of the increased millage.

(b) However, any county as defined in s. 125.011(1) may instead have a governing body ~~composed~~ **consisting** of 33 members, including the superintendent of schools, or his or her designee; two representatives of public postsecondary education institutions located in the county; the county manager or the equivalent county officer, ~~or his or her designee~~; the district administrator from the appropriate district of the Department of Children and Families, or the administrator's designee who is a member of the Senior Management Service or the Selected Exempt Service; the director of the county health department or the director's designee; the state attorney for the county or the state attorney's designee; the chief judge assigned to juvenile cases, or another juvenile judge who is the chief judge's designee and who shall sit as a voting member of the board, except that the judge may not vote or participate in setting ad valorem taxes under this section; an individual who is selected by the board of the local United Way or its equivalent; a member of a locally recognized faith-based coalition, selected by that coalition; a member of the local chamber of commerce, selected by that chamber or, if more than one chamber exists within the county, a person selected by a coalition of the local chambers; a member of the early learning coalition, selected by that coalition; a representative of a labor organization or union active in the county; ~~a member of a local alliance or coalition engaged in cross-system planning for health and social service delivery in the county, selected by that alliance or coalition;~~ a member of the local Parent-Teachers Association/Parent-Teacher-Student Association, selected by that association; a youth representative selected by the local school system's student government; a local school board member appointed by the chair of the school board; the mayor of the county or the mayor's designee; one member of the county governing body, appointed by the chair of that body; a member of the state Legislature who represents residents of the county, selected by the chair of the local legislative delegation; an elected official representing the residents of a municipality in the county, selected by the county municipal league; and ~~five~~ **4** members-at-large, appointed to the council by the majority of sitting council members. The remaining seven members shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with procedures set forth in paragraph (a), except that the Governor may remove a member for cause or upon the written petition of the council. Appointments by the Governor must, to the extent reasonably possible, represent the geographic and demographic ~~makeup~~ **diversity** of the population of the county. Members ~~who are~~ appointed to the council by reason of their position are not subject to the length of terms and limits on consecutive terms as provided in this section. The remaining appointed members of the governing body shall be appointed to serve ~~3-year~~ **2-year** terms, except that those members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed to serve 4-year terms, and the youth representative and the legislative delegate shall be appointed to serve 1-year terms. A member may be reappointed; however, a member may not serve for more than three consecutive terms. A member is eligible to be appointed again after a 2-year hiatus from the council.

Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 216.251, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

216.251 Salary appropriations; limitations.—

(2)(a) The salary for each position not specifically indicated in the appropriations acts shall be as provided in one of the following subparagraphs:

1. Within the classification and pay plans provided for in chapter 110.
2. Within the classification and pay plans established by the Board of Trustees for the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind of the Department of Education and approved by the State Board of Education for academic and academic administrative personnel.
3. Within the classification and pay plan approved and administered by the Board of Governors or the designee of the board for those positions in the State University System.
4. Within the classification and pay plan approved by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as the case may be, for employees of the Legislature.
5. Within the approved classification and pay plan for the judicial branch.

~~6. Within the classification and pay plans established by the Board of Trustees for the Florida School for Competitive Academics of the Department of Education and approved by the State Board of Education for academic and academic administrative personnel.~~

Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 446.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

446.032 General duties of the department for apprenticeship training.—The department shall:

(2) By ~~November 30~~ ~~September 1~~ of each year, publish an annual report on apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs. The report must be published on the department's website and, at a minimum, include all of the following:

(a) A list of registered apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs, sorted by local educational agency, as defined in s. 1004.02(18), and apprenticeship sponsor, under s. 446.071.

(b) A detailed summary of each local educational agency's expenditure of funds for apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs, including:

1. The total amount of funds received for apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs.

2. The total amount of funds allocated by training provider, program, and occupation.

3. The total amount of funds expended for administrative costs by training provider, program, and occupation.

4. The total amount of funds expended for instructional costs by training provider, program, and occupation.

(c) The number of apprentices and preapprentices per trade and occupation.

(d) The percentage of apprentices and preapprentices who complete their respective programs in the appropriate timeframe.

(e) Information and resources related to applications for new apprenticeship programs and technical assistance and requirements for potential applicants.

(f) Documentation of activities conducted by the department to promote apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs through public engagement, community-based partnerships, and other initiatives and the outcomes of such activities and their impact on establishing or expanding apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs.

(g) Retention and completion rates of participants disaggregated by training provider, program, and occupation.

(h) Wage progression of participants as demonstrated by starting, exit, and postapprenticeship wages at 1 and 5 years after participants exit the program.

Section 6. Subsection (2) of section 447.203, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

447.203 Definitions.—As used in this part:

(2) "Public employer" or "employer" means the state or any county, municipality, or special district or any subdivision or agency thereof which the commission determines has sufficient legal distinctiveness properly to carry out the functions of a public employer. With respect to all public employees determined by the commission as properly belonging to a statewide bargaining unit composed of State Career Service System employees or Selected Professional Service employees, the Governor is deemed to be the public employer; and the Board of Governors of the State University System, or the board's designee, is deemed to be the public employer with respect to all public employees of each constituent state university. The board of trustees of a community college is deemed to be the public employer with respect to all employees of the community college. The district school board is deemed to be the public employer with respect to all employees of the school district. The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind is

deemed to be the public employer with respect to the academic and academic administrative personnel of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind. ~~The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for Competitive Academics is deemed to be the public employer with respect to the academic and academic administrative personnel of the Florida School for Competitive Academics.~~ The Governor is deemed to be the public employer with respect to all employees in the Correctional Education Program of the Department of Corrections established pursuant to s. 944.801.

Section 7. Subsection (7) of section 1000.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1000.04 Components for the delivery of public education within the Florida Early Learning-20 education system.—Florida's Early Learning-20 education system provides for the delivery of early learning and public education through publicly supported and controlled K-12 schools, Florida College System institutions, state universities and other postsecondary educational institutions, other educational institutions, and other educational services as provided or authorized by the Constitution and laws of the state.

~~(7) THE FLORIDA SCHOOL FOR COMPETITIVE ACADEMICS.—The Florida School for Competitive Academics is a component of the delivery of public education within Florida's Early Learning-20 education system.~~

Section 8. Paragraph (j) of subsection (5) of section 1000.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1000.21 Systemwide definitions.—As used in the Florida Early Learning-20 Education Code:

(5) "Florida College System institution" except as otherwise specifically provided, includes all of the following public postsecondary educational institutions in the Florida College System and any branch campuses, centers, or other affiliates of the institution:

(j) Hillsborough ~~Community~~ College, which serves Hillsborough County.

Section 9. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section 1000.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1000.40 Future repeal of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.—Sections 1000.36, 1000.361, 1000.38, and 1000.39 and this section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2028 ~~2025~~, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 10. Subsection (5) of section 1001.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.03 Specific powers of State Board of Education.—

(5) IDENTIFICATION OF ~~HIGH-DEMAND CRITICAL~~ TEACHER NEEDS SHORTAGE AREAS.—The State Board of Education shall identify ~~high-demand critical~~ teacher needs shortage areas pursuant to s. 1012.07.

Section 11. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section 1001.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.20 Department under direction of state board.—

(4) The Department of Education shall establish the following offices within the Office of the Commissioner of Education which shall coordinate their activities with all other divisions and offices:

(e) *Office of Inspector General*.—Organized using existing resources and funds and responsible for promoting accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness and detecting fraud and abuse within school districts, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, ~~the Florida School for Competitive Academics~~, and Florida College System institutions in Florida. If the Commissioner of Education determines that a district school board, the Board of Trustees for the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, ~~the Board of Trustees for the Florida School for Competitive Academics~~, or a Florida College System institution board of trustees is unwilling or unable to address substantiated allegations made by any

person relating to waste, fraud, or financial mismanagement within the school district, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, ~~the Florida School for Competitive Academics~~, or the Florida College System institution, the office must conduct, coordinate, or request investigations into such substantiated allegations. The office shall investigate allegations or reports of possible fraud or abuse against a district school board made by any member of the Cabinet; the presiding officer of either house of the Legislature; a chair of a substantive or appropriations committee with jurisdiction; or a member of the board for which an investigation is sought. The office may investigate allegations or reports of suspected violations of a student's, parent's, or teacher's rights. The office shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to perform its duties and shall have all of its current powers, duties, and responsibilities authorized in s. 20.055.

Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 1001.452, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.452 District and school advisory councils.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(a) The district school board shall establish an advisory council for each school in the district and shall develop procedures for the election and appointment of advisory council members. Each school advisory council shall include in its name the words “school advisory council.” The school advisory council shall be the sole body responsible for final decisionmaking at the school relating to implementation of ss. 1001.42(18) and 1008.345. A majority of the members of each school advisory council must be persons who are not employed by the school district. Each advisory council shall be composed of the principal and an appropriately balanced number of teachers, education support employees, students, parents, and other business and community citizens who are representative of the ethnic, racial, and economic community served by the school. Career center and high school advisory councils shall include students, and middle and junior high school advisory councils may include students. School advisory councils of career centers and adult education centers are not required to include parents as members. Council members representing teachers, education support employees, students, and parents shall be elected by their respective peer groups at the school in a fair and equitable manner as follows:

1. Teachers shall be elected by teachers.
2. Education support employees shall be elected by education support employees.
3. Students shall be elected by students.
4. Parents shall be elected by parents.

The district school board shall establish procedures to be used by schools in selecting business and community members ~~which that~~ include means of ensuring wide notice of vacancies and of taking input on possible members from local business, chambers of commerce, community and civic organizations and groups, and the public at large. The district school board shall review the membership composition of each advisory council. If the district school board determines that the membership elected by the school is not representative of the ethnic, racial, and economic community served by the school, the district school board ~~must shall~~ appoint additional members to achieve proper representation. ~~The commissioner shall determine if schools have maximized their efforts to include on their advisory councils minority persons and persons of lower socioeconomic status.~~ Although schools are strongly encouraged to establish school advisory councils, the district school board of any school district that has a student population of 10,000 or ~~less fewer~~ may establish a district advisory council which includes at least one duly elected teacher from each school in the district. For the purposes of school advisory councils and district advisory councils, the term “teacher” includes classroom teachers, certified student services personnel, and media specialists. For purposes of this paragraph, the term “education support employee” means any person employed by a school who is not defined as instructional or administrative personnel pursuant to s. 1012.01 and whose duties require 20 or more hours in each normal working week.

Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.7065 Preeminent state research universities program.—

(2) ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE STANDARDS.—The following academic and research excellence standards are established for the preeminent state research universities program and shall be reported annually in the Board of Governors Accountability Plan:

(a) An average weighted grade point average of 4.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale and an average SAT score of 1200 or higher on a 1600-point scale or an average ACT score of 25 or higher on a 36 score scale, using the latest published national concordance table developed jointly by the College Board and ACT, Inc., or an average *Classic Learning Test* score of 83 or higher on a 120 score scale, for fall semester incoming freshmen, as reported annually.

Section 14. Paragraph (o) of subsection (3) and paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public school students must receive accurate and timely information regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory rights including, but not limited to, the following:

(3) HEALTH ISSUES.—

(o) *Emergency opioid antagonist Naloxone use and supply.*—

1. A public school may purchase a supply of ~~an emergency the~~ opioid antagonist approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ~~naloxone~~ from a wholesale distributor as defined in s. 499.003 or may enter into an arrangement with a wholesale distributor or manufacturer as defined in s. 499.003 for an FDA-approved emergency opioid antagonist ~~naloxone~~ at fair-market, free, or reduced prices for use in the event that a student has an opioid overdose. The FDA-approved emergency opioid antagonist ~~naloxone~~ must be maintained in a secure location on the public school's premises.

2. A public school ~~district~~ employee who administers an approved emergency opioid antagonist to a student in compliance with ss. 381.887 and 768.13 is immune from civil liability under s. 768.13.

(4) DISCIPLINE.—

(c) *Corporal punishment.*—

1. In accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ s. 1003.32, corporal punishment of a public school student may only be administered by a teacher or school principal within guidelines of the school principal and according to district school board policy. Another adult must be present and must be informed in the student's presence of the reason for the punishment. Upon request, the teacher or school principal must provide the parent with a written explanation of the reason for the punishment and the name of the other adult who was present.

2. A district school board having a policy authorizing the use of corporal punishment as a form of discipline shall *include in such policy a requirement that a parent provide consent for the school to administer corporal punishment. The district school board policy may require such consent for the school year, or before each administration. The district school board shall review its policy on corporal punishment once every 3 years during a district school board meeting held pursuant to s. 1001.372. The district school board shall take public testimony at the board meeting. If such board meeting is not held in accordance with this subparagraph, the portion of the district school board's policy authorizing corporal punishment expires.*

Section 15. Paragraph (b) of subsection (16) and paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (18) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.—

(16) EXEMPTION FROM STATUTES.—

(b) Additionally, a charter school shall be in compliance with the following statutes:

1. Section 286.011, relating to public meetings and records, public inspection, and criminal and civil penalties.
2. Chapter 119, relating to public records.
3. Section 1003.03, relating to the maximum class size, except that the calculation for compliance pursuant to s. 1003.03 shall be the average at the school level.
4. Section 1012.22(1)(c), relating to compensation and salary schedules.
5. Section 1012.33(5), relating to workforce reductions.
6. Section 1012.335, relating to contracts with instructional personnel hired on or after July 1, 2011.
7. Section 1012.34, relating to the substantive requirements for performance evaluations for instructional personnel and school administrators.
8. Section 1006.12, relating to safe-school officers.
9. Section 1006.07(7), relating to threat management teams.
10. Section 1006.07(9), relating to School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting.
11. Section 1006.07(10), relating to reporting of involuntary examinations.
12. Section 1006.1493, relating to the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool.
13. Section 1006.07(6)(d), relating to adopting an active assailant response plan.
14. Section 943.082(4)(b), relating to the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool.
15. Section 1012.584, relating to youth mental health awareness and assistance training.
16. Section 1001.42(4)(f)2., relating to middle school and high school start times. A charter school-in-the-workplace is exempt from this requirement.
17. *Section 1002.20(4)(c), relating to school corporal punishment.*

(18) FACILITIES.—

(a)1. A startup charter school shall utilize facilities which comply with the Florida Building Code pursuant to chapter 553 except for the State Requirements for Educational Facilities. Conversion charter schools shall utilize facilities that comply with the State Requirements for Educational Facilities provided that the school district and the charter school have entered into a mutual management plan for the reasonable maintenance of such facilities. The mutual management plan shall contain a provision by which the district school board agrees to maintain charter school facilities in the same manner as its other public schools within the district. Charter schools, with the exception of conversion charter schools, are not required to comply, but may choose to comply, with the State Requirements for Educational Facilities of the Florida Building Code adopted pursuant to s. 1013.37.

2. The local governing authority ~~may shall~~ not adopt, ~~or~~ impose, or enforce any local building requirements, ~~or~~ site-development restrictions, ~~or~~ operational requirements that impact, ~~such as~~ parking and site-size criteria, student enrollment and capacity, hours of operation, and occupant load;

a. That are addressed by and more stringent than those found in the State Requirements for Educational Facilities of the Florida Building Code; or

b. That are not uniformly imposed or enforced by the local governing authority upon public schools within the jurisdiction of the local governing authority.

3. A local governing authority must treat charter schools equitably in comparison to similar requirements, restrictions, and site planning processes imposed upon public schools that are not charter schools, including such provisions that are established by interlocal agreement, *development order, or development permit*. An interlocal agreement entered into by a school district for the development of only its own schools, including provisions relating to the extension of infrastructure, may be used by charter schools. A charter school may not be subject to any land use regulation requiring a change to a local government comprehensive plan or requiring a development order or development permit, as those terms are defined in s. 163.3164, *or any requirement or restriction that would not be required for a public or private school in the same location or a location on which a public or private school has previously been permitted*. A local governing authority may not apply or enforce a condition against a charter school unless the condition is uniformly applied to other public schools within the jurisdiction of the local governing authority and the charter school is located on property that is the subject of a previously approved development order or development permit, and if such development order or development permit contains conditions applicable to the construction or operation of a public or private school, including, but not limited to:

- a. Limits on the number of students;
- b. Limits on the number of teachers;
- c. Limits on the number of classrooms;
- d. Limits on the hours of operation;
- e. Minimum outdoor recreation area; or
- f. Requirements to conform to a prior plan of development.

4. The agency having jurisdiction for inspection of a facility and issuance of a certificate of occupancy or use shall be the local municipality or, if in an unincorporated area, the county governing authority. A charter school that meets the requirements of state law consistent with the requirements of this subsection shall be administratively approved by the local governing authority. If a ~~an official or employee of the~~ local governing authority refuses to comply with this subsection ~~paragraph~~, the aggrieved school or entity has an immediate right to bring an action in circuit court to enforce its rights ~~by injunction~~. An aggrieved party that prevails in such an action ~~receives injunctive relief~~ may be awarded attorney fees and court costs.

(c) Any facility, or portion thereof, used to house a charter school whose charter has been approved by the sponsor and the governing board, pursuant to subsection (7), is exempt from ad valorem taxes pursuant to s. 196.1983. *Notwithstanding any other law, local ordinance, or regulation to the contrary, a local governing authority may not require a charter school to obtain a special exemption or conditional use approval for the charter school to be an allowable use under the local governing authority's land development code*. Any library, community service, museum, performing arts, theater, cinema, or church facility; any facility or land owned by a Florida College System institution or university; any similar public institutional facilities; and any facility recently used to house a school or child care facility licensed under s. 402.305 may provide space to charter schools within their facilities under their preexisting zoning and land use designations without obtaining a special exception, rezoning, or a land use change.

Section 16. *Section 1002.351, Florida Statutes, is repealed.*

Section 17. Subsection (6) of section 1002.394, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.394 The Family Empowerment Scholarship Program.—

(6) SCHOLARSHIP PROHIBITIONS.—A student is not eligible for a Family Empowerment Scholarship while he or she is:

(a) Enrolled full time in a public school, including, but not limited to, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, the College-Preparatory Boarding Academy, ~~the Florida School for Competitive Academics~~, the Florida Virtual School, the Florida Scholars Academy, a developmental research school authorized under s. 1002.32, or a charter school authorized under this chapter. For purposes of this paragraph, a 3- or 4-year-old child who receives services funded through the Florida Edu-

cation Finance Program is considered to be a student enrolled in a public school;

(b) Enrolled in a school operating for the purpose of providing educational services to youth in a Department of Juvenile Justice commitment program;

(c) Receiving any other educational scholarship pursuant to this chapter. However, an eligible public school student receiving a scholarship under s. 1002.411 may receive a scholarship for transportation pursuant to subparagraph (4)(a)2.;

(d) Not having regular and direct contact with his or her private school teachers pursuant to s. 1002.421(1)(i), unless he or she is eligible pursuant to paragraph (3)(b) and enrolled in the participating private school's transition-to-work program pursuant to subsection (16) or a home education program pursuant to s. 1002.41;

(e) Participating in a private tutoring program pursuant to s. 1002.43 unless he or she is determined eligible pursuant to paragraph (3)(b); or

(f) Participating in virtual instruction pursuant to s. 1002.455 that receives state funding pursuant to the student's participation.

Section 18. Subsection (4) of section 1002.395, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.395 Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program.—

(4) SCHOLARSHIP PROHIBITIONS.—A student is not eligible for a scholarship while he or she is:

(a) Enrolled full time in a public school, including, but not limited to, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, the College-Preparatory Boarding Academy, the Florida School for Competitive Academics, the Florida Virtual School, the Florida Scholars Academy, a developmental research school authorized under s. 1002.32, or a charter school authorized under this chapter. For purposes of this paragraph, a 3- or 4-year-old child who receives services funded through the Florida Education Finance Program is considered a student enrolled full time in a public school;

(b) Enrolled in a school operating for the purpose of providing educational services to youth in a Department of Juvenile Justice commitment program;

(c) Receiving any other educational scholarship pursuant to this chapter. However, an eligible public school student receiving a scholarship under s. 1002.411 may receive a scholarship for transportation pursuant to subparagraph (6)(d)4.;

(d) Not having regular and direct contact with his or her private school teachers pursuant to s. 1002.421(1)(i) unless he or she is enrolled in a personalized education program;

(e) Participating in a home education program as defined in s. 1002.01(1);

(f) Participating in a private tutoring program pursuant to s. 1002.43 unless he or she is enrolled in a personalized education program; or

(g) Participating in virtual instruction pursuant to s. 1002.455 that receives state funding pursuant to the student's participation.

Section 19. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (19) of section 1002.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

1002.42 Private schools.—

(19) FACILITIES.—

(c) A private school located in a county with four incorporated municipalities may construct new facilities, which may be temporary or permanent, on property purchased from or owned or leased by a library, community service organization, museum, performing arts venue, theater, cinema, or church under s. 170.201, which is or was actively used as such within 5 years of any executed agreement with a private school; any

land owned by a Florida College System institution or state university; and any land recently used to house a school or child care facility licensed under s. 402.305 under its preexisting zoning and land use designations without rezoning or obtaining a special exception or a land use change and without complying with any mitigation requirements or conditions. The new facility must be located on property used solely for purposes described in this paragraph and must meet applicable state and local health, safety, and welfare laws, codes, and rules, including firesafety and building safety.

Section 20. Paragraphs (e), (m), and (p) of subsection (1) of section 1002.421, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.421 State school choice scholarship program accountability and oversight.—

(1) PRIVATE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY AND OBLIGATIONS.—A private school participating in an educational scholarship program established pursuant to this chapter must be a private school as defined in s. 1002.01 in this state, be registered, and be in compliance with all requirements of this section in addition to private school requirements outlined in s. 1002.42, specific requirements identified within respective scholarship program laws, and other provisions of Florida law that apply to private schools, and must:

(e) Annually complete and submit to the department a notarized scholarship compliance statement certifying that all school employees and contracted personnel with direct student contact have undergone background screening pursuant to s. 435.12 and have met the screening standards as provided in s. 1012.315 s. 435.04.

(m) Require each employee and contracted personnel with direct student contact, upon employment or engagement to provide services, to undergo a state and national background screening under s. 1012.315, pursuant to s. 943.0542, by electronically filing with the Department of Law Enforcement a complete set of fingerprints taken by an authorized law enforcement agency or an employee of the private school, a school district, or a private company who is trained to take fingerprints and deny employment to or terminate an employee if he or she fails to meet the screening standards under s. 1012.315 s. 435.04. Results of the screening shall be provided to the participating private school. For purposes of this paragraph:

1. An "employee or contracted personnel with direct student contact" means any employee or contracted personnel who has unsupervised access to a scholarship student for whom the private school is responsible.

2. The costs of fingerprinting and the background check shall not be borne by the state.

3. Continued employment of an employee or contracted personnel after notification that he or she has failed the background screening under this paragraph shall cause a private school to be ineligible for participation in a scholarship program.

4. An employee or contracted personnel holding a valid Florida teaching certificate who has been fingerprinted pursuant to s. 1012.32 is not required to comply with the provisions of this paragraph.

5. All fingerprints submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement as required by this section must ~~shall~~ be retained in the Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse as provided in s. 435.12 by the Department of Law Enforcement in a manner provided by rule and entered in the statewide automated biometric identification system authorized by s. 943.05(2)(b). Such fingerprints shall thereafter be available for all purposes and uses authorized for arrest fingerprints entered in the statewide automated biometric identification system pursuant to s. 943.051.

6. Employees, contracted personnel, owners, and operators must be rescreened as required by s. 435.12.

7. Persons who apply for employment are governed by the laws and rules in effect at the time of application for employment, provided that the person is continually employed by the same school.

6.—The Department of Law Enforcement shall search all arrest fingerprints received under s. 943.051 against the fingerprints retained in

the statewide automated biometric identification system under subparagraph 5. Any arrest record that is identified with the retained fingerprints of a person subject to the background screening under this section shall be reported to the employing school with which the person is affiliated. Each private school participating in a scholarship program is required to participate in this search process by informing the Department of Law Enforcement of any change in the employment or contractual status of its personnel whose fingerprints are retained under subparagraph 5. The Department of Law Enforcement shall adopt a rule setting the amount of the annual fee to be imposed upon each private school for performing these searches and establishing the procedures for the retention of private school employee and contracted personnel fingerprints and the dissemination of search results. The fee may be borne by the private school or the person fingerprinted.

7. ~~Employees and contracted personnel whose fingerprints are not retained by the Department of Law Enforcement under subparagraphs 5. and 6. are required to be reprinted and must meet state and national background screening requirements upon reemployment or reengagement to provide services in order to comply with the requirements of this section.~~

8. ~~Every 5 years following employment or engagement to provide services with a private school, employees or contracted personnel required to be screened under this section must meet screening standards under s. 435.04, at which time the private school shall request the Department of Law Enforcement to forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for national processing. If the fingerprints of employees or contracted personnel are not retained by the Department of Law Enforcement under subparagraph 5., employees and contracted personnel must electronically file a complete set of fingerprints with the Department of Law Enforcement. Upon submission of fingerprints for this purpose, the private school shall request that the Department of Law Enforcement forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for national processing, and the fingerprints shall be retained by the Department of Law Enforcement under subparagraph 5.~~

(p) Require each owner or operator of the private school, prior to employment or engagement to provide services, to undergo level 2 background screening as provided in s. 1012.315 under chapter 435. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "owner or operator" means an owner, an operator, a superintendent, or a principal of, or a person with equivalent decisionmaking authority over, a private school participating in a scholarship program established pursuant to this chapter. The fingerprints for the background screening must be electronically submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement and may be taken by an authorized law enforcement agency or a private company who is trained to take fingerprints. However, the complete set of fingerprints of an owner or operator may not be taken by the owner or operator. ~~The owner or operator shall provide a copy of the results of the state and national criminal history check to the Department of Education. The cost of the background screening may be borne by the owner or operator.~~

1. ~~Every 5 years following employment or engagement to provide services, each owner or operator must meet level 2 screening standards as described in s. 435.04, at which time the owner or operator shall request the Department of Law Enforcement to forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for level 2 screening. If the fingerprints of an owner or operator are not retained by the Department of Law Enforcement under subparagraph 2., the owner or operator must electronically file a complete set of fingerprints with the Department of Law Enforcement. Upon submission of fingerprints for this purpose, the owner or operator shall request that the Department of Law Enforcement forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for level 2 screening, and the fingerprints shall be retained by the Department of Law Enforcement under subparagraph 2.~~

2. ~~Fingerprints submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement as required by this paragraph must be retained by the Department of Law Enforcement in a manner approved by rule and entered in the statewide automated biometric identification system authorized by s. 943.05(2)(b). The fingerprints must thereafter be available for all purposes and uses authorized for arrest fingerprints entered in the statewide automated biometric identification system pursuant to s. 942.051.~~

3. ~~The Department of Law Enforcement shall search all arrest fingerprints received under s. 943.051 against the fingerprints retained in~~

the statewide automated biometric identification system under subparagraph 2. Any arrest record that is identified with an owner's or operator's fingerprints must be reported to the owner or operator, who must report to the Department of Education. Any costs associated with the search shall be borne by the owner or operator.

4. ~~An owner or operator who fails the level 2 background screening is not eligible to participate in a scholarship program under this chapter.~~

1.5. In addition to the offenses listed in s. 435.04, a person required to undergo background screening pursuant to this part or authorizing statutes may not have an arrest awaiting final disposition for, must not have been found guilty of, or entered a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, and must not have been adjudicated delinquent for, and the record must not have been sealed or expunged for, any of the following offenses or any similar offense of another jurisdiction:

- a. Any authorizing statutes, if the offense was a felony.
- b. This chapter, if the offense was a felony.
- c. Section 409.920, relating to Medicaid provider fraud.
- d. Section 409.9201, relating to Medicaid fraud.
- e. Section 741.28, relating to domestic violence.
- f. Section 817.034, relating to fraudulent acts through mail, wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic, or photooptical systems.
- g. Section 817.234, relating to false and fraudulent insurance claims.
- h. Section 817.505, relating to patient brokering.
- i. Section 817.568, relating to criminal use of personal identification information.
- j. Section 817.60, relating to obtaining a credit card through fraudulent means.
- k. Section 817.61, relating to fraudulent use of credit cards, if the offense was a felony.
- l. Section 831.01, relating to forgery.
- m. Section 831.02, relating to uttering forged instruments.
- n. Section 831.07, relating to forging bank bills, checks, drafts, or promissory notes.
- o. Section 831.09, relating to uttering forged bank bills, checks, drafts, or promissory notes.
- p. Section 831.30, relating to fraud in obtaining medicinal drugs.
- q. Section 831.31, relating to the sale, manufacture, delivery, or possession with the intent to sell, manufacture, or deliver any counterfeit controlled substance, if the offense was a felony.

2.6. At least 30 calendar days before a transfer of ownership of a private school, the owner or operator shall notify the parent of each scholarship student.

