

FADSS

2018 Legislative Report

Winter Conference

Joy Frank, Esq.
Keenen Vernon, Legislative Intern
Jonathan Grosso, Legislative Intern

2018 Legislation

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Finance/Administration

SB 1434 by Passidomo – K-12 Education Enhancement

The bill amends s. 1011.62, F.S., relating to funds for the operation of schools and establishes a Mental Health Assistance Allocation within the FEFP. The allocation is to provide supplemental funding to assist school districts in establishing or expanding comprehensive school-based mental health programs that increase awareness; train educators in detecting and responding to mental health issues; and connect students and families with services. The funds are allocated annually by the Legislature in the General Appropriations Act to each eligible school district and lab school based on each entity's proportionate share of FEFP base funding. The allocation must include a minimum amount. Upon submission and approval of a plan, charter schools are also entitled to a proportionate share of district funding for this program. The allocated funds may not supplant funds that are provided from other operating funds and may not be used to increase salaries or provide bonuses.

To be eligible for the allocation the district must annually develop and submit a plan outlining the local program and planned expenditures to the school board for approval. A charter school must have a plan submitted and approved by the governing body which is then provided to the applicable school district for submission to the commissioner.

The plan must include the following:

- A collaborative effort or partnership between the district and at least one community program or agency involved in mental health to provide prevention, diagnosis, and treatment services for students;
- Programs to assist students in dealing with bullying, trauma, and violence;
- Strategies or programs to reduce the likelihood of at-risk student developing mental health or substance abuse disorders;
- Strategies to improve the early identification of mental health or substance abuse disorders;
- Strategies to enhance the availability of school-based crisis intervention services and appropriate referrals for students; and
- Training opportunities for school personnel.

District must submit approved plans to the Commissioner by August 1. Beginning September 30, 2019, and by September 30 thereafter, each entity that receives an allocation must submit a final report to the commissioner.

The bill amends s. 1011.71, F.S., relating to district school tax and authorizes a school district to expend up to \$150 (rather than \$100) per UWFTE from the 1.5 mills to fund certain vehicles and for payment of property and casualty insurance premiums.

The bill amends s. 1013.62, F.S., relating to charter schools capital outlay funding. A charter school is not eligible to receive capital outlay funds if the chair of the governing board and the chief administrative officer of the charter school do not annually certify under oath that the funds will be

used solely and exclusively for constructing, renovating or improving charter school facilities that are:

- Owned by a school district, or a political subdivision of the state, a municipality, a Florida College system institution, or a state university; or
- Owned by an organization that a s. 501(c)(3) corporation whose articles of incorporation specify that, upon the organization's dissolution, the subject property will be transferred to a school district, a political subdivision of the state, a municipality, a Florida College institution, or a state university.

The calculation methodology to determine the amount that a district must distribute to eligible charter schools is modified. The basic thrust of the modification is to provide additional weighted funding to those charter schools that serve at least 75% of students with free or reduced lunch or at least 25% of students with disabilities; or both.

The result of the formula is to convert each Unweighted FTE student in a charter school to a weighted FTE student for the purposes of calculating the distribution of capital outlay funds among district charter schools. The proposal makes the language consistent for both state funds and local funds.

Each UFTE student in a charter school that does not have at least 75% free and reduced lunch or at least 25% student with disabilities are converted to a Weighted FTE of 1.0. If a charter school serves at least 75% free and reduced students or 25% students with disabilities then each UFTE student is converted to a WFTE of 1.25. If a charter school has both at least 75% free and reduced and at least 25% students with disabilities each UFTE is converted to a WFTE of 1.50. Then each school's WFTEs are totaled and the available pool of money is distributed on a "dollars per WFTE basis."

A hypothetical example may help clarify this provision of the bill. A district has four charter schools, each with 500 students. One is a charter school with low percentages of students in poverty and low percentages of students with disabilities. It would have 500 WFTE to divide into the total available revenue. If a charter school has at least 25% students with disabilities, it would have 625 WFTE to be divided into the total available revenue (500 X 1.25). If the charter school had at least 75% of its students eligible for free and reduced lunch, it would have 625 WFTE (500 X 1.25) to divide into the available revenue. If the charter school had at least 75% of its students eligible for free and reduced lunch and at least 25% of its students were students with disabilities the school would have 750 WFTE (500 X 1.50) to be divided into the available revenue.

There would be 500+625+625+750 WFTE for a total of 2500 WFTE. If the total charter school capital revenue share for the district was \$1,000,000, each WFTE would get \$400. The first school would get \$200,000. The next two schools would each get \$250,000, and the last school would get \$300,000.

The provision does not affect how the amount of money going to the charter schools as a group is calculated.

SB 118 by Hukill – Visitation of Schools by State Legislators

Identical: HB 975 by Grant (M)

The bill authorizes an individual member of the State Legislature to visit any district school in his or her legislative district, on any day and at any time at his or her pleasure, which is consistent with the authority extended in law to an individual member of a district school board and individual charter school governing board member to visit applicable schools. The bill also clarifies that the district school superintendent's designee or the school principal's designee, in addition to the specified district employees in current law, may not limit the duration or scope of the visit or direct the visiting individual to leave the school premises.

HB 495 by Diaz – School District Price Level Index

Identical: SB 824 by Garcia

The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) provides the operating dollars for the K-12 public school system regardless of geographic or local economic factors. To account for varying costs of living among Florida's school districts, the FEFP includes a district cost differential (DCD) which adjusts funding based on the estimated cost to hire comparable employees. By law, the DCD must incorporate the Florida Price Level Index (FPLI) to provide a statistical basis for funding adjustments to each school district.

Since 2000, the University of Florida's Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) has been responsible both for calculating the FPLI and for reviewing its methodology. Florida Polytechnic University has collaborated with BEBR in this process since 2014.

The bill provides for third-party review of the FPLI methodology by requiring the Florida Department of Education (DOE) to contract with an independent consulting firm to conduct a review of the FPLI methodology by July 1, 2018. The bill also requires the DOE, by January 1, 2019, and every 10 years thereafter, to submit a report providing recommendations to the chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the chair of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, and the Executive Office of the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget.

SB 496 by Baxley – Out-of-School Suspension

Similar: HB 563 by Harrell

The bill authorizes a parent to give public testimony regarding a district school board's suspension policy at a specified meeting. The bill requires, once every three years, that the district school board review its rules authorizing suspension during a specified timeframe at a district school board meeting. The school board must take public testimony at the meeting.

HB 815 by Avila – County and Municipal Public Officers and Employees

Compare: SB 1180 by Steube

The bill requires that request to travel outside of state by county and municipal public officers be approved by governing board at publicly noticed meeting. The bill limits travel expenses of public officers and employees to expenses incurred in specified time period and prohibits travel expenses

of public officers and employees for foreign travel. The bill limits lodging expenses of public officers and employees. The bill requires public officers who are candidates for elected office to make campaign finance reports available online.

SB 1074 by Thurston, Jr. – Equity in School-level Funding (Title I)

Identical: HB 1157 by Watson

The bill relates to Title I funding and provides that a district may withhold funds for local educational agency-wide activities that provide opportunities for students to acquire the knowledge and skills contained in the Florida Standards Assessments and to meet challenging state performance standards.

SB 1152 by Garcia – School-level Funding (Title I)

Identical: HB 1431 by Russell; Compare: SB 1746 by Thurston, Jr.

The bill relates to Title I funding and provides additional provisions for which a district may withhold funds including

- Migrant supplemental services;
- Extended learning opportunities, such as summer school, before-school and after-school programs, and additional class periods of instruction during the school day;
- Supplemental academic and enrichment services, as well as wrap-around services, for low-performing schools;
- Family support services and parent engagement activities, in addition to the 1 percent the district must reserve under federal law for allocations to eligible schools for parent involvement; and
- The district's approved indirect cost rate.

HB 1131 by Jenne - Sovereign Immunity

Identical: SB 1812 by Radar

The bill authorizes a political subdivision to purchase insurance or self-insure to cover liabilities under the section that provides for the waiver of sovereign immunity. The bill specifies the amounts that may be purchased to pay for individual claims or for total claims or judgments. Insurance must pay for covered liabilities up to policy limits and not be contingent upon further action by the Legislature. The political subdivision that purchases insurance or self-insures under these provisions is only liable for its deductible under the policy and is not liable for any judgments in excess of the limits of the policy.

Fiscal Transparency/Taxation

SB 1804 by Stargel – School District Accountability

Identical: HB 1279 by Sullivan; Compare: HB 11 by Metz; HB 7003 by Public Integrity & Ethics Committee

Amends s. 11.45, F.S., and expands the duties of the Auditor General (AG) to include the performance of appropriate follow up procedures to determine a school board's progress in addressing findings and recommendations that require corrective action contained in the AG's report. The Commissioner of Education must be notified of the school board's progress.

Amends s. 112.313, F.S., relating to standards of conduct for public officers, etc. Provides that appointed superintendents may not lobby the school board by which he or she was employed for 2 years after vacating the office. Elected superintendents already included.

Amends s. 112.31455 relating to collection methods for unpaid automatic fines for failure to timely file disclosure of financial interests. Incorporates district school boards as one of the entities that must be informed of unpaid fines and requires withholding of salary payments.

