



Florida Department of Education

Governmental Relations Office

K-20



STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HIGHLIGHTS

2003 Regular Session, Special Session A, and Special Session B



July 18, 2003

Kim McDougal, Ph.D.
Assistant Deputy Commissioner



Education Related Bills Passed During Special Session A

DISCLAIMER: This document represents bills passed by the Florida Legislature during the 2003 Legislative Special Session A, and unless otherwise noted, these bills will not become law until they are signed by the Governor and issued a chapter number.

APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2A - Appropriations by Pruitt/ Kyle

EDUCATION BUDGET SUMMARY - 2003-2004 BUDGET

General Revenue Fund, State School Trust Fund, Educational Enhancement TF, and General Revenue in State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund and local funds and fees excluded from totals. Does not include Fixed Capital Outlay, Federal Funds or General Revenue Transfers to the State Student Financial Assistance TF.

SUMMARY BY FUND SOURCE	2002-2003 Appropriations HB 27E	Conference Report SB 2A
General Revenue	10,824,363,236	11,176,945,546
Lottery	789,499,991	903,137,881
Other Trust	163,631,196	195,826,077
Total	11,777,494,423	12,275,909,504
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM	\$7,968,580,221	\$8,468,200,000
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	\$399,967,763	\$397,357,941
OTHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES	\$562,428,338	\$572,967,485
COMMUNITY COLLEGES	\$912,402,832	\$921,108,294
UNIVERSITIES	\$1,934,115,269	\$1,916,275,784
TOTAL	\$11,777,494,423	\$12,275,909,504
RECAP OF K-20 BUDGET ENTITIES:		
<u>PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM</u>		
State Grants/K12-FEFP	\$7,771,232,809	\$8,245,046,925
State Grants/K12-Non-FEFP	\$179,816,474	\$205,622,137
Educational Media & Technology Services	\$17,530,938	\$17,530,938
PUBLIC SCHOOLS Total	\$7,968,580,221	\$8,468,200,000
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT Total	\$399,967,763	\$397,357,941
<u>OTHER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES</u>		
K-20 Financial Aid	\$315,989,852	\$332,708,483
Private Colleges and Universities	\$117,389,029	\$116,481,658
Blind Services	\$10,988,683	\$11,516,919
Vocational Rehabilitation	\$25,007,811	\$25,242,059
State Board of Education	\$93,052,963	\$87,018,366
OTHER PROGRAMS & SERVICES Total	\$562,428,338	\$572,967,485

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General Revenue	10,824,363,236	11,176,945,546
Lottery	789,499,991	903,137,881
Other Trust	163,631,196	195,826,077
Total	11,777,494,423	12,275,909,504
STATE GRANTS/K12-FEFP		
Florida Education Finance Program	6,699,052,788	6,753,118,439
District Lottery/School Recognition	306,925,000	263,449,842
Instructional Materials	227,939,157	227,939,157
Public School Technology	62,400,000	49,914,766
Student Transportation	423,087,042	430,326,357
Teacher Training	36,000,000	36,000,000
Class Size Reduction	0	468,198,634
Florida Teachers Lead Program	15,828,822	16,099,730
Sub Total - State Grants/K12-FEFP	7,771,232,809	8,245,046,925
STATE GRANTS/K12-NON-FEFP		
Asst/Low Performance Schools	5,500,000	5,500,000
Autism Centers	4,975,000	4,975,000
BEST - Better Educated Students & Teachers	0	25,000,000
College Reach Out Program	3,199,990	3,199,990
Communities in Schools	1,000,000	0
Diagnostic/Learning Research Centers	3,039,494	3,039,494
Education Partnerships	3,094,244	5,500,000
Educator/Liability Insurance	1,200,000	1,200,000
Excellent Teaching	43,372,465	53,505,642
Exceptional Education	2,643,604	2,643,604
Extended School Year	6,500,000	0
Florida Virtual High School	6,984,992	0
Health/Liability Insurance Cost Containment Committee	100,000	0
Instructional Materials Management	1,078,240	1,078,240
Jobs for Florida Graduates	500,000	0
K-8 Virtual Education	0	4,800,000
Mentoring/Student Initiatives	12,800,000	12,250,000
New World School of the Arts	928,445	928,445
Professional Practices-Substitutes	3,507	3,507
Public School Technology	1,900,000	2,250,000
Reading Initiatives	17,845,995	25,000,000