3.7. The owner or operator of a private school that has been deemed ineligible to participate in a scholarship program pursuant to this chapter may not transfer ownership or management authority of the school to a relative in order to participate in a scholarship program as the same school or a new school. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "relative" means father, mother, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister.

The department shall suspend the payment of funds to a private school that knowingly fails to comply with this subsection, and shall prohibit the school from enrolling new scholarship students, for 1 fiscal year and

until the school complies. If a private school fails to meet the requirements of this subsection or has consecutive years of material exceptions listed in the report required under paragraph (q), the commissioner may determine that the private school is ineligible to participate in a scholarship program.

Section 21. Subsection (4) of section 1002.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.71 Funding; financial and attendance reporting.—

(4) Notwithstanding s. 1002.53(3) and subsection (2):

(a) A child who, ~~for any of the prekindergarten programs listed in s. 1002.53(3), has not completed any of the prekindergarten programs listed in s. 1002.53(3) more than 70 percent of the hours authorized to be reported for funding under subsection (2), or has not expended more than 70 percent of the funds authorized for the child under s. 1002.66,~~ may withdraw from the program for good cause and reenroll in one of the programs. The total funding for a child who reenrolls in one of the programs for good cause may not exceed one full-time equivalent student. Funding for a child who withdraws and reenrolls in one of the programs for good cause ~~must~~ *shall* be issued in accordance with the department's uniform attendance policy adopted pursuant to paragraph (6)(d).

(b) A child who has not ~~substantially~~ completed any of the prekindergarten programs listed in s. 1002.53(3) may withdraw from the program due to an extreme hardship that is beyond the child's or parent's control, reenroll in one of the summer programs, and be reported for funding purposes as a full-time equivalent student in the summer program for which the child is reenrolled.

A child may reenroll only once in a prekindergarten program under this section. A child who reenrolls in a prekindergarten program under this subsection may not subsequently withdraw from the program and reenroll, unless the child is granted a good cause exemption under this subsection. The department shall establish criteria specifying whether a good cause exists for a child to withdraw from a program under paragraph (a), ~~whether a child has substantially completed a program under paragraph (b), and whether an extreme hardship exists which is beyond the child's or parent's control under paragraph (b).~~

Section 22. Effective October 1, 2025, subsections (6) and (13) of section 1002.81, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of that section, to read:

1002.81 Definitions.—Consistent with the requirements of 45 C.F.R. parts 98 and 99 and as used in this part, the term:

(1) “At-risk child” means:

(g) *A child in the custody of and in residence with a parent who is receiving comprehensive services with a licensed residential behavioral health treatment center with an onsite child care facility.*

(6) “Economically disadvantaged” means having a family income that does not exceed *55 percent of the state median income* ~~150 percent of the federal poverty level~~ and includes being a child of a working migratory family as defined by 34 C.F.R. s. 200.81(d) or (f) or an agricultural worker who is employed by more than one agricultural employer during the course of a year, and whose income varies according to weather conditions and market stability.

(13) “Single point of entry” means an integrated information system that allows a parent to enroll his or her child in the school readiness program or the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program at various locations throughout a county, that may allow a parent to enroll his or her child by telephone or through a website, and that uses a uniform waiting list to track ~~eligible~~ *eligible* children waiting for enrollment in the school readiness program *based on family household income and the priorities established under s. 1002.87.*

Section 23. Effective October 1, 2025, paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 1002.82, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.82 Department of Education; powers and duties.—

(2) The department shall:

(f) Establish a unified approach to the state's efforts to coordinate a comprehensive early learning program. In support of this effort, the department:

1. Shall adopt specific program support services that address the state's school readiness program, including:

a. Statewide data information program requirements that include:

(I) Eligibility requirements.

(II) Financial reports.

(III) Program accountability measures.

(IV) Child progress reports.

b. Child care resource and referral services.

c. A single point of entry and uniform waiting list *that tracks children waiting for school readiness program services based on family household income and the priorities established under s. 1002.87.*

2. May provide technical assistance and guidance on additional support services to complement the school readiness program, including:

a. Warm-Line services.

b. Anti-fraud plans.

c. Training and support for parental involvement in children's early education.

d. Family literacy activities and services.

Section 24. Effective October 1, 2025, subsection (2) of section 1002.84, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.84 Early learning coalitions; school readiness powers and duties.—Each early learning coalition shall:

(2) Establish a uniform waiting list to track ~~eligible~~ *eligible* children waiting for enrollment in the school readiness program *based on family household income and the priorities established under s. 1002.87* and in accordance with rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

Section 25. Effective October 1, 2025, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and subsection (5) of section 1002.85, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1002.85 Early learning coalition plans.—

(2) Each early learning coalition must submit a school readiness program plan every 3 years to the department before the expenditure of funds. A coalition may not implement its school readiness program plan until it receives approval from the department. A coalition may not implement any revision to its school readiness program plan until the coalition submits the revised plan to and receives approval from the department. If the department rejects a plan or revision, the coalition must continue to operate under its previously approved plan. The plan must include, but is not limited to:

(b) The coalition's procedures for implementing the requirements of this part, including:

1. Single point of entry.

2. Uniform waiting list *that tracks children waiting for school readiness program services based on family household income and the priorities established under s. 1002.87.*

3. Eligibility and enrollment processes and local eligibility priorities for children pursuant to s. 1002.87.

4. Parent access and choice.

5. Sliding fee scale and policies on applying the waiver or reduction of fees in accordance with s. 1002.84(9).

6. Use of preassessments and postassessments, as applicable.

7. Use of contracted slots, as applicable, based on the results of the assessment required under paragraph (i).

(5) The department shall collect and report data on coalition delivery of early learning programs. Elements shall include, but are not limited to, measures related to progress towards reducing the number of children on the waiting list, the percentage of children served by the program as compared to the number of administrative staff and overhead, the percentage of children served compared to total number of children under the age of 5 years below *55 percent of the state median income* ~~150 percent of the federal poverty level~~, provider payment processes, fraud intervention, child attendance and stability, use of child care resource and referral, and kindergarten readiness outcomes for children in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program or the school readiness program upon entry into kindergarten. The department shall request input from the coalitions and school readiness program providers before finalizing the format and data to be used. The report shall be implemented beginning July 1, 2014, and results of the report must be included in the annual report under s. 1002.82.

Section 26. Effective October 1, 2025, paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 1002.89, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.89 School readiness program; funding.—

(1) DETERMINATION OF EARLY LEARNING COALITION SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM FUNDING.—Funding for the school readiness program shall be used by the early learning coalitions in accordance with this part and the General Appropriations Act.

(a) School readiness program allocation.—If the annual allocation for the school readiness program is not determined in the General Appropriations Act or the substantive bill implementing the General Appropriations Act, it shall be determined as follows:

1. For each county in the early learning coalition, the total number of unweighted full-time equivalent school readiness children, as adopted by the Early Learning Programs Estimating Conference pursuant to s. 216.136(8), *which shall consider the historical trend of children served and population changes for each county*, shall be multiplied by the appropriate care level factor to calculate the weighted full-time equivalent school readiness children. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term “care level factor” means the adjustment made based on the relative differences in reimbursement rates associated with the eligible school readiness children pursuant to s. 1002.87.

2. The total weighted full-time equivalent school readiness children shall be multiplied by the rate index to calculate the adjusted weighted full-time equivalent school readiness children. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term “rate index” means the adjustment made based on the impact of geographic location on reimbursement rates.

3. The school readiness program funds shall be distributed based on each county’s proportionate share of the total adjusted weighted full-time equivalent school readiness children.

Section 27. Subsection (2) of section 1003.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.05 Assistance to transitioning students from military families.—

(2) The Department of Education shall facilitate the development and implementation of memoranda of agreement between school districts and military installations which address strategies for assisting students who are the children of active duty military personnel in the transition to Florida schools.

(a) *The strategies developed by the department must include the development and implementation of a training module relating to facilitating and expediting the transfer of a K-12 student’s education records from an out-of-state school.*

(b) The department shall provide the training module required under paragraph (a) to each district school board to provide to each public and charter K-12 school within its district. The district school board shall make the training available to employees who work directly with military students and families.

Section 28. Subsection (3) of section 1003.41, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.41 State academic standards.—

(3) The Commissioner of Education shall, as deemed necessary, develop and submit proposed revisions to the standards for review and comment by Florida educators, school administrators, representatives of the Florida College System institutions and state universities who have expertise in the content knowledge and skills necessary to prepare a student for postsecondary education and careers, a representative from the Department of Commerce, business and industry leaders for in-demand careers, and the public. The commissioner, after considering reviews and comments, shall submit the proposed revisions to the State Board of Education for adoption. *New and revised standards documents submitted for approval to the state board must consist only of academic standards and benchmarks. The commissioner shall revise all currently approved standards documents based on the requirements of this subsection and submit all revised standards documents to the state board for approval no later than July 1, 2026.*

Section 29. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1003.4201, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.4201 Comprehensive system of reading instruction.—Each school district must implement a system of comprehensive reading instruction for students enrolled in prekindergarten through grade 12 and certain students who exhibit a substantial deficiency in early literacy.

(2)(a) Components of the reading instruction plan may include the following:

1. Additional time per day of evidence-based intensive reading instruction for kindergarten through grade 12 students, which may be delivered during or outside of the regular school day.

2. Highly qualified reading coaches, who must be endorsed in reading, to specifically support classroom teachers in making instructional decisions based on progress monitoring data collected pursuant to s. 1008.25(9) and improve classroom teacher delivery of effective reading instruction, reading intervention, and reading in the content areas based on student need.

3. Professional learning to help instructional personnel and certified prekindergarten teachers funded in the Florida Education Finance Program earn a certification, a credential, an endorsement, or an advanced degree in scientifically researched and evidence-based reading instruction.

4. Summer reading camps, using only classroom teachers or other district personnel who possess a micro-credential as specified in s. 1003.485 or are certified or endorsed in reading consistent with s. 1008.25(8)(b)3., for all students in kindergarten through grade 5 exhibiting a reading deficiency as determined by district and state assessments.

5. *Intensive reading interventions, which must be delivered by instructional personnel who possess a micro-credential as defined in s. 1003.485(1) or are certified or endorsed in reading as provided in s. 1012.586 and must incorporate evidence-based strategies identified by the Just Read, Florida! office pursuant to s. 1001.215(7). Instructional personnel who possess a micro-credential as defined in s. 1003.485(1) and are delivering intensive reading interventions must be supervised by an individual certified or endorsed in reading. For the purposes of this subparagraph, the term “supervised” means that instructional personnel with a micro-credential are able, through telecommunication or in person, to communicate and consult with, and receive direction from, certified or endorsed personnel. Incentives for instructional personnel and certified prekindergarten teachers funded in the Florida Education Finance Program who possess a reading certification or endorsement as specified in s. 1012.586 or micro-credential as specified in s. 1003.485 and provide educational support to improve student literacy.*

6. Tutoring in reading.

7. *A description of how the district prioritizes the assignment of highly effective teachers, as identified in s. 1012.34(2)(e), from kindergarten to grade 2.*

Section 30. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—

(3) STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA; COURSE AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS.—

(h) *One-half credit in personal financial literacy.*—Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2023-2024 school year, each student must earn one-half credit in personal financial literacy and money management. This instruction must include discussion of or instruction in all of the following:

1. Types of bank accounts offered, opening and managing a bank account, and assessing the quality of a depository institution's services.
2. Balancing a checkbook.
3. Basic principles of money management, such as spending, credit, credit scores, and managing debt, including retail and credit card debt.
4. Completing a loan application.
5. Receiving an inheritance and related implications.
6. Basic principles of personal insurance policies.
7. Computing federal income taxes.
8. Local tax assessments.
9. Computing interest rates by various mechanisms.
10. Simple contracts.
11. Contesting an incorrect billing statement.
12. Types of savings and investments.
13. State and federal laws concerning finance.
14. *Costs of postsecondary education, including cost of attendance, completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, scholarships and grants, and student loans.*

Section 31. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 1004.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.04 Public accountability and state approval for teacher preparation programs.—

(4) CONTINUED PROGRAM APPROVAL.—Continued approval of a teacher preparation program shall be based upon evidence that the program continues to implement the requirements for initial approval and upon significant, objective, and quantifiable measures of the program and the performance of the program completers.

(a) The criteria for continued approval must include each of the following:

1. Candidate readiness based on passage rates on educator certification examinations under s. 1012.56, as applicable.
2. Evidence of performance in each of the following areas:
 - a. Performance of students in prekindergarten through grade 12 who are assigned to in-field program completers on statewide assessments using the results of the student learning growth formula adopted under s. 1012.34.
 - b. Results of program completers' annual evaluations in accordance with the timeline as set forth in s. 1012.34.

c. Workforce contributions, including placement of program completers in instructional positions in Florida public and private schools, with additional weight given to production of program completers in statewide high-demand ~~critical~~ teacher needs ~~shortage~~ areas as identified in s. 1012.07.

3. Results of the program completers' survey measuring their satisfaction with preparation for the realities of the classroom.

4. Results of the employers' survey measuring satisfaction with the program and the program's responsiveness to local school districts.

Section 32. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 1004.0971, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.0971 Emergency opioid antagonists in Florida College System institution and state university housing.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(b) "Emergency opioid antagonist" means ~~a naloxone hydrochloride or any similarly acting drug that blocks the effects of opioids administered from outside the body and that is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of an opioid overdose.~~

Section 33. Paragraphs (c) and (f) of subsection (1) of section 1005.06, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1005.06 Institutions not under the jurisdiction or purview of the commission.—

(1) Except as otherwise provided in law, the following institutions are not under the jurisdiction or purview of the commission and are not required to obtain licensure:

(c) Any institution that is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education, eligible to participate in the William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program and that is a nonprofit independent college or university located and chartered in this state and accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to grant baccalaureate degrees, *or an institution authorized under s. 1009.521.*

(f)1. ~~A nonpublic religious postsecondary educational institution may operate without licensure governmental oversight if the institution college annually verifies by sworn affidavit to the commission each of the following affirmations that:~~

~~a.1.~~ The name of the institution includes a religious modifier or the name of a religious patriarch, saint, person, or symbol of the church.

~~b.~~ An explanation of the religious modifier, religious name, or religious symbol used in the institution's name.

~~c.2.~~ The institution offers only educational programs that prepare students for religious vocations as ministers, professionals, or laypersons in the categories of ministry, counseling, theology, education, administration, music, fine arts, media communications, or social work.

~~d.3.~~ The titles of degrees issued by the institution cannot be confused with secular degree titles. For this purpose, each degree title must include a religious modifier that immediately precedes, or is included within, any of the following degrees: Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Science, Doctor of Philosophy, and Doctor of Education. The religious modifier must be placed on the title line of the degree, on the transcript, and whenever the title of the degree appears in official school documents or publications.

~~e.~~ The titles and majors of every degree program offered by the institution as they appear on degrees and transcripts issued by the institution.

~~f.4.~~ The duration of all degree programs offered by the institution is consistent with the standards of the commission.

~~g.5.~~ The institution's consumer practices are consistent with those required by s. 1005.04.

2. *If requested by the commission, the institution must submit documentation demonstrating compliance with the requirements of this paragraph and with s. 1005.04. The institution shall submit such documentation within 30 days after the request.*

3. *The commission shall review for approval or denial, in a public meeting, affidavits submitted pursuant to this paragraph. The commission shall approve an affidavit unless the affidavit is facially invalid, the affidavit is contradicted by the institution's public advertisements or by other evidence, or the institution has failed to comply with the requirements of subparagraph 2. The commission may provide such a religious institution a letter stating that the institution has met the requirements of state law and is not subject to licensure by the commission governmental oversight.*

a. *If a nonpublic religious postsecondary educational institution that has been issued a written notice of exemption from licensure by the commission subsequently fails to comply with the requirements of this paragraph, the commission must revoke its approval of the institution's affidavit in a public meeting.*

b. *If an affidavit is denied by the commission, the commission may take any of the actions specified in s. 1005.38 unless the institution applies for a license pursuant to s. 1005.31(1)(a), ceases operating in this state, or submits documentation indicating compliance with this paragraph.*

c. *The commission may adopt rules to administer this paragraph.*

Section 34. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 1006.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.09 Duties of school principal relating to student discipline and school safety.—

(1)(a)1. Subject to law and to the rules of the State Board of Education and the district school board, the principal in charge of the school or the principal's designee shall develop policies for delegating to any teacher or other member of the instructional staff or to any bus driver transporting students of the school responsibility for the control and direction of students. Each school principal shall fully support the authority of his or her teachers and school bus drivers to remove disobedient, disrespectful, violent, abusive, uncontrollable, or disruptive students from the classroom and the school bus and, when appropriate and available, place such students in an alternative educational setting. The principal or the principal's designee must give full consideration to the recommendation for discipline made by a teacher, other member of the instructional staff, or a bus driver when making a decision regarding student referral for discipline.

2. *If the disobedient, disrespectful, violent, abusive, uncontrollable, or disruptive behavior continues, the school principal must refer the case to the school's child study team to schedule a meeting with the parent to identify potential remedies.*

3. *If an initial meeting with the student's parent does not resolve the behavioral issues, the child study team must implement the following:*

a. *Frequent attempts by the school, including the student's teacher and a school administrator, at communicating with the student's family. The attempts may be made in writing or by telephone, but must be documented.*

b. *A student evaluation for alternative education programs.*

c. *Behavior contracts.*

The child study team may, but is not required to, implement other interventions, including referral to other agencies for family services or a recommendation for filing a petition for a child in need of services pursuant to s. 984.15.

Section 35. Subsection (3) of section 1006.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.13 Policy of zero tolerance for crime and victimization.—

(3)(a) Zero-tolerance policies must require students found to have committed one of the following offenses to be expelled, with or without

continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than 1 full year, and to be referred to the criminal justice or juvenile justice system.

1.(a) Bringing a firearm or weapon, as defined in chapter 790, to school, to any school function, or onto any school-sponsored transportation or possessing a firearm at school.

2.(b) Making a threat or false report, as defined by ss. 790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving school or school personnel's property, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity.

(b) District school boards may assign the student to a disciplinary program for the purpose of continuing educational services during the period of expulsion. District school superintendents may consider the 1-year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis and request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if the request for modification is in writing and it is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school system. If a student committing any of the offenses in this subsection is a student who has a disability, the district school board shall comply with applicable State Board of Education rules.

(c) *Before the expiration of an expulsion period, the district school superintendent shall determine, based upon the determination of the threat management team, whether the expulsion period should be extended and, if the expulsion period is extended, what educational services will be provided. A recommendation to extend the expulsion period must be provided to the student and his or her parents in accordance with s. 1006.08(1).*

Section 36. Effective upon becoming a law, paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 1007.27, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (d) is added to subsection (2) of that section, to read:

1007.27 Articulated acceleration mechanisms.—

(1)

(b) The State Board of Education and the Board of Governors shall identify Florida College System institutions, ~~and~~ state universities, ~~and~~ national consortia to develop courses that align with s. 1007.25 for students in secondary education and—provide the training required under s. 1007.35(6).

(2)

(d) *The department may join or establish a national consortium as an alternative method to develop and implement advanced placement courses that align with s. 1007.25.*

Section 37. Subsection (5), paragraph (j) of subsection (6), and subsection (8) of section 1007.35, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1007.35 Florida Partnership for Minority and Underrepresented Student Achievement.—

(5) Each public high school, including, but not limited to, schools and alternative sites and centers of the Department of Juvenile Justice, shall provide for the administration of the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), *Classic Learning Test 10 (CLT10)*, or the PreACT to all enrolled 10th grade students. However, a written notice ~~must~~ *shall* be provided to each parent which must include the opportunity to exempt his or her child from taking the PSAT/NMSQT, CLT10, or the PreACT.

(a) Test results will provide each high school with a database of student assessment data which certified school counselors will use to identify students who are prepared or who need additional work to be prepared to enroll and be successful in advanced high school courses.

(b) Funding for the PSAT/NMSQT, CLT10, or the PreACT for all 10th grade students ~~is shall be~~ contingent upon annual funding in the General Appropriations Act.

(c) Public school districts ~~shall must~~ choose either the PSAT/NMSQT, *CLT10*, or ~~the~~ PreACT for districtwide administration.

(6) The partnership shall:

(j) Provide information to students, parents, teachers, counselors, administrators, districts, Florida College System institutions, and state universities regarding *the* PSAT/NMSQT, *CLT10*, or ~~the~~ PreACT administration, including, but not limited to:

1. Test administration dates and times.
2. That participation in the PSAT/NMSQT, *CLT10*, or ~~the~~ PreACT is open to all 10th grade students.
3. The value of such tests in providing diagnostic feedback on student skills.
4. The value of student scores in predicting the probability of success on advanced course examinations.

(8)(a) By September 30 of each year, the partnership shall submit to the department a report that contains an evaluation of the effectiveness of the delivered services and activities. Activities and services must be evaluated on their effectiveness at raising student achievement and increasing the number of AP or other advanced course examinations in low-performing middle and high schools. Other indicators that must be addressed in the evaluation report include the number of middle and high school teachers trained; the effectiveness of the training; measures of postsecondary readiness of the students affected by the program; levels of participation in *the* 10th grade PSAT/NMSQT, *CLT10*, or ~~the~~ PreACT testing; and measures of student, parent, and teacher awareness of and satisfaction with the services of the partnership.

(b) The department shall contribute to the evaluation process by providing access, consistent with s. 119.071(5)(a), to student and teacher information necessary to match against databases containing teacher professional learning data and databases containing assessment data for the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, ACT, PreACT, *CLT*, *CLT10*, AP, and other appropriate measures. The department shall also provide student-level data on student progress from middle school through high school and into college and the workforce, if available, in order to support longitudinal studies. The partnership shall analyze and report student performance data in a manner that protects the rights of students and parents as required in 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g and s. 1002.22.

Section 38. Paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 1008.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.25 Public school student progression; student support; coordinated screening and progress monitoring; reporting requirements.—

(6) MATHEMATICS DEFICIENCY AND PARENTAL NOTIFICATION.—

(c) The parent of a student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in mathematics, as described in paragraph (a), must be immediately notified in writing of the following:

1. That his or her child has been identified as having a substantial deficiency in mathematics, including a description and explanation, in terms understandable to the parent, of the exact nature of the student's difficulty in learning and lack of achievement in mathematics.
2. A description of the current services that are provided to the child.
3. A description of the proposed intensive interventions and supports that will be provided to the child that are designed to remediate the identified area of mathematics deficiency.
4. Strategies, including multisensory strategies and programming, through a home-based plan the parent can use in helping his or her child succeed in mathematics. The home-based plan must provide access to the resources identified in paragraph (d).

5. Information about the student's eligibility for the New Worlds Scholarship Accounts under s. 1002.411 and the school district's tutoring

services provided by the New Worlds Tutoring Program under s. 1008.366.

After the initial notification, the school shall apprise the parent at least monthly of the student's progress in response to the intensive interventions and supports. Such communications must be in writing and must explain any additional interventions or supports that will be implemented to accelerate the student's progress if the interventions and supports already being implemented have not resulted in improvement. Upon the request of the parent, the teacher or school administrator shall meet to discuss the student's progress. The parent may request more frequent notification of the student's progress, more frequent interventions or supports, and earlier implementation of the additional interventions or supports described in the initial notification.

Section 39. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section 1008.365, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.365 Reading Achievement Initiative for Scholastic Excellence Act.—

(8) As part of the RAISE Program, the department shall establish a tutoring program and develop training in effective reading tutoring practices and content, based on evidence-based practices grounded in the science of reading and aligned to the English Language Arts standards under s. 1003.41, which prepares eligible high school students to tutor students in kindergarten through grade 3 in schools identified under this section, instilling in those students a love of reading and improving their literacy skills.

(c) Tutoring may be part of a service-learning course adopted pursuant to s. 1003.497. Students may earn up to three elective credits for high school graduation based on the verified number of hours the student spends tutoring under the program. The hours of volunteer service must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and an administrator or designee of the school in which the tutoring occurred. ~~The Unpaid~~ hours that a high school student devotes to tutoring may be counted toward meeting community service requirements for high school graduation and community service requirements for participation in the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program as provided in s. 1003.497(3)(b). The department shall designate a high school student who provides at least 75 verified hours of tutoring under the program as a New Worlds Scholar and award the student with a pin indicating such designation.

Section 40. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 1008.366, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1008.366 The New Worlds Tutoring Program.—

(1) The New Worlds Tutoring Program is created to support school districts and schools in improving student achievement in reading and mathematics by:

(b) Providing best practice guidelines for mathematics tutoring in alignment with Florida's Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards for mathematics in consultation with the Office of Mathematics and Sciences.

(2) Annually, by ~~August 31~~ ~~July 1~~, the administrator of the New Worlds Tutoring Program shall provide to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Commissioner of Education a report summarizing school district use of program funds and student academic outcomes as a result of the additional literacy or mathematics support provided under this section.

Section 41. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 1009.8962, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.8962 Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund.—

(3) As used in this section, the term:

(b) "Institution" means a school district career center under s. 1001.44; a charter technical career center under s. 1002.34; a Florida College System institution; a state university; an independent nonprofit college or university located and chartered in this state and accredited by an agency or association that is recognized by the database created and maintained by the United States Department of Education to grant

baccalaureate degrees; or an independent school, college, or university with an accredited program as defined in s. 464.003 which is located in this state and licensed by the Commission for Independent Education pursuant to s. 1005.31, or an institution authorized under s. 1009.521, which has a nursing education program that meets or exceeds the following:

1. For a certified nursing assistant program, a completion rate of at least 70 percent for the prior year.

2. For a licensed practical nurse, associate of science in nursing, and bachelor of science in nursing program, a first-time passage rate on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination of at least 75 percent for the prior year based on a minimum of 10 testing participants.

Section 42. *Section 1011.58, Florida Statutes, is repealed.*

Section 43. *Section 1011.59, Florida Statutes, is repealed.*

Section 44. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1011.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.71 District school tax.—

(5) A school district may expend, subject to s. 200.065, up to \$200 per unweighted full-time equivalent student from the revenue generated by the millage levy authorized by subsection (2) to fund, in addition to expenditures authorized in paragraphs (2)(a)-(j), expenses for the following:

(b) Payment of the cost of premiums, as defined in s. 627.403, for property and casualty insurance necessary to insure school district educational and ancillary plants. As used in this paragraph, casualty insurance has the same meaning as in s. 624.605(1)(b), (d), (f), (g), (h), and (m) ~~s. 624.605(1)(d), (f), (g), (h), and (m)~~. Operating revenues that are made available through the payment of property and casualty insurance premiums from revenues generated under this subsection may be expended only for nonrecurring operational expenditures of the school district.

Section 45. Section 1012.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.07 Identification of ~~high-demand critical~~ teacher needs ~~shortage~~ areas.—The term “~~high-demand critical~~ teacher needs ~~shortage~~ area” means high-need content areas and high-priority location areas identified by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 necessary to annually identify ~~high-demand critical~~ teacher needs ~~shortage~~ areas. The state board must consider current and emerging educational requirements and workforce demands in determining ~~high-demand critical~~ teacher needs ~~shortage~~ areas. School grade levels may also be designated critical teacher shortage areas. Individual district school boards may identify and submit other ~~high-demand critical~~ teacher needs ~~shortage~~ areas. Such submissions must be aligned to current and emerging educational requirements and workforce demands in order to be approved by the State Board of Education. High-priority location areas must be in high-density, low-economic urban schools; low-density, low-economic rural schools; and schools that earned a grade of “F” or three consecutive grades of “D” pursuant to s. 1008.34. The State Board of Education shall develop strategies to address ~~high-demand critical~~ teacher needs ~~shortage~~ areas.

Section 46. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 1012.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.22 Public school personnel; powers and duties of the district school board.—The district school board shall:

(1) Designate positions to be filled, prescribe qualifications for those positions, and provide for the appointment, compensation, promotion, suspension, and dismissal of employees as follows, subject to the requirements of this chapter:

(c) *Compensation and salary schedules.—*

1. Definitions.—As used in this paragraph:

a. “Adjustment” means an addition to the base salary schedule that is not a bonus and becomes part of the employee’s permanent base salary and shall be considered compensation under s. 121.021(22).

b. “Grandfathered salary schedule” means the salary schedule or schedules adopted by a district school board before July 1, 2014, pursuant to subparagraph 4.

c. “Instructional personnel” means instructional personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a)-(d), excluding substitute teachers.

d. “Performance salary schedule” means the salary schedule or schedules adopted by a district school board pursuant to subparagraph 5.

e. “Salary schedule” means the schedule or schedules used to provide the base salary for district school board personnel.

f. “School administrator” means a school administrator as defined in s. 1012.01(3)(c).

g. “Supplement” means an annual addition to the base salary for the term of the negotiated supplement as long as the employee continues his or her employment for the purpose of the supplement. A supplement does not become part of the employee’s continuing base salary but shall be considered compensation under s. 121.021(22).