Amends s. 1001.20, F.S., relating to the DOE being under the direction of the state board. Authorizes the Office of Inspector General to investigate allegations or reports of possible fraud or abuse against a school board made by a Cabinet member, presiding legislative officer, chair of the applicable substantive or appropriations committee, or school board member of the board for which an investigation is sought.

Amends s. 1001.39, F.S., relating to district school board members; travel expenses. Any travel outside the district would require prior approval by the school board to confirm that such travel is for official business.

Amends s. 1001.42, F.S., relating to powers and duties of district school board. Clarifies that the standards include administrative personnel and school officers.

Requires a school district receiving annual federal, state, and local funds in excess of \$500 million to employ an internal auditor. The duties of the internal auditor shall include oversight of every functional and program area of the school system. Specifies duties of the internal auditor including a comprehensive risk assessment of all areas of the school system every 5 years and other audits and review as the school board directs. Any person responsible for providing records or documents necessary to conduct the audit is subject to penalties or removal from office for not providing such documents, etc.

Amends s. 1010.20, F.S., relating to cost accounting and reporting for school districts. Requires each district report to DOE specific school-by-school information including total operating costs and expenditures for classroom instruction pursuant to a statutory calculation.

DOE must develop a web-based fiscal transparency tool that identifies public schools and districts that produce high academic achievement based on the ratio of classroom instruction expenditures to total expenditures.

Amends s. 1010.30, F.S., relating to required audits and provides that if an audit contains a significant deficiency or material weakness, the school board must conduct an audit overview. The audit overview must describe the corrective action to be taken and the timeline for completion.

Amends s. 1011.03, F.S., relating to public hearings. Deletes certain advertising requirements relating to classroom expenditures.

Amends s. 1011.035, F.S., relating to school district fiscal transparency. Expands the information, including graphical representations, that must be posted on each school board's website relating to the budget.

Amends s. 1011.051, F.S., relating to guidelines for general funds. If the general fund balance falls below 3 percent for 2 consecutive years, the superintendent must reduce the district's administration expenditures in proportion to the reduction in the general fund's ending balance or the reduction in student enrollment, whichever is greater.

If a school district was in a financial emergency pursuant to s. 218.503(1), in the 2015-2016 school year or thereafter, DOE must contract for an independent forensic audit of all accounts and records. The results must be provided to the school board, DOE, the Legislative Auditing Committee, and the district's financial emergency board, if applicable.

Amends s. 1011.06, F.S., relating to expenditures. Expenditures that exceed the budgeted amount must be approved at the next scheduled public meeting along with a full explanation of any amendments. Requires compliance with s. 1011.09, F.S., below.

Amends s. 1011.09, F.S., relating to the expenditure of funds by the school board. If a school districts' fund balance is below 3 percent a school board may not make expenditures for travel outside the district or cellular phones, etc. while such financial conditions exist.

Amends s. 1011.10, F.S., relating to penalties. Provides that if any of the conditions identified under the determination of financial emergency section (218.503, F.S.) the salary of each school board member and district superintendent shall be withheld until the conditions are corrected.

Amends s. 1011.60, F.S., relating to minimum requirements of the FEFP. Repeals the Minimum Classroom Expenditure Requirements.

Repeals s. 1011.64, F.S., relating to school district minimum classroom expenditure requirements.

Amends s. 1012.23, F.S., relating to school district personnel policies. Neither the school superintendent nor school board member may appoint or employ a relative to work under the direct supervision of the school board member or school superintendent. The limitations do not apply to employees appointed or employed before the election or appointment of a board member or school

superintendent. The Commission on Ethics must accept and investigate any alleged violations of this section.

HB 7 by Burton – Local Government Fiscal Transparency

Identical SB 1426 by Lee

The bill requires easy public access to local government governing boards' voting records related to tax increases and issuance of tax-supported debt (phased in over 4 years). The bill also requires easy online access to property tax TRIM notices and a 4-year history of property tax rates and amounts at the parcel level. This requirement is phased in over 3 years. Further, a 4-year history of property tax rates and total revenue generated at the jurisdiction level must be provided on government websites.

The bill requires additional public meetings and expands public notice requirements for local option tax increases, other than property taxes, and new long-term, tax-supported debt issuances. Public notices for proposed tax increases must contain information regarding the rate and total annual amount of revenue expected, the annual additional revenue expressed as a percent of annual general fund revenue, detailed explanation of intended uses of the levy, and an indication of whether or not the tax proceeds will be used to secure debt. Public notices for proposed new, long-term debt issuance must disclose the total lifetime costs of the debt, annual debt service, and effects of the new debt on a government's debt affordability measures.

Local governments must conduct a debt affordability analysis prior to approving the issuance of new, long-term tax-supported debt. The analysis would, at a minimum, calculate a debt affordability ratio for the most recent five years and at least two projected years to gauge the effects of the new debt issuance on the government's debt service to revenue profile. The debt affordability ratio is the annual debt service for outstanding tax supported debt divided by total annual revenues available to pay debt service on outstanding debt.

Currently, local governments are required to have a CPA conduct an annual financial audit, if the Auditor General has not already scheduled an audit. The bill requires the auditor to include an affidavit signed by the chair of the local government governing board stating that it is in compliance with the provisions of the new "Local Government Fiscal Transparency Act" created by the bill.

The Auditor General must request evidence of corrective action from local governments found not to be in compliance with the Act. Local governments must provide evidence that corrective action has been initiated within 45 days and evidence of completion within 180 days of such request. The Auditor General must report to the Legislative Auditing Committee local governments that do not take corrective action.

HB 11 by Metz – Government Accountability

Similar: SB 354 by Stargel

The bill amends statutes pertaining to government accountability and auditing. Specifically, the bill:

- Specifies that the Governor or Commissioner of Education, or designee, may notify the Legislative Auditing Committee of an entity's failure to comply with certain auditing and financial reporting requirements;
- Provides definitions for the terms "abuse," "fraud," and "waste;"
- Requires each agency, charter schools, school districts, Florida College System institutions, and state universities to establish and maintain internal controls;
- Revises the composition of auditor selection committees;
- Requires completion of an annual financial audit of the Florida Virtual School;
- Requires a local governmental entity, district school board, charter school, charter technical career center, Florida College System board of trustees, or university board of trustees to respond to audit recommendations under certain circumstances;
- Requires an independent certified public accountant conducting an audit of a local governmental entity to determine, as part of the audit, whether the entity's annual financial report is in agreement with the entity's audited financial statements;
- Limits to \$150 the amount that may be reimbursed per day for travel lodging expenses for certain employees under certain circumstances;
- Codifies the statewide travel management system in law and requires certain public entities to report public officer and employee travel information in the system; and
- Prohibits a board or commission from requiring a member of the public to provide an advance written copy of his or her testimony or comments as a precondition of being given the opportunity to be heard.

SB 272 by Brandes – Local Tax Referenda

Similar: HB 317 by Ingolia

The bill provides that a referendum to adopt or amend a local option discretionary sales surtax which is held at any date other than a general election requires the approval of at least 60 percent of the electors voting. If the referendum is held at a general election, only a simple majority is required.

SB 324 by Young – Impact Fees

Compare: HB 697 by Miller

The bill requires an impact fee adopted by ordinance of a county or municipality or by resolution of a special district to specify that the collection of the impact fee be no earlier than the issuance of the building permit for the property that is subject to the fee. The bill also codifies the dual rational nexus test. Specifically, the bill requires that an impact fee be reasonably connected to, or have a rational nexus with the need for additional capital facilities and the increased impact generated by the new construction; and the expenditure of funds collected and the benefits accruing to the new construction.

SB 686 by Perry – Tax on Sales, Use, and Other Transactions

The bill provides an exemption from the sales tax for the sale of certain clothing, wallets, bags, school supplies, and personal computers and related accessories for a ten day period beginning July 27, 2018, and ending August 5, 2018.

Disaster Preparedness/Emergency Management

SB 436 by Galvano – Education (Emergency Situations)

The bill authorizes the Commissioner of Education to coordinate with school districts, and other educational entities, to assess their need for resources and assistance in the event of an emergency situation.

SB 620 by Passidomo – Disaster Preparedness Tax Exemption

The bill establishes a 10-day (June 1-10, 2018) sales tax exemption on certain items relating to disaster preparedness and protection.

SB 1006 by Montford – Disaster Response and Preparedness

Identical: HB 1443 by Alexander

The bill includes the following provisions:

Shelters for Persons with Mental Illness; Homeless, etc.

Requires the state comprehensive emergency management plan to include specific planning for people with mental illness and homeless individuals. The plan must provide for the safe transfer of persons with special needs, people with mental illness and homeless individuals after a disaster.

Statewide public awareness programs must include information on shelters and indicate the types of shelters available such as special need shelters and shelters that will accept pets. The requirements for sheltering individuals with service animals are expanded to include comfort pets.

Requires the Division of Emergency Management, in coordination with each local emergency management agency, to maintain a registry with each homeless shelter and homeless service provider to determine the number of homeless individuals that could need assistance during evacuations and sheltering and any additional needs that may be necessary.

Pets

Authorizes persons with a comfort animal to also be allowed to bring his or her animal to a shelter serving persons with special needs. The bill defines “comfort animal” as an animal, other than a pet or a service animal, which provides emotional support to help improve the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive conditions of an individual.

Requires the Division of Emergency Management to develop information and inform the public regarding the sheltering of pets, service animals and comfort animals at shelters. Provides that materials may be distributed at veterinary offices, animal shelters, humane organizations and other appropriate locations.