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Regional Education Consortium	775,000	775,000
School District Matching Grant Program	700,000	700,000
School Lunch Program/State Match	16,886,046	16,886,046
School Related Persons of the Year	12,943	0
School for the Deaf & Blind	32,567,924	33,728,584
School and Instruction Enhancement	7,005,634	1,825,634
Sharpen The Pencil	2,002,535	0
Teacher Death Benefits	165,000	165,000
Teacher of the Year	39,208	0
Teacher Professional Development	2,996,208	667,951
Sub Total - State Grants/K12-Non-FEFP	179,816,474	205,622,137
<u>EDUCATIONAL MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY SERVICES</u>		
Capitol Technical Center	90,944	90,944
Instructional Technology	214,290	214,290
Federal Equipment Match Grant	239,650	239,650
Florida Info Resource Network	5,649,779	5,649,779
Public Broadcasting	10,738,361	10,738,361
FETPIP/Workforce Development MIS	190,000	190,000
Radio Read Services – Blind	407,914	407,914
Sub Total -Educational Media & Technology Services	17,530,938	17,530,938
Total Public Schools	7,968,580,221	8,468,200,000
Public School Funding		
General Revenue	7,528,253,201	7,949,173,000
Lottery	334,471,506	389,125,000
Other Trust	105,855,514	129,902,000
Total	7,968,580,221	8,468,200,000
<u>WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT</u>		
Workforce Development	381,459,332	378,849,510
Adults with Disabilities	18,508,431	18,508,431
Total Workforce Development	399,967,763	397,357,941
Workforce Development Funding		
General Revenue	399,967,763	397,357,941
Total	399,967,763	397,357,941
<u>FINANCIAL AID</u>		
Bright Future Scholarships	218,970,000	235,688,631
Prepaid Tuition Scholarship	3,600,000	3,600,000
Minority Teacher Scholarship	2,109,600	2,109,600
Ethics/Business Scholarship	500,000	500,000
M. McCleod Bethune Scholarship	679,328	679,328
Public Student Financial Assistance (FSAG) - Full & Part-Time	67,548,740	67,548,740
Private Student Assistance Grant (FSAG)	10,737,529	10,737,529
Postsecondary Student Assistance Grant (FSAG)	7,368,317	7,368,317
Children of Deceased/Disabled Veterans	333,250	333,250
Florida Work Experience Program	1,069,922	1,069,922
Critical Teacher Shortage Program	1,739,566	1,739,566
Rosewood Family Scholarships	100,000	100,000
Jose Marti School Challenge Grant	296,000	296,000
Transfer/FL Education Fund	937,600	937,600
Sub Total - Financial aid	315,989,852	332,708,483
Financial Aid Funding (information only; included in other)		
General Revenue	76,370,647	64,655,602

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Lottery	235,747,894	256,112,881
Other Trust	3,871,311	11,940,000
Total	315,989,852	332,708,483

PRIVATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Medical Training/Simulation Lab	2,500,000	2,425,001
Historical Black Private Colleges	8,974,038	8,974,038
1st Accredited Medical School	18,276,657	18,401,657
Academic Program Contracts	1,052,768	1,052,768
Spinal Cord Research/UM	926,000	0
Regional Diabetes Center-UM	627,466	596,094
Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG)	79,841,350	79,841,350
Nova SE University-Health Programs	5,190,750	5,190,750
Sub Total - Private Colleges and Universities	117,389,029	116,481,658

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Assessment and Evaluation	39,653,446	41,240,110
Bright Futures Testing Program	7,905,600	0
Contracted Services	2,591,022	0
Cost-of Living Price Survey	69,734	144,734
Data Processing Services - Knott Data Center	2,236,428	2,236,428
Data Processing Services - Regional Data Centers	802,266	802,266
Expenses	8,836,646	8,366,725
Financial Aid Contractual Services	38,924	38,924
Litigation Expenses	23,029	23,029
Operating Capital Outlay	568,162	539,754
Other Personal Services	1,293,580	1,228,901
Program Review and Special Studies	398,480	398,480
Provision/Contracted Services	375,000	375,000
Risk Management Insurance	785,595	785,595
Salaries and Benefits	26,773,255	25,886,898
Student Financial Assistance Management Info System	150,000	0
Transfer to Dept of Management Services - Human Resources	101,593	165,914
Transfer - Fla Academic Counseling & Tracking System (FACTS)	0	4,342,837
Transfer to Division of Administrative Hearings	450,203	442,771
Sub Total - State Board of Education	93,052,963	87,018,366

OTHER

Blind Services	10,988,683	11,516,919
Vocational Rehabilitation	25,007,811	25,242,059
Sub Total - Other	35,996,494	36,758,978

Total Other Programs and Services	562,428,338	572,967,485
Other Funding		
General Revenue	309,909,047	304,914,604
Lottery	243,653,494	256,112,881
Other Trust	8,865,797	11,940,000
Total	562,428,338	572,967,485

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CCPF - General Revenue	783,743,156	783,552,967
CCPF - Lottery	92,900,000	92,900,000
CC Baccalaureate Programs - General Revenue	0	4,808,294
CC Baccalaureate Programs - Lottery		1,000,000
Performance Based Incentives	7,674,371	7,674,371