2. Cost-of-living adjustment.—A district school board may provide a cost-of-living salary adjustment if the adjustment:

a. Does not discriminate among comparable classes of employees based upon the salary schedule under which they are compensated.

b. Does not exceed 50 percent of the annual adjustment provided to instructional personnel rated as effective.

3. Advanced degrees.—A district school board may use advanced degrees in setting a salary schedule for instructional personnel or school administrators if the advanced degree is held in the individual’s area of certification.

4. Grandfathered salary schedule.—

a. The district school board shall adopt a salary schedule or salary schedules to be used as the basis for paying all school employees hired before July 1, 2014. Instructional personnel on annual contract as of July 1, 2014, shall be placed on the performance salary schedule adopted under subparagraph 5. Instructional personnel on continuing contract or professional service contract may opt into the performance salary schedule if the employee relinquishes such contract and agrees to be employed on an annual contract under s. 1012.335. Such an employee shall be placed on the performance salary schedule and may not return to continuing contract or professional service contract status. Any employee who opts into the performance salary schedule may not return to the grandfathered salary schedule.

b. In determining the grandfathered salary schedule for instructional personnel, a district school board must base a portion of each employee’s compensation upon performance demonstrated under s. 1012.34 and shall provide differentiated pay for both instructional personnel and school administrators based upon district-determined factors, including, but not limited to, additional responsibilities, school demographics, ~~high-demand teacher needs critical shortage~~ areas, and level of job performance difficulties.

5. Performance salary schedule.—By July 1, 2014, the district school board shall adopt a performance salary schedule that provides annual salary adjustments for instructional personnel and school administrators based upon performance determined under s. 1012.34. Employees hired on or after July 1, 2014, or employees who choose to move from the grandfathered salary schedule to the performance salary schedule shall be compensated pursuant to the performance salary schedule once they have received the appropriate performance evaluation for this purpose.

a. Base salary.—The base salary shall be established as follows:

(I) The base salary for instructional personnel or school administrators who opt into the performance salary schedule shall be the salary paid in the prior year, including adjustments only.

(II) Instructional personnel or school administrators new to the district, returning to the district after a break in service without an authorized leave of absence, or appointed for the first time to a position in the district in the capacity of instructional personnel or school administrator shall be placed on the performance salary schedule.

b. Salary adjustments.—Salary adjustments for highly effective or effective performance shall be established as follows:

(I) The annual salary adjustment under the performance salary schedule for an employee rated as highly effective must be at least 25 percent greater than the highest annual salary adjustment available to an employee of the same classification through any other salary schedule adopted by the district.

(II) The annual salary adjustment under the performance salary schedule for an employee rated as effective must be equal to at least 50 percent and no more than 75 percent of the annual adjustment provided for a highly effective employee of the same classification.

(III) A salary schedule shall not provide an annual salary adjustment for an employee who receives a rating other than highly effective or effective for the year.

c. Salary supplements.—In addition to the salary adjustments, each district school board shall provide for salary supplements for activities that must include, but are not limited to:

(I) Assignment to a Title I eligible school.

(II) Assignment to a school that earned a grade of “F” or three consecutive grades of “D” pursuant to s. 1008.34 such that the supplement remains in force for at least 1 year following improved performance in that school.

(III) Certification and teaching in *high-demand critical-teacher needs shortage* areas. Statewide *high-demand critical-teacher needs shortage* areas shall be identified by the State Board of Education under s. 1012.07. However, the district school board may identify other areas of *high-demand needs critical shortage* within the school district for purposes of this sub-subparagraph and may remove areas identified by the state board which do not apply within the school district.

(IV) Assignment of additional academic responsibilities.

If budget constraints in any given year limit a district school board’s ability to fully fund all adopted salary schedules, the performance salary schedule shall not be reduced on the basis of total cost or the value of individual awards in a manner that is proportionally greater than reductions to any other salary schedules adopted by the district. Any compensation for longevity of service awarded to instructional personnel who are on any other salary schedule must be included in calculating the salary adjustments required by sub-subparagraph b.

Section 47. Section 1012.315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.315 Screening standards.—

(1) A person is ineligible for educator certification or employment in any position that requires direct contact with students in a district school system, a charter school, or a private school that participates in a state scholarship program under chapter 1002, *which includes being an owner or operator of a private school that participates in a scholarship program under chapter 1002*, if the person:

(a)(1) Is on the disqualification list maintained by the department under s. 1001.10(4)(b);

(b)(2) Is registered as a sex offender as described in 42 U.S.C. s. 9858f(c)(1)(C);

(c)(3) Is ineligible based on a security background investigation under s. 435.04(2). ~~Beginning January 1, 2025, or a later date as determined by the Agency for Health Care Administration, The Agency for~~

Health Care Administration shall determine the eligibility of employees in any position that requires direct contact with students in a district school system, a charter school, or a private school that participates in a state scholarship program under chapter 1002;

(d)(4) Would be ineligible for an exemption under s. 435.07(4)(c); or

(e)(5) Has been convicted or found guilty of, has had adjudication withheld for, or has pled guilty or nolo contendere to:

1.(a) Any criminal act committed in another state or under federal law which, if committed in this state, constitutes a disqualifying offense under s. 435.04(2).

2.(b) Any delinquent act committed in this state or any delinquent or criminal act committed in another state or under federal law which, if committed in this state, qualifies an individual for inclusion on the Registered Juvenile Sex Offender List under s. 943.0435(1)(h)1.d.

(2) *Persons who apply for certification or employment are governed by the law and rules in effect at the time of application for issuance of the initial certificate or employment, provided that continuity of certificates or employment is maintained.*

Section 48. Section 1012.77, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.77 Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for Education Program.—

(1) ~~The Legislature recognizes that Florida continues to face teacher shortages and that fewer young people consider teaching as a career.~~ It is the intent of the Legislature to promote the positive and rewarding aspects of being a teacher, to encourage more individuals to become teachers, and to provide annual sabbatical support for outstanding Florida teachers to serve as goodwill ambassadors for education. The Legislature further wishes to honor the memory of Christa McAuliffe, who epitomized the challenge and inspiration that teaching can be.

(2) The Christa McAuliffe Ambassador for Education Program is established to provide salary, travel, and other related expenses annually for an outstanding Florida teacher to promote the positive aspects of teaching as a career. The goals of the program are to:

(a) Enhance the stature of teachers and the teaching profession.

(b) Promote the importance of quality education and teaching for our future.

(c) Inspire and attract talented people to become teachers.

(d) Provide information regarding Florida’s scholarship and loan programs related to teaching.

(e) Promote the teaching profession within community and business groups.

(f) Provide information to retired military personnel and other individuals who might consider teaching as a second career.

(g) Work with and represent the Department of Education, as needed.

(h) Work with and encourage the efforts of school and district teachers of the year.

(i) Support the activities of the Florida Future Educator of America Program.

(j) Represent Florida teachers at business, trade, education, and other conferences and meetings.

(k) Promote the teaching profession in other ways related to the teaching responsibilities, background experiences, and aspirations of the Ambassador for Education.

(3) The Teacher of the Year shall serve as the Ambassador for Education. If the Teacher of the Year is unable to serve as the Ambassador for Education, the first runner-up shall serve in his or her place. The Department of Education shall establish application and selection procedures for determining an annual teacher of the year.

Applications and selection criteria shall be developed and distributed annually by the Department of Education to all *eligible entities identified in subsection (4) school districts*. The Commissioner of Education shall establish a selection committee which assures representation from teacher organizations, administrators, and parents to select the Teacher of the Year and Ambassador for Education from among the district teachers of the year.

(4) *Eligible entities to submit to the Department of Education a nominee for the Teacher of the Year and Ambassador for Education are:*

(a) *Florida school districts, including lab schools as defined in s. 1002.32.*

(b) *Charter school consortia with at least 30 member schools and an approved professional learning system on file with the department.*

(5)(a)(4)(a) The Commissioner of Education shall pay an annual salary, fringe benefits, travel costs, and other costs associated with administering the program.

(b) The Ambassador for Education shall serve for 1 year, from July 1 to June 30, and shall be assured of returning to his or her teaching position upon completion of the program. The ambassador will not have a break in creditable or continuous service or employment for the period of time in which he or she participates in the program.

Section 49. Subsection (3) of section 1013.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.30 University campus master plans and campus development agreements.—

(3) Each university board of trustees shall prepare and adopt a campus master plan for the university and maintain a copy of the plan on the university's website. The master plan must identify general land uses and address the need for and plans for provision of roads, parking, public transportation, solid waste, drainage, sewer, potable water, and recreation and open space during the coming 10 to 20 years. The plans must contain elements relating to future land use, intergovernmental coordination, capital improvements, recreation and open space, general infrastructure, housing, and conservation. Each element must address compatibility with the surrounding community. The master plan must identify specific land uses, general location of structures, densities and intensities of use, and contain standards for onsite development, site design, environmental management, and the preservation of historic and archaeological resources. The transportation element must address reasonable transportation demand management techniques to minimize offsite impacts where possible. Data and analyses on which the elements are based must include, at a minimum: the characteristics of vacant lands; projected impacts of development on onsite and offsite infrastructure, public services, and natural resources; student enrollment projections; student housing needs; and the need for academic and support facilities. Master plans must be updated at least every 10 5 years.

Section 50. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 1009.531, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.531 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program; student eligibility requirements for initial awards.—

(1) In order to be eligible for an initial award from any of the scholarships under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, a student must:

(b) Earn a standard Florida high school diploma pursuant to s. 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282 or a high school equivalency diploma pursuant to s. 1003.435 unless:

1. The student completes a home education program according to s. 1002.41;

2. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-Florida school while living with a parent or guardian who is on, or, within 12 months before the student's high school graduation, has retired from, military or public service assignment away from Florida; or

3. The student earns a high school diploma from a Florida private school operating pursuant to s. 1002.42.

Section 51. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 2463-2752 of the amendment and insert: An act relating to education; amending s. 11.45, F.S.; deleting the Florida School for Competitive Academics from the list of entities subject to certain audit requirements; amending s. 110.211, F.S.; authorizing recruiting within the career service system to include the use of certain apprenticeship programs; providing that open competition is not required under certain circumstances relating to the career service system; amending s. 125.901, F.S.; revising the composition and terms of membership of certain councils; amending s. 216.251, F.S.; deleting the Florida School for Competitive Academics from specified classification and pay plans; amending s. 446.032, F.S.; revising the date by which the Department of Education is required to publish an annual report on apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs; amending s. 447.203, F.S.; deleting the Florida School for Competitive Academics from the definition of a public employer; amending s. 1000.04, F.S.; deleting the Florida School for Competitive Academics from the components of Florida's Early Learning-20 education system; amending s. 1000.21, F.S.; renaming Hillsborough Community College as "Hillsborough College"; amending s. 1000.40, F.S.; revising the scheduled repeal date of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; amending s. 1001.03, F.S.; renaming critical teacher shortage areas as "high-demand teacher needs areas"; amending s. 1001.20, F.S.; deleting oversight of the Florida School for Competitive Academics from the duties of the Office of Inspector General within the department; amending s. 1001.452, F.S.; deleting a provision requiring the Commissioner of Education to determine whether school districts have maximized efforts to include minority persons and persons of lower socioeconomic status on their school advisory councils; amending s. 1001.7065, F.S.; revising academic standards for the preeminent state research university program to include a specified average Classic Learning Test score; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; authorizing public schools to purchase or enter into arrangements for certain emergency opioid antagonists, rather than only for naloxone; requiring that district school board policies authorizing corporal punishment include a requirement that parental consent be provided before the administration of corporal punishment; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; requiring a charter school to comply with provisions relating to corporal punishment; prohibiting local governing authorities from imposing or enforcing certain building requirements and restrictions on charter school facilities; requiring the local governing authority to administratively approve a charter school if certain requirements are met; amending the statutory cause of action for an aggrieved school or entity; prohibiting local governing authorities from requiring charter schools to obtain a special exemption or conditional use approval unless otherwise specified; repealing s. 1002.351, F.S., relating to the Florida School for Competitive Academics; amending s. 1002.394, F.S.; deleting the Florida School for Competitive Academics from Family Empowerment Scholarship prohibitions; amending s. 1002.395, F.S.; deleting the Florida School for Competitive Academics from Florida Tax Credit Scholarship prohibitions; amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; authorizing certain private schools to construct new facilities on property that meets specified criteria; amending s. 1002.421, F.S.; revising the background screening requirements for certain private school personnel; amending s. 1002.71, F.S.; revising the conditions under which a student may withdraw from a prekindergarten program and reenroll in another program; amending s. 1002.81, F.S.; revising definitions; amending s. 1002.82, F.S.; revising requirements for a specified statewide data information program within the school readiness program; amending s. 1002.84, F.S.; revising requirements for the program's uniform waiting list; amending s. 1002.85, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1002.89, F.S.; revising the requirements for determining the school readiness program allocation; amending s. 1003.05, F.S.; requiring that strategies addressed in specified memoranda of agreement between school districts and military installations include the development and implementation of a specified training module; requiring the Depart-

ment of Education to provide the training module to each district school board; requiring each district school board to provide such module to each public and charter K-12 school in its district; requiring district school boards to make certain training available to certain employees; amending s. 1003.41, F.S.; requiring that certain standards documents contain only academic standards and benchmarks; requiring the Commissioner of Education to revise currently approved standards documents and submit them to the State Board of Education by a specified date; amending s. 1003.4201, F.S.; authorizing the inclusion of intensive reading interventions in a school district comprehensive reading instruction plan; requiring that intensive reading interventions be delivered by instructional personnel who possess a micro-credential or are certified or endorsed in reading; requiring that such interventions incorporate certain strategies; requiring that instructional personnel with a micro-credential be supervised by an individual certified or endorsed in reading; defining the term "supervised"; authorizing the inclusion in the reading instruction plans of a description of how school districts prioritize the assignment of highly effective teachers; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; revising the requirements for instruction on financial literacy; amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1004.0971, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "emergency opioid antagonist"; amending s. 1005.06, F.S.; authorizing certain institutions to operate without licensure; specifying affirmations required as a part of an affidavit; requiring submission of requested documentation in a specified timeframe; requiring the Commission for Independent Education to review such affidavit in a public meeting; specifying commission actions for noncompliance; authorizing the commission to adopt rules; amending s. 1006.09, F.S.; expanding the duties of school principals relating to student discipline and school safety; amending s. 1006.13, F.S.; requiring district school superintendents to provide a determination to extend the expulsion period for students; providing requirements for such determination; requiring such determination be provided to students and parents; amending s. 1007.27, F.S.; requiring the state board to identify national consortia to develop certain courses; authorizing the department to join or establish a national consortium as an additional alternative method to develop and implement advanced placement courses; amending s. 1007.35, F.S.; revising which examinations public high schools are required to administer; revising the examinations about which a partnership must provide information to specified individuals and entities; revising the examinations for which the department must provide the learning data from to a certain partnership; amending s. 1008.25, F.S.; requiring parents of a student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in mathematics to be notified in writing of information about the student's eligibility for the New Worlds Scholarship Accounts and the New Worlds Tutoring Program; amending s. 1008.365, F.S.; revising the types of tutoring hours that may be counted toward meeting the community service requirements for the Bright Futures Scholarship Program; amending s. 1008.366, F.S.; requiring the New Worlds Tutoring Program to provide best practice guidelines for mathematics tutoring in consultation with the Office of Mathematics and Sciences; revising the submission date for a specified report relating to the New Worlds Tutoring Program; amending s. 1009.8962, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "institution"; repealing s. 1011.58, F.S., relating to legislative budget requests of the Florida School for Competitive Academics; repealing s. 1011.59, F.S., relating to funds for the Florida School for Competitive Academics; amending s. 1011.71, F.S.; revising the types of casualty insurance premiums that may be paid by a district school tax; amending ss. 1012.07 and 1012.22, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1012.315, F.S.; providing that specified provisions relating to ineligibility for educator certification or specified employment apply to owners and operators of certain private schools; providing that certain background screening requirements remain in place for a specified period of time for certain personnel; amending s. 1012.77, F.S.; specifying entities eligible to submit nominees for the Teacher of the Year and Ambassador for Education awards; amending s. 1013.30, F.S.; revising the timeframe for updates to state university campus master plans; amending s. 1009.531, F.S.; revising eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program for students who earn a high school diploma from a non-Florida school under certain circumstances; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator Calatayud, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (087219) to Senate Amendment 1 (351932)**.

CS for CS for HB 1255 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—30

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Osgood
Arrington	Gaetz	Passidomo
Berman	Grall	Pizzo
Boyd	Gruters	Rodriguez
Bradley	Harrell	Simon
Brodeur	Hooper	Smith
Burgess	Ingoglia	Truenow
Burton	Leek	Trumbull
Calatayud	Martin	Wright
Collins	McClain	Yarborough

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (208910) with House Amendment 1 (346467), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/CS/HB 875 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Education & Employment Committee, Careers & Workforce Subcommittee and Representative(s) Rizo, Snyder, Barnaby, Mooney, Salzman—

CS for CS for HB 875—A bill to be entitled An act relating to educator preparation; amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; providing for the future repeal of provisions relating to the uniform core curricula for certain teacher preparation programs; revising requirements for certain teacher preparation programs; revising the criteria for continued approval of such programs; revising the term "field experience" to "clinical experience"; revising the requirements for such experience; revising the requirements certain personnel must meet; creating s. 1004.0982, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education to reduce the number of required internship hours for specified students under certain circumstances; requiring the department to establish specified guidelines and programs to provide specified flexibility to students enrolled in postsecondary school counseling programs; providing requirements for such guidelines and programs; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules and the Board of Governors to adopt regulations for such guidelines and programs; amending s. 1004.85, F.S.; revising the purpose of postsecondary educator preparation institutes; revising requirements for such institutes; revising requirements for the continued approval of such programs; amending s. 1012.39, F.S.; providing requirements for the hiring of certain nondegreed teachers of fine and performing arts; creating s. 1012.551, F.S.; providing for the uniform core curricula for certain teacher preparation programs; providing requirements for such curricula; providing requirements for teacher candidates beginning in a specified school year; providing reporting requirements for certain teacher preparation programs; requiring the State Board of Education to approve or reject certain courses for such programs; prohibiting such programs from requiring students to take a specified additional course; creating s. 1012.552, F.S.; establishing the Coaching for Educator Readiness and Teaching Certification Program; providing the intent for the program; providing program requirements; providing requirements for approval and continued approval of such programs; requiring the state board to adopt rules; amending s. 1012.555, F.S.; revising the requirements for teachers serving as mentors through a teacher apprenticeship program; amending s. 1012.56, F.S.; providing for the future repeal of professional learning certification programs and professional education competency programs; revising requirements relating to meeting the mastery of general knowledge and mastery of professional preparation and education competence for certification as an educator; removing a requirement for a passing score on a specified examination for certain candidates for certification as an educator beginning on a certain date; revising requirements for a professional and temporary educator certificates; amending s. 1012.585,

F.S.; revising requirements for the renewal of a professional certificate; amending s. 1012.98, F.S.; revising requirements for specified professional learning systems; removing obsolete language; creating s. 1012.981, F.S.; establishing the Florida Institute for Teaching Excellence at Miami Dade College, subject to an appropriation; providing the purpose and duties of the institute; authorizing the institute to submit a professional learning system for approval and seek specified funding; providing for the supervision, administration, and governance of the institute; amending ss. 1012.55, 1012.57, and 1012.98, F.S.; conforming cross-references to changes made by the act; providing effective dates.

House Amendment 1 (346467) to Senate Amendment 1 (208910) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 236-1299 of the amendment and insert: *individuals who meet the requirements of s. 1012.56(7).*

(3) *Each state-approved teacher preparation program using the uniform core curricula developed pursuant to this section, must require each teacher candidate to complete:*

(a) *One introduction to education course that allows teacher candidates to demonstrate competency in the cognitive science of learning principles, including cognitive load theory, working memory, and long-term memory; retrieval practice; attention and selective attention; social science of motivation and persistence; background knowledge; and production effect.*

(b) *One classroom management and high-impact teaching strategies course that allows teacher candidates to demonstrate competency of instructional strategies based on Florida Educator Accomplished Practices.*

Section 5. Section 1012.981, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1012.981 *The Florida Center for Teaching Excellence.—*

(1) *The Florida Center for Teaching Excellence is established at Miami Dade College, subject to an appropriation, for the purpose of preparing high-quality teachers in this state through rigorous, evidence-based programs grounded in cognitive science, high-impact teaching strategies, and the implementation of knowledge-rich curricula.*

(2) *The center shall, in collaboration with the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning at the University of South Florida, do all of the following:*

(a) *Develop and deliver evidence-based professional learning opportunities aligned to the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices.*

(b) *Develop and deliver educator training programs pursuant to s. 1012.98 that integrate high-quality instructional materials included on the state-adopted instructional materials list under s. 1006.28, materials evaluated and identified pursuant to s. 1001.215(4), and materials developed by or under the direction of the department as provided in s. 1006.39. These programs must focus on the effective use of knowledge-based curricula, highlighting when and how to incorporate intervention materials, and emphasize the importance of background knowledge in building advanced reading comprehension grounded in the science of reading and critical thinking skills.*

(c) *Develop and design models of high-quality clinical experiences, for aspiring teachers. These model experiences shall serve as a standard that institutions approved pursuant to ss. 1004.04 and 1004.85 can adopt or adapt, enabling participants to demonstrate mastery of instructional techniques, classroom management strategies, and the application of high-impact teaching strategies in authentic educational settings.*

(d) *Collaborate with school districts and other educational stakeholders to identify emerging needs in teacher preparation and align center programs accordingly, conducting gap analyses to provide comprehensive coverage of the science of learning, high-impact teaching strategies, and knowledge-rich curriculum implementation.*

(e) *Establish a statewide network of teachers and instructional leaders equipped with the knowledge and skills to mentor and support aspiring and current educators participating in the center's programs.*

This network shall model effective pedagogical practices and facilitate professional growth.

(f) *Conduct research and disseminate findings on high-impact teaching practices and the implementation of knowledge-based curricula to inform policy, improve classroom instruction, and address the importance of background knowledge in student achievement.*

(g) *Report to the department the completion of professional learning by individuals who are not employed by entities with an approved professional learning system.*

(3) *The center may submit a professional learning system for approval pursuant to s. 1012.98.*

(4) *The center may apply for and receive federal, state, or local agency grants for the purposes of this section.*

(5) *The Miami Dade College Board of Trustees in collaboration with the Florida Department of Education shall establish policies for the supervision, administration, and governance of the center.*

Section 6. Section 1012.552, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1012.552 *The Coaching for Educator Readiness and Teaching Certification (CERT) Program.—*

(1) **OBJECTIVE.**—*The Department of Education shall create the Coaching for Educator Readiness and Teaching (CERT) Certification Program as an alternative pathway for teachers to enter the teaching profession. School districts, charter schools, and charter management organizations may implement the CERT program to provide a cohesive, competency-based training and certification pathway for teachers who have a state-issued temporary certificate to earn their professional certificate through an on-the-job mentorship and learning program.*

(2) **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**—*A CERT program must include all of the following:*

(a) *A teacher mentorship and induction component. Mentors must meet the requirements of s. 1012.56(7).*

(b) *An assessment of teaching performance aligned to the district, charter school, or charter management organization system for personnel evaluation under s. 1012.34 which provides for:*

1. *An initial evaluation of each educator's competencies to determine an appropriate individualized professional learning plan.*

2. *A summative evaluation to assure successful completion of the program.*

(c) *Professional learning, in accordance with s. 1012.98, tailored to each educator's growth and learning needs, according to observational data and feedback.*

(d) *Required achievement of passing scores on the subject area examination required by State Board of Education rule.*

(e) *Required successful completion of all competencies for a reading endorsement, including completion of the endorsement practicum, for a candidate certification in a coverage area identified pursuant to s. 1012.585(3)(f).*

(f) *Provide guidance and on-the-job training in the classroom on mastering Florida Educator Accomplished Practices.*

Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 1012.555, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.555 *Teacher Apprenticeship Program.—*

(3) *A teacher who serves as a mentor in the apprenticeship program shall mentor his or her apprentice teacher using team teaching strategies and must, at a minimum, meet all of the following requirements of s. 1012.56(7):*

(a) ~~*Have at least 5 years of teaching experience in this state.*~~

~~(b) Have received an aggregate score of highly effective on the three most recent available value-added model (VAM) scores, as used by the department, or have received an aggregate score of highly effective on the three most recent available performance evaluations if the teacher does not generate a state VAM score.~~

~~(c) Satisfy any other requirements established by the department.~~

Section 8. Effective July 1, 2029, paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (3), subsection (6), and paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (7) of section 1012.56, Florida Statutes, are amended, to read:

1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

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

~~(e) Successful completion of an introduction to education course and a classroom management and high-impact teaching strategies course approved pursuant to s. 1012.551 achievement of passing scores, identified in state board rule, on national or international examinations that test comparable content and relevant standards in verbal, analytical writing, and quantitative reasoning skills, including, but not limited to, the verbal, analytical writing, and quantitative reasoning portions of the Graduate Record Examination and the SAT, ACT, and Classic Learning Test. Passing scores identified in state board rule must be at approximately the same level of rigor as is required to pass the general knowledge examinations; or~~

(f) 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.

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 under s. 1012.34 for each of the last 3 years.

(6) MASTERY OF PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND EDUCATION COMPETENCE.—Acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of professional preparation and education competence are:

(a) Successful completion of ~~a state-approved~~ ~~an approved~~ teacher preparation program at a postsecondary educational institution within this state and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;

(b) Successful completion of a teacher preparation program at a postsecondary educational institution outside Florida and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;

(c) Documentation of a valid professional standard teaching certificate issued by another state;

(d) Documentation of a valid certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a national educator credentialing board approved by the State Board of Education;

(e) Documentation of two semesters of successful, full-time or part-time teaching in a Florida College System institution, state university, or private college or university that awards an associate or higher degree and is an accredited institution or an institution of higher education identified by the Department of Education as having a quality program and achievement of a passing score on the professional education competency examination required by state board rule;

(f) Successful completion of professional preparation courses as specified in state board rule, successful completion of a professional education competence program pursuant to subsection (9), and doc-

umentation of 3 years of being rated effective or highly effective under s. 1012.34 while holding a temporary certificate;

(g) Successful completion of a professional learning certification program, outlined in subsection (8); ~~or~~

(h) Successful completion of a competency-based 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; ~~or~~

(i) *Successful completion of a Coaching for Educator Readiness and Teaching Certification Program as established in s. 1012.552.*

The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement this subsection, 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. *A passing score on the professional education competency examination shall not be required of candidates who have successfully completed a teacher preparation program that meets the requirements of s. 1012.551.*

(7) TYPES AND TERMS OF CERTIFICATION.—

(a) The Department of Education shall issue a professional certificate for a period not to exceed 5 years to any applicant who fulfills one of the following:

1. Meets all the applicable requirements outlined in subsection (2).

2. For a professional certificate covering grades 6 through 12:

a. Meets the applicable requirements of paragraphs (2)(a)-(h).

b. Holds a master's or higher degree in the area of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

c. Teaches a high school course in the subject of the advanced degree.

d. Is rated highly effective as determined by the teacher's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34, based in part on student performance as measured by a statewide, standardized assessment or an Advanced Placement, Advanced International Certificate of Education, or International Baccalaureate examination.

e. Achieves a passing score on the Florida professional education competency examination required by state board rule.

3. Meets the applicable requirements of paragraphs (2)(a)-(h) and completes a *program that meets the requirements of s. 1012.551* ~~professional learning certification program approved by the department pursuant to paragraph (8)(c) or an educator preparation institute approved by the department pursuant to s. 1004.85. An applicant who completes one of these programs and is rated highly effective as determined by his or her performance evaluation under s. 1012.34 is not required to take or achieve a passing score on the professional education competency examination in order to be awarded a professional certificate.~~

(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;

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 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; or

3. Is enrolled in a state-approved teacher preparation program under s. 1004.04; is actively completing the *final semester of the clinical experience or required program field experience or internship* at a public school *immediately preceding graduation*; completes the requirements outlined in paragraphs (2)(a), (b), and (d)-(f); completes the subject area content requirements specified in state board rule 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.

(e) A person who is issued a temporary certificate under paragraph (b) must be assigned a teacher mentor or clinical educator for a minimum of 2 school years after commencing employment. Each teacher mentor or clinical educator 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 pre-kindergarten through grade 12; ~~and~~
3. Have earned an effective or highly effective rating on the prior 3 year's performance evaluation under s. 1012.34;:-
4. *Provide evidence of successful completion of clinical educator training pursuant to s. 1012.98; and*
5. *Be certified or endorsed in reading when assigned to an individual providing instruction to students in kindergarten through grade 3 or an individual enrolled in a teacher preparation program for a certificate area identified pursuant to s. 1012.585(3)(f).*

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.