Employee Compensation

Current law prohibits a salary from being paid to any employee in advance of the work being done. The bill provides that in the event that schools close due to a natural disaster or other emergency, employees may be paid for such days so long as the time is made up at a later date in the school year.

School Accountability/Grading System

Exempts students who arrived from Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands as a result of a natural disaster from the definition of an “eligible” student for assessment purposes. The scores of these students on any assessment would not be included in the grading system.

Reimbursement for Costs

Requires the Division of Emergency Management to provide guidance to all sectors, including public schools to ensure maximum FEMA reimbursements.

SB 1376 by Torres, Jr. – Emergency Evacuation of Domestic Companion and Service Animals

Similar: HB 907 by Olszewski

The bill prohibits certain persons from leaving a domestic companion animal or service animal outdoors and unattended when an area is under an evacuation order; specifying alternatives if such an animal cannot be evacuated with the owner, etc.

HB 779 by Cruz – Education Facilities as Emergency Shelters

Identical: SB 1556 by Rodriguez (J)

The bill requires that notwithstanding any other provision of law, a school district, Florida College System institution, or state university that has received public education capital outlay funds must make such facility available to the county and state emergency management officers as a resource during a state of emergency as an emergency shelter or, if such facility does not meet the public shelter design criteria in the Florida building Code, in any other capacity as may be necessary.

HB 1109 by Stark – State Emergency Communications and Warning System

Identical SB 1466 by Farmer

The bill relates to state emergency communications and warning systems. The bill requires the Division of Emergency Management to include a qualified interpreter in any televised broadcast of a developing weather emergency.

SB 1600 by Passidomo – Ad Valorem Taxation

Compare: HB 1375 by Eagle

The bill provides for certain property damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster during the 2017 calendar year to receive abatement of property taxes for residential improvements. The bill further specifies procedures for a property owner to use in applying for an abatement of taxes. The bill also provides duties of the property appraiser and tax collector in investigating applications that are submitted and determining the amount of disaster relief credit.

HB 1347 by Peters – Special Needs Shelters for Persons with Mental Health and Substance use Disorders

The bill provides for recruitment of qualified professionals with expertise in mental health and substance abuse treatment for special needs shelters. The bill further provides additional staffing requirements for special needs shelters to provide services to persons with mental health and substance use disorders and requires special needs shelters to establish designated shelter areas for persons with mental health and substance abuse disorders to continue to receive detoxification and stabilization services..

Standards/Accountability/Assessment/Instructional Materials

SB 966 by Baxley – Educational Standards for K-12 Public Schools

Similar: HB 825 by Stone

The bill provides that the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards are the “minimum baseline standards” for core content. Language is added to require that the standards adopted by each school district must meet all of the statutory requirements including the following new or modified requirements:

- Be equivalent to or more rigorous than the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, or courses offered in the district for the International Baccalaureate Program. Instructional materials adopted pursuant to these standards must be consistent with the district goals and objectives and the course descriptions established in rule by the State Board of Education.
- Curricular content for all subjects must integrate knowledge-based learning and the demonstrable, in-depth understanding of the founding values and principles of the United States. Reference to “workforce literacy skills” is deleted.
- Deletes reference to “content” knowledge. Therefore, the standards must include distinct grade-level expectations for core knowledge versus core “content” knowledge.

Whether a district adopts the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards or standards that are more rigorous than these minimum standards, all standards must meet the following additional requirements:

- English Language Arts standards “which significantly improves student outcomes.”
- Science standards that require that “controversial theories and concepts must be taught in a factual, objective, and balanced manner.”
- Social Studies standards – Government and civics content must strictly adhere to the founding values and principles of the United States. Financial literacy instruction must be an integral part of the economics course and include the study of at least Keynesian and Hayekian economic theories.

The bill also amends the statutes relating to instructional materials. The school superintendent must annually certify that all instructional materials are aligned with the state standards, including those that are equivalent to or more rigorous than the applicable state standards or are aligned with courses offered for the IB Program.

The definition of “Next Generation Sunshine State Standards” specifies that such standards are “minimum baseline” curricular standards.

HB 827 by Donalds – Instructional Materials

Identical: SB 1644 by Lee

The bill revises the instructional materials process. The bill amends s. 1006.283, F.S., relating to the district school board option to implement an instructional materials review process. The school board must establish the process by which parents and county residents can recommend instructional materials for consideration by district instructional materials reviewers. The school board must contact the publisher of any instructional material recommended for consideration and provide the publisher with the opportunity to submit a bid for evaluation in accordance with this section.

The bill amends s. 1006.30, F.S., relating to the affidavit of instructional materials reviewers. The affidavit must include a provision that to the best of the reviewer’s knowledge, any instructional materials recommended for adoption are, at a minimum, aligned to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and meet all the requirements.

The bill amends s. 1006.31, F.S., relating to the duties of the Department of Education and school district instructional materials reviewer. The bill requires that the instructional materials must, at a minimum, be aligned to the state standards. Such materials may be more rigorous than the state standards. In addition members of the public must be provided access to, and the opportunity to submit comments on, instructional materials recommended for adoption by state instructional materials reviewers. Any submitted comment related to a specific recommended instructional material must be provided to the SBE as part of its consideration of instructional materials. The public must also be permitted to recommend instructional materials for consideration by state instructional materials reviewers. DOE must contact the publisher of any instructional material recommended for consideration and provide the publisher with the opportunity to submit a bid for evaluation.

The bill amends s. 1006.34, F.S., relating to the powers and duties of the commissioner and the SBE in selecting and adopting instructional materials. In addition to other requirements, any virtual presentation provided by a bidding entity must be posted on DOE’s website for public access until the adoption period closes.

Under current law, the commissioner selects and adopts the instructional materials as reported by the state instructional materials reviewers. The bill modifies this process and requires the SBE to adopt instructional materials at a regularly scheduled meeting no later than July 1 of the year before the adoption period is schedule to begin. The SBE must allow public comment on instructional materials at any meeting in which an adoption is considered.

Instructional materials are not subject to public review procedures if the materials are found by the SBE to fully meet or be more rigorous than the state standards and comply with the adoption criteria and standards. However, a district school board member may initiate the public review procedures before the instructional materials are adopted by the SBE if such board member has evidence that the materials do not meet the required criteria and standards.

The bill amends s. 1006.40, F.S., relating to the use of the instructional materials allocation, etc. and authorizes that the funds may be used for professional development and supplemental materials to support high-quality accurate instruction. A school board does not have to provide a process for public review if the materials have been found to fully meet or be more rigorous than the state standards.

HB 161 by Cortes (J) – Mandatory Retention

Identical: SB 294 by Rodriguez (J); SB 1660 by Farmer

The bill amends s. 1008.25, F.S., and requires that to be promoted to 4th grade, a student must score a Level 2 or higher on the 3rd grade FSA or meet a good cause exemption. The bill also repeals mandatory 3rd grade retention.

HB 843 by Bileca – Statewide Item Bank for Local Assessments

Current law authorizes the commissioner to discontinue the statewide item bank, which she has done. The bill revokes this authority and requires that the item bank include sample and retired assessment items from the statewide, standardized comprehensive assessments and EOC assessment.

HB 951 by Fischer – Education

Similar: SB 1192 by Stargel

The bill amends s. 1002.67, F.S., and requires each private PreK provider and public school to provide the results of the pre- and post-assessment to parents within 10 days after the administration of the assessment, including any resources that might be helpful for students. The bill requires the Office of Early Learning, within 30 days after the administration of the assessment to report on the results of the pre- and post-assessment at the aggregate level, distribute the results to the respective early learning coalitions and school districts, and display the aggregated assessment results on Office of Early Learning's website.

The bill also authorizes, beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, a child who has completed a VPK program but is determined to be at risk of not attaining the performance standards to reenroll in a school-year program during the subsequent school year at the request of the parent. To implement the reenrollment of eligible students, the Office of Early Learning must establish eligibility requirements, etc., by December 1, 2018.

SB 1614 by Hukill - Education

Compare: SB 1756 by Simmons

Amends s. 1002.421, F.S., and requires the Department of Education to suspend specified payments to private schools that fail, rather than knowingly fail, to meet certain scholarship program accountability standards. In other words, removes the knowledge requirement for failure to comply.

Amends s. 1002.421(5) providing that the failure of, rather than the inability of, private schools to meet such standards constitutes the basis for ineligibility for participation in a scholarship program.

SB 1684 by Simmons – School Improvement

Amends s. 1002.333, F.S., and defines “persistently low-performing school” as a school that has completed 2 school years of implementing a district managed turnaround plan and that has not improved to a school grade of “C” or higher.

Removes 25 school cap on traditional public schools regarding the receipt of funds to transform the school or “Hope” dollars.

Requires an extra hour of instruction as an intervention and support strategy for assisting traditional public schools.

Authorizes the district-managed turnaround plan to include a proposal to implement an extended school day or summer program or to enter into a formal agreement with a nonprofit organization.

Modifies the options available to a district for a school that has completed 2 years of a district-managed turnaround plan that has not improved to a letter grade of “C” or above to include a contract as a conversion charter school or an outside entity on terms and performance standards determined by the SBE. By March 31, 2018, and annually thereafter, the SBE must approve a list of outside entities from which a district may select an entity to operate the school. A district-managed charter school would no longer be prohibited from having the employees be employees of the school district. The district could also contract with a hope operator, enter into a formal agreement with a school principal, or enter into a formal agreement with a state university or independent college or university that is not-for-profit entity.