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Partnership Challenge Programs	8,446,245	24,000,000
Facilities Enhancement Challenge Grants	10,278,363	0
Commission on Community Service	416,700	416,700
College Center for Library Automation	6,440,565	6,440,565
Fla Academic Counseling & Tracking System (FACTS)	2,188,035	0
Distance Learning Course and Program Development	315,397	315,397
Total Community Colleges	912,402,832	921,108,294
Community College Funding		
General Revenue	811,056,587	803,208,294
Lottery	101,346,245	117,900,000
Total	912,402,832	921,108,294

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Educational & General	1,522,303,623	1,511,413,537
Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences	110,987,377	111,774,104
UF-Health Sciences Center	104,253,550	86,391,434
USF- Health Sciences Center	49,296,453	48,299,890
FSU-Medical School	18,842,081	22,761,502
Colleges & Universities	3,500,000	0
I-4 Corridor/High Technology	5,000,000	0
Moffitt Cancer Center	10,940,335	10,940,335
Challenge Grants	34,766,090	89,263,064
Fla Academic Counseling & Tracking System (FACTS)	2,154,802	0
Risk Management Insurance	13,302,795	13,302,795
Student Financial Aid	19,729,207	19,729,207
Financial Assistance Payment Scholarships	3,562,427	2,192,751
Virgil Hawkins Fellowship Program	476,529	207,165
Alzheimer's Research	5,000,000	0
University Centers of Excellence	30,000,000	0
Total State University System	1,934,115,269	1,916,275,784
State University System Funding		
General Revenue	1,775,176,638	1,722,291,707
Educational Enhancement TF	110,028,746	140,000,000
Other Trust Funds	48,909,885	53,984,077
Total	1,934,115,269	1,916,275,784

LOCAL FUNDS & STUDENT FEES - Information Only

K-12 FEFP Local Dollars	5,360,499,444	5,788,344,545
Workforce Development Student Fees	29,872,556	34,360,907
Community College Student Fees	356,256,808	408,054,530
Division of Universities Student Fees	594,812,126	658,494,606
Total (Not included in above totals)	6,341,440,934	6,889,254,588

APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/23/03

Universities

HB 51A - Board of Governors/State Universities by Meador/Constantine

Creates the Florida Board of Governors, pursuant to Article IX, Section 7 of the Constitution of the State of Florida. The board of governors consists of 17 members. Fourteen members are appointed by the governor and are subject to Senate confirmation. In addition, the Commissioner of Education, the chair of the advisory council of faculty senates or the equivalent, and the president of the Florida Student Association or the equivalent serve on the Board. Beginning July 1, 2003, of the initial appointments, 4 members shall serve 2-year terms, 5 members shall serve 3-year terms, and 5 members shall serve 7-year terms.

Establishes a board of trustees consisting of 13 members to administer each university. Each board shall consist of six citizen members appointed by the governor, five citizen members appointed by the board of governors, the chair of the faculty senate or the equivalent, and the president of the student body. Beginning July 1, 2003, of the initial appointments by the Governor, 2 members shall serve 2-year terms, 3 members shall serve 3-year terms, and 1 member shall serve a 5-year term and of the initial appointments by the Board of Governors, 2 members shall serve 2-year terms, 2 members shall serve 3-year terms, and 1 member shall serve a 5-year term.

Establishes a university admissions deposit fee (not to exceed \$200). The boards of trustees must adopt policies that provide for a waiver of the deposit in cases of financial hardship. Limits university president salaries paid from public funds to \$225,000 – it does not prohibit additional monies and benefits paid by private funds. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/9/03

K-12

SB 30A - Quality Education Act by Constantine/Kilmer

The Quality Education Act implements Amendment 9 to Section 1, Article IX of the State Constitution, establishing a maximum class size by the 2010-2011 school year. In addition, the bill creates the Better Educated Students and Teachers (BEST) Act of 2003, which specifies that well educated, well compensated, and effective classroom teachers and administrators are necessary for a high-quality education.

Provides legislative intent for class size implementation and includes the four guiding principles: clarity, flexibility, equity, and accountability. Includes an additional clause on efficiency and uniformity, and clarifies that it is the Legislature's responsibility to ensure compliance. Defines "core-curricular" courses as those defined by the Department of Education (DOE) as math, language arts/reading, science, social studies, foreign language, ESOL, ESE, and courses taught in traditional, self-contained elementary school classrooms. "Extracurricular" courses may include: physical education, fine arts, performing fine arts, vocational education, and career and technical education.

Beginning in 2010-2011, the maximum number of students assigned to each public-school teacher who is teaching core-curricular courses in Pre-K through grade 3 public schools shall not exceed 18 students; the maximum number of students assigned to each teacher who is teaching core-curricular courses in grade 4 through grade 8 public schools shall not exceed 22 students; and the maximum number of students assigned to each teacher who