Section 9. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 1012.98, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012.98 School Community Professional Learning Act.—

(3) Professional learning activities *must be* linked to student learning, *provide and* professional growth for instructional and administrative staff, *and* meet the following criteria:

- (a) For instructional personnel, utilize materials aligned to the state's academic standards.
- (b) For school administrators, utilize materials aligned to the *Florida Educational Leadership Standards adopted in rule by the State Board of Education* ~~state's educational leadership standards~~.
- (c) Have clear, defined, and measurable outcomes for both individual inservice activities and multiple day sessions.
- (d) Employ multiple measurement tools for data on teacher growth, participants' use of new knowledge and skills, student learning outcomes, instructional growth outcomes, and leadership growth outcomes, as applicable.
- (e) Utilize active learning and engage participants directly in designing and trying out strategies, providing participants with the opportunity to engage in authentic teaching and leadership experiences.
- (f) Utilize artifacts, interactive activities, and other strategies to provide deeply embedded and highly contextualized professional learning.

(g) Create opportunities for collaboration.

(h) Utilize coaching and expert support to involve the sharing of expertise about content and evidence-based practices, focused directly on instructional personnel and school administrator needs.

(i) Provide opportunities for instructional personnel and school administrators to think about, receive input on, and make changes to practice by facilitating reflection and providing feedback.

(j) Provide sustained duration with ~~follow-up~~ *followup* for instructional personnel and school administrators to have adequate time to learn, practice, implement, and reflect upon new strategies that facilitate changes in practice.

(k) *Provide training, when such training is available, on the use of instructional materials included on the state-adopted instructional materials list pursuant to s. 1006.28, materials evaluated and identified pursuant to s. 1001.215(4), materials developed pursuant to s. 1006.39, and materials posted online by the department, including when and how to use intervention materials.*

(4) The *inservice* activities designed to implement this section must:

(a) Support and increase the success of educators through collaboratively developed school improvement plans that focus on:

1. Enhanced and differentiated instructional strategies to engage students in a rigorous and *knowledge-based relevant* curriculum based on the *Florida Educator Accomplished Practices* ~~state and local educational standards, goals, and initiatives; and~~

~~2. Increased opportunities to provide meaningful relationships between teachers and all students; and~~

~~2.3.~~ Increased opportunities for professional collaboration among and between teachers, certified school counselors, instructional leaders, postsecondary educators engaged in preservice training for new teachers, and the workforce community.

(b) Assist the school community in providing stimulating, scientific research-based educational activities that encourage and motivate students to achieve at the highest levels and to participate as active learners and that prepare students for success at subsequent educational levels and the workforce.

(c) Provide continuous support for all education professionals as well as temporary intervention for education professionals who need improvement in knowledge, skills, and performance.

(d) Provide instructional personnel and school administrators with the knowledge, skills, and best practices necessary to support excellence in classroom instruction and educational leadership.

(e) Provide training to *individuals who serve as mentors or clinical educators* ~~teacher mentors as part of the professional learning certification program under s. 1012.56(8) and the professional education competency program under s. 1012.56(9)~~. The department shall develop criteria for the initial review and continued approval of clinical educator and mentor training that must include, at a minimum:

1. *Instruction and assessment in the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices.*
2. *Effective communication strategies to guide reflection and personal growth.*
3. *Effective modeling of evidence-based teaching practices and skills.*
4. *Fostering resilience in educators* ~~components on teacher development, peer coaching, time management, and other related topics as determined by the Department of Education.~~

Section 10. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 1332-1349 of the amendment and insert: program uniform core curricula; requiring certain teacher preparation programs to require teacher candidates to complete specified courses; creating s. 1012.981, F.S.; establishing the Florida Center for Teaching Excellence at Miami Dade College, subject to an appropriation; providing the purpose and duties of the center; authorizing the center to submit a professional learning system for approval and seek specified funding; providing for the supervision, administration, and governance of the center; creating s. 1012.552, F.S.; requiring the department to create a specified alternative certification pathway for teachers; amending s. 1012.555, F.S.; revising the requirements for teachers serving as mentors through a teacher apprenticeship program; conforming cross-references; amending s. 1012.56, F.S.; revising the acceptable means of demonstrating mastery of general knowledge and mastery of professional preparation and education competence for certification as an educator; providing that certain candidates for certification are not required to earn a passing score on a specified examination beginning on a certain date; revising the applicant requirements for the issuance of a professional or temporary educator certificate; revising the requirements for teacher mentors and clinical educators assigned to persons who hold a temporary certificate; amending s. 1012.98, F.S.; updating a reference to educational leadership standards; requiring training on instructional materials; requiring the department to develop criteria for certain mentors' training; providing effective dates.

On motion by Senator Burgess, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (346467) to Senate Amendment 1 (208910)**.

CS for CS for HB 875 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—31

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Gaetz	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Boyd	Gruters	Simon
Bradley	Harrell	Smith
Brodeur	Hooper	Truenow
Burgess	Ingoglia	Trumbull
Burton	Leek	Wright
Calatayud	Martin	Yarborough
Collins	McClain	
Davis	Osgood	

Nays—None

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (829028) with House Amendment 1 (630783), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/CS/CS/HB 1105 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Education & Employment Committee, Higher Education Budget Subcommittee, Careers & Workforce Subcommittee and Representative(s) Kincart Jonsson, Abbott, Blanco, Owen, Valdés—

CS for CS for CS for HB 1105—A bill to be entitled An act relating to education; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; requiring certain internships to be included in counseling materials and presented with certain courses; requiring the Department of Education to develop certain courses; removing obsolete language; revising the requirements students must meet to satisfy the graduation requirements of the Career and Technical Education pathway option; amending s. 1003.4321, F.S.; revising the eligibility criteria for a student to earn the Seal of Fine Arts; amending s. 1003.491, F.S.; revising the requirements of a certain strategic 3-year plan to include promotion of specified Florida Bright Futures Scholarship awards; amending s. 1003.493, F.S.; requiring certain career and professional academies and secondary schools to promote the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award; amending ss. 1009.22 and 1009.23, F.S.; prohibiting the transportation access fee from being included in the calculation of Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; conforming a cross-refer-

ence; amending s. 1009.531, F.S.; revising eligibility requirements for a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship award for certain students who earn a high school diploma from a non-Florida school; amending s. 1009.534, F.S.; removing obsolete language; revising student eligibility requirements for the Florida Academic Scholars award; providing requirements for the Advanced Placement Capstone designation as an eligibility requirement for the Florida Academic Scholars award; amending s. 1009.535, F.S.; removing obsolete language; amending s. 1009.536, F.S.; removing obsolete language; revising student eligibility requirements for the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards; amending s. 1007.271, F.S.; removing obsolete language; revising the requirements for certain career dual enrollment agreements; revising the requirements for certain dual enrollment articulation agreements; amending s. 1009.986, F.S.; revising membership of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.; requiring the board of directors to annually elect a chair; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (630783) to Senate Amendment 1 (829028) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 5-3033 of the amendment and insert:

Section 1. Section 16.615, Florida Statutes, is transferred, redesignated as section 1001.216, Florida Statutes, and amended to read:

~~1001.216 16.615~~ Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys.—

(1) The Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys is established within *Florida Memorial University* ~~the Department of Legal Affairs~~ and shall be composed ~~consist~~ of 19 members appointed as follows:

(a) Two members of the Senate who are not members of the same political party, appointed by the President of the Senate with the advice of the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(b) Two members of the House of Representatives who are not members of the same political party, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives with the advice of the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

(c) The Secretary of Children and Families, or his or her designee.

(d) The director of the Mental Health Program Office within the Department of Children and Families, or his or her designee.

(e) The State Surgeon General, or his or her designee.

(f) The Commissioner of Education, or his or her designee.

(g) The Secretary of Corrections, or his or her designee.

(h) The Attorney General, or his or her designee.

(i) The Secretary of Management Services, or his or her designee.

(j) The Secretary of Commerce, or his or her designee.

(k) A businessperson who is an African American, as defined in s. 760.80(2)(a), appointed by the Governor.

(l) Two persons appointed by the President of the Senate who are not members of the Legislature or employed by state government. One of the appointees must be a clinical psychologist.

(m) Two persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives who are not members of the Legislature or employed by state government. One of the appointees must be an African studies professional.

(n) The deputy secretary for Medicaid in the Agency for Health Care Administration, or his or her designee.

(o) The Secretary of Juvenile Justice, or his or her designee.

(2) Each member of the council shall be appointed to a 4-year term; however, for the purpose of providing staggered terms, of the initial

appointments, 9 members shall be appointed to 2-year terms and 10 members shall be appointed to 4-year terms. A member of the council may be removed at any time by the member's appointing authority who shall fill the vacancy on the council.

(3)(a) At the first meeting of the council each year, the members shall elect a chair and a vice chair.

(b) A vacancy in the office of chair or vice chair ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ be filled by vote of the remaining members.

(4)(a) The council shall make a systematic study of the conditions affecting black men and boys, including, but not limited to, homicide rates, arrest and incarceration rates, poverty, violence, drug abuse, death rates, disparate annual income levels, school performance in all grade levels including postsecondary levels, and health issues.

(b) The council shall propose measures to alleviate and correct the underlying causes of the conditions described in paragraph (a). These measures may consist of changes to the law or systematic changes that can be implemented without legislative action.

(c) The council may study other topics suggested by the Legislature or as directed by the chair of the council.

(d) The council shall receive suggestions or comments pertinent to the applicable issues from members of the Legislature, governmental agencies, public and private organizations, and private citizens.

(e) The council shall develop a strategic program and funding initiative to establish local Councils on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys.

(5) The council may:

(a) Access data held by any state departments or agencies, which data is otherwise a public record.

(b) Make requests directly to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee for assistance with research and monitoring of outcomes by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability.

(c) Request, through council members who are also legislators, research assistance from the Office of Economic and Demographic Research within the Florida Legislature.

(d) Request information and assistance from the state or any political subdivision, municipal corporation, public officer, or governmental department thereof.

(e) Apply for and accept funds, grants, gifts, and services from the state, the Federal Government or any of its agencies, or any other public or private source for the purpose of defraying clerical and administrative costs as may be necessary for carrying out its duties under this section.

(f) Work directly with, or request information and assistance on issues pertaining to education from, Florida's historically black colleges and universities.

(6) ~~Florida Memorial University~~ ~~The Office of the Attorney General~~ shall provide staff and administrative support to the council.

(7) The council shall meet quarterly and at other times at the call of the chair or as determined by a majority of council members and approved by the ~~president of Florida Memorial University~~ ~~Attorney General~~.

(8) ~~Nine~~ ~~Eleven~~ of the members of the council constitute a quorum, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present is required for final action. *Members may appear by communications media technology as defined in s. 120.54(5)(b)2. Members who appear by communications media technology are considered present and may be counted toward the quorum requirement. A notice for a public meeting or workshop must state whether the meeting or workshop will be conducted using communications media technology, how an interested person may participate, and the location of facilities where communications media technology will be available during the meeting or workshop.*

(9) The council shall issue its annual report by December 15 each year, stating the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the council. The council shall submit the report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairpersons of the standing committees of jurisdiction in each chamber.

(10) Members of the council shall serve without compensation. Members are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061. State officers and employees shall be reimbursed from the budget of the agency through which they serve. Other members may be reimbursed by *Florida Memorial University* ~~the Department of Legal Affairs~~.

(11) The council and any subcommittees it forms are subject to the provisions of chapter 119, related to public records, and the provisions of chapter 286, related to public meetings.

(12) Each member of the council who is not otherwise required to file a financial disclosure statement pursuant to s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution or s. 112.3144, must file a disclosure of financial interests pursuant to s. 112.3145.

Section 2. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (2) of section 212.055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

212.055 Discretionary sales surtaxes; legislative intent; authorization and use of proceeds.—It is the legislative intent that any authorization for imposition of a discretionary sales surtax shall be published in the Florida Statutes as a subsection of this section, irrespective of the duration of the levy. Each enactment shall specify the types of counties authorized to levy; the rate or rates which may be imposed; the maximum length of time the surtax may be imposed, if any; the procedure which must be followed to secure voter approval, if required; the purpose for which the proceeds may be expended; and such other requirements as the Legislature may provide. Taxable transactions and administrative procedures shall be as provided in s. 212.054.

(2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE SURTAX.—

(c) Pursuant to s. 212.054(4), the proceeds of the surtax levied under this subsection shall be distributed to the county and the municipalities within such county in which the surtax was collected, according to:

1. An interlocal agreement between the county governing authority and the governing bodies of the municipalities representing a majority of the county's municipal population, which agreement may include a school district with the consent of the county governing authority and the governing bodies of the municipalities representing a majority of the county's municipal population; or

2. If there is no interlocal agreement, according to the formula provided in s. 218.62.

Any change in the distribution formula must take effect on the first day of any month that begins at least 60 days after written notification of that change has been made to the department. *Any interlocal agreement that includes a school district must require the surtax revenues allocated to the school district to be shared with eligible charter schools, as determined pursuant to s. 1013.62(1), based on the charter school's proportionate share of the total school district enrollment, subject to the requirements of, and for purposes provided in, subparagraph (d)4.*

(d) The proceeds of the surtax authorized by this subsection and any accrued interest shall be expended by the school district, within the county and municipalities within the county, or, in the case of a negotiated joint county agreement, within another county, to finance, plan, and construct infrastructure; to acquire any interest in land for public recreation, conservation, or protection of natural resources or to prevent or satisfy private property rights claims resulting from limitations imposed by the designation of an area of critical state concern; to provide loans, grants, or rebates to residential or commercial property owners who make energy efficiency improvements to their residential or commercial property, if a local government ordinance authorizing such use is approved by referendum; or to finance the closure of county-owned or municipally owned solid waste landfills that have been closed or are required to be closed by order of the Department of Environmental Protection. Any use of the proceeds or interest for purposes of landfill

closure before July 1, 1993, is ratified. The proceeds and any interest may not be used for the operational expenses of infrastructure, except that a county that has a population of fewer than 75,000 and that is required to close a landfill may use the proceeds or interest for long-term maintenance costs associated with landfill closure. Counties, as defined in s. 125.011, and charter counties may, in addition, use the proceeds or interest to retire or service indebtedness incurred for bonds issued before July 1, 1987, for infrastructure purposes, and for bonds subsequently issued to refund such bonds. Any use of the proceeds or interest for purposes of retiring or servicing indebtedness incurred for refunding bonds before July 1, 1999, is ratified.

1. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term “infrastructure” means:

a. Any fixed capital expenditure or fixed capital outlay associated with the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of public facilities that have a life expectancy of 5 or more years, any related land acquisition, land improvement, design, and engineering costs, and all other professional and related costs required to bring the public facilities into service. For purposes of this sub-subparagraph, the term “public facilities” means facilities as defined in s. 163.3164(41), s. 163.3221(13), or s. 189.012(5), and includes facilities that are necessary to carry out governmental purposes, including, but not limited to, fire stations, general governmental office buildings, and animal shelters, regardless of whether the facilities are owned by the local taxing authority or another governmental entity.

b. A fire department vehicle, an emergency medical service vehicle, a sheriff's office vehicle, a police department vehicle, or any other vehicle, and the equipment necessary to outfit the vehicle for its official use or equipment that has a life expectancy of at least 5 years.

c. Any expenditure for the construction, lease, or maintenance of, or provision of utilities or security for, facilities, as defined in s. 29.008.

d. Any fixed capital expenditure or fixed capital outlay associated with the improvement of private facilities that have a life expectancy of 5 or more years and that the owner agrees to make available for use on a temporary basis as needed by a local government as a public emergency shelter or a staging area for emergency response equipment during an emergency officially declared by the state or by the local government under s. 252.38. Such improvements are limited to those necessary to comply with current standards for public emergency evacuation shelters. The owner must enter into a written contract with the local government providing the improvement funding to make the private facility available to the public for purposes of emergency shelter at no cost to the local government for a minimum of 10 years after completion of the improvement, with the provision that the obligation will transfer to any subsequent owner until the end of the minimum period.

e. Any land acquisition expenditure for a residential housing project in which at least 30 percent of the units are affordable to individuals or families whose total annual household income does not exceed 120 percent of the area median income adjusted for household size, if the land is owned by a local government or by a special district that enters into a written agreement with the local government to provide such housing. The local government or special district may enter into a ground lease with a public or private person or entity for nominal or other consideration for the construction of the residential housing project on land acquired pursuant to this sub-subparagraph.

f. Instructional technology used solely in a school district's classrooms. As used in this sub-subparagraph, the term “instructional technology” means an interactive device that assists a teacher in instructing a class or a group of students and includes the necessary hardware and software to operate the interactive device. The term also includes support systems in which an interactive device may mount and is not required to be affixed to the facilities.

2. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term “energy efficiency improvement” means any energy conservation and efficiency improvement that reduces consumption through conservation or a more efficient use of electricity, natural gas, propane, or other forms of energy on the property, including, but not limited to, air sealing; installation of insulation; installation of energy-efficient heating, cooling, or ventilation systems; installation of solar panels; building modifications to increase the use of daylight or shade; replacement of windows; installation of

energy controls or energy recovery systems; installation of electric vehicle charging equipment; installation of systems for natural gas fuel as defined in s. 206.9951; and installation of efficient lighting equipment.

3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a local government infrastructure surtax imposed or extended after July 1, 1998, may allocate up to 15 percent of the surtax proceeds for deposit into a trust fund within the county's accounts created for the purpose of funding economic development projects having a general public purpose of improving local economies, including the funding of operational costs and incentives related to economic development. The ballot statement must indicate the intention to make an allocation under the authority of this subparagraph.

4. *Surtax revenues that are shared with eligible charter schools pursuant to paragraph (c) shall be allocated among such schools based on each school's proportionate share of total school district capital outlay full-time equivalent enrollment as adopted by the education estimating conference established in s. 216.136. Surtax revenues must be expended by the charter school in a manner consistent with the allowable uses provided in s. 1013.62(4). All revenues and expenditures shall be accounted for in a charter school's monthly or quarterly financial statement pursuant to s. 1002.33(9). If a school's charter is not renewed or is terminated and the school is dissolved under the provisions of law under which the school was organized, any unencumbered funds received under this paragraph shall revert to the sponsor.*

Section 3. *The amendment made by this act to s. 212.055(2), Florida Statutes, which amends the allowable uses of the local government infrastructure surtax, applies to levies authorized by vote of the electors on or after July 1, 2025.*

Section 4. Subsection (5) of section 810.097, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

810.097 Trespass upon grounds or facilities of a school; penalties; arrest.—

(5) As used in this section, the term:

(a) “School” means the grounds or any facility, including school buses, of any kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, junior high school, or secondary school, whether public or nonpublic.

(b) “School bus” means any vehicle operated, owned, or contracted by a school district for student transportation.

(6) *For purposes of this section, a clearly posted sign or a verbal warning provided by the school bus operator, the principal, a school district employee, or law enforcement personnel, indicating that unauthorized boarding or remaining on a school bus is prohibited and violators will be prosecuted, constitutes sufficient notice and satisfies the prior warning requirement necessary for immediate arrest and prosecution of any person who boards, enters, or remains upon a school bus without authorization.*

Section 5. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (9) of section 901.15, Florida Statutes, to read:

901.15 When arrest by officer without warrant is lawful.—A law enforcement officer may arrest a person without a warrant when:

(9) There is probable cause to believe that the person has committed:

(g) *Trespass upon school grounds or facilities, including school buses as defined in s. 810.097(5)(b), in violation of that section.*

Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3), paragraph (b) of subsection (5), paragraph (d) of subsection (10), paragraph (c) of subsection (15), and paragraph (e) of subsection (18) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (i) is added to subsection (17) of that section, to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.—

(3) APPLICATION FOR CHARTER STATUS.—

(b) An application for a conversion charter school *must* ~~shall~~ be made by the district school board, the principal, teachers, parents *whose children are enrolled at the school, or* ~~and/or~~ the school advisory council at an existing public school that has been in operation for at least 2 years *before* ~~prior to~~ the application to convert. A public school-within-a-school ~~that is~~ designated as a school by the district school board may also ~~apply~~ ~~submit an application~~ to convert to charter status. A *municipality seeking to attract job-producing entities by establishing a job engine charter school pursuant to paragraph (15)(c) may apply to the district school board to convert an existing public school to a charter school.* An application submitted proposing to convert an existing public school to a charter school *must* ~~shall~~ demonstrate the support of at least ~~50 percent of the teachers employed at the school and~~ 50 percent of the parents voting whose children are enrolled at the school, provided that a majority of the parents eligible to vote participate in the ballot process, according to rules adopted by the State Board of Education. A district school board, *college, or state university that denies* ~~denying~~ an application for a conversion charter school shall provide notice of denial to the applicants in writing within 10 days after the meeting at which the district school board denied the application. The notice must articulate in writing the specific reasons for denial and must provide documentation supporting those reasons. A private school, parochial school, or home education program *is* ~~shall~~ not be eligible for charter school status.

(5) SPONSOR; DUTIES.—

(b) *Sponsor duties.*—

1.a. The sponsor shall monitor and review the charter school, *using the standard monitoring tool*, in its progress toward the goals established in the charter.

b. The sponsor shall monitor the revenues and expenditures of the charter school and perform the duties provided in s. 1002.345.

c. The sponsor may approve a charter for a charter school before the applicant has identified space, equipment, or personnel, if the applicant indicates approval is necessary for it to raise working funds.

d. The sponsor may not apply its policies to a charter school unless mutually agreed to by both the sponsor and the charter school. If the sponsor subsequently amends any agreed-upon sponsor policy, the version of the policy in effect at the time of the execution of the charter, or any subsequent modification thereof, shall remain in effect and the sponsor may not hold the charter school responsible for any provision of a newly revised policy until the revised policy is mutually agreed upon.

e. The sponsor shall ensure that the charter is innovative and consistent with the state education goals established by s. 1000.03(5).

f. The sponsor shall ensure that the charter school participates in the state's education accountability system. If a charter school falls short of performance measures included in the approved charter, the sponsor shall report such shortcomings to the Department of Education.

g. The sponsor is not liable for civil damages under state law for personal injury, property damage, or death resulting from an act or omission of an officer, employee, agent, or governing body of the charter school.

h. The sponsor is not liable for civil damages under state law for any employment actions taken by an officer, employee, agent, or governing body of the charter school.

i. The sponsor's duties to monitor the charter school do not constitute the basis for a private cause of action.

j. The sponsor may not impose additional reporting requirements on a charter school as long as the charter school has not been identified as having a deteriorating financial condition or financial emergency pursuant to s. 1002.345.

k. The sponsor shall submit an annual report to the Department of Education in a web-based format to be determined by the department.

(I) The report shall include the following information:

(A) The number of applications received during the school year and up to August 1 and each applicant's contact information.

(B) The date each application was approved, denied, or withdrawn.

(C) The date each final contract was executed.

(II) Annually, by November 1, the sponsor shall submit to the department the information for the applications submitted the previous year.

(III) The department shall compile an annual report, by sponsor, and post the report on its website by January 15 of each year.

2. Immunity for the sponsor of a charter school under subparagraph 1. applies only with respect to acts or omissions not under the sponsor's direct authority as described in this section.

3. This paragraph does not waive a sponsor's sovereign immunity.

4. A Florida College System institution may work with the school district or school districts in its designated service area to develop charter schools that offer secondary education. These charter schools must include an option for students to receive an associate degree upon high school graduation. If a Florida College System institution operates an approved teacher preparation program under s. 1004.04 or s. 1004.85, the institution may operate charter schools that serve students in kindergarten through grade 12 in any school district within the service area of the institution. District school boards shall cooperate with and assist the Florida College System institution on the charter application. Florida College System institution applications for charter schools are not subject to the time deadlines outlined in subsection (6) and may be approved by the district school board at any time during the year. Florida College System institutions may not report FTE for any students participating under this subparagraph who receive FTE funding through the Florida Education Finance Program.

5. For purposes of assisting the development of a charter school, a school district may enter into nonexclusive interlocal agreements with federal and state agencies, counties, municipalities, and other governmental entities that operate within the geographical borders of the school district to act on behalf of such governmental entities in the inspection, issuance, and other necessary activities for all necessary permits, licenses, and other permissions that a charter school needs in order for development, construction, or operation. A charter school may use, but may not be required to use, a school district for these services. The interlocal agreement must include, but need not be limited to, the identification of fees that charter schools will be charged for such services. The fees must consist of the governmental entity's fees plus a fee for the school district to recover no more than actual costs for providing such services. These services and fees are not included within the services to be provided pursuant to subsection (20). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an interlocal agreement or ordinance that imposes a greater regulatory burden on charter schools than school districts or that prohibits or limits the creation of a charter school is void and unenforceable. An interlocal agreement entered into by a school district for the development of only its own schools, including provisions relating to the extension of infrastructure, may be used by charter schools.

6. The board of trustees of a sponsoring state university or Florida College System institution under paragraph (a) is the local educational agency for all charter schools it sponsors for purposes of receiving federal funds and accepts full responsibility for all local educational agency requirements and the schools for which it will perform local educational agency responsibilities. A student enrolled in a charter school that is sponsored by a state university or Florida College System institution may not be included in the calculation of the school district's grade under s. 1008.34(5) for the school district in which he or she resides.

(10) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.—

(d) A charter school may give enrollment preference to the following student populations:

1. Students who are siblings of a student enrolled in the charter school.

2. Students who are the children of a member of the governing board of the charter school.

3. Students who are the children of an employee of the charter school.

4. Students who are the children of:

a. An employee of the business partner of a charter school-in-the-workplace established under paragraph (15)(b) or a resident of the municipality in which such charter school is located; or

b. A resident or employee of a municipality that operates a charter school-in-a-municipality pursuant to paragraph (15)(c) or allows a charter school to use a school facility or portion of land provided by the municipality for the operation of the charter school.

5. Students who have successfully completed, during the previous year, a voluntary prekindergarten education program under ss. 1002.51-1002.79 provided by the charter school, the charter school's governing board, or a voluntary prekindergarten provider that has a written agreement with the governing board.

6. Students who are the children of an active duty member of any branch of the United States Armed Forces.

7. Students who attended or are assigned to failing schools pursuant to s. 1002.38(2).

8. Students who are the children of a safe-school officer, as defined in s. 1006.12, at the school.

9. Students who transfer from a classical school in this state to a charter classical school in this state. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "classical school" means a traditional public school or charter school that implements a classical education model that emphasizes the development of students in the principles of moral character and civic virtue through a well-rounded education in the liberal arts and sciences which is based on the classical trivium stages of grammar, logic, and rhetoric.

10. *Students who attend a job engine charter school under paragraph (15)(c) who are the children of an employee of a job-producing entity identified by the municipality in the annual job engine charter report.*

(15) CHARTER SCHOOLS-IN-THE-WORKPLACE; CHARTER SCHOOLS-IN-A-MUNICIPALITY.—

(c)1. A charter school-in-a-municipality designation may be granted to a municipality that possesses a charter; enrolls students based upon a random lottery that involves all of the children of the residents of that municipality who are seeking enrollment, as provided for in subsection (10); and enrolls students according to the ~~racial and ethnic~~ *racial/ethnic* balance provisions described in subparagraph (7)(a)8. When a municipality has submitted charter applications for the establishment of a charter school feeder pattern, consisting of elementary, middle, and senior high schools, and each individual charter application is approved by the sponsor, such schools shall then be designated as one charter school for all purposes listed pursuant to this section. Any portion of the land and facility used for a public charter school shall be exempt from ad valorem taxes, as provided for in s. 1013.54, for the duration of its use as a public school.

2. *A municipality may seek a charter under subparagraph 1. from a sponsor in subsection (5). If granted, such a charter may be designated a job engine charter. The purpose of a job engine charter school is to attract job-producing entities to the municipality. The charter must require the municipality to:*

a. *Provide an annual report to the sponsor which will be made publicly available and include investments made to attract and maintain job-producing entities, such as private sector industries, in the municipality.*

b. *Include career education opportunities.*

c. *Include the provision of exceptional student education administration services, pursuant to subparagraph (20)(a)1.*

d. *Require the use of sufficient security technology to ensure a secure facility.*

e. *Notwithstanding paragraph (8)(e), accept responsibility for all debts incurred by the job engine charter school.*

3. *A job engine charter school may give enrollment preferences pursuant to subparagraph (10)(d)10.*

(17) FUNDING.—Students enrolled in a charter school, regardless of the sponsorship, shall be funded based upon the applicable program pursuant to s. 1011.62(1)(c), the same as students enrolled in other public schools in a school district. Funding for a charter lab school shall be as provided in s. 1002.32.