A district that has not improved to a grade of “C” or higher after the first year of implementing the district-managed turnaround plan must submit a contingency plan to the SBE for approval by October 1.

The SBE must adopt rules regarding the terms and performance standards for determining whether an outside entity has a demonstrated record of effectiveness.

Personnel

HB 25 by Plakon – Labor Organizations

Similar: SB 1036 by Steube

The bill requires an employee organization to include the following information in its annual financial report for each certified bargaining unit that the organization represents:

- The number of employees in the bargaining unit who are eligible for representation by the employee organization; and
- The number of employees who are represented by the organization, specifying the number of members who pay dues and the number of members who do not pay dues.

If a registered employee organization does not submit this information for a certified bargaining unit it represents, the organization's certification for that unit is revoked. This provision does not apply to an employee organization that represents, or seeks to represent, employees who are law enforcement officers, correctional officers, or firefighters.

The bill also requires an employee organization that has been certified as the bargaining agent for a unit whose dues-paying membership is less than 50 percent of the employees eligible for representation in that unit to petition the commission for recertification as the exclusive representative of all employees in the unit within one month after the date on which the organization applies for registration renewal. If the commission determines the petition to be sufficient, it must order an election to determine whether the employee organization will be certified. The certification of an employee organization that does not comply with this recertification requirement is revoked. This requirement does not apply to an employee organization that represents, or seeks to represent, employees who are law enforcement officers, correctional officers, or firefighters.

SB 930 by Montford – Placement of Instructional Personnel

Identical HB 401 by Albritton

The bill provides that the formula that measures student learning growth (VAM) may not be the only factor used to determine the placement of a classroom teacher and other instructional staff.

HB 427 by Plasencia – Instructional Personnel and School Administrator Salary Schedules

Similar: SB 1324 by Mayfield

The bill authorizes, but does not require, a school board to adopt a performance salary schedule. The bill basically reinstates the “grandfathered” salary schedule as the salary schedule. The grandfathered salary schedule was in place for employees hired before July 1, 2014. In addition, the bill authorizes a school board to use advanced degrees in setting a salary schedule for instructional personnel or school administrators.

SB 944 by Montford – The Teacher Scholarship Program

Similar: HB 757 by Massullo, Jr.

The bill establishes the Teacher Scholarship Program in DOE to encourage students who exhibit academic excellence to pursue a career in education. The program provides scholarships to eligible students for upper-division undergraduate and graduate study. The program also provides a one-

time stipend to students who complete their program of study and their first year of employment as a classroom teacher at a public school in Florida. The bill provides eligibility requirements. An eligible undergraduate student may be awarded a scholarship of up to \$5,000 per semester, not to exceed \$10,000 per year, for 2 undergraduate years or for a maximum of 3 years for a program that requires a fifth year of instruction. An eligible graduate student may be awarded a scholarship of up to \$5,000 per semester, not to exceed \$10,000 per year, for up to 2 years. Eligible recipients may also receive a one-time stipend of \$10,000 after completion of the required program, notifying DOE, and completing the first year of employment as a classroom teacher in a public school in Florida.

HB 845 by Bileca – Professional Development for the School Community

The bill amends s. 1012.98, F.S., relating to the School Community Professional Development Act. Current law requires DOE to disseminate to the school community proven model professional development programs. The methods of dissemination must include a web-based statewide performance-support system. The bill requires that the system must include a sample course-at-a-glance and unit overview templates that school districts may use when developing curriculum. The templates must provide an organized structure for addressing the Florida Standards, grade-level expectations, evidence outcomes, and 21st century skills that build to students' mastery of the standards at each grade level. Each template must support teaching to greater intellectual depth and emphasize transfer and application of concepts, content, and skills.

HB 923 by Newton – Employee Leasing Companies

Identical: SB 1098 by Thurston, Jr.

The bill revises employee leasing company contractual arrangements with client companies and provides that the Department of Business and Professional Regulation may make investigations, audits, or reviews of an employee company at the request of the client company.

Retirement

SB 406 by Steube – Retirement

Identical: HB 251 by Clemons

Current law provides that any person whose retirement is effective before July 1, 2010, or whose participation in DROP terminates before July 1, 2010, except under the disability retirement provisions, may be reemployed by an FRS employer and receive retirement benefits and compensation from that employer, except that the person may not be reemployed by such employer before meeting the definition of termination and may not receive both a salary from the employer and retirement benefits for 12 calendar months immediately subsequent to the date of retirement. However, a DROP participant shall continue employment and receive a salary during the period of participation in DROP.

The bill provides that notwithstanding the above provision, a retiree may be reemployed by an employer participating in FRS before completion of the 12-month limitation period if the member is

employed on a part-time basis and is not qualified to receive retirement benefits for the 12 calendar months immediately subsequent to the date of reemployment.

HB 977 by Fine – Retirement of Instructional Personnel and Administrative Personnel

Identical: SB 1240 by Mayfield

The bill addresses the situation where a DROP terminates before the end of the school year. The bill provides that effective July 2, 2018, instructional personnel who are authorized to extend DROP participation beyond the 60-month period must have a termination date that is the last day of the last calendar month of the school year within the DROP extension granted by the employer. If, on July 1, 2018, the member's DROP participation has already been extended for the maximum 36 calendar months and the extension period concludes before the end of the school year, the member's DROP participation may be extended through the last day of the last calendar month of that school year.

The bill also provides that administrative personnel in grades K-12 who have a DROP termination date on or after July 1, 2018, may be authorized to extend DROP participation beyond the initial 60 calendar month period if the administrative personnel's termination date is before the end of the school year. Such administrative personnel may have DROP participation extended until the last day of the last calendar month of the school year in which their original DROP termination date occurred if a date other than the last day of the last calendar month of the school year is designated.

Charter Schools/Choice Programs/Home Education

HB 1 by Donalds – The Hope Scholarship Program

Identical: SB 1172 by Galvano

The bill establishes the Hope Scholarship Program (HSP), which provides the parent of a public school student subjected to an incident at school the opportunity to transfer the student to a public school within the school district, receive a scholarship to transport the student to a public school in another school district, or receive a scholarship for the student to attend a private school. For purposes of the program an incident includes battery, harassment, hazing, bullying, kidnapping, physical attack, robbery, sexual offense, harassment, assault, battery, threat, intimidation or fighting at school. School means any educational program or activity conducted by a public K-12 educational institution, any school-related or school-sponsored program or activity, and riding on a school bus, as defined in s. 1006.25(1), including waiting at a school bus stop.

Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, contingent on funds, scholarships are awarded on a first come, first-served basis.

A student is ineligible for the HSP if the student is:

- Enrolled in a public school, including, but not limited to, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, the College-Preparatory Boarding Academy, a developmental research school or a charter school;
- Enrolled in a Department of Juvenile Justice commitment program;
- Enrolled in a virtual school, correspondence school or distance learning program that receives state funding pursuant to the student's participation unless the participation is limited to two courses per school year; or
- Receiving any other state sponsored K-12 educational scholarship.

Once an incident is reported to the school principal, the school principal must provide a copy of the incident report to the parent and investigate the incident to determine if the incident must be reported to the DOE. Upon conclusion of the investigation or within 15 days after receipt of the report of the incident, whichever occurs first, the school district must notify the parent of the HSP and offer that parent an opportunity to enroll their student in another public school or to receive a Hope Scholarship to attend an eligible private school. If the student enrolls in a public school outside the district, the student is eligible for a transportation scholarship limited to \$750.

The Department of Education must contract with an independent entity to conduct an annual evaluation of the program. The entity must review the school climate and code of student conduct at each public school at which 10 or more reported incidents occurred to determine areas for improvement. The review must include an assessment of the investigation of incidents; analysis of school incident and discipline data; the effectiveness of communication with students, parents, and personnel; and challenges and obstacles to implementing recommendations. The entity must also identify best practices from the schools to which students transferred.

The entity will also review the performance of participating students enrolled in private schools at which at least 51 percent of total enrolled students are program participants. Parents of participating students will be surveyed to determine academic, safety, and school climate satisfaction and to identify any challenges or obstacles in addressing the incident or use of the scholarship.

The bill requires school districts to notify scholarship students in private schools who wish to participate in the statewide student assessment program or the Florida Alternate Assessment of the locations and times to take all statewide assessments.

Private schools that participate in the HSP must meet the same requirements for participation established by Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program. Likewise, the commissioner has the same duties and responsibilities over private schools established in the Florida Tax Credit Program. A participating SFO will be governed by the same statutory requirements as outlined in the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program.

The scholarship amount is calculated as a percentage of the unweighted FTE as follows:

- Eighty-eight percent for students in grades K-5.
- Ninety-two percent for students in grades 6-8.

- Ninety-six percent for students enrolled in grades 9-12.

The HSP is funded by taxpayers who make an eligible contribution to a scholarship funding organization. The eligible contribution provides the taxpayer with a credit against any tax due as a result of the purchase or acquisition of a motor vehicle. The credit may not exceed the amount of taxes owed. Each eligible contribution is limited to a single payment of \$20 at the time of purchase of a motor vehicle or at the time of registration of a motor vehicle that was not purchased from a dealer. The purchaser elects whether or not to contribute at the time of the purchase or registration of the vehicle. Contributions must be made to a dealer at the time of purchase or to an agent of the Department of Revenue (DOR) at the time of registration, if the vehicle was not purchased from a dealer.

The bill provides that a tax collector or any person or firm authorized to sell or issue a motor vehicle license who is designated as an agent of the DOR or who is a dealer must:

- Provide the purchaser a contribution election form, as prescribed by the DOR, at the time of purchase or at the time of registration if the vehicle is not purchased from a dealer;
- Collect eligible contributions;
- Remit to the SFO on or before the 20th day of each month the total amount of contributions made to the SFO and collected during the preceding calendar month; and
- Report on each return filed with the DOR the total amount of credits allowed under during the preceding calendar month.

The SFO must report to the DOR, on or before the 20th day of each month, the total amount of contributions received in the preceding calendar month.

SB 1820 by Perry – Reading Scholarship Accounts

The bill establishes reading scholarship accounts to provide educational options for students. Students enrolled in a Florida public school are eligible for a scholarship under this program if the student scored a Level 1 or Level 2 on the 3rd grade statewide standardized English Language Arts assessment. The student's parent must submit an application to an eligible scholarship funding organization by a deadline established by the scholarship funding organization; and must submit eligible expenses for reimbursement of qualified expenditures which may include instructional materials, curriculum, and tuition and fees for part-time tutoring, programs, and specialized services. The bill provides duties of the Department of Education regarding the oversight of the scholarship programs administered by the scholarship funding organization. The bill provides school district obligations to notify each parent, whose student scored a Level 1 or Level 2 on the 3rd grade statewide standardized ELA assessment, of the process to request and receive a scholarship, subject to available funds and on a first-come, first-served basis. The bill provides that maximum amount granted for an eligible student shall be provided in the General Appropriations Act

SB 216 by Book – Schools of Hope

The bill requires that a school of hope serve students who comprise at least 75 percent of its total enrollment from the persistently low-performing school. The bill also requires a hope operator to employ school administrators and instructional and non-instructional personnel who meet certification requirements.

HB 399 by Mariano – McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program

Similar: SB 564 by Young

The bill authorizes a parent who seeks a reevaluation of an existing individual education plan may request an individual education plan meeting and evaluation from the school district to obtain or revise a matrix of services. In addition, the bill provides that a district may change a matrix of services only if the change is a result of an individual education plan reevaluation or to correct a technical, typographical, or calculation error.

HB 829 by Plasencia – McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program

Identical: SB 1080 by Baxley

The bill expands the avenues for a student to receive a McKay Scholarship to include an individual educational plan that has been written in accordance with the applicable rules of another state; or a diagnosis of a disability that has been received from a physician licensed under chapter 458 or 459, a psychologist licensed under chapter 490, or a physician who holds an active license issued by another state or territory of the U.S., the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

The bill provides for the 2018-2019 school year and thereafter, a child in kindergarten through grade 5 is exempt from certain eligibility requirements (prior enrollment in a public school, etc.) but must meet all other eligibility requirements to participate in the program. Students who have an individual education plan from another state; have a 504 accommodation plan; or a diagnosis of a disability from a physician licensed under 458 or 459, a psychologist licensed under chapter 490, or a physician who holds an active license issued by another state or territory, District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall receive a scholarship amount based on the matrix assigning the student to a support Level II.

SB 732 by Baxley – Home Education

Similar: HB 731 by Sullivan, HB 1095 by Plakon, SB 1270 by Brandes

The bill specifies that a “home education program” is not a school district program and is registered with the school superintendent only for the purpose of complying with the state’s attendance requirements. The school superintendent must accept the notice and immediately register the home education program upon receipt of the notice. The district may not require any additional information or verification form the parent unless the student chooses to participate in a school district program or service. The superintendent may not assign a grade level to the home education student or include a social security number or any other personal information of the student in any school district or state database unless the student chooses to participate in a school district program or service.

A district may not further regulate, exercise control over, or require documentation from parents of home education program students beyond the requirements established in law unless necessary for participation in a school district program.

The bill authorizes a school district to provide access to career and technical courses and program for a home education program student who enrolls in a public school solely for such courses or programs. The district shall report each student as a full-time equivalent student and funding must be provided through the FEFP.

The bill also amends school attendance statutes and provides that criminal prosecution for nonattendance may not be instituted against the student's parent until the school and district have exhausted certain measures.

The bill amends s. 1006.15, F.S., relating to participation of home education students in extracurricular activities. A home education student is eligible to participate in such activities at a public school regardless of capacity requirements as indicated by the definition of extracurricular courses in statute that excludes the courses from maximum class size requirements.

The bill amends s. 1007.271, F.S., relating to dual enrollment programs and modifies requirements for home education students.

HB 949 by Fischer – Virtual Education

Compare/Similar: HB 699 by Killebrew, SB 1090 by Young, SB 1198 by Baxley

The bill requires the Florida Virtual School (FLVS) to give enrollment priority to dependent children of active duty military personnel; requires that certain examinations and assessments be available to all FLVS students; requires a school district to provide certain information to FLVS students; authorizes FLVS to use a specified form to determine residency and to serve specified students directly; provides for funding of certain students; revises documentation requirements for virtual education providers; provides for the automatic termination of a virtual instruction provider's contract under certain circumstances; requires that dependent children of active duty military personnel be given first preference for admissions to FLVS; and requires certain personnel seeking employment from a virtual instruction program to undergo background screenings.

The bill revises the definition of the term "full-time equivalent student" for a full-time virtual instruction program. If the required number of credit completions or the prescribed level of content is not met but the student is enrolled in the program or school for the October and February student membership surveys, the student shall be calculated at 80 percent of a full-time equivalent student. For students in a part-time virtual instruction program, if the required number of credit completions is not met but the student is enrolled in the program for the October and February student membership surveys, the student shall be calculated at 80 percent of a full-time equivalent student. If a student does not pass the end-of-course assessment but is enrolled in the course for the October

and February student membership surveys, the student shall be calculated at 80 percent of a full-time equivalent student who passed the end-of-course assessment.

SB 1272 by Steube – Educational Choice Programs

The bill authorizes Gardiner Scholarship Program funds to be spent for specified school supplies; requires the Auditor General to conduct operational audits of program participants at least once every 3 years, instead of annually; revises student eligibility requirements for the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program; caps the amount of eligible contributions that an organization may use for administrative expenses; and provides a maximum application fee that an organization may charge for specified applicants.

SB 1286 by Simmons – Gardiner Scholarship

The bill revises the meaning of a rare disease within the definition of “disability” for purposes of the Gardiner Scholarship Program.

SB 1772 by Montford – Charter School Capital Outlay Funding

The bill contains the following provisions:

Public Charter School Capital Outlay Asset Study.

Requires the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, in conjunction with the Office of the Auditor General, to conduct a study to determine the total amount of public capital outlay dollars provided to each public charter school, including lab schools, receiving such funds; the identification and current value of all assets determined to be recoverable from each charter school; and the identification and current valuation of all assets that are not recoverable from each charter school, including the reasons for which the assets are not recoverable. The report shall be submitted to the Governor’s Office, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate no later than December 1, 2018.

Public Charter School Life-Cycle Cost Analysis Study

Requires the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, in conjunction with the Office of the Auditor General, to conduct a life-cycle cost analyses for public charter schools that have received public funds for capital outlay purposes and submit a report and recommendation to the Governor, Senate President and House Speaker by December 1, 2018. The report must include several components including the date of initial occupancy; the total cost of construction; the projected number of years of useful life of the building; the projected number of years before major renovations would be required; the cost of replacing major building components; and an identification of the construction methods and practices used for charter school that produce facilities with equal or longer life expectancy when compared to traditional public schools.

Discretionary Millage/Capital Millage Voted Authority

Expands the authority of voted additional millage from 4 to up to 10 years.

Curriculum/High School Graduation Requirements

SB 88 by Hukill – High School Graduation Requirements

Identical: HB 323 by Fitzenhagen, Ahern

The bill specifies financial literacy standards and instruction for students entering grade 9 in the 2018-2019 school year and thereafter. Specifically, the bill revises:

- The Next Generation Sunshine State Standards to establish requirements for financial literacy distinct from the existing financial literacy requirements specified under the economics curricular content within the standards for social studies; and
- The requirements for a student to earn a standard high school diploma to:
 - Establish a separate one-half credit requirement in personal financial literacy and specifying related instruction.
 - Reduce the number of required elective credits from eight to seven and one-half

SB 96 by Steube – Human Trafficking Education in Schools

The bill adds information on the dangers and signs of human trafficking to the required instruction for middle grades and high school students in the state’s public school system.

SB 1056 by Passidomo - Computer Coding Instruction

Identical: Compare: HB 1213 by Porter

Senator Passidomo has filed a “strike everything” amendment that substantially amends s. 1007.2616, F.S., relating to computer science and technology instruction. Basically, the amendment provides the opportunity for computer science courses to be offered to students. The amendment phases in the instruction of computer science in public middle, high and combination schools. The bill defines “computer science.”