(i)1. *By July 1 of each year, school districts shall provide charter schools the following information pertaining to shared revenues generated by a discretionary half-cent sales surtax, voted district school operating millage, and nonvoted district school capital improvement millage:*

a. *The estimated total revenue to be received from each tax.*

b. *The estimated per-student allocation to charter schools from each tax and the methodology used to determine the estimate.*

c. *The estimated timeframe within which the charter school will receive funds from each tax.*

d. *A detailed explanation for each revenue transmission at the time funds are transferred.*

2. *By March 31 of each year, each school district shall provide to the department a summary report, by charter school, of distributed revenues, by revenue source, and shall post the report on its website.*

(18) FACILITIES.—

(e) If a district school board facility or property is available because it is surplus, marked for disposal, or otherwise unused, it shall be provided for a charter school's use on the same basis as it is made available to other public schools in the district. A charter school receiving property from the sponsor may not sell or dispose of such property without written permission of the sponsor. Similarly, for an existing public school converting to charter status, ~~a district school board may not charge no rental or leasing fees fee~~ for the existing facility or for the property normally inventoried to the conversion school ~~may be charged by the district school board to the parents, principal, school advisory council, or and teachers organizing the charter school. The municipality must negotiate rental or leasing fees with the district school board. Property normally inventoried to the school may not be removed.~~ The charter school shall agree to reasonable maintenance provisions in order to maintain the facility in a manner similar to district school board standards. The Public Education Capital Outlay maintenance funds or any other maintenance funds generated by the facility operated as a conversion school shall remain with the conversion school.

Section 7. Subsection (16) of section 1002.394, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.394 The Family Empowerment Scholarship Program.—

(16) TRANSITION-TO-WORK PROGRAM.—A student with a disability who is determined eligible pursuant to paragraph (3)(b) who is at least 17 years, but not older than 22 years of age and who has not received a high school diploma ~~or certificate of completion~~ is eligible for enrollment in his or her participating private school's transition-to-work program. A transition-to-work program shall consist of academic instruction, work skills training, and a volunteer or paid work experience.

(a) To offer a transition-to-work program, a participating private school must:

1. Develop a transition-to-work program plan, which must include a written description of the academic instruction and work skills training students will receive and the goals for students in the program.

2. Submit the transition-to-work program plan to the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice and consider any guidance provided by the department pursuant to paragraph (8)(d) relating to the plan.

3. Develop a personalized transition-to-work program plan for each student enrolled in the program. The student's parent, the student, and the school principal must sign the personalized plan. The personalized plan must be submitted to the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice upon request by the office.

4. Provide a release of liability form that must be signed by the student's parent, the student, and a representative of the business offering the volunteer or paid work experience.

5. Assign a case manager or job coach to visit the student's job site on a weekly basis to observe the student and, if necessary, provide support and guidance to the student.

6. Provide to the parent and student a quarterly report that documents and explains the student's progress and performance in the program.

7. Maintain accurate attendance and performance records for the student.

(b) A student enrolled in a transition-to-work program must, at a minimum:

1. Receive 15 instructional hours at the participating private school's physical facility, which must include academic instruction and work skills training.

2. Participate in 10 hours of work at the student's volunteer or paid work experience.

(c) To participate in a transition-to-work program, a business must:

1. Maintain an accurate record of the student's performance and hours worked and provide the information to the participating private school.

2. Comply with all state and federal child labor laws.

Section 8. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (19) of section 1002.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

1002.42 Private schools.—

(19) FACILITIES.—

(c) A private school located in a county with four incorporated municipalities may construct new facilities, which may be temporary or permanent, on property purchased from or owned or leased by a library, community service organization, museum, performing arts venue, theater, cinema, or church under s. 170.201, which is or was actively used as such within 5 years of any executed agreement with a private school; any land owned by a Florida College System institution or university; and any land recently used to house a school or child care facility licensed under s. 402.305, under its preexisting zoning and land use designations without rezoning or obtaining a special exception or a land use change, and without complying with any mitigation requirements or conditions. Any new facility must be located on property used solely for purposes described in this paragraph, and must meet applicable state and local health, safety, and welfare laws, codes, and rules, including firesafety and building safety.

Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 1003.32, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.32 Authority of teacher; responsibility for control of students; district school board and principal duties.—Subject to law and to the rules of the district school board, each teacher or other member of the staff of any school shall have such authority for the control and discipline of students as may be assigned to him or her by the principal or the principal's designated representative and shall keep good order in the classroom and in other places in which he or she is assigned to 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 the authority to undertake any of the following actions in managing student behavior and ensuring the safety of all students in their classes and school and their opportunity to learn in an orderly and disciplined classroom:

(a) Establish classroom rules of conduct, including designating an area for wireless communications devices during instructional time for students in grades 9 through 12.

Section 10. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1), paragraph (f) of subsection (3), paragraph (c) of subsection (5), paragraph (a) of subsection (7), and paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (8) of section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—

(1) TWENTY-FOUR CREDITS REQUIRED.—

(b) The required credits may be earned through equivalent, applied, or integrated courses or career education courses as defined in s. 1003.01(2), including work-related internships approved by the State Board of Education and identified in the course code directory. *Such internships must be included in counseling materials and presented with courses required for graduation.* However, any must-pass assessment requirements must be met. An equivalent course is one or more courses identified by content-area experts as being a match to the core curricular content of another course, based upon review of the state academic standards for that subject. An applied course aligns with state academic standards and includes real-world applications of a career and technical education standard used in business or industry. An integrated course includes content from several courses within a content area or across content areas.

(3) STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA; COURSE AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS.—

(f) *One credit in physical education.*—Physical education must include the integration of health. Participation in an interscholastic sport at the junior varsity or varsity level for two full seasons shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education. A district school board may not require that the one credit in physical education be taken during the 9th grade year. *Completion of 2 years of marching band shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education or the one-credit requirement in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an individual education plan (IEP) or 504 plan.* Completion of one semester with a grade of "C" or better in a marching band class, in a physical activity class that requires participation in marching band activities as an extracurricular activity, or in a dance class shall satisfy one-half credit in physical education or one-half credit in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an IEP individual education plan (IEP) or 504 plan. Completion of 2 years in a Reserve Officer Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) class, a significant component of which is drills, shall satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education and the one-credit requirement in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an IEP or 504 plan.

(5) AWARD OF A STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.—

(c)1. A student who earns the required 24 credits, or the required 18 credits under s. 1002.3105(5), but fails to pass the assessments required under s. 1008.22(3) or achieve a 2.0 GPA ~~shall be awarded a certificate of completion in a form prescribed by the State Board of Education. However, a student who is otherwise entitled to a certificate of completion may elect to remain in high school either as a full-time student or a part-time student for up to 1 additional year and receive special instruction designed to remedy his or her identified deficiencies.~~

2. *No later than January 1, 2026, the department shall develop a document detailing options available to a student who fails to earn a standard diploma under this paragraph. The document must include, but is not limited to, career education or credit programs at a career center or Florida College System institution, adult education to earn a*

standard diploma or high school equivalency diploma, apprenticeship programs, and the Graduation Alternative to Traditional Education (GATE) Program. A school district shall provide this document to each such student along with his or her official transcript. The school district may add to the document information related to district-specific graduation and postsecondary options.

(7) CAREER EDUCATION COURSES THAT SATISFY HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT REQUIREMENTS.—

(a) Participation in *equivalent, applied, or integrated courses* or career education courses engages students in their high school education, increases academic achievement, enhances employability, and increases postsecondary success. The department shall develop, for approval by the State Board of Education, multiple, additional *equivalent, applied, or integrated courses* or career education courses or a series of courses that meet the requirements set forth in s. 1003.493(2), (4), and (5) and this subsection and allow students to earn credit in ~~both the equivalent, applied, or integrated courses~~ or career education course and courses required for high school graduation under this section and s. 1003.4281.

1. The state board must determine at least biennially whether sufficient academic standards are covered to warrant the award of academic credit, including satisfaction of graduation, assessment, and state university admissions requirements under this section.

2. Career education courses must:

a. Include workforce and digital literacy skills.

b. Integrate required course content with practical applications and designated rigorous coursework that results in one or more industry certifications or clearly articulated credit or advanced standing in a 2-year or 4-year certificate or degree program, which may include high school junior and senior year work-related internships or apprenticeships. The department shall negotiate state licenses for material and testing for industry certifications.

The instructional methodology used in these courses must comprise authentic projects, problems, and activities for contextual academic learning and emphasize workplace skills identified under s. 445.06.

3. A student who earns credit upon completion of 1 year of related technical instruction for an apprenticeship program registered with the Department of Education under chapter 446 or preapprenticeship program registered with the Department of Education under chapter 446 may use such credit to satisfy the high school graduation credit requirements in paragraph (3)(e) or paragraph (3)(g). The state board shall approve and identify in the Course Code Directory the apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs from which earned credit may be used pursuant to this subparagraph.

4. The State Board of Education shall, by rule, establish a process that enables a student to receive work-based learning credit or credit in electives for completing a threshold level of demonstrable participation in extracurricular activities associated with career and technical student organizations. Work-based learning credit or credit in electives for extracurricular activities or supervised agricultural experiences may not be limited by grade level.

(8) STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.—Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year, this subsection applies to a student with a disability.

(a) A parent of the student with a disability shall, in collaboration with the individual education plan (IEP) team during the transition planning process pursuant to s. 1003.5716, declare an intent for the student to graduate from high school with ~~either a standard high school diploma. If a student with a disability has declared an intent to earn a certificate of completion in the IEP, a school district must revise the student's declared intent at the annual review of the IEP. A school district must provide the form referenced in subparagraph (5)(c)2. to a student with a disability who has not earned a standard high school diploma or a certificate of completion. A student with a disability who does not satisfy the standard high school diploma requirements pursuant to this section shall be awarded a certificate of completion.~~

(d) A student with a disability who ~~receives a certificate of completion and~~ has an individual education plan that prescribes special edu-

cation, transition planning, transition services, or related services through 21 years of age may continue to receive the specified instruction and services.

The State Board of Education shall adopt rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this subsection, including rules that establish the minimum requirements for students described in this subsection to earn a standard high school diploma. The State Board of Education shall adopt emergency rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54.

Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1003.4321, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.4321 Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program for high school graduates.—

(3)(a) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, the Seal of Fine Arts shall be awarded to a high school student who has earned a standard high school diploma; successfully completed at least three year-long courses in dance, music, theater, or the visual arts with a grade of “A” or higher in each course or earned three sequential course credits in such courses with a grade of “A” or higher in each course; and meets a minimum of two of the following requirements:

1. Successfully completes a fine arts International Baccalaureate, an *Advanced International Certificate of Education*, advanced placement, dual enrollment, or honors course in the subjects listed in this paragraph with a grade of “B” or higher.

2. Participates in a district or statewide organization’s juried event as a selected student participant for 2 or more years.

3. Records at least 25 volunteer hours of arts-related community service in his or her community and presents a comprehensive presentation on his or her experiences.

4. Meets the requirements of a portfolio-based program identifying the student as an exemplary practitioner of the fine arts.

5. Receives district, state, or national recognition for the creation and submission of an original work of art. For purposes of this paragraph, the term “work of art” means a musical or theatrical composition, visual artwork, or choreographed routine or performance.

Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 1003.433, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.433 Learning opportunities for out-of-state and out-of-country transfer students and students needing additional instruction to meet high school graduation requirements.—

(2) Students who earn the required 24 credits for the standard high school diploma except for passage of any must-pass assessment under s. 1003.4282 or s. 1008.22 or an alternate assessment by the end of grade 12 must be provided the following learning opportunities:

(b) ~~Upon receipt of a certificate of completion,~~ Be allowed to take the College Placement Test and be admitted to developmental education or credit courses at a Florida College System institution, as appropriate.

Section 13. Paragraph (n) of subsection (3) of section 1003.491, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.491 Florida Career and Professional Education Act.—The Florida Career and Professional Education Act is created to provide a statewide planning partnership between the business and education communities in order to attract, expand, and retain targeted, high-value industry and to sustain a strong, knowledge-based economy.

(3) The strategic 3-year plan developed jointly by the local school district, local workforce development boards, economic development agencies, and state-approved postsecondary institutions must be constructed and based on:

(n) Promotion of the benefits of the *Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program*;

Section 14. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 1003.493, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.493 Career and professional academies and career-themed courses.—

(4) Each career and professional academy and secondary school providing a career-themed course must:

(c) Promote and provide opportunities for students enrolled in a career and professional academy or a career-themed course to attain, at minimum, the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award or the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award pursuant to s. 1009.536.

Section 15. Section 1003.5717, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1003.5717 Workforce credential program for students with autism spectrum disorder or students on a modified curriculum.—The Department of Education shall develop and implement by January 31, 2026, a workforce credential program for students with an autism spectrum disorder or students on a modified curriculum. The department shall work with the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities established under s. 1004.6495 for the development and implementation of the program. The purpose of the program is to assist such students in securing employment upon graduation. The program must allow for such students to earn badges that designate that the students have acquired specific skills that meet employer needs.

(1)(a) Each badge must require the student to demonstrate five discrete skills or behaviors, including, but not limited to, workplace safety.

(b) The department shall collaborate with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to develop a workplace safety badge.

(2) The badge must be validated by two members of instructional staff who specialize in exceptional student education.

(3) Beginning with the 2026 calendar year through the 2030 calendar year, the department shall prepare an annual report by January 31 of the following year detailing the operations of the program. At a minimum, the report must include the badges offered by the program, data on postgraduation student employment, data on student participation rates in the program, and any other outcome data deemed necessary by the department to be included.

Section 16. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 1006.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

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

(f) Notice that use of a wireless communications device includes the possibility of the imposition of disciplinary action by the school or criminal penalties if the device is used in a criminal act. A student may possess a wireless communications device while the student is on school property or in attendance at a school function; however, *elementary and middle school students* ~~a student~~ may not use a wireless communications device during the school day. *High school students* may not use a wireless communications device during instructional time, except when expressly directed by a teacher solely for educational purposes. A high

school teacher shall designate an area for wireless communications devices during instructional time. Each district school board shall adopt rules governing the use of a wireless communications device by a student while the student is on school property or in attendance at a school function, including rules:

1. Designating locations within school buildings where a student may use his or her wireless communications device with the express permission of a school administrator.

2. Allowing the use of a wireless communications device by a student during the school day in accordance with:

a. The student's individualized education plan;

b. The student's 504 accommodation plan issued under s. 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; or

c. A doctor's note from a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 certifying in writing that the student requires the use of a wireless communications device based upon valid clinical reasoning or evidence.

Section 17. Subsection (4) of section 1007.263, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1007.263 Florida College System institutions; admissions of students.—Each Florida College System institution board of trustees is authorized to adopt rules governing admissions of students subject to this section and rules of the State Board of Education. These rules shall include the following:

(4) A student who has earned the required 24 credits under s. 1003.4282, or the required 18 credits under s. 1002.3105(5), for the standard high school diploma, except for passage of any must-pass assessment under s. 1003.4282 or s. 1008.22 or an alternate assessment by the end of grade 12, ~~been awarded a certificate of completion under s. 1003.4282~~ is eligible to enroll in certificate career education programs.

Each board of trustees shall establish policies that notify students about developmental education options for improving their communication or computation skills that are essential to performing college-level work, including tutoring, extended time in gateway courses, free online courses, adult basic education, adult secondary education, or private provider instruction.

Section 18. Paragraph (b) of subsection (13) of section 1009.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.22 Workforce education postsecondary student fees.—

(13)

(b) Notwithstanding ss. 1009.534, 1009.535, and 1009.536, the transportation access fee authorized under paragraph (a) may not be included in calculating the amount a student receives for a Florida Academic Scholars award, a Florida Medallion Scholars award, ~~or~~ a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award, or a Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award.

Section 19. Paragraph (b) of subsection (18) of section 1009.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.23 Florida College System institution student fees.—

(18)

(b) Notwithstanding ss. 1009.534, 1009.535, and 1009.536, the transportation access fee authorized under paragraph (a) may not be included in calculating the amount a student receives for a Florida Academic Scholars award, a Florida Medallion Scholars award, ~~or~~ a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award, or a Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award.

Section 20. Paragraph (c) of subsection (18) of section 1009.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.26 Fee waivers.—

(18)

(c) Upon enrollment in a Program of Strategic Emphasis or a state-approved teacher preparation program, the tuition and fees waived under this subsection must be reported for state funding purposes under ss. 1009.534 and 1009.535 and must be disbursed to the student. The amount disbursed to the student must be equal to the award amount the student has received under s. 1009.534(3) ~~s. 1009.534(2)~~ or s. 1009.535(2).

Section 21. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 1009.531, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.531 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program; student eligibility requirements for initial awards.—

(1) In order to be eligible for an initial award from any of the scholarships under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, a student must:

(b) Earn a standard Florida high school diploma pursuant to s. 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282 or a high school equivalency diploma pursuant to s. 1003.435 unless:

1. The student completes a home education program according to s. 1002.41;

2. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-Florida school while living with a parent or guardian who is on, *or, within 12 months before the student's high school graduation, has retired from, military or public service assignment away from Florida; or*

3. The student earns a high school diploma from a Florida private school operating pursuant to s. 1002.42.

Section 22. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section 1009.534, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3), (4), and (5), respectively, subsection (1) is amended, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.—

(1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and:

(a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or its equivalent, in high school courses that are designated by the State Board of Education as college-preparatory academic courses and has attained at least the score required under s. 1009.531(6)(a) on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

(b) Has attended a home education program according to s. 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12, has completed the International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate Diploma, or has completed the Advanced International Certificate of Education curriculum but failed to earn the Advanced International Certificate of Education Diploma, and has attained at least the score required under s. 1009.531(6)(a) on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

(c) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office, ~~or~~ an Advanced International Certificate of Education Diploma from the University of Cambridge International Examinations Office, *or an Advanced Placement Capstone designation from the College Board beginning with high school students graduating in the 2025-2026 school year;*

(d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a scholar or finalist; or

(e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Program as a scholar recipient.

The student must complete a program of volunteer service or, ~~beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter,~~ paid work, as approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home education program students, which must include 100 hours of volunteer service, paid work, or a combination of both. ~~Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be included in the student's total of paid work hours.~~ The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her volunteer service or paid work experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

(2) *For purposes of this section, the Advanced Placement Capstone designation shall consist of earning a score of three or higher on six Advanced Placement Examinations, including Advanced Placement Seminar; Advanced Placement Research; and for students who:*

(a) *Began high school before the 2025-2026 school year, four Advanced Placement Examinations.*

(b) *Began high school during the 2025-2026 school year and thereafter, three Advanced Placement Examinations that satisfy the requirements of s. 1003.4282(3)(a)-(d) and one Advanced Placement Examination in a subject of the student's choice.*

Receipt of the Advanced Placement Capstone designation does not satisfy the requirements for a standard high school diploma under s. 1003.4282.

Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 1009.535, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.—

(1) A student is eligible for a Florida Medallion Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and:

(a) Has achieved a weighted grade point average of 3.0 as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, or the equivalent, in high school courses that are designated by the State Board of Education as college-preparatory academic courses and has attained at least the score required under s. 1009.531(6)(b) on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

(b) Has completed the International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate Diploma or has completed the Advanced International Certificate of Education curriculum but failed to earn the Advanced International Certificate of Education Diploma, and has attained at least the score required under s. 1009.531(6)(b) on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

(c) Has attended a home education program according to s. 1002.41 during grades 11 and 12 and has attained at least the score required under s. 1009.531(6)(b) on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the ACT Assessment Program;

(d) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a scholar or finalist but has not completed the program of volunteer service or paid work required under s. 1009.534; or

(e) Has been recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Program as a scholar, but has not completed the program of volunteer service or paid work required under s. 1009.534.

A high school student must complete a program of volunteer service or, ~~beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter,~~ paid work approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home education program students, which must include 75 hours of volunteer service, 100 hours of paid work, or 100 hours of a combination of both. ~~Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be included in a student's total of required paid work hours.~~ The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her volunteer service or paid work experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

Section 24. Subsection (1), paragraph (b) of subsection (2), and subsection (5) of section 1009.536, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1009.536 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards.—The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award and the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award are created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to recognize and reward academic achievement and career preparation by high school students who wish to continue their education.

(1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and:

(a) ~~Completes the secondary school portion of a sequential program of studies that requires at least three high secondary school career and technical education credits. On-the-job training may not be substituted for any of the three required career credits.~~

(b) Demonstrates readiness for postsecondary education by earning a passing score on the Florida College Entry Level Placement Test or its equivalent as identified by the Department of Education.

(c) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average of 3.0, as calculated pursuant to s. 1009.531, on all subjects required for a standard high school diploma, excluding elective courses.

(d) ~~Has achieved~~ Earns a minimum unweighted grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale ~~in high school for secondary career and technical education courses that comprise the career program.~~

(e) Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service, *or 75 hours of volunteer service for students entering grade 9 in the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter, or, beginning with high school students graduating in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter,* 100 hours of paid work, approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home education program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both. ~~Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be included in a student's total of required paid work hours.~~ The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her volunteer service or paid work experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

(2) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, and the student:

(b) ~~Completes at least 30 hours of volunteer service, or 75 hours of volunteer service for students entering grade 9 in the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter, or beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter,~~ 100 hours of paid work, approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home education program students, or 100 hours of a combination of both. ~~Eligible paid work completed on or after June 27, 2022, shall be included in a student's total required paid work hours.~~ The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

(5)(a) A student who is ~~initially eligible in the 2012-2013 academic year and thereafter~~ may earn a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship for a maximum of 100 percent of the number of credit hours or equivalent clock hours required to complete one of the following at a Florida public or nonpublic education institution that offers these specific programs: for an applied technology diploma program as defined in s. 1004.02(7), up to 60 credit hours or equivalent clock hours; for a technical degree education program as defined in s. 1004.02(13), up to the number of hours required for a specific degree not to exceed 72 credit hours or equivalent clock hours; or for a career certificate program as defined in s. 1004.02(20), up to the number of hours required for a specific certificate not to exceed 72 credit hours or equivalent clock hours.

(b)1. A student who is ~~initially eligible in the 2017-2018 academic year and thereafter~~ for a Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award under subsection (2) may receive an award for a maximum of 100 percent of the number of credit hours or equivalent clock hours required to complete one of the following at a Florida public or nonpublic education institution that offers these specific programs: for an applied technology diploma program as defined in s. 1004.02(7), up to 60 credit hours or equivalent clock hours; for a technical degree education program as defined in s. 1004.02(13), up to the number of hours required for a specific degree, not to exceed 72 credit hours or equivalent clock hours; or for a career certificate program as defined in s. 1004.02(20), up to the number of hours required for a specific certificate, not to exceed 72 credit hours or equivalent clock hours. A student who transfers from one of these program levels to another program level is eligible for the higher of the two credit hour limits.

2. A Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholar who completes a technical degree education program as defined in s. 1004.02(13) may also receive an award for:

a. A maximum of 60 credit hours for a bachelor of science degree program for which there is a statewide associate in science degree program to bachelor of science degree program articulation agreement; or

b. A maximum of 60 credit hours for a bachelor of applied science degree program at a Florida College System institution.

Section 25. Subsection (7) of section 1007.271, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (p) is added to subsection (21) of that section, to read:

1007.271 Dual enrollment programs.—

(7) Career dual enrollment shall be provided as a curricular option for secondary students to pursue in order to earn industry certifications adopted pursuant to s. 1008.44, which count as credits toward the high school diploma. Career dual enrollment shall be available for secondary students seeking a degree and industry certification through a career

education program or course. Each career center established under s. 1001.44 shall enter into an agreement with each high school in any school district it serves. ~~Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year,~~ The agreement must be completed annually and submitted by the career center to the Department of Education by August 1. The agreement must:

(a) Identify the courses and programs that are available to students through career dual enrollment and the clock hour credits that students will earn upon completion of each course and program.

(b) Delineate the high school credit earned for the completion of each career dual enrollment course.

(c) Identify any college credit articulation agreements associated with each clock hour program.

(d) Describe how students and parents will be informed of career dual enrollment opportunities and related workforce demand, how students can apply to participate in a career dual enrollment program and register for courses through their high schools, and the postsecondary career education expectations for participating students.

(e) Establish any additional eligibility requirements for participation and a process for determining eligibility and monitoring the progress of participating students.

(f) Delineate costs incurred by each entity and determine how transportation will be provided for students who are unable to provide their own transportation *and how students will be notified of such transportation.*

(g) *Address scheduling changes that will increase access and student participation.*

(21) Each district school superintendent and each public postsecondary institution president shall develop a comprehensive dual enrollment articulation agreement for the respective school district and postsecondary institution. The superintendent and president shall establish an articulation committee for the purpose of developing the agreement. Each state university president may designate a university representative to participate in the development of a dual enrollment articulation agreement. A dual enrollment articulation agreement shall be completed and submitted annually by the postsecondary institution to the Department of Education on or before August 1. The agreement must include, but is not limited to:

(p) *Any scheduling changes that are necessary to increase access and student participation.*

Section 26. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 1009.986, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.986 Florida ABLE program.—

(3) DIRECT-SUPPORT ORGANIZATION; FLORIDA ABLE, INC.—

(d)1. The board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc., shall consist of:

a. The chair of the Florida Prepaid College Board, ~~or his or her designee who shall serve as the chair of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.~~

b. Up to three individuals who possess knowledge, skill, and experience in the areas of accounting, risk management, or investment management, one of whom may be a current member of the Florida Prepaid College Board, who shall be appointed by the Florida Prepaid College Board.

c. One individual who possesses knowledge, skill, and experience in the areas of accounting, risk management, or investment management, who shall be appointed by the Governor.

d. Two individuals who are advocates of persons with disabilities, one of whom shall be appointed by the President of the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. At least one of the individuals appointed under this sub-sub-

paragraph must be an advocate of persons with developmental disabilities, as that term is defined in s. 393.063.

2.a. The term of the appointees under sub-subparagraph 1.b. shall be up to 3 years as determined by the Florida Prepaid College Board. Such appointees may be reappointed.

b. The term of the appointees under sub-subparagraphs 1.c. and d. shall be 3 years. Such appointees may be reappointed.

3. Unless authorized by the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc., an individual director has no authority to control or direct the operations of Florida ABLE, Inc., or the actions of its officers and employees.

4. The board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.:

a. Shall meet at least quarterly and at other times upon the call of the chair.

b. May use any method of telecommunications to conduct, or establish a quorum at, its meetings or the meetings of a subcommittee or other subdivision if the public is given proper notice of the telecommunications meeting and provided reasonable access to observe and, if appropriate, to participate.

c. *Shall annually elect a board member to serve as chair.*

5. A majority of the total current membership of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc., constitutes a quorum of the board.

6. Members of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc., and the board's subcommittees or other subdivisions shall serve without compensation; however, the members may be reimbursed for reasonable, necessary, and actual travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061.

Section 27. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 1011.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.71 District school tax.—

(5) A school district may expend, subject to s. 200.065, up to \$200 per unweighted full-time equivalent student from the revenue generated by the millage levy authorized by subsection (2) to fund, in addition to expenditures authorized in paragraphs (2)(a)-(j), expenses for the following:

(b) Payment of the cost of premiums, as defined in s. 627.403, for property and casualty insurance necessary to insure school district educational and ancillary plants. As used in this paragraph, casualty insurance has the same meaning as in s. 624.605(1)(b), (d), (f), (g), (h), and (m). Operating revenues that are made available through the payment of property and casualty insurance premiums from revenues generated under this subsection may be expended only for nonrecurring operational expenditures of the school district.

Section 28. Section 1011.801, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.801 Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Program.—The Legislature recognizes that the need for school districts, *charter schools*, and Florida College System institutions to be able to respond to emerging local or statewide economic development needs is critical to the workforce development system. The Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Program is created to provide grants to school districts, *charter schools*, and Florida College System institutions to fund some or all of the costs associated with the creation or expansion of career and technical education programs that lead to industry certifications included on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List. The programs may serve secondary students or postsecondary students if the postsecondary career and technical education program also serves secondary students *in grades 6 through 12*.

(1) Funds awarded for a workforce development capitalization incentive grant may be used for instructional equipment, laboratory equipment, supplies, personnel, student services, or other expenses associated with the creation or expansion of a career and technical education program that serves secondary students. Expansion of a program may include either the expansion of enrollments in a program or expansion into new areas of specialization within a program. No

grant funds may be used for recurring instructional costs or for institutions' indirect costs.

(2) The Department of Education shall administer the program. The State Board of Education may adopt rules for program administration. The State Board of Education shall consider the statewide geographic dispersion of grant funds in ranking the applications and shall give priority to applications from education agencies that are making maximum use of their workforce development funding by offering high-performing, high-demand programs or to applications from a job engine charter school under s. 1002.33(15)(c).

Section 29. *By August 1, 2026, the Department of Education shall establish competencies for a mathematics endorsement aligned with evidence-based mathematics instructional and intervention strategies. The competencies must include numbers and operations, fractions, algebraic reasoning, measurement, geometric reasoning, and data analysis and probabilities at the elementary and secondary level. The competencies must be approved by the State Board of Education.*

Section 30. (1) *The Commissioner of Education shall coordinate with six school districts selected by the Department of Education which represent two small, two medium, and two large counties that currently, or will in the 2025-2026 school year, implement a policy for all district high schools that prohibits the use of cellular telephones and other personal electronic devices by students during the entire school day, while on school grounds, or while engaged in school activities off school grounds during the school day. The department shall provide a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives before December 1, 2026, summarizing the effect of each school district policy on student achievement and behavior. The report must also include a model policy that school districts and charter schools may adopt.*

(2) *The report and model policy must address the authorized use of cellular telephones or other electronic devices during the school day by students:*

(a) *With disabilities or who are English Language Learners who may need such electronic devices to access curriculum or other required activities.*

(b) *When necessary for health reasons, for emergency medical issues, or for natural or manmade disasters.*

(c) *On school buses, before or after school hours.*

(d) *Engaged in extracurricular activities outside of the school day.*

(3) *The report must also include student code of conduct provisions for violations of the policy restricting the use of cellular telephones and other electronic devices which include, but are not limited to, violations that:*

(a) *Constitute illegal behavior and may result in a referral to law enforcement.*

(b) *Facilitate bullying, harassing, or threatening other students.*

(c) *Facilitate cheating or otherwise violating a school's policy for academic integrity.*

(d) *Capture or display any picture or video of any student during a medical issue or engaged in misconduct.*

Section 31. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 3040-3247 of the amendment and insert: An act relating to education; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 16.615, F.S.; establishing the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys within Florida Memorial University, rather than the Department of Legal Affairs; requiring Florida Memorial University, rather than the Office of the Attorney General, to provide staff and administrative support to the council; providing that the council's meeting times are approved by the president of Florida Memorial University, rather than the Attorney General; revising the number of members required for a quorum; authorizing members to appear by communications media

technology; providing that members who appear by such technology are considered present and may be counted toward the quorum requirement; providing notice requirements for public meetings or workshops conducted by means of communications media technology; providing that members of the council may be reimbursed for certain expenses by Florida Memorial University, rather than the Department of Legal Affairs; amending s. 212.055, F.S.; requiring that certain surtax revenues that are shared with school districts must also be shared with eligible charter schools on a proportionate basis in accordance with certain provisions; requiring that such surtax revenues be expended by charter schools for specified uses; requiring that such revenues and expenditures be accounted for in certain financial statements; providing that unencumbered funds revert to the sponsor under certain circumstances; providing applicability; amending s. 810.097, F.S.; defining the term "school bus"; specifying sufficient notice and prior warning for immediate arrest and prosecution for school bus trespassing; amending s. 901.15, F.S.; authorizing a law enforcement officer to arrest a person without a warrant when there is probable cause to believe that the person has trespassed upon school grounds or facilities; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; revising which persons or entities may apply for a conversion charter school; requiring a college or state university to provide a written notice of denial for denying an application for a conversion charter school; requiring a charter school sponsor to use a standard monitoring tool to monitor and review a charter school; revising eligible students who may receive an enrollment preference; authorizing a municipality to apply for a charter that it may designate as a job engine charter under certain conditions; providing the purpose of a job engine charter school; providing requirements for a job engine charter; requiring school districts to provide charter schools with specified information relating to public school funding by a specified date annually; requiring school districts to provide a summary report of specified revenues to the Department of Education and post such report on their websites by a specified date annually; prohibiting a district school board from charging a rental or leasing fee for a conversion school; requiring a municipality to negotiate certain rental or leasing fees with the district school board; prohibiting certain property from being removed; amending s. 1002.394, F.S.; revising the transition-to-work program under the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program; amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; authorizing a private school in a county that meets certain criteria to construct new facilities on certain property; specifying that such construction is not subject to certain zoning or land use conditions; requiring such construction to meet certain health and safety requirements; amending s. 1003.32, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; requiring certain internships to be included in counseling materials and presented with certain courses; specifying that certain participation in marching band satisfies the physical education or performing arts credit requirement for a standard high school diploma; revising provisions providing for the award of a certificate of completion to certain students; requiring the department to develop a document for certain students who fail to earn a standard high school diploma; requiring certain information to be included in the document; requiring a school district to revise an Individual Education Plan under certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Education to develop certain courses; removing obsolete language; amending s. 1003.4321, F.S.; revising the eligibility criteria for a student to earn the Seal of Fine Arts; amending s. 1003.433, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1003.491, F.S.; revising the requirements of a certain strategic 3-year plan to include the promotion of specified Florida Bright Futures Scholarship awards; amending s. 1003.493, F.S.; requiring certain career and professional academies and secondary schools to promote the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars award; creating s. 1003.5717, F.S.; requiring the department to develop and implement, by a specified date, a workforce credential program for students with an autism spectrum disorder or students on a modified curriculum; providing the purpose of the program; providing requirements for the program; requiring the department to produce an annual report during a specified timeframe; providing requirements for the report; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; prohibiting students in specified grades from using wireless communications devices during the school day, rather than during instructional time; requiring district school boards to adopt rules for the use of such devices in certain locations or by certain students; amending s. 1007.263, F.S.; revising the student eligibility criteria for enrollment in certificate career education programs; amending ss. 1009.22 and 1009.23, F.S.; prohibiting the transportation access fee from being included in the calculation of Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s.

1009.531, F.S.; revising eligibility requirements for a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship award for certain students who earn a high school diploma from a non-Florida school; amending s. 1009.534, F.S.; removing obsolete language; revising student eligibility requirements for the Florida Academic Scholars award; providing requirements for the Advanced Placement Capstone designation as an eligibility requirement for the Florida Academic Scholars award; amending s. 1009.535, F.S.; removing obsolete language; amending s. 1009.536, F.S.; removing obsolete language; revising student eligibility requirements for the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars and the Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholars awards; amending s. 1007.271, F.S.; removing obsolete language; revising the requirements for certain career dual enrollment agreements; revising the requirements for certain dual enrollment articulation agreements; amending s. 1009.986, F.S.; revising membership of the board of directors of Florida ABLE, Inc.; requiring the board of directors to annually elect a chair; amending s. 1011.71, F.S.; authorizing the use of certain school district tax revenue for liability insurance; amending s. 1011.801, F.S.; revising entities that are included in the Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Program to include charter schools; requiring the State Board of Education to consider applications from a job engine charter school for rulemaking purposes; requiring the department, by a specified date, to establish competencies for a mathematics endorsement aligned with certain strategies; providing requirements for the competencies; requiring the Commissioner of Education to coordinate with specified school districts to implement specified policies relating to the prohibition of the use of specified devices during the school day and in certain other situations; requiring the department to provide a report and model policy to the Legislature by a specified date; providing requirements for the report and model policy; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Burgess, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (630783) to Senate Amendment 1 (829028)**.

CS for CS for CS for HB 1105 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—26

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Boyd	Grall	Pizzo
Bradley	Gruters	Rodriguez
Brodeur	Harrell	Simon
Burgess	Hooper	Truenow
Burton	Ingolia	Trumbull
Calatayud	Leek	Wright
Collins	Martin	Yarborough
DiCeglie	McClain	

Nays—5

Arrington	Davis	Smith
Berman	Osgood	

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (621510) with House Amendment 1 (324221), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/HB 1427 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Health & Human Services Committee and Representative(s) Griffiths, Abbott, Barnaby—

CS for HB 1427—A bill to be entitled An act relating to health care; amending s. 381.402, F.S.; revising eligibility requirements for the Florida Reimbursement Assistance for Medical Education Program; creating s. 381.403, F.S.; creating the Rural Access to Primary and Preventive Care Grant Program within the Department of Health for a specified purpose; creating s. 381.9856, F.S.; creating the Stroke, Cardiac, and Obstetric Response and Education Grant Program within the Department of Health; amending s. 395.6061, F.S.; providing that rural hospital capital grant improvement program funding may be awarded to rural hospitals to establish mobile care units and telehealth kiosks

for specified purposes; amending s. 409.906, F.S.; authorizing Medicaid to reimburse for dental services provided in a mobile dental unit that is owned by, operated by, or contracted with a health access setting or another similar setting or program; amending s. 456.0575, F.S.; requiring a health care practitioner to notify a patient in writing upon referring the patient to certain providers; providing requirements for such notice; providing requirements for a practitioner to confirm network status; providing for health care practitioner disciplinary action under certain conditions; amending s. 456.42, F.S.; revising health care practitioners who may only electronically transmit prescriptions for certain drugs; revising exceptions; providing construction; amending ss. 458.347 and 459.022, F.S.; conforming cross-references; amending s. 627.6471, F.S.; requiring certain health insurers to apply payments for services provided by nonpreferred providers toward insureds' deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums if specified conditions are met; amending s. 466.001, F.S.; revising legislative purpose and intent; amending s. 466.002, F.S.; providing applicability; amending s. 466.003, F.S.; defining the terms "dental therapist" and "dental therapy"; amending s. 466.004, F.S.; requiring the chair of the Board of Dentistry to appoint a Council on Dental Therapy, effective after a specified timeframe; providing for membership, meetings, and the purpose of the council; amending s. 466.006, F.S.; revising the definitions of the terms "full-time practice" and "full-time practice of dentistry within the geographic boundaries of this state within 1 year" to include full-time faculty members of certain dental therapy schools; amending s. 466.009, F.S.; requiring the Department of Health to allow any person who fails the dental therapy examination to retake the examination; providing that a person who fails a practical or clinical examination to practice dental therapy and who has failed one part or procedure of the examination may be required to retake only that part or procedure to pass the examination; amending s. 466.011, F.S.; requiring the board to certify an applicant for licensure as a dental therapist; creating s. 466.0136, F.S.; requiring the board to require each licensed dental therapist to complete a specified number of hours of continuing education; requiring the board to adopt rules and guidelines; authorizing the board to excuse licensees from continuing education requirements in certain circumstances; amending s. 466.016, F.S.; requiring a practitioner of dental therapy to post and display her or his license in each office where she or he practices; amending s. 466.017, F.S.; requiring the board to adopt certain rules relating to dental therapists; authorizing a dental therapist to administer local anesthesia under certain circumstances; authorizing a dental therapist under the direct supervision of a dentist to perform certain duties if specified requirements are met; authorizing a dental therapist providing services in a mobile dental unit under the general supervision of a dentist to perform certain duties if specified requirements are met; requiring a dental therapist to notify the board in writing within a specified timeframe after specified adverse incidents; requiring a complete written report to be filed with the board within a specified timeframe; providing for disciplinary action of a dental therapist; amending s. 466.018, F.S.; providing that a dentist of record remains primarily responsible for the dental treatment of a patient regardless of whether the treatment is provided by a dental therapist; requiring that the initials of a dental therapist who renders treatment to a patient be placed in the record of the patient; creating s. 466.0225, F.S.; providing application requirements and examination and licensure qualifications for dental therapists; creating s. 466.0227, F.S.; authorizing a dental therapist to perform specified services under the general supervision of a dentist under certain conditions; requiring that a collaborative management agreement be signed by a supervising dentist and a dental therapist and to include certain information; requiring the supervising dentist to determine the number of hours of practice that a dental therapist must complete before performing certain authorized services; authorizing a supervising dentist to restrict or limit the dental therapist's practice in a collaborative management agreement; providing that a supervising dentist may authorize a dental therapist to provide dental therapy services to a patient before the dentist examines or diagnoses the patient under certain conditions; requiring a supervising dentist to be licensed and practicing in this state; specifying that the supervising dentist is responsible for certain services; amending s. 466.023, F.S.; authorizing dental hygienists to use a dental diode laser for specified purposes under certain circumstances; providing requirements for the use of such laser by dental hygienists; amending s. 466.026, F.S.; providing criminal penalties; amending s. 466.028, F.S.; revising grounds for denial of a license or disciplinary action to include the practice of dental therapy; amending s. 466.0285, F.S.; prohibiting persons other than licensed dentists from employing a dental therapist in the operation of a dental office and from controlling

the use of any dental equipment or material in certain circumstances; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; requiring the department, in consultation with the board and the Agency for Health Care Administration, to provide reports to the Legislature by specified dates; requiring that certain information and recommendations be included in the reports; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (324221) to Senate Amendment 1 (621510) (with title amendment)—Remove lines 5-1190 of the amendment and insert:

Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), (3), (5), (8), and (10) and paragraph (f) of subsection (11) of section 464.019, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

464.019 Approval of nursing education programs.—

(1) PROGRAM APPLICATION.—An educational institution that wishes to conduct a program in this state for the prelicensure education of professional or practical nurses must submit to the department a program application and review fee of \$1,000 for each prelicensure nursing education program to be offered at the institution's main campus, branch campus, or other instructional site. The program application must include the legal name of the educational institution, the legal name of the nursing education program, *the legal name of the nursing education program director, the status and outcome of any disciplinary case pending or closed against the applicant in another regulatory jurisdiction in the United States*, and, if such institution is accredited, the name of the accrediting agency. The application must also document that:

(a)1. For a professional nursing education program, the program director and at least 50 percent of the program's faculty members are registered nurses who have a master's or higher degree in nursing or a bachelor's degree in nursing and a master's or higher degree in a field related to nursing.

2. For a practical nursing education program, the program director and at least 50 percent of the program's faculty members are registered nurses who have a bachelor's or higher degree in nursing.

The educational degree requirements of this paragraph may be documented by an official transcript or by a written statement from *the program director* of the educational institution verifying that the institution conferred the degree. *The program director shall certify the official transcript or written statement as true and accurate.*

(b) The program's nursing major curriculum consists of at least:

1. Fifty percent clinical training in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a possession or territory of the United States for a practical nursing education program, an associate degree professional nursing education program, or a professional diploma nursing education program.

2. Forty percent clinical training in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a possession or territory of the United States for a bachelor's degree professional nursing education program.

(c) No more than 50 percent of the program's clinical training consists of clinical simulation.

(d) The program has signed agreements with each agency, facility, and organization included in the curriculum plan as clinical training sites and community-based clinical experience sites.

(e) The program has written policies for faculty which include provisions for direct or indirect supervision by program faculty or clinical preceptors for students in clinical training consistent with the following standards:

1. The number of program faculty members equals at least one faculty member directly supervising every 12 students unless the written agreement between the program and the agency, facility, or organization providing clinical training sites allows more students, not to exceed 18 students, to be directly supervised by one program faculty member.

2. For a hospital setting, indirect supervision may occur only if there is direct supervision by an assigned clinical preceptor, a supervising

program faculty member is available by telephone, and such arrangement is approved by the clinical facility.

3. For community-based clinical experiences that involve student participation in invasive or complex nursing activities, students must be directly supervised by a program faculty member or clinical preceptor and such arrangement must be approved by the community-based clinical facility.

4. For community-based clinical experiences not subject to subparagraph 3., indirect supervision may occur only when a supervising program faculty member is available to the student by telephone.

A program's policies established under this paragraph must require that a clinical preceptor who is supervising students in a professional nursing education program be a registered nurse or, if supervising students in a practical nursing education program, be a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse.

(f) The professional or practical nursing curriculum plan documents clinical experience and theoretical instruction in medical, surgical, obstetric, pediatric, and geriatric nursing. A professional nursing curriculum plan *must* ~~shall~~ also document clinical experience and theoretical instruction in psychiatric nursing. Each curriculum plan must document clinical training experience in appropriate settings that include, but are not limited to, acute care, long-term care, and community settings.

(g) The professional or practical nursing education program provides theoretical instruction and clinical application in personal, family, and community health concepts; nutrition; human growth and development throughout the life span; body structure and function; interpersonal relationship skills; mental health concepts; pharmacology and administration of medications; and legal aspects of practice. A professional nursing education program must also provide theoretical instruction and clinical application in interpersonal relationships and leadership skills; professional role and function; and health teaching and counseling skills.

(h) The professional or practical nursing education program has established evaluation and standardized admission criteria. The admission criteria must, at a minimum, identify those students who are likely to need additional educational support to be successful program graduates. The program must maintain documentation of the individualized student academic support plan for those students identified as in need of additional preparation and educational support.

(i) The professional or practical nursing education program has an established comprehensive examination, known as an exit examination, or a full preparation course incorporating multiple comprehensive examinations, known as a preparation course, to prepare students for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination. The exit examination or preparation course must be administered to all students before program completion. Successful completion of the exit examination or preparation course may not be required for graduation unless students are notified of such requirement in writing upon enrollment in the program. The program director is responsible for posting the average exit examination results of the program on the program's website.

(j) The professional or practical nursing education program has submitted to the board the established criteria for remediation that will be available for students who do not pass the exit examination or preparation course.

(2) PROGRAM APPROVAL.—

(a) Upon receipt of a program application and review fee, the department shall examine the application to determine if it is complete. If the application is not complete, the department *must* ~~shall~~ notify the educational institution in writing of any errors or omissions within 30 days after the department's receipt of the application. A program application is deemed complete upon the department's receipt of:

1. The initial application, if the department does not notify the educational institution of any errors or omissions within the 30-day period; or

2. A revised application that corrects each error and omission of which the department notifies the educational institution within the 30-day period.

(b) Following the department's receipt of a complete program application, the board may conduct an onsite evaluation if necessary to document the applicant's compliance with subsection (1). Within 90 days after the department's receipt of a complete program application, the board shall:

1. Approve the application if it documents compliance with subsection (1); or

2. Provide the educational institution with a notice of intent to deny the application if it does not document compliance with subsection (1). The notice must specify written reasons for the board's denial of the application. The board may not deny a program application because of an educational institution's failure to correct an error or omission that the department failed to provide notice of to the institution within the 30-day notice period under paragraph (a). The educational institution may request a hearing on the notice of intent to deny the program application pursuant to chapter 120.

(c) A program application is deemed approved if the board does not act within the 90-day review period provided under paragraph (b).

(d) Upon the board's approval of a program application, the program becomes an approved program.

(e) *The board may consider adverse actions taken against a nursing education program by another regulatory jurisdiction in the United States in determining program approval. The program director of an approved program must notify the board within 15 days after any adverse action taken against the program by another regulatory jurisdiction in the United States.*

1. *The board shall deny an application from an applicant if another regulatory jurisdiction in the United States has terminated or otherwise revoked its authority to operate a nursing education program.*

2. *The board may investigate the nature of an adverse action. In instances of adverse action other than termination or revocation of a program's authority to operate, the board may:*

- a. *Approve the application;*
- b. *Approve the application with conditions; or*
- c. *Deny the application.*

3. *The board may impose disciplinary remedies on an approved program against which an adverse action has been taken by another regulatory jurisdiction in the United States. The board may impose remedies up to and including revocation of a program's approval pursuant to rules adopted under this section.*

(f) *The board may deny an application for approval if the board determines that the applicant is owned by any individual, group of individuals, or entity who directly or indirectly owned, controlled, or held a 25 percent or greater financial or ownership interest in a nursing education program that was on probationary status at the time of its closure.*

(3) ANNUAL REPORT.—By November 1 of each year, *the program director of each approved program shall submit to the board an annual report comprised of an affidavit certifying continued compliance with subsection (1), a summary description of the program's compliance with subsection (1), and documentation for the previous academic year that, to the extent applicable, describes:*

(a) The number of student applications received, qualified applicants, applicants accepted, accepted applicants who enroll in the program, students enrolled in the program, and program graduates.

(b) The program's retention rates for students tracked from program entry to graduation.

(c) The program's accreditation status, including identification of the accrediting agency.

(d) *The program's average exit examination or preparation course results.*

The board must terminate the program if the requirements of this subsection are not met. The program director is also subject to discipline under s. 456.072(1)(k) for such failure.

(5) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

(a)1. An approved program must achieve a graduate passage rate for first-time test takers which is not more than 10 percentage points lower than the average passage rate during the same calendar year for graduates of comparable degree programs who are United States educated, first-time test takers on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination, as calculated by the contract testing service of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. For purposes of this subparagraph, an approved program is comparable to all degree programs of the same program type from among the following program types:

a. Professional nursing education programs that terminate in a bachelor's degree.

b. Professional nursing education programs that terminate in an associate degree.

c. Professional nursing education programs that terminate in a diploma.

d. Practical nursing education programs.

2. If an approved program's graduate passage rates do not equal or exceed the required passage rates for 1 calendar year ~~2 consecutive calendar years~~, the board ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ place the program on probationary status pursuant to chapter 120 and the program director ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ submit a written remediation plan to the board. The program director ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ appear before the board to present the ~~a~~ plan for remediation, which ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ include specific nationally recognized benchmarks to identify progress toward a graduate passage rate goal. ~~The board must terminate a program if the program director fails to submit a written remediation plan that complies with this section or fails to appear before the board and present the remediation within 6 months after the program is placed on probation. The program's director is also subject to discipline under s. 456.072(1)(k) for such failure.~~ The program must remain on probationary status until it achieves a graduate passage rate that equals or exceeds the required passage rate for ~~any~~ 1 calendar year. The board ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ deny a program application for a new pre-licensure nursing education program submitted by an educational institution if the institution has an existing program that is already on probationary status.

3. Upon the program's achievement of a graduate passage rate that equals or exceeds the required passage rate, the board, at its next regularly scheduled meeting following release of the program's graduate passage rate by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, shall remove the program's probationary status. If the program, during the 2 calendar years following its placement on probationary status, does not achieve the required passage rate for ~~any 1 calendar year~~, the board ~~must~~ ~~may~~ extend the program's probationary status for 1 additional year, ~~provided the program has demonstrated adequate progress toward the graduate passage rate goal by meeting a majority of the benchmarks established in the remediation plan. If the program is not granted the 1 year extension or fails to achieve the required passage rate by the end of such extension, the board shall terminate the program pursuant to chapter 120.~~

(b) If an approved program fails to submit the annual report required in subsection (3), the board ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ notify the program director and president or chief executive officer of the educational institution in writing within 15 days after the due date of the annual report. The program director ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ appear before the board at the board's next regularly scheduled meeting to explain the reason for the delay. The board ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ terminate the program pursuant to chapter 120 if the program director fails to appear before the board, as required under this paragraph, or if the program does not submit the annual report within 30 days ~~6 months~~ after the due date.

(c) A nursing education program, whether accredited or non-accredited, which has been placed on probationary status *must*:

1. ~~shall~~ Disclose its probationary status in writing to the program's students and applicants. The notification must include an explanation of the implications of the program's probationary status on the students or applicants.

2. Offer remediation at no additional cost or pay for remediation from a board-approved remedial program for:

a. Students who do not pass the program's exit examination or preparation course.

b. Each program graduate who fails to pass the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination as a first-time test taker within 1 calendar year after graduation.

(d) If students from a program that is terminated pursuant to this subsection transfer to an approved or an accredited program under the direction of the Commission for Independent Education, the board *must* ~~shall~~ recalculate the passage rates of the programs receiving the transferring students, excluding the test scores of those students transferring more than 12 credits.

(e) If an approved program's graduate passage rate is below 30 percent in a calendar year, the program must reimburse the total cost of tuition and fees paid by each student who failed to pass the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination as a first-time test taker in that calendar year. The program must outline its plan for meeting this requirement in its written remediation plan under subparagraph (a)2.

(f) Duly authorized agents or employees of the department may conduct onsite evaluations or inspections at all regular hours of operation to verify that approved programs or accredited programs are in full compliance with this chapter, or to determine whether this chapter or s. 456.072 is being violated. The department may collect any necessary evidence needed to verify compliance with this chapter or for prosecution as deemed necessary. The failure of a program to allow an onsite evaluation or inspection is deemed a violation of a legal obligation imposed by the board or the department.

(8) RULEMAKING.—The board does not have rulemaking authority to administer this section, except that the board shall adopt rules that prescribe the format for submitting program applications under subsection (1) and annual reports under subsection (3), and to administer the documentation of the accreditation of nursing education programs under subsection (11). By December 31, 2025, the board shall adopt rules to conduct investigations and take actions consistent with subsection (2) and to enforce and administer subsection (5). The board may adopt rules relating to the nursing curriculum, including rules relating to the uses and limitations of simulation technology, ~~and rules relating to the criteria to qualify for an extension of time to meet the accreditation requirements under paragraph (11)(f).~~ The board may not impose any condition or requirement on an educational institution submitting a program application, an approved program, or an accredited program, except as expressly provided in this section.

(10) IMPLEMENTATION STUDY.—The Florida Center for Nursing shall study the administration of this section and submit reports to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives annually by January 30. The annual reports shall address the previous academic year; provide data on the measures specified in paragraphs (a) and (b), as such data becomes available; and include an evaluation of such data for purposes of determining whether this section is increasing the availability of nursing education programs and the production of quality nurses. The department and each approved program or accredited program shall comply with requests for data from the Florida Center for Nursing.

(a) The Florida Center for Nursing shall evaluate program-specific data for each approved program and accredited program conducted in the state, including, but not limited to:

1. The number of programs and student slots available.
2. The number of student applications submitted, the number of qualified applicants, and the number of students accepted.

3. The number of program graduates.

4. Program retention rates of students tracked from program entry to graduation.

5. Program exit examination results.

6. The number of students offered remediation due to exit examination performance and the number of students who completed remediation.

7. The impact of exit examinations and remediation on graduation rates and graduate passage rates on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination.

~~8.5.~~ Graduate passage rates on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination.

~~9.6.~~ The number of graduates who become employed as practical or professional nurses in the state.

(b) The Florida Center for Nursing shall evaluate the board's implementation of the:

1. Program application approval process, including, but not limited to, the number of program applications submitted under subsection (1), the number of program applications approved and denied by the board under subsection (2), the number of denials of program applications reviewed under chapter 120, and a description of the outcomes of those reviews.

2. Accountability processes, including, but not limited to, the number of programs on probationary status, the number of approved programs for which the program director is required to appear before the board under subsection (5), the number of approved programs terminated by the board, the number of terminations reviewed under chapter 120, and a description of the outcomes of those reviews.

(c) The Florida Center for Nursing shall complete an annual assessment of compliance by programs with the accreditation requirements of subsection (11), include in the assessment a determination of the accreditation process status for each program, and submit the assessment as part of the reports required by this subsection.

(11) ACCREDITATION REQUIRED.—

~~(f) An approved nursing education program may, no sooner than 90 days before the deadline for meeting the accreditation requirements of this subsection, apply to the board for an extension of the accreditation deadline for a period which does not exceed 2 years. An additional extension may not be granted. In order to be eligible for the extension, the approved program must establish that it has a graduate passage rate of 60 percent or higher on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination for the most recent calendar year and must meet a majority of the board's additional criteria, including, but not limited to, all of the following:~~

~~1. A student retention rate of 60 percent or higher for the most recent calendar year.~~

~~2. A graduate work placement rate of 70 percent or higher for the most recent calendar year.~~

~~3. The program has applied for approval or been approved by an institutional or programmatic accreditor recognized by the United States Department of Education.~~

~~4. The program is in full compliance with subsections (1) and (3) and paragraph (5)(b).~~

~~5. The program is not currently in its second year of probationary status under subsection (5).~~

The applicable deadline under this paragraph is tolled from the date on which an approved program applies for an extension until the date on which the board issues a decision on the requested extension.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 1197-1331 of the amendment and insert: An act relating to nursing education programs; amending s. 464.019, F.S.; revising application requirements for nursing education program approval; requiring the Board of Nursing to deny an application under certain circumstances; authorizing the board to revoke a program's approval under certain circumstances; authorizing the board to investigate the nature of an adverse action and take specified actions; revising requirements for annual reports program directors of approved programs are required to submit to the board; providing for the termination of a program's approval, and discipline of its program director, under certain circumstances; revising remediation procedures for approved programs with graduate passage rates that do not meet specified requirements; deleting a provision authorizing the board to extend a program's probationary status; revising requirements for certain nursing education programs placed on probationary status; providing requirements for programs with certain graduate passage rates; authorizing agents of the Department of Health to conduct onsite evaluations and inspections of approved and accredited nursing education programs; authorizing the department to collect evidence as part of such evaluations and inspections; deeming failure or refusal of a program to allow such evaluation or inspection as a violation of a legal obligation; revising and providing rulemaking authority of the board; revising program-specific data the Florida Center for Nursing evaluates for certain programs; deleting a provision authorizing approved nursing education programs to request an extension to meet the board's accreditation requirements; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Burton, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (324221) to Senate Amendment 1 (621510)**.

CS for HB 1427 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—26

Mr. President	Gaetz	Passidomo
Boyd	Grall	Pizzo
Bradley	Harrell	Rodriguez
Brodeur	Hooper	Simon
Burgess	Ingoglia	Truenow
Burton	Leek	Trumbull
Calatayud	Martin	Wright
Collins	McClain	Yarborough
DiCeglie	Osgood	

Nays—5

Arrington	Davis	Smith
Berman	Gruters	

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has insisted on House Amendment 1 (170953) to Senate Amendment 1 (525084) to HB 1101 and requests the Senate to concur.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Representative(s) Albert, López, J.—

HB 1101—A bill to be entitled An act relating to out-of-network providers; amending s. 456.0575, F.S.; requiring a health care practitioner to notify a patient in writing upon referring the patient to certain providers; providing requirements for such notice; providing requirements for a practitioner to confirm network status; providing for health care practitioner disciplinary action under certain conditions; amending s. 627.6471, F.S.; requiring certain health insurers to apply payments for services provided by nonpreferred providers toward insureds' deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums if specified conditions are met; providing an effective date.