The amendment requires public schools to include courses in computer science. Courses must be integrated into each district’s middle, high and combination schools, as follows:

- 2018-2019 school year, a district must provide at least one computer science course in no less than 4 percent of the district’s total number of middle, high, and combination schools.
- 2019-2020 school year, a district must provide at least one computer science course in no less than 7 percent of the district’s total number of middle, high, and combination schools.
- 2020-2021 school year, a district must provide at least one computer science course in no less than 10 percent of the district’s total number of middle, high, and combination schools.
- However, a district with 10 or fewer public middle, high, and combination schools must provide at least one computer science course in one middle, high, or combination school.

Computer science courses must be identified in the Course Code Directory and published on the DOE website no later than July 1, 2018.

Student enrollment in computer science courses offered by the Florida Virtual School may be used to satisfy the requirements above. The Florida Virtual School must offer computer science courses

identified in the Course Code Directory. If a district does not offer an identified course, the district must provide students access to the course through the Florida Virtual School or through other means.

A charter school is not required to offer a computer science course. However, enrollment of a charter school's students in a computer science course may be included in the district's percentage calculation.

A district or consortium of district may apply to DOE for funding to deliver training for teachers to earn an educator certificate in computer science or an industry certification, subject to a legislative appropriation.

The amendment establishes a bonus program for teachers who teacher computer science under certain circumstances. The bonus is for up to three years and is dependent on an legislative appropriation. The bonus is \$1,000 for a teacher who has an educator certificate in computer science and \$500 for a teacher holding an industry certification.

Finally, subject to a legislative appropriation, DOE must aware high-technology grants to eligible school districts if the funds provided in the Florida digital classrooms allocation are insufficient to meet the required costs and the district has no remaining instructional materials funds.

The SBE must adopt rules to administer these provisions.

SB 180 by Brandes – Computer Coding Instruction

Compare: HB 1213 by Porter

The bill provides that beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, high schools may provides students with opportunities to take two credits in computer coding courses of sufficient rigor, that along with the earning of a related industry certification satisfy two credits of sequential foreign language instruction. Florida College System institutions and state universities must recognize the credits as foreign language credits; however, each student and parent must sign a statement that they acknowledge that a computer coding course taken as a foreign language may not meet out-of-state college and university foreign language requirements. The Florida Virtual School may also offer computer coding courses. The bill also includes reporting requirements for the Department of Education.

SB 788 by Montford – Alternative High School Graduation Requirements

Identical: HB 311 by Massullo, Jr.

The bill provides that beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, a student who completed the minimum high school graduation course credit requirements but did not pass the 10th grade ELA assessment or the Algebra I EOC assessment is eligible to complete an alternative pathway to a

standard high school diploma. A student may receive a standard high school diploma through one of the following pathways:

- Attain an industry-recognized credential or certification approved by the SBE and accumulate a combined level score of at least 13 points on the ACT WorkKeys Applied Mathematics Locating Information, and Reading for Information assessments.
- Master the academic standards or competencies that had not previously been met in a portfolio containing quantifiable evidence of such mastery.

SB 856 by Montford – High School Graduation Requirements

Identical: HB 577 by Silvers

The bill authorizes a student who earns credit upon completion of an apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship program registered with DOE to use such credit to satisfy the high school graduation credit requirements (fine or performing arts/elective credit requirements).

SB 668 by Brandes – Year-round School Programs

Identical: HB 587 by Newton

The bill authorizes a school board to create a year-round school program for any school that is one of the 300 lowest-performing schools. Funding provisions are amended to authorize funds provided for the lowest 300 schools to be used for a summer school or a year-round school program.

HB 711 by Asencio – Pre-apprenticeship and Apprenticeship Programs

Similar: SB 1388 by Garcia

The bill creates the Earn and Learn Grant Program within DOE to assist school districts, public postsecondary educational institutions, and charter technical career centers in the development and expansion of pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs relevant to targeted industries and to recruit, retain, and graduate a diverse group of successful program participants who are prepared to enter the workforce. The bill outlines the responsibilities of DOE and also establishes a Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion.

HB 887 by Harrell – Reading Instruction

Identical: SB 1306 by Perry

The bill requires that beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, reading interventions must be delivered by a teacher who is certified or endorsed in reading. Such interventions must incorporate strategies identified by the Just Read, Florida! Office. When DOE reviews the endorsement requirements it must consider the award of an endorsement to an individual who holds a certificate issued by an internationally recognized organization that establishes standards for providing evidence-based interventions to struggling readers, etc.

Districts must provide all elementary grades instructional personnel with access to training sufficient to earn an endorsement in reading.

HB 1035 by Sullivan – Personalized Education

Similar: SB 968 by Brandes

The bill renames the Competency-Based Education Pilot Program to Master-Based Education Pilot Program. The elements of the program are modified and expanded. In lieu of the 135- and 120-hour instruction requirements, participating school boards may award credit based on the student's master of core content and skills. The bill provides for an alternative interpretation of letter grades and authorizes participating school boards to use such interpretation.

Early Learning/School Readiness

HB 1091 by Grall – Early Learning

Similar: SB 1254 by Passidomo

The bill revises the duties of the Office of Early Learning and provisions of early learning programs. The bill revises the requirements for the office's annual analysis of the state's early learning activities. The bill requires each early learning coalition's school readiness program plan to include a specified assessment. The bill revises the priorities for children's participation in a school readiness program. The bill requires a school readiness program provider to participate in specified assessments and strategies under certain circumstances. The bill requires school readiness program funding to include program assessment.

SB 1150 by Steube – School Readiness Program Funding

The bill requires the Office of Early Learning to develop a formula for the allocation of funding for the school readiness program that meets certain requirements. The office must submit the formula to the Legislature by January 1, 2019 for review and the formula must be implemented by July 1, 2020.

SB 1334 by Baxley – Early Childhood Education

Similar: HB 1135 by Ausley

The bill requires schools designated as one of the 300 lowest-performing elementary schools to include an Early Childhood Transition Team in their required school improvement plans. The team is required to develop a transition plan that contains specified elements.

HB 1175 by Sullivan – Early Learning Coalitions

Identical: SB 1532 by Stargel

The bill authorizes an early learning coalition to refuse to contract with certain school readiness providers.

SB 1546 by Simmons – VPK Education Program

The bill defines the term "nonprofit provider". The bill amends s. 1002.53, F.S., revising the prekindergarten program options available to certain parents to include a specified in-home, technology-based program. The bill authorizes each early learning coalition to administer an in-

home, technology-based academic prekindergarten program as part of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program. The bill requires the early learning coalition to reimburse an approved nonprofit provider from funds allocated for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education program. The bill further authorizes a nonprofit provider to implement a pre- and post-assessment under certain circumstances. The bill requires the Office of Early Learning to adopt certain procedures and criteria regarding a nonprofit provider's kindergarten readiness rates. The bill further requires the office to adopt certain procedures for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program for a nonprofit provider.

SB 1738 by Stewart – Early Childhood Education

Identical: HB 1297 by Brown

The bill prohibits a private prekindergarten provider from participating in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program for a period of 5 years under certain circumstances. The bill further authorizes an early learning coalition to revoke the eligibility of a school readiness program provider to participate in the school readiness program for a period of 5 years under certain circumstances.

SB 1822 by Hukill – Early Childhood Learning

Similar: HB 1365 by Grall

The bill amends s. 1002.82, F.S., to require the Office of Early Learning to adopt an observation-based child assessment system. The observation-based assessment system is contingent upon legislative appropriation. The bill states the assessment must have interval-level and criterion-referenced data that measures equivalent levels of growth across domains, and that may be used for determining developmentally appropriate learning gains.

The bill amends s. 1002.84, F.S., to require each early learning coalition to implement a specified age-appropriate observation-based assessment for certain children, rather than a pre-assessment and post-assessment. The assessment includes a minimum use of three times per year for children from birth through four years of age, and requires the assessment to measure progress in the categories of language, social and emotional skills, and executive functioning.

The bill requires a statewide implementation plan for the observation-based child assessment. The plan must include a process for participation in the observation-based child assessment system, a process for granting exemptions from the assessment, and an implementation timeline that requires the collection of assessment data. The timeline requires the collection to begin in the 2019-2020 school year for infants and children up to 3 years of age, 2020-2021 for children 2 and 3 years old, and 2021-2022 for children 4 years old.

Additionally, the implementation plan must include adequate opportunities and training for early learning coalitions or other statewide organizations to ensure school readiness child care instructors have the opportunity to receive training in a timely manner until they are verified as reliable. Lastly, this plan must have a mechanism for ensuring the training required occurs at least every 2 years.

The bill requires the adoption of a schedule and protocol for the collection process in order to safeguard student privacy, affirm reliability of the administration of the assessments, analyze longitudinal data across various age groups, and tracks trends over time.

Students with Disabilities/ESE

HB 63 by Edwards – Students with Disabilities in Public Schools

Identical: SB 260 by Book

The bill relates to the restraint of students with disabilities in public schools. The bill removes the authority to seclude students. The bill provides definitions including: “exclusionary time,” “imminent risk of serious injury or death,” “medical protective equipment,” “non-exclusionary time,” “restraint” which incorporates “mechanical restraint” and “physical restraint,” and “seclusion.” The bill provides that physical restraint must only be used to protect the safety of students, school personnel, or others and may not be used for student discipline, etc. Certain restraints are prohibited. The bill specifies criteria for the use of “exclusionary and non-exclusionary time.” School districts must report its procedures for training and the bill specifies what must be included in the training. The bill provides for additional reporting requirements and rule development for school districts.

SB 1618 by Hukill – Education

The bill amends s. 1003.576, F.S., removing an obsolete date for the Department of Education to develop and have operating an electronic IEP system in place for statewide use.

Health/Safety/Welfare

SB 270 by Steube – Involuntary Examination and Involuntary Admission of Minors

Identical: HB 947 by Payne

The bill authorizes a designated law enforcement agency to decline to transport a minor 14 years of age or younger to a receiving facility for mental health or substance abuse evaluation if the parent or guardian agrees to transport the minor to such facility. The bill specifies circumstances for which a minor 14 or under may be taken to a receiving facility for an involuntary examination. The examination must be initiated within 8 hours after the arrival at the facility. The receiving facility must release the minor to the parent and the bill provides exceptions.

HB 621 by Rommel – School Safety

Identical: SB 1236 by Baxley

The bill authorizes the carrying of a concealed weapon or firearm on school property by a specified individual who is trained, is an employee or volunteer and has been designated by the district school superintendent.

SB 1626 by Powell – Student Discipline

Similar: HB 1255 by Antone

The bill revises the duties of district school boards relating to student discipline and school safety. The bill requires school districts to adopt clear standards for intervention with specified requirements, rather than a code of student conduct. The bill requires school districts to ensure the meaningful involvement of certain individuals and the community in creating and applying certain policies. The bill requires each school district to fund and support the implementation of school-based restorative justice practices. The bill requires a school district to hire staff members to improve the school climate and safety, requires to annual survey parents, students, and teachers regarding school safety and discipline issues. The bill also revises the qualifications of a school resource officer and a school safety officer and authorizes a school resource officer and a school safety officer to arrest a student only for certain violations of law. The bill further requires each district school board to adopt a policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system, rather than a zero tolerance policy for crime and victimization.

SB 644 by Bracy – Juvenile Civil Citation and Similar Diversion Programs

Similar: HB 489 by Pritchett, SB 1392 by Brandes

The bill requires the establishment of one or more juvenile civil citation or similar diversion programs in each county. The bill provides that a law enforcement officer must issue a juvenile a civil citation or require the juvenile's participation in a similar diversion program when the juvenile admits to committing one of the specified first-time misdemeanor offenses

HB 663 by Slosberg – Students Remaining on School Grounds During School Hours

Similar: SB 682 by Garcia

The bill provides that districts may develop policies granting permission for students to leave school for lunch. However, a district that has more than 100,000 student in prekindergarten through 12th grade, a school may not permit a student to leave school grounds for lunch unless the student's parent has, in writing, consented for his or her child to leave school grounds during the lunch period for the school year.

SB 736 by Baxley – Prohibited Conduct Between Authority Figures and Students

Similar: HB 515 by Hahnfeldt; SB 1152 by Garcia; HB 1431 by Russell

The bill prohibits an authority figure, as defined, from soliciting or engaging in sexual conduct or a romantic relationship with a student. An authority figure may not solicit or engage in lewd conduct with a student. A person who violates this provision commits a second degree felony.

HB 795 by Altman – Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation in Public Schools

Identical: SB 996 by Mayfield

The bill creates s. 1003.457, F.S., and requires each school district to provide instruction in CPR and the use of an automated external defibrillator. The instruction must be part of the physical education

curriculum or other required curriculum selected by the school district. Students with disabilities are exempt from this requirement.

SB 986 by Montford – Medical Use of Marijuana in Schools

Similar: HB 1291 by Drake

The bill establishes a mechanism for the administering of medical marijuana in schools that limits the exposure of school personnel. The bill authorizes a parent to request that a county-designated caregiver assist the student with medical use of marijuana during the school day. The bill establishes procedures for implementation. The bill repeals language authorizing possession of medical marijuana by school personnel and repeals language requiring school districts to develop policies.

HB 1029 by Hahnfeldt, Berman – Tobacco Products

Compare: SB 350 by Bracy, HB 797 by Altman, SB 994 by Mayfield, HB 1095 by Plakon, SB 1270 by Brandes, SB 1288 by Simmons

The bill makes it unlawful to sell tobacco products to persons under 21 (current law is 18). It would be unlawful for anyone under 21 (rather than 18) to smoke tobacco in or within 1,000 feet of a public or private school.

SB 1116 by Simmons – Emergency Alerts

The bill authorizes a local law enforcement agency to activate the Emergency Alert system and issue a Lockdown Alert to public and private schools and child care facilities under specified circumstances.

SB 1616 by Hukill – Education

Compare: HB 777 by Moskowitz; SB 1548 by Book

The bill amends s. 1006.07, F.S., to require school districts to conduct a security risk assessment at each public school site within the district. The bill also requires school districts to use a format prescribed by the Department of Education for the assessments required and for self-assessments of current safety and security practices.

Specifically, this bill deletes the Safety and Security Best Practices previously used, and replaces that provision with a mandatory security risk assessment in addition to a self-assessment of safety and security practices through a standardized format prescribed by the department.

Comparison: HB 777 revises provisions relating to Level 2 background screenings, district school board duties, examination security, recension of student certificates and grades, school district employment criteria, educator certification, certified educator responsibilities, and Education Practices Commission. Specifically, the bill requires each school district to conduct a security risk assessment at each public school and conduct self-assessments of current safety and security practices using a format prescribed by the department.

Additionally, the bill revises conditions for teacher bonuses regarding security, stating that a bonus may not be awarded to a teacher who fails to maintain the security of any CAPE industry certification examination or who otherwise violates the security or administration protocol of any assessment instrument that may result in a bonus being awarded to the teacher.

Comparison: SB 1548 exempts certain school district employees from level 2 background screenings under specified circumstances, prohibits certain teachers from receiving bonuses related to specified FTE student membership calculations, and requires certified educators to inform their employers within a specified time period after being arrested for, rather than convicted of, certain offenses.

SB 1680 by Montford – Immunization Registry

Similar: HB 1045 by Pigman

The bill revises provisions relating to the communicable disease prevention and control programs under the Department of Health, and deletes a provision that allows the parent or guardian of a child to refuse to have the child included in the immunization registry. The bill revises school-entry health requirements to require that students have a certificate of immunization on file with the department's immunization registry.

Facilities/Fire Safety

HB 411 by Clemons – Public Records and Public Meetings/Fire Safety Systems.

Identical: SB 738 by Perry

The bill provides an exemption from public records requirements for fire safety system plans held by an agency.

HB 1023 by Duran – Public Educational Facilities

Similar: SB 1656 by Lee

The bill provides that for purposes of determining capacity of school facilities, as reported in the Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH), a school containing students in kindergarten through grade 5 is considered an elementary school and a school containing students in grades 6 through 8 is considered a middle school.

The bill also provides that upon request by a district school board, the commissioner must grant an exemption from the State Requirements for Educational Facilities (SREF). A district school board must provide a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis along with its request for an exemption from the SREF. Any district school board that is granted such exemption must continue to comply with applicable provisions of the Florida Building Code and the Florida Fire Prevention Code that relate to the construction, remodeling, and renovation of educational facilities.

Growth Management

HB 1151 by La Rosa – Developments of Regional Impact

Identical: SB 1244 by Lee

The bill repeals, creates, and revises provisions for statewide guidelines, standards, & requirements for developments of regional impact relating specifically to:

- authorizations to develop;
- applications for approval of development;
- concurrent plan amendments;
- pre-application procedures;
- preliminary development agreements;
- conceptual agency reviews;
- local notice & regional reports;
- developments inside & outside areas of critical state concern;
- local government development orders;
- construction of mitigation facilities;
- impact fee & exaction credits;
- comprehensive development applications & master plan development orders;
- abandonment of developments;
- dense urban land area exemptions;
- Florida Quality Developments & Quality Developments Review Board;
- Administration Commission guidelines & standards;
- state land planning agency agreements;
- local government permit approvals & extensions, reviews & certifications; and
- uniform reviews of developments by state land planning agency & regional planning agencies.

Transportation

SB 188 by Steube – Public School Transportation

Compare: HB 1299 by Rayburn

The bill provides that school boards provide transportation for students whose homes are more than 1.5 miles from school.

The bill provides that transportation must be provided to public school students in kindergarten through 12th grade if they are subject to hazardous walking conditions. Current law requires such transportation up through 6th grade and authorizes it for students in 7th through 12th grades.

The bill requires the school superintendent to request a review of a road perceived to be hazardous to students living within the 1.5-mile limit.