On motion by Senator Burton, the Senate refused to concur in **House Amendment 1 (170953) to Senate Amendment 1 (525084) to HB**

1101 and the House was requested to recede. The action of the Senate was certified to the House.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has amended Senate Amendment 1 (212806) with House Amendment 1 (746971), concurred in the same as amended, and passed CS/CS/CS/HB 289 as further amended, and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Judiciary Committee, State Affairs Committee, Criminal Justice Subcommittee and Representative(s) Oliver, Lopez, V., Barnaby, Bartleman, Blanco, Cross, Gossett-Seidman, Gottlieb, Grow, Joseph, López, J., Mooney, Porras, Redondo, Rizo, Tendrich, Valdés, Yarkosky—

CS for CS for CS for HB 289—A bill to be entitled An act relating to boating safety; providing a short title; amending s. 327.02, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "livery vessel"; amending s. 327.30, F.S.; revising and providing penalties for vessel collisions, accidents, and casualties; defining the term "serious bodily injury"; creating s. 327.3015, F.S.; prohibiting a person from knowingly providing false information in specified reports; providing a criminal penalty; amending s. 327.33, F.S.; revising and providing penalties for the reckless operation of a vessel; amending s. 327.35, F.S.; defining the term "unborn child"; requiring a minimum mandatory prison term for boating under the influence manslaughter; amending s. 327.395, F.S.; revising requirements for operating certain vessels; amending s. 327.54, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "livery"; amending s. 327.731, F.S.; requiring a person convicted of certain noncriminal infractions to pay a fine; requiring such proceeds to be deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund for specified purposes; amending s. 327.73, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 782.071, F.S.; defining the term "unborn child"; revising the definition of the term "vessel homicide"; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.; ranking offenses on the offense severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment Code; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

House Amendment 1 (746971) (with title amendment) to Senate Amendment 1 (212806)—Remove lines 5-428 of the amendment and insert:

Section 1. *This act may be cited as "Lucy's Law."*

Section 2. Subsection (24) of section 327.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.02 Definitions.—As used in this chapter and in chapter 328, unless the context clearly requires a different meaning, the term:

(24) "Livery vessel" means a vessel leased or; rented, ~~or chartered to another for consideration.~~

Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 327.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.30 Collisions, accidents, and casualties.—

(5) It is unlawful for a person operating a vessel involved in an accident or injury to leave the scene of the accident or injury without giving all possible aid to all persons involved and making a reasonable effort to locate the owner or persons affected and subsequently complying with and notifying the appropriate law enforcement official as required under this section.

(a) A ~~any~~ person who violates this subsection with respect to an accident resulting in:

1. *Property damage only, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.*

2. *Injury to a person other than serious bodily injury, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.*

3. *Serious bodily injury, commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.*

4. *The death of another person or an unborn child, commits a felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.*

(b) *A person who willfully commits a violation of subparagraph (a)4. must be sentenced to a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 4 years.*

(c) *For purposes of this subsection, the term “serious bodily injury” has the same meaning as in s. 327.353 ~~personal injury commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. Any person who violates this subsection with respect to an accident resulting in property damage only commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.~~*

Section 4. Section 327.3015, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

327.3015 *False reports.—A person who gives information in oral, electronic, or written reports as required in this chapter, knowing or having reason to believe that such information is false, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.*

Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 327.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.33 *Reckless or careless operation of vessel.—*

(1) It is unlawful to operate a vessel in a reckless manner. A person who operates any vessel, or manipulates any water skis, aquaplane, or similar device, in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property at a speed or in a manner as to endanger, or likely to endanger, life or limb, or damage the property of, or injure a person is guilty of reckless operation of a vessel. Reckless operation of a vessel includes, but is not limited to, a violation of s. 327.331(6). *If a person who violates this subsection and the violation:*

(a) *Does not result in an accident, the person commits a misdemeanor of the second ~~first~~ degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.*

(b) *Results in an accident that causes damage to the property or person of another, the person commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.*

(c) *Results in an accident that causes serious bodily injury as defined in s. 316.192, the person commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.*

Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 327.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.35 *Boating under the influence; penalties; “designated drivers.”—*

(3)(a) Any person:

1.~~(a)~~ Who is in violation of subsection (1);

2.~~(b)~~ Who operates a vessel; and

3.~~(c)~~ Who, by reason of such operation, causes or contributes to causing:

a.~~1~~ Damage to the property or person of another commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

b.~~2~~ Serious bodily injury to another, as defined in s. 327.353, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

c.~~3~~ The death of any human being, or unborn child as defined in s. 775.021(5), commits BUI manslaughter, and commits:

(I)~~a~~. A felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(II)~~b~~. A felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if:

(A)~~(I)~~ At the time of the accident, the person knew, or should have known, that the accident occurred; and

(B)~~(II)~~ The person failed to give information and render aid as required by s. 327.30.

This sub-sub-subparagraph ~~sub-subparagraph~~ does not require that the person knew that the accident resulted in injury or death.

(b) *A person who is convicted of BUI manslaughter shall be sentenced to a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 4 years.*

Section 7. Subsections (1) and (10) of section 327.395, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

327.395 *Boating safety education.—*

(1) A person ~~born on or after January 1, 1988,~~ may not operate a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater unless ~~he or she~~ was born:

(a) *On or after January 1, 1988, and such person* has in his or her possession aboard the vessel the documents required by subsection (2); or

(b) *Before January 1, 1988, and:*

1. *As of the date the person is operating a vessel, has been a Florida resident for at least 5 consecutive years; or*

2. *Has in his or her possession aboard the vessel the documents required by subsection (2).*

(10) The commission shall design forms and adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 to implement this section. *Any such rules must establish minimum standards for online boating safety education courses offered, including curriculum requirements, assessment methods, and provider qualifications. The standards must, at a minimum, align with the education standards set by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and may include additional requirements as necessary to promote effective and accessible online boating safety education in this state. All online course providers must be approved by the commission and demonstrate compliance with the standards prescribed by commission rule before offering courses to the public.*

Section 8. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 327.54, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.54 *Liveries; safety regulations; penalty.—*

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(c) “Livery” means a person who advertises and offers a livery vessel for use by another in exchange for any type of consideration when such person does not also provide or does not require the lessee or renter to provide as a condition of the rental or lease agreement a person licensed by the United States Coast Guard to serve as master of the vessel or to ~~with a captain, a crew, or any type of staff or personnel to operate, oversee, maintain, or~~ manage the vessel. The owner of a vessel who does not advertise his or her vessel for use by another for consideration and who loans or offers his or her vessel for use to another known to him or her either for consideration or without consideration is not a livery. A public or private school or postsecondary institution located within this state is not a livery. A vessel rented or leased by a livery is a livery vessel as defined in s. 327.02.

Section 9. Section 327.731, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.731 *Mandatory education for violators.—*

(1) A person convicted of a ~~criminal violation under this chapter, convicted of a noncriminal infraction under this chapter if the infraction resulted in a reportable boating accident, or convicted of two non-criminal infractions as specified in s. 327.73(1)(h)-(k), (m), (o), (p), and (s)-(y), the infractions occurring within a 12 month period,~~ must:

(a) Enroll in, attend, and successfully complete, at his or her own expense, a classroom or online boating safety course that is approved by and meets the minimum standards established by commission rule;

(b) File with the commission within 90 days proof of successful completion of the course; and

(c) Refrain from operating a vessel until he or she has filed proof of successful completion of the course with the commission; and

~~(d) Pay a fine of \$500. The clerk of the court shall remit all fines assessed and collected under this paragraph to the Department of Revenue to be deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund to support law enforcement activities.~~

(2) *In addition to the penalties provided in paragraphs (1)(a)–(c), a person convicted of a criminal violation under this chapter, convicted of a noncriminal infraction under this chapter if the infraction resulted in a reportable boating accident, or convicted of two or more noncriminal infractions as specified in s. 327.73(1)(h)–(k), (m), (o), (p), and (s)–(y), the infractions occurring within a 12-month period, must pay a fine of \$500. The clerk of the court shall remit all fines assessed and collected under this subsection to the Department of Revenue to be deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund to support law enforcement activities.*

(3)(2) For the purposes of this section, “conviction” means a finding of guilt, or the acceptance of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, regardless of whether or not adjudication was withheld or whether imposition of sentence was withheld, deferred, or suspended. Any person who operates a vessel on the waters of this state in violation of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(4)(3) The commission shall print on the reverse side of the defendant’s copy of the boating citation a notice of the provisions of this section. Upon conviction, the clerk of the court shall notify the defendant that it is unlawful for him or her to operate any vessel until he or she has complied with this section, but failure of the clerk of the court to provide such a notice shall not be a defense to a charge of unlawful operation of a vessel under subsection (3)(2).

(5)(4) The commission shall maintain a program to ensure compliance with the mandatory boating safety education requirements under this section. This program must:

(a) Track any citations resulting in a conviction under this section and the disposition of such citations.

(b) Send specific notices to each person subject to the requirement for mandatory boating safety education.

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (11) of section 327.73, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.73 Noncriminal infractions.—

(11)(a) Court costs that are to be in addition to the stated civil penalty shall be imposed by the court in an amount not less than the following:

1. For swimming or diving infractions, \$4, from which the clerk shall remit \$1 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

2. For nonmoving boating infractions, \$18, from which the clerk shall remit \$12 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

3. For boating infractions listed in s. 327.731 ~~s. 327.731(1)~~, \$35, from which the clerk shall remit \$25 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

Court costs imposed under this subsection may not exceed \$45. A criminal justice selection center or both local criminal justice access and assessment centers may be funded from these court costs.

Section 11. Section 782.072, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

782.072 Vessel homicide.—

(1) *As used in this section, the term:*

(a) “Unborn child” has the same meaning as in s. 775.021(5)(e).

(b) “Vessel homicide” means ~~is~~ the killing of a human being, including the death of an unborn child caused by injury to the mother, by the operation of a vessel as defined in s. 327.02 by another in a reckless manner likely to cause the death of, or great bodily harm to, another.

(2) Vessel homicide is:

(a)(1) A felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(b)(2) A felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if:

1.(a) At the time of the accident, the person knew, or should have known, that the accident occurred; and

2.(b) The person failed to give information and render aid as required by s. 327.30(1).

This subsection does not require that the person knew that the accident resulted in injury or death.

Section 12. Paragraphs (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i) of subsection (3) of section 921.0022, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity ranking chart.—

(3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART

(e) LEVEL 5

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
316.027(2)(a)	3rd	Accidents involving personal injuries other than serious bodily injury, failure to stop; leaving scene.
316.1935(4)(a)	2nd	Aggravated fleeing or eluding.
316.80(2)	2nd	Unlawful conveyance of fuel; obtaining fuel fraudulently.
322.34(6)	3rd	Careless operation of motor vehicle with suspended license, resulting in death or serious bodily injury.
327.30(5)(a)2. 327.30(5)	3rd	Vessel accidents involving personal injuries other than serious bodily injury; leaving scene.
379.365(2)(c)1.	3rd	Violation of rules relating to: willful molestation of stone crab traps, lines, or buoys; illegal bartering, trading, or sale, conspiring or aiding in such barter, trade, or sale, or supplying, agreeing to supply, aiding in supplying, or giving away stone crab trap tags or certificates; making, altering, forging, counterfeiting, or reproducing stone crab trap tags; possession of forged, counterfeit, or imitation stone crab trap tags; and engaging in the commercial harvest of stone crabs while license is suspended or revoked.
379.367(4)	3rd	Willful molestation of a commercial harvester’s spiny lobster trap, line, or buoy.
379.407(5)(b)3.	3rd	Possession of 100 or more undersized spiny lobsters.

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
381.0041(11)(b)	3rd	Donate blood, plasma, or organs knowing HIV positive.	812.015(8)(g)	3rd	Retail theft; committed with specified number of other persons.
440.10(1)(g)	2nd	Failure to obtain workers' compensation coverage.	812.019(1)	2nd	Stolen property; dealing in or trafficking in.
440.105(5)	2nd	Unlawful solicitation for the purpose of making workers' compensation claims.	812.081(3)	2nd	Trafficking in trade secrets.
440.381(2)	3rd	Submission of false, misleading, or incomplete information with the purpose of avoiding or reducing workers' compensation premiums.	812.131(2)(b)	3rd	Robbery by sudden snatching.
624.401(4)(b)2.	2nd	Transacting insurance without a certificate or authority; premium collected \$20,000 or more but less than \$100,000.	812.16(2)	3rd	Owning, operating, or conducting a chop shop.
626.902(1)(c)	2nd	Representing an unauthorized insurer; repeat offender.	817.034(4)(a)2.	2nd	Communications fraud, value \$20,000 to \$50,000.
790.01(3)	3rd	Unlawful carrying of a concealed firearm.	817.234(11)(b)	2nd	Insurance fraud; property value \$20,000 or more but less than \$100,000.
790.162	2nd	Threat to throw or discharge destructive device.	817.2341(1), (2)(a) & (3)(a)	3rd	Filing false financial statements, making false entries of material fact or false statements regarding property values relating to the solvency of an insuring entity.
790.163(1)	2nd	False report of bomb, explosive, weapon of mass destruction, or use of firearms in violent manner.	817.568(2)(b)	2nd	Fraudulent use of personal identification information; value of benefit, services received, payment avoided, or amount of injury or fraud, \$5,000 or more or use of personal identification information of 10 or more persons.
790.221(1)	2nd	Possession of short-barreled shotgun or machine gun.	817.611(2)(a)	2nd	Traffic in or possess 5 to 14 counterfeit credit cards or related documents.
790.23	2nd	Felons in possession of firearms, ammunition, or electronic weapons or devices.	817.625(2)(b)	2nd	Second or subsequent fraudulent use of scanning device, skimming device, or reencoder.
796.05(1)	2nd	Live on earnings of a prostitute; 1st offense.	825.1025(4)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious exhibition in the presence of an elderly person or disabled adult.
800.04(6)(c)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious conduct; offender less than 18 years of age.	828.12(2)	3rd	Tortures any animal with intent to inflict intense pain, serious physical injury, or death.
800.04(7)(b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious exhibition; offender 18 years of age or older.	836.14(4)	2nd	Person who willfully promotes for financial gain a sexually explicit image of an identifiable person without consent.
806.111(1)	3rd	Possess, manufacture, or dispense fire bomb with intent to damage any structure or property.	839.13(2)(b)	2nd	Falsifying records of an individual in the care and custody of a state agency involving great bodily harm or death.
810.145(4)(c)	3rd	Commercial digital voyeurism dissemination.	843.01(1)	3rd	Resist officer with violence to person; resist arrest with violence.
810.145(7)(a)	2nd	Digital voyeurism; 2nd or subsequent offense.	847.0135(5)(b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious exhibition using computer; offender 18 years or older.
810.145(8)(a)	2nd	Digital voyeurism; certain minor victims.	847.0137 (2) & (3)	3rd	Transmission of pornography by electronic device or equipment.
812.014(2)(d)3.	2nd	Grand theft, 2nd degree; theft from 20 or more dwellings or their unenclosed curtilage, or any combination.	847.0138 (2) & (3)	3rd	Transmission of material harmful to minors to a minor by electronic device or equipment.
812.0145(2)(b)	2nd	Theft from person 65 years of age or older; \$10,000 or more but less than \$50,000.	874.05(1)(b)	2nd	Encouraging or recruiting another to join a criminal gang; second or subsequent offense.
812.015(8)(a) & (c)-(e)	3rd	Retail theft; property stolen is valued at \$750 or more and one or more specified acts.			
812.015(8)(f)	3rd	Retail theft; multiple thefts within specified period.			

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
874.05(2)(a)	2nd	Encouraging or recruiting person under 13 years of age to join a criminal gang.	784.021(1)(a)	3rd	Aggravated assault; deadly weapon without intent to kill.
893.13(1)(a)1.	2nd	Sell, manufacture, or deliver cocaine (or other s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)5. drugs).	784.021(1)(b)	3rd	Aggravated assault; intent to commit felony.
893.13(1)(c)2.	2nd	Sell, manufacture, or deliver cannabis (or other s. 893.03(1)(c), (2)(c)1., (2)(c)2., (2)(c)3., (2)(c)6., (2)(c)7., (2)(c)8., (2)(c)9., (2)(c)10., (3), or (4) drugs) within 1,000 feet of a child care facility, school, or state, county, or municipal park or publicly owned recreational facility or community center.	784.041	3rd	Felony battery; domestic battery by strangulation.
893.13(1)(d)1.	1st	Sell, manufacture, or deliver cocaine (or other s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)5. drugs) within 1,000 feet of university.	784.048(3)	3rd	Aggravated stalking; credible threat.
893.13(1)(e)2.	2nd	Sell, manufacture, or deliver cannabis or other drug prohibited under s. 893.03(1)(c), (2)(c)1., (2)(c)2., (2)(c)3., (2)(c)6., (2)(c)7., (2)(c)8., (2)(c)9., (2)(c)10., (3), or (4) within 1,000 feet of property used for religious services or a specified business site.	784.048(5)	3rd	Aggravated stalking of person under 16.
893.13(1)(f)1.	1st	Sell, manufacture, or deliver cocaine (or other s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), or (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)5. drugs) within 1,000 feet of public housing facility.	784.07(2)(c)	2nd	Aggravated assault on law enforcement officer.
893.13(4)(b)	2nd	Use or hire of minor; deliver to minor other controlled substance.	784.074(1)(b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on sexually violent predators facility staff.
893.1351(1)	3rd	Ownership, lease, or rental for trafficking in or manufacturing of controlled substance.	784.08(2)(b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on a person 65 years of age or older.
(f) LEVEL 6			784.081(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on specified official or employee.
Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	784.082(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault by detained person on visitor or other detainee.
316.027(2)(b)	2nd	Leaving the scene of a crash involving serious bodily injury.	784.083(2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on code inspector.
316.193(2)(b)	3rd	Felony DUI, 4th or subsequent conviction.	787.02(2)	3rd	False imprisonment; restraining with purpose other than those in s. 787.01.
327.30(5)(a)3.	2nd	<i>Vessel accidents involving serious bodily injury; leaving scene.</i>	790.115(2)(d)	2nd	Discharging firearm or weapon on school property.
400.9935(4)(c)	2nd	Operating a clinic, or offering services requiring licensure, without a license.	790.161(2)	2nd	Make, possess, or throw destructive device with intent to do bodily harm or damage property.
499.0051(2)	2nd	Knowing forgery of transaction history, transaction information, or transaction statement.	790.164(1)	2nd	False report concerning bomb, explosive, weapon of mass destruction, act of arson or violence to state property, or use of firearms in violent manner.
499.0051(3)	2nd	Knowing purchase or receipt of prescription drug from unauthorized person.	790.19	2nd	Shooting or throwing deadly missiles into dwellings, vessels, or vehicles.
499.0051(4)	2nd	Knowing sale or transfer of prescription drug to unauthorized person.	794.011(8)(a)	3rd	Solicitation of minor to participate in sexual activity by custodial adult.
775.0875(1)	3rd	Taking firearm from law enforcement officer.	794.05(1)	2nd	Unlawful sexual activity with specified minor.
			800.04(5)(d)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation; victim 12 years of age or older but less than 16 years of age; offender less than 18 years.
			800.04(6)(b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious conduct; offender 18 years of age or older.
			806.031(2)	2nd	Arson resulting in great bodily harm to firefighter or any other person.
			810.02(3)(c)	2nd	Burglary of occupied structure; unarmed; no assault or battery.
			810.145(8)(b)	2nd	Digital voyeurism; certain minor victims; 2nd or subsequent offense.
			812.014(2)(b)1.	2nd	Property stolen \$20,000 or more, but less than \$100,000, grand theft in 2nd degree.

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
812.014(2)(c)5.	3rd	Grand theft; third degree; firearm.	847.0135(2)	3rd	Facilitates sexual conduct of or with a minor or the visual depiction of such conduct.
812.014(6)	2nd	Theft; property stolen \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.	893.131	2nd	Distribution of controlled substances resulting in overdose or serious bodily injury.
812.015(9)(a)	2nd	Retail theft; property stolen \$750 or more; second or subsequent conviction.	914.23	2nd	Retaliation against a witness, victim, or informant, with bodily injury.
812.015(9)(b)	2nd	Retail theft; aggregated property stolen within 120 days is \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.	918.13(2)(b)	2nd	Tampering with or fabricating physical evidence relating to a capital felony.
812.015(9)(d)	2nd	Retail theft; multiple thefts within specified period.	944.35(3)(a)2.	3rd	Committing malicious battery upon or inflicting cruel or inhuman treatment on an inmate or offender on community supervision, resulting in great bodily harm.
812.015(9)(e)	2nd	Retail theft; committed with specified number of other persons and use of social media platform.	944.40	2nd	Escapes.
812.13(2)(c)	2nd	Robbery, no firearm or other weapon (strong-arm robbery).	944.46	3rd	Harboring, concealing, aiding escaped prisoners.
817.4821(5)	2nd	Possess cloning paraphernalia with intent to create cloned cellular telephones.	944.47(1)(a)5.	2nd	Introduction of contraband (firearm, weapon, or explosive) into correctional facility.
817.49(2)(b)2.	2nd	Willful making of a false report of a crime resulting in death.	951.22(1)(i)	3rd	Firearm or weapon introduced into county detention facility.
817.505(4)(b)	2nd	Patient brokering; 10 or more patients.	(g) LEVEL 7		
817.5695(3)(b)	2nd	Exploitation of person 65 years of age or older, value \$10,000 or more, but less than \$50,000.	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
825.102(1)	3rd	Abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult.	316.027(2)(c)	1st	Accident involving death, failure to stop; leaving scene.
825.102(3)(c)	3rd	Neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult.	316.193(3)(c)2.	3rd	DUI resulting in serious bodily injury.
825.1025(3)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation of an elderly person or disabled adult.	316.1935(3)(b)	1st	Causing serious bodily injury or death to another person; driving at high speed or with wanton disregard for safety while fleeing or attempting to elude law enforcement officer who is in a patrol vehicle with siren and lights activated.
825.103(3)(c)	3rd	Exploiting an elderly person or disabled adult and property is valued at less than \$10,000.	327.35(3)(a)3.b. 327.35(3)(e)2.	3rd	Vessel BUI resulting in serious bodily injury.
827.03(2)(c)	3rd	Abuse of a child.	402.319(2)	2nd	Misrepresentation and negligence or intentional act resulting in great bodily harm, permanent disfigurement, permanent disability, or death.
827.03(2)(d)	3rd	Neglect of a child.			
827.071(5)	3rd	Possess, control, or intentionally view any photographic material, motion picture, etc., which includes child pornography.	409.920 (2)(b)1.a.	3rd	Medicaid provider fraud; \$10,000 or less.
828.126(3)	3rd	Sexual activities involving animals.	409.920 (2)(b)1.b.	2nd	Medicaid provider fraud; more than \$10,000, but less than \$50,000.
836.05	2nd	Threats; extortion.	456.065(2)	3rd	Practicing a health care profession without a license.
836.10	2nd	Written or electronic threats to kill, do bodily injury, or conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism.	456.065(2)	2nd	Practicing a health care profession without a license which results in serious bodily injury.
843.12	3rd	Aids or assists person to escape.	458.327(1)	3rd	Practicing medicine without a license.
847.011	3rd	Distributing, offering to distribute, or possessing with intent to distribute obscene materials depicting minors.			
847.012	3rd	Knowingly using a minor in the production of materials harmful to minors.			

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
459.013(1)	3rd	Practicing osteopathic medicine without a license.	782.07(1)	2nd	Killing of a human being by the act, procurement, or culpable negligence of another (manslaughter).
460.411(1)	3rd	Practicing chiropractic medicine without a license.	782.071	2nd	Killing of a human being or unborn child by the operation of a motor vehicle in a reckless manner (vehicular homicide).
461.012(1)	3rd	Practicing podiatric medicine without a license.			
462.17	3rd	Practicing naturopathy without a license.	782.072	2nd	Killing of a human being by the operation of a vessel in a reckless manner (vessel homicide).
463.015(1)	3rd	Practicing optometry without a license.	784.045(1)(a)1.	2nd	Aggravated battery; intentionally causing great bodily harm or disfigurement.
464.016(1)	3rd	Practicing nursing without a license.			
465.015(2)	3rd	Practicing pharmacy without a license.	784.045(1)(a)2.	2nd	Aggravated battery; using deadly weapon.
466.026(1)	3rd	Practicing dentistry or dental hygiene without a license.	784.045(1)(b)	2nd	Aggravated battery; perpetrator aware victim pregnant.
467.201	3rd	Practicing midwifery without a license.	784.048(4)	3rd	Aggravated stalking; violation of injunction or court order.
468.366	3rd	Delivering respiratory care services without a license.	784.048(7)	3rd	Aggravated stalking; violation of court order.
483.828(1)	3rd	Practicing as clinical laboratory personnel without a license.	784.07(2)(d)	1st	Aggravated battery on law enforcement officer.
483.901(7)	3rd	Practicing medical physics without a license.	784.074(1)(a)	1st	Aggravated battery on sexually violent predators facility staff.
484.013(1)(c)	3rd	Preparing or dispensing optical devices without a prescription.	784.08(2)(a)	1st	Aggravated battery on a person 65 years of age or older.
484.053	3rd	Dispensing hearing aids without a license.	784.081(1)	1st	Aggravated battery on specified official or employee.
494.0018(2)	1st	Conviction of any violation of chapter 494 in which the total money and property unlawfully obtained exceeded \$50,000 and there were five or more victims.	784.082(1)	1st	Aggravated battery by detained person on visitor or other detainee.
			784.083(1)	1st	Aggravated battery on code inspector.
560.123(8)(b)1.	3rd	Failure to report currency or payment instruments exceeding \$300 but less than \$20,000 by a money services business.	787.06(3)(a)2.	1st	Human trafficking using coercion for labor and services of an adult.
			787.06(3)(e)2.	1st	Human trafficking using coercion for labor and services by the transfer or transport of an adult from outside Florida to within the state.
560.125(5)(a)	3rd	Money services business by unauthorized person, currency or payment instruments exceeding \$300 but less than \$20,000.	790.07(4)	1st	Specified weapons violation subsequent to previous conviction of s. 790.07(1) or (2).
655.50(10)(b)1.	3rd	Failure to report financial transactions exceeding \$300 but less than \$20,000 by financial institution.	790.16(1)	1st	Discharge of a machine gun under specified circumstances.
775.21(10)(a)	3rd	Sexual predator; failure to register; failure to renew driver license or identification card; other registration violations.	790.165(2)	2nd	Manufacture, sell, possess, or deliver hoax bomb.
			790.165(3)	2nd	Possessing, displaying, or threatening to use any hoax bomb while committing or attempting to commit a felony.
775.21(10)(b)	3rd	Sexual predator working where children regularly congregate.			
775.21(10)(g)	3rd	Failure to report or providing false information about a sexual predator; harbor or conceal a sexual predator.	790.166(3)	2nd	Possessing, selling, using, or attempting to use a hoax weapon of mass destruction.
782.051(3)	2nd	Attempted felony murder of a person by a person other than the perpetrator or the perpetrator of an attempted felony.	790.166(4)	2nd	Possessing, displaying, or threatening to use a hoax weapon of mass destruction while committing or attempting to commit a felony.