Postsecondary Education/Dual Enrollment

SB 4 by Galvano – Higher Education – Florida Excellence in Higher Education Act of 2018

Compare/Similar: SB 540 by Hukill, HB 831 by Gruters, HB 423 by Rodrigues (R); SB 1752 by Torres, Jr.; HB 1331 by Smith

The bill 4 establishes the “Florida Excellence in Higher Education Act of 2018” to expand financial aid provisions and incentivize postsecondary institutions to emphasize on-time graduation. The bill also expands policy and funding options for state universities to recruit and retain exemplary faculty and enhance the quality of professional and graduate schools. Specifically, the bill:

- Increases student financial aid and tuition assistance programs in the following ways:
 - Expands the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Academic Scholars (FAS) award to cover 100 percent of tuition and specified fees plus \$300 per semester for textbooks, and authorizes use of the award for summer term enrollment as funded by the Legislature.
 - Expands the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Medallion Scholars (FMS) award to an amount equal to 75 percent of tuition and specified fees to pay for educational expenses, and authorizes use of the award for summer term enrollment, beginning in 2019, as funded by the Legislature.
 - Extends the Benacquisto Scholarship Program to eligible students from out of state.
 - Revises the state-to-private match requirements for contributions to the First Generation Matching Grant Program from 1:1 to 2:1.
 - Establishes the Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program for farmworkers and the children of farmworkers.
 - Requires each state university board of trustees to adopt, for implementation in the fall 2018 semester, a block tuition policy for full-time, first-time-in-college students.
- Modifies state university performance accountability metrics to promote on-time student graduation in 4 years.
- Establishes the World Class Faculty and Scholar Program to fund and support the efforts of state universities to recruit and retain exemplary faculty and research scholars.
- Establishes the State University Professional and Graduate Degree Excellence Program to enhance the quality of professional and graduate schools and degree programs in medicine, law, and business. Requires state universities to use data-driven gap analyses to identify internship opportunities in high-demand fields for students.
- Strengthens accountability of state university direct-support organizations.

SB 540 by Hukill – Postsecondary Education – Community College Competitiveness Act of 2018

Compare/Similar: SB 4 by Galvano, HB 423 by Rodrigues (R), HB 831 by Gruters; SB 1752 by Torres, Jr.; HB 1331 by Smith

The bill creates the “Community College Competitiveness Act of 2018” to strengthen state leadership and accountability for Florida’s community colleges as an essential component of this state’s system of higher education. Specifically, the bill:

- Modifies the governance of the Florida Community College System by:
 - Renaming the Florida College System as the Florida Community College System; and
 - Establishing a State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC), and transferring specified responsibilities from the State Board of Education to the SBCC.
- Clarifies expectations and oversight of baccalaureate degree programs offered by community colleges, and:
 - Modifies the baccalaureate approval process for all community colleges.
 - Establishes a 20 percent cap on upper-level, undergraduate full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment at each community college, and a 10 percent cap on upper-level, undergraduate FTE enrollment for the Florida Community College System, and specifies conditions for planned and purposeful growth of baccalaureate degree programs.
- Establishes the “2+2” targeted pathway program to provide students guaranteed access to baccalaureate degree programs at state universities.
- Establishes the Supporting Students for Academic Success program to fund the efforts of community colleges in assisting students enrolled in an associate in arts (AA) degree program to complete college-credit courses, graduate with an AA degree, and transfer to a baccalaureate degree program.
- Modifies the community college performance accountability metrics and standards to promote on-time student graduation.
- Enhances transparency and accountability of community college direct-support organizations.

SB 1064 by Baxley – Dual Enrollment Programs

The bill revises the contents of a postsecondary institution and private school dual enrollment articulation agreement. Certain fees are prohibited from being passed to the private school.

Ethics

HB 5 by Metz – State Officer Post-Service Lobbying Restrictions

SB 1330 by Rouson

The bill replaces the current general law provision that prohibits legislators and statewide elected officers from personally representing another person or entity for compensation before their former government body or agency for two years following vacation of office with a new prohibition. The new prohibition prohibits legislators and statewide elected officers from personally representing another person or entity for compensation before any state government body or state agency other than judicial tribunals or in settlement negotiations after the filing of a lawsuit for six years following vacation of office.

The bill's provisions apply only to those individuals who were members of the Legislature or who were statewide elected officers at any time after November 8, 2016.

Legal/Public Meetings/Records/Admin Procedures

HB 79 by Roth – Public Meetings

Similar: SB 192 by Baxley

The bill specifies that all meetings or defacto meetings, as defined, at which official acts are to be taken or public business to be transacted or discussed are declared to be public meetings open to the public.

The bill also provides that members of the same board or commission may participate in fact-finding exercises or excursion to research public business, and may participate in meetings with a legislator if specified conditions are met.

If official acts are not taken and public business is not discussed, any gathering of two or more members of the same board or commission is not considered a public meeting for which a public notice to and access are required.

HB 83 by Spano – Agency Rulemaking

Similar: SB 912 by Broxson

The bill requires an agency to prepare a Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs (SERC) before the adoption or amendment of any rule other than an emergency rule.

HB 273 by Rodrigues – Public Records

Identical: SB 750 by Perry

Florida law provides that all state, county, and municipal records are open for personal inspection and copying by any person, and that it is the responsibility of each agency to provide access to public records. A custodian of public records (records custodian) is required to permit any person to inspect and copy records at any reasonable time, under reasonable conditions, and under supervision by the records custodian.

The bill prohibits an agency that receives a public record request to inspect or copy a record from responding to such request by filing a civil action against the individual or entity making the request.

HB 439 by Donalds – Public Meetings and Records

Similar: SB 560 by Steube

The bill expands the ability of an agency, including school boards, and the executive officer (superintendent) to meet in private with the entity's attorney to discuss imminent or pending litigation to which the entity is or may in the foreseeable future be a party before a court or administrative agency if certain conditions are met. In addition to existing conditions, for imminent litigation, the entity's attorney must identify the name of the potential claimant or litigant.

If imminent litigation does not commence, the transcript must be made part of the public record within a reasonable time after the matter underlying the imminent litigation is resolved or upon the expiration of the statute of limitations applicable to the matter underlying the imminent litigation, whichever occurs first. Litigation is considered imminent when the entity has received notice of a claim or demand by a party threatening litigation before a court or administrative agency.

HB 459 by Massullo, Jr. – Public Records

Compare/Similar/Linked: SB 958 by Mayfield, SB 956 by Mayfield, HB 461 by Massullo, Jr.

The bill is a comprehensive proposal to ensure that agency contracts are not confidential or exempt from public records requirements including trade secrets.

HB 941 by Moraitis – Administrative Procedures

Similar: SB 1410 by Radar

The bill amends several provisions Administrative Procedures Act (ch. 120, F.S.) and provides that after December 31, 2018, material proposed to be incorporated by reference in a rule must be made available.

The bill creates a new section to provide for the repromulgation of rules under certain circumstances. The Department of State must adopt rules to implement this section by December 31, 2018.

SB 1092 by Radar – Public Meetings

Similar: HB 589 by Newton

The bill provides that meetings of any entity created by general or special law must be open to the public. In addition, all public meetings would not only be open to the public for attendance but also for participation. The adoption of a resolution, rule, or other formal action is not considered binding except as taken or made as such option and participatory meeting.

The bill requires at least 3 days' advance notice of all meetings, and such notice must include publication of all agenda items and any materials or attachment that will be distributed at the meeting. The board may schedule an emergency meeting if 24 hours' advance notice is provided. If necessary, the board or commission may amend a meeting agency after its initial publication.

The bill provides that a member of the public has the right to speak for at least 3 minutes at a meeting and may address a pending agenda item or any matter within the jurisdiction of the board. The board is not required to allow public comment on consent items, approval of minutes, presentation of awards, reports, announcements, or any official act taken to deal with an emergency situation affecting the public health, welfare, and safety. However, the presiding officer or chair may allow a representative of a group supporting or opposing an agenda item to speak in lieu of individuals speaking at the same time.

The board must respond, either publicly at the meeting or through written correspondence, to any question made by a member of the public. Any written response must be made within 10 days after the meeting and incorporated in the minutes of the meeting. The board must prescribe a form upon which a member of the public requesting to speak must complete to provide his or her name and the agenda item or other matter that will be commented on.

These requirements do not prohibit a board or commission from maintaining orderly conduct or proper decorum in a public meeting.

Section 284.0114, F.S., relating to public meetings and a reasonable opportunity to be heard is repealed.

Constitutional Amendments

SB 194 by Steube – Limitation of Terms of Office for Members of a District School Board

This joint resolution would require term limits of school board members. A person would not be able to serve on a school board for more than two four-year terms. If a member of a school board resigns before completing two terms and subsequently seeks election to the school board, the time served before resignation shall constitute one four-year term of office. Time served as a school board member before the first term to which a person is elected following the election at which this provision is ratified shall be counted in determining two terms of service.

HB 7001 by Ways & Means Committee – Supermajority Vote for State Taxes or Fees SB 1742 by Stargel

This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the state Constitution that would provide that no state tax or fee may be imposed, authorized, or raised by the legislature, or authorized by the legislature to be raised except through legislation approved by two-thirds of the membership of each house of the legislature.

The joint resolution requires that any proposed state tax or fee imposition, authorization or increase must be contained in a separate bill that contains no other subject. The joint resolution also specifies that the proposed amendment does not authorize the imposition of any state tax or fee otherwise prohibited by the state Constitution, and does not apply to any tax or fee imposed by, or authorized to be imposed by, a county, municipality, school board, or special district.

The amendment proposed in the joint resolution will take effect on January 8, 2019, if approved by sixty percent of the voters during the 2018 general election or earlier special election. The joint resolution is not subject to the governor's veto powers.

Miscellaneous

HB 1335 by Hager – Capitol Relocation Task Force

The bill creates a task force for the purpose of identifying & considering options for relocation of state capitol building, certain executive branch officers, & the legislature. The bill provides for task force membership, duties, & dissolution, directs office of CFO to provide funding, technical, and administrative support to the task force, and provides for reports to be submitted to the Governor and Legislature. The bill requires the Legislature to determine if relocation is appropriate and shall, by joint resolution, propose a constitutional amendment for the purpose of relocation.