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
790.23	1st, PBL	Possession of a firearm by a person who qualifies for the penalty enhancements provided for in s. 874.04.	817.034(4)(a)1.	1st	Communications fraud, value greater than \$50,000.
794.08(4)	3rd	Female genital mutilation; consent by a parent, guardian, or a person in custodial authority to a victim younger than 18 years of age.	817.234(8)(a)	2nd	Solicitation of motor vehicle accident victims with intent to defraud.
796.05(1)	1st	Live on earnings of a prostitute; 2nd offense.	817.234(9)	2nd	Organizing, planning, or participating in an intentional motor vehicle collision.
796.05(1)	1st	Live on earnings of a prostitute; 3rd and subsequent offense.	817.234(11)(c)	1st	Insurance fraud; property value \$100,000 or more.
800.04(5)(c)1.	2nd	Lewd or lascivious molestation; victim younger than 12 years of age; offender younger than 18 years of age.	817.2341(2)(b) & (3)(b)	1st	Making false entries of material fact or false statements regarding property values relating to the solvency of an insuring entity which are a significant cause of the insolvency of that entity.
800.04(5)(c)2.	2nd	Lewd or lascivious molestation; victim 12 years of age or older but younger than 16 years of age; offender 18 years of age or older.	817.418(2)(a)	3rd	Offering for sale or advertising personal protective equipment with intent to defraud.
800.04(5)(e)	1st	Lewd or lascivious molestation; victim 12 years of age or older but younger than 16 years; offender 18 years or older; prior conviction for specified sex offense.	817.504(1)(a)	3rd	Offering or advertising a vaccine with intent to defraud.
806.01(2)	2nd	Maliciously damage structure by fire or explosive.	817.535(2)(a)	3rd	Filing false lien or other unauthorized document.
810.02(3)(a)	2nd	Burglary of occupied dwelling; unarmed; no assault or battery.	817.611(2)(b)	2nd	Traffic in or possess 15 to 49 counterfeit credit cards or related documents.
810.02(3)(b)	2nd	Burglary of unoccupied dwelling; unarmed; no assault or battery.	825.102(3)(b)	2nd	Neglecting an elderly person or disabled adult causing great bodily harm, disability, or disfigurement.
810.02(3)(d)	2nd	Burglary of occupied conveyance; unarmed; no assault or battery.	825.103(3)(b)	2nd	Exploiting an elderly person or disabled adult and property is valued at \$10,000 or more, but less than \$50,000.
810.02(3)(e)	2nd	Burglary of authorized emergency vehicle.	827.03(2)(b)	2nd	Neglect of a child causing great bodily harm, disability, or disfigurement.
812.014(2)(a)1.	1st	Property stolen, valued at \$100,000 or more or a semitrailer deployed by a law enforcement officer; property stolen while causing other property damage; 1st degree grand theft.	827.04(3)	3rd	Impregnation of a child under 16 years of age by person 21 years of age or older.
812.014(2)(b)2.	2nd	Property stolen, cargo valued at less than \$50,000, grand theft in 2nd degree.	827.071(2) & (3)	2nd	Use or induce a child in a sexual performance, or promote or direct such performance.
812.014(2)(b)3.	2nd	Property stolen, emergency medical equipment; 2nd degree grand theft.	827.071(4)	2nd	Possess with intent to promote any photographic material, motion picture, etc., which includes child pornography.
812.014(2)(b)4.	2nd	Property stolen, law enforcement equipment from authorized emergency vehicle.	837.05(2)	3rd	Giving false information about alleged capital felony to a law enforcement officer.
812.014(2)(g)	2nd	Grand theft; second degree; firearm with previous conviction of s. 812.014(2)(c)5.	838.015	2nd	Bribery.
812.0145(2)(a)	1st	Theft from person 65 years of age or older; \$50,000 or more.	838.016	2nd	Unlawful compensation or reward for official behavior.
812.019(2)	1st	Stolen property; initiates, organizes, plans, etc., the theft of property and traffics in stolen property.	838.021(3)(a)	2nd	Unlawful harm to a public servant.
812.131(2)(a)	2nd	Robbery by sudden snatching.	838.22	2nd	Bid tampering.
812.133(2)(b)	1st	Carjacking; no firearm, deadly weapon, or other weapon.	843.0855(2)	3rd	Impersonation of a public officer or employee.
			843.0855(3)	3rd	Unlawful simulation of legal process.

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
843.0855(4)	3rd	Intimidation of a public officer or employee.	893.135 (1)(h)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in gamma-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB), 1 kilogram or more, less than 5 kilograms.
847.0135(3)	3rd	Solicitation of a child, via a computer service, to commit an unlawful sex act.	893.135 (1)(j)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in 1,4-Butanediol, 1 kilogram or more, less than 5 kilograms.
847.0135(4)	2nd	Traveling to meet a minor to commit an unlawful sex act.	893.135 (1)(k)2.a.	1st	Trafficking in Phenethylamines, 10 grams or more, less than 200 grams.
872.06	2nd	Abuse of a dead human body.	893.135 (1)(m)2.a.	1st	Trafficking in synthetic cannabinoids, 280 grams or more, less than 500 grams.
874.05(2)(b)	1st	Encouraging or recruiting person under 13 to join a criminal gang; second or subsequent offense.	893.135 (1)(m)2.b.	1st	Trafficking in synthetic cannabinoids, 500 grams or more, less than 1,000 grams.
874.10	1st, PBL	Knowingly initiates, organizes, plans, finances, directs, manages, or supervises criminal gang-related activity.	893.135 (1)(n)2.a.	1st	Trafficking in n-benzyl phenethylamines, 14 grams or more, less than 100 grams.
893.13(1)(c)1.	1st	Sell, manufacture, or deliver cocaine (or other drug prohibited under s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)5.) within 1,000 feet of a child care facility, school, or state, county, or municipal park or publicly owned recreational facility or community center.	893.1351(2)	2nd	Possession of place for trafficking in or manufacturing of controlled substance.
893.13(1)(e)1.	1st	Sell, manufacture, or deliver cocaine or other drug prohibited under s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b), (1)(d), (2)(a), (2)(b), or (2)(c)5., within 1,000 feet of property used for religious services or a specified business site.	896.101(5)(a)	3rd	Money laundering, financial transactions exceeding \$300 but less than \$20,000.
893.13(4)(a)	1st	Use or hire of minor; deliver to minor other controlled substance.	896.104(4)(a)1.	3rd	Structuring transactions to evade reporting or registration requirements, financial transactions exceeding \$300 but less than \$20,000.
893.135(1)(a)1.	1st	Trafficking in cannabis, more than 25 lbs., less than 2,000 lbs.	943.0435(4)(c)	2nd	Sexual offender vacating permanent residence; failure to comply with reporting requirements.
893.135 (1)(b)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in cocaine, more than 28 grams, less than 200 grams.	943.0435(8)	2nd	Sexual offender; remains in state after indicating intent to leave; failure to comply with reporting requirements.
893.135 (1)(c)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in illegal drugs, more than 4 grams, less than 14 grams.	943.0435(9)(a)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to comply with reporting requirements.
893.135 (1)(c)2.a.	1st	Trafficking in hydrocodone, 28 grams or more, less than 50 grams.	943.0435(13)	3rd	Failure to report or providing false information about a sexual offender; harbor or conceal a sexual offender.
893.135 (1)(c)2.b.	1st	Trafficking in hydrocodone, 50 grams or more, less than 100 grams.	943.0435(14)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to report and reregister; failure to respond to address verification; providing false registration information.
893.135 (1)(c)3.a.	1st	Trafficking in oxycodone, 7 grams or more, less than 14 grams.	944.607(9)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to comply with reporting requirements.
893.135 (1)(c)3.b.	1st	Trafficking in oxycodone, 14 grams or more, less than 25 grams.	944.607(10)(a)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to submit to the taking of a digitized photograph.
893.135 (1)(c)4.b.(I)	1st	Trafficking in fentanyl, 4 grams or more, less than 14 grams.	944.607(12)	3rd	Failure to report or providing false information about a sexual offender; harbor or conceal a sexual offender.
893.135 (1)(d)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in phencyclidine, 28 grams or more, less than 200 grams.	944.607(13)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to report and reregister; failure to respond to address verification; providing false registration information.
893.135(1)(e)1.	1st	Trafficking in methaqualone, 200 grams or more, less than 5 kilograms.			
893.135(1)(f)1.	1st	Trafficking in amphetamine, 14 grams or more, less than 28 grams.			
893.135 (1)(g)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in flunitrazepam, 4 grams or more, less than 14 grams.	985.4815(10)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to submit to the taking of a digitized photograph.

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
985.4815(12)	3rd	Failure to report or providing false information about a sexual offender; harbor or conceal a sexual offender.	787.06(3)(c)2.	1st	Human trafficking using coercion for labor and services of an unauthorized alien adult.
985.4815(13)	3rd	Sexual offender; failure to report and reregister; failure to respond to address verification; providing false registration information.	787.06(3)(e)1.	1st	Human trafficking for labor and services by the transfer or transport of a child from outside Florida to within the state.
(h) LEVEL 8			787.06(3)(f)2.	1st	Human trafficking using coercion for commercial sexual activity by the transfer or transport of any adult from outside Florida to within the state.
Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description			
316.193 (3)(c)3.a.	2nd	DUI manslaughter.	790.161(3)	1st	Discharging a destructive device which results in bodily harm or property damage.
316.1935(4)(b)	1st	Aggravated fleeing or attempted eluding with serious bodily injury or death.	794.011(5)(a)	1st	Sexual battery; victim 12 years of age or older but younger than 18 years; offender 18 years or older; offender does not use physical force likely to cause serious injury.
327.35(3)(a)3.c.(I)	2nd	Vessel BUI manslaughter.	794.011(5)(b)	2nd	Sexual battery; victim and offender 18 years of age or older; offender does not use physical force likely to cause serious injury.
327.35(3)(e)3.			794.011(5)(c)	2nd	Sexual battery; victim 12 years of age or older; offender younger than 18 years; offender does not use physical force likely to cause injury.
499.0051(6)	1st	Knowing trafficking in contraband prescription drugs.	794.011(5)(d)	1st	Sexual battery; victim 12 years of age or older; offender does not use physical force likely to cause serious injury; prior conviction for specified sex offense.
499.0051(7)	1st	Knowing forgery of prescription labels or prescription drug labels.	794.08(3)	2nd	Female genital mutilation, removal of a victim younger than 18 years of age from this state.
560.123(8)(b)2.	2nd	Failure to report currency or payment instruments totaling or exceeding \$20,000, but less than \$100,000 by money transmitter.	800.04(4)(b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious battery.
560.125(5)(b)	2nd	Money transmitter business by unauthorized person, currency or payment instruments totaling or exceeding \$20,000, but less than \$100,000.	800.04(4)(c)	1st	Lewd or lascivious battery; offender 18 years of age or older; prior conviction for specified sex offense.
655.50(10)(b)2.	2nd	Failure to report financial transactions totaling or exceeding \$20,000, but less than \$100,000 by financial institutions.	806.01(1)	1st	Maliciously damage dwelling or structure by fire or explosive, believing person in structure.
777.03(2)(a)	1st	Accessory after the fact, capital felony.	810.02(2)(a)	1st, PBL	Burglary with assault or battery.
782.04(4)	2nd	Killing of human without design when engaged in act or attempt of any felony other than arson, sexual battery, robbery, burglary, kidnapping, aggravated fleeing or eluding with serious bodily injury or death, aircraft piracy, or unlawfully discharging bomb.	810.02(2)(b)	1st, PBL	Burglary; armed with explosives or dangerous weapon.
782.051(2)	1st	Attempted felony murder while perpetrating or attempting to perpetrate a felony not enumerated in s. 782.04(3).	810.02(2)(c)	1st	Burglary of a dwelling or structure causing structural damage or \$1,000 or more property damage.
782.071(1)(b)	1st	Committing vehicular homicide and failing to render aid or give information.	812.014(2)(a)2.	1st	Property stolen; cargo valued at \$50,000 or more, grand theft in 1st degree.
782.072(2)(b)	1st	Committing vessel homicide and failing to render aid or give information.	812.015(11)(b)	1st	Retail theft; possession of a firearm during commission of offense.
787.06(3)(a)1.	1st	Human trafficking for labor and services of a child.	812.13(2)(b)	1st	Robbery with a weapon.
787.06(3)(b)	1st	Human trafficking using coercion for commercial sexual activity of an adult.	812.135(2)(c)	1st	Home-invasion robbery, no firearm, deadly weapon, or other weapon.

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
817.418(2)(b)	2nd	Offering for sale or advertising personal protective equipment with intent to defraud; second or subsequent offense.	893.135 (1)(c)1.b.	1st	Trafficking in illegal drugs, more than 14 grams, less than 28 grams.
			893.135 (1)(c)2.c.	1st	Trafficking in hydrocodone, 100 grams or more, less than 300 grams.
817.504(1)(b)	2nd	Offering or advertising a vaccine with intent to defraud; second or subsequent offense.	893.135 (1)(c)3.c.	1st	Trafficking in oxycodone, 25 grams or more, less than 100 grams.
817.505(4)(c)	1st	Patient brokering; 20 or more patients.	893.135 (1)(c) 4.b.(II)	1st	Trafficking in fentanyl, 14 grams or more, less than 28 grams.
817.535(2)(b)	2nd	Filing false lien or other unauthorized document; second or subsequent offense.	893.135 (1)(d)1.b.	1st	Trafficking in phencyclidine, 200 grams or more, less than 400 grams.
			893.135 (1)(e)1.b.	1st	Trafficking in methaqualone, 5 kilograms or more, less than 25 kilograms.
817.535(3)(a)	2nd	Filing false lien or other unauthorized document; property owner is a public officer or employee.	893.135 (1)(f)1.b.	1st	Trafficking in amphetamine, 28 grams or more, less than 200 grams.
817.535(4)(a)1.	2nd	Filing false lien or other unauthorized document; defendant is incarcerated or under supervision.	893.135 (1)(g)1.b.	1st	Trafficking in flunitrazepam, 14 grams or more, less than 28 grams.
817.535(5)(a)	2nd	Filing false lien or other unauthorized document; owner of the property incurs financial loss as a result of the false instrument.	893.135 (1)(h)1.b.	1st	Trafficking in gamma-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB), 5 kilograms or more, less than 10 kilograms.
817.568(6)	2nd	Fraudulent use of personal identification information of an individual under the age of 18.	893.135 (1)(j)1.b.	1st	Trafficking in 1,4-Butanediol, 5 kilograms or more, less than 10 kilograms.
817.611(2)(c)	1st	Traffic in or possess 50 or more counterfeit credit cards or related documents.	893.135 (1)(k)2.b.	1st	Trafficking in Phenethylamines, 200 grams or more, less than 400 grams.
			893.135 (1)(m)2.c.	1st	Trafficking in synthetic cannabinoids, 1,000 grams or more, less than 30 kilograms.
825.102(2)	1st	Aggravated abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult.	893.135 (1)(n)2.b.	1st	Trafficking in n-benzyl phenethylamines, 100 grams or more, less than 200 grams.
825.1025(2)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious battery upon an elderly person or disabled adult.	893.1351(3)	1st	Possession of a place used to manufacture controlled substance when minor is present or resides there.
825.103(3)(a)	1st	Exploiting an elderly person or disabled adult and property is valued at \$50,000 or more.			
837.02(2)	2nd	Perjury in official proceedings relating to prosecution of a capital felony.	895.03(1)	1st	Use or invest proceeds derived from pattern of racketeering activity.
837.021(2)	2nd	Making contradictory statements in official proceedings relating to prosecution of a capital felony.	895.03(2)	1st	Acquire or maintain through racketeering activity any interest in or control of any enterprise or real property.
860.121(2)(c)	1st	Shooting at or throwing any object in path of railroad vehicle resulting in great bodily harm.	895.03(3)	1st	Conduct or participate in any enterprise through pattern of racketeering activity.
860.16	1st	Aircraft piracy.			
893.13(1)(b)	1st	Sell or deliver in excess of 10 grams of any substance specified in s. 893.03(1)(a) or (b).	896.101(5)(b)	2nd	Money laundering, financial transactions totaling or exceeding \$20,000, but less than \$100,000.
893.13(2)(b)	1st	Purchase in excess of 10 grams of any substance specified in s. 893.03(1)(a) or (b).	896.104(4)(a)2.	2nd	Structuring transactions to evade reporting or registration requirements, financial transactions totaling or exceeding \$20,000 but less than \$100,000.
893.13(6)(c)	1st	Possess in excess of 10 grams of any substance specified in s. 893.03(1)(a) or (b).	(i) LEVEL 9		
893.135(1)(a)2.	1st	Trafficking in cannabis, more than 2,000 lbs., less than 10,000 lbs.	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
893.135 (1)(b)1.b.	1st	Trafficking in cocaine, more than 200 grams, less than 400 grams.	316.193 (3)(c)3.b.	1st	DUI manslaughter; failing to render aid or give information.

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description	Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
327.35(3)(a)3.c.(II)	1st	BUI manslaughter; failing to render aid or give information.	794.011(2)	1st	Attempted sexual battery; victim less than 12 years of age.
327.35(3)(c)3.b.					
409.920 (2)(b)1.c.	1st	Medicaid provider fraud; \$50,000 or more.	794.011(2)	Life	Sexual battery; offender younger than 18 years and commits sexual battery on a person less than 12 years.
499.0051(8)	1st	Knowing sale or purchase of contraband prescription drugs resulting in great bodily harm.	794.011(4)(a)	1st, PBL	Sexual battery, certain circumstances; victim 12 years of age or older but younger than 18 years; offender 18 years or older.
560.123(8)(b)3.	1st	Failure to report currency or payment instruments totaling or exceeding \$100,000 by money transmitter.	794.011(4)(b)	1st	Sexual battery, certain circumstances; victim and offender 18 years of age or older.
560.125(5)(c)	1st	Money transmitter business by unauthorized person, currency, or payment instruments totaling or exceeding \$100,000.	794.011(4)(c)	1st	Sexual battery, certain circumstances; victim 12 years of age or older; offender younger than 18 years.
655.50(10)(b)3.	1st	Failure to report financial transactions totaling or exceeding \$100,000 by financial institution.	794.011(4)(d)	1st, PBL	Sexual battery, certain circumstances; victim 12 years of age or older; prior conviction for specified sex offenses.
775.0844	1st	Aggravated white collar crime.			
782.04(1)	1st	Attempt, conspire, or solicit to commit premeditated murder.	794.011(8)(b)	1st, PBL	Sexual battery; engage in sexual conduct with minor 12 to 18 years by person in familial or custodial authority.
782.04(3)	1st, PBL	Accomplice to murder in connection with arson, sexual battery, robbery, burglary, aggravated fleeing or eluding with serious bodily injury or death, and other specified felonies.	794.08(2)	1st	Female genital mutilation; victim younger than 18 years of age.
782.051(1)	1st	Attempted felony murder while perpetrating or attempting to perpetrate a felony enumerated in s. 782.04(3).	800.04(5)(b)	Life	Lewd or lascivious molestation; victim less than 12 years; offender 18 years or older.
782.07(2)	1st	Aggravated manslaughter of an elderly person or disabled adult.	812.13(2)(a)	1st, PBL	Robbery with firearm or other deadly weapon.
787.01(1)(a)1.	1st, PBL	Kidnapping; hold for ransom or reward or as a shield or hostage.	812.133(2)(a)	1st, PBL	Carjacking; firearm or other deadly weapon.
787.01(1)(a)2.	1st, PBL	Kidnapping with intent to commit or facilitate commission of any felony.	812.135(2)(b)	1st	Home-invasion robbery with weapon.
787.01(1)(a)4.	1st, PBL	Kidnapping with intent to interfere with performance of any governmental or political function.	817.535(3)(b)	1st	Filing false lien or other unauthorized document; second or subsequent offense; property owner is a public officer or employee.
787.02(3)(a)	1st, PBL	False imprisonment; child under age 13; perpetrator also commits aggravated child abuse, sexual battery, or lewd or lascivious battery, molestation, conduct, or exhibition.	817.535(4)(a)2.	1st	Filing false claim or other unauthorized document; defendant is incarcerated or under supervision.
787.06(3)(c)1.	1st	Human trafficking for labor and services of an unauthorized alien child.	817.535(5)(b)	1st	Filing false lien or other unauthorized document; second or subsequent offense; owner of the property incurs financial loss as a result of the false instrument.
787.06(3)(d)	1st	Human trafficking using coercion for commercial sexual activity of an unauthorized adult alien.	817.568(7)	2nd, PBL	Fraudulent use of personal identification information of an individual under the age of 18 by his or her parent, legal guardian, or person exercising custodial authority.
787.06(3)(f)1.	1st, PBL	Human trafficking for commercial sexual activity by the transfer or transport of any child from outside Florida to within the state.	827.03(2)(a)	1st	Aggravated child abuse.
790.161	1st	Attempted capital destructive device offense.	847.0145(1)	1st	Selling, or otherwise transferring custody or control, of a minor.
790.166(2)	1st, PBL	Possessing, selling, using, or attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction.	847.0145(2)	1st	Purchasing, or otherwise obtaining custody or control, of a minor.

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
859.01	1st	Poisoning or introducing bacteria, radioactive materials, viruses, or chemical compounds into food, drink, medicine, or water with intent to kill or injure another person.
893.135	1st	Attempted capital trafficking offense.
893.135(1)(a)3.	1st	Trafficking in cannabis, more than 10,000 lbs.
893.135 (1)(b)1.c.	1st	Trafficking in cocaine, more than 400 grams, less than 150 kilograms.
893.135 (1)(c)1.c.	1st	Trafficking in illegal drugs, more than 28 grams, less than 30 kilograms.
893.135 (1)(c)2.d.	1st	Trafficking in hydrocodone, 300 grams or more, less than 30 kilograms.
893.135 (1)(c)3.d.	1st	Trafficking in oxycodone, 100 grams or more, less than 30 kilograms.
893.135 (1)(c) 4.b.(III)	1st	Trafficking in fentanyl, 28 grams or more.
893.135 (1)(d)1.c.	1st	Trafficking in phencyclidine, 400 grams or more.
893.135 (1)(e)1.c.	1st	Trafficking in methaqualone, 25 kilograms or more.
893.135 (1)(f)1.c.	1st	Trafficking in amphetamine, 200 grams or more.
893.135 (1)(h)1.c.	1st	Trafficking in gamma-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB), 10 kilograms or more.
893.135 (1)(j)1.c.	1st	Trafficking in 1,4-Butanediol, 10 kilograms or more.
893.135 (1)(k)2.c.	1st	Trafficking in Phenethylamines, 400 grams or more.
893.135 (1)(m)2.d.	1st	Trafficking in synthetic cannabinoids, 30 kilograms or more.
893.135 (1)(n)2.c.	1st	Trafficking in n-benzyl phenethylamines, 200 grams or more.
896.101(5)(c)	1st	Money laundering, financial instruments totaling or exceeding \$100,000.
896.104(4)(a)3.	1st	Structuring transactions to evade reporting or registration requirements, financial transactions totaling or exceeding \$100,000.

Section 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

And the title is amended as follows:

Remove lines 435-459 of the amendment and insert: An act relating to boating safety; providing a short title; amending s. 327.02, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “livery vessel”; amending s. 327.30, F.S.; revising and providing penalties for vessel collisions, accidents, and casualties; defining the term “serious bodily injury”; creating s. 327.3015, F.S.; prohibiting a person from knowingly providing false information in specified reports; providing a criminal penalty; amending s. 327.33, F.S.; revising and providing penalties for the reckless operation of a vessel; amending s. 327.35, F.S.; defining the term “unborn child”; requiring a minimum mandatory prison term for boating under the influence manslaughter; amending s. 327.395, F.S.; revising

requirements for operating certain vessels; requiring the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to adopt certain rules regarding standards for online boating safety education courses; specifying requirements regarding such rules; amending s. 327.54, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “livery”; amending s. 327.731, F.S.; requiring a person convicted of certain noncriminal infractions to pay a fine; requiring such proceeds to be deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund for specified purposes; amending s. 327.73, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 782.072, F.S.; defining the term “unborn child”; revising the definition of the term “vessel homicide”; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.; ranking offenses on the offense severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment Code; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Senator Martin moved the following amendment to **House Amendment 1 (746971)** which was adopted:

Senate Amendment 1 (468576) (with directory and title amendments) to House Amendment 1 (746971) to Senate Amendment 1 (212806)—Delete lines 112-122.

And the directory clause is amended as follows:

Delete lines 109-110 and insert:

Section 7. Subsection (10) of section 327.395, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 688.

On motion by Senator Martin, the Senate concurred in **House Amendment 1 (746971) to Senate Amendment 1 (212806)**, as amended, and requested the House to concur in **Senate Amendment 1 (468576) to House Amendment 1 (746971)**.

CS for CS for CS for HB 289 passed, as amended, and the action of the Senate was certified to the House. The vote on passage was:

Yeas—31

Mr. President	DiCeglie	Passidomo
Arrington	Gaetz	Pizzo
Berman	Grall	Rodriguez
Boyd	Gruters	Simon
Bradley	Harrell	Smith
Brodeur	Hooper	Truenow
Burgess	Ingoglia	Trumbull
Burton	Leek	Wright
Calatayud	Martin	Yarborough
Collins	McClain	
Davis	Osgood	

Nays—None

THE PRESIDENT PRESIDING

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has adopted HCR 1631 by the required constitutional three-fifths vote of the members present and voting and requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

By Representative(s) Garrison—

HCR 1631—A concurrent resolution extending the 2025 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature under the authority of Section 3(d), Article III of the State Constitution.

WHEREAS, the 60 days of the 2025 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature will expire on Friday, May 2, 2025, and the necessary tasks of the session have not been completed, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida, the Senate Concurring:

That the 2025 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature is extended until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, June 6, 2025, under the authority of Section 3(d), Article III of the State Constitution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in the regular session so extended, the Legislature shall consider only the following measures:

(1) Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 110 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(2) Senate Bill 2500 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(3) Senate Bill 2502 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(4) Senate Bill 2504 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(5) Senate Bill 2506 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(6) Senate Bill 2508 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(7) Senate Bill 2510 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(8) Senate Bill 2514 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(9) Senate Bill 7022 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(10) Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 7030 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(11) House Bill 5013 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(12) House Bill 5015 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(13) House Bill 5203 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(14) House Bill 5501 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(15) House Bill 7031 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

(16) Committee Substitute for House Bill 7033 or any Senate and House Conference Committee Report thereon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other measures in both houses are indefinitely postponed and withdrawn from consideration of the respective house as of 12:00 a.m., Saturday, May 3, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon recess or adjournment on Friday, May 2, 2025, either house may reconvene upon the call of its presiding officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature shall adjourn sine die at the earlier of Friday, June 6, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. or upon concurrent motions to adjourn sine die.

—was taken up instanter and read the first time by title. On motion by Senator Passidomo, **HCR 1631** was read the second time in full, adopted by the required constitutional three-fifths vote of the members present and voting, and certified to the House.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RETURNING MESSAGES — FINAL ACTION

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has receded from House Amendment 1 (646315) and passed CS/CS/SB 116.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The bill contained in the foregoing message was ordered enrolled.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has receded from House Amendment 1 (149231), House Amendment 2 (870331), and House Amendment 3 (463357) and passed CS/CS/SB 168.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The bill contained in the foregoing message was ordered enrolled.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate amendment 1 (461112) to House amendment 1 (392939) and passed CS/CS/SB 180 as further amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The bill contained in the foregoing message was ordered engrossed and then enrolled.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate amendment 1 (591970) to House amendment 1 (421121) and passed CS/CS/SB 248 as further amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The bill contained in the foregoing message was ordered engrossed and then enrolled.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate amendment 1 (756034) to House amendment 1 (652203) and passed CS/CS/SB 768 as further amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The bill contained in the foregoing message was ordered engrossed and then enrolled.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate amendment 1 (451310) to House amendment 1 (646549) and passed CS/SB 7012 as further amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The bill contained in the foregoing message was ordered engrossed and then enrolled.

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate amendment 1 (687730) and passed CS/HB 255, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate amendment 1 (468576) and passed CS/CS/CS/HB 289, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has receded from House Amendment 1 (789609) to Senate Amendment 1 (740346), and passed HB 711 as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate amendment 1 (340380) and passed CS/CS/HB 1299, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

The Honorable Ben Albritton, President

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred in Senate amendment 1 (915478) and passed CS/HB 1445, as amended.

Jeff Takacs, Clerk

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

The Journal of May 1 was corrected and approved.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Senator Passidomo, the Senate adjourned at 10:32 p.m. for the purpose of holding committee meetings and conducting other Senate business to reconvene upon call of the President.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Daily Numeric Index for May 2, 2025

BA — Bill Action
BF — Bill Failed
BP — Bill Passed
CO — Co-Introducers
CR — Committee Report
CS — Committee Substitute, First Reading

FR — First Reading
MO — Motion
RC — Reference Change
SM — Special Master Reports
SO — Bills on Special Orders

CS/CS/SB 116	(BA) 1130	CS/CS/CS/HB 289	(BP) 1184
CS/CS/SB 168	(BA) 1133	CS/HB 733	(BA) 1135, (BP) 1135
CS/CS/SB 180	(BP) 1118	CS/CS/HB 875	(BP) 1156
SB 234	(BA) 1130	HB 1101	(BA) 1134, (BA) 1172
CS/CS/SB 492	(BP) 1136	CS/CS/CS/HB 1105	(BP) 1168
CS/CS/SB 736	(BA) 1098, (BA) 1135	HB 1123	(BA) 1097, (BP) 1097
SB 994	(BA) 1099, (BP) 1099	CS/HB 1205	(BP) 1129
CS/SB 1242	(BA) 1098	CS/HJR 1215	(MO) 1097, (BA) 1098, (BP) 1099
CS/SB 1602	(BA) 1098	CS/CS/HB 1255	(BP) 1152
CS/CS/SB 1620	(BP) 1133	CS/HB 1427	(BP) 1172
CS/CS/SB 1624	(BA) 1098	CS/HB 1549	(BP) 1134
CS/CS/SB 1726	(BA) 1098	CS/HB 1609	(BP) 1123, (BP) 1136
SB 7032	(BA) 1098	HCR 1631	(FR) 1184, (BP) 1185
HB 211	(BA) 1098, (BP) 1098	HB 6503	(BA) 1097, (BP) 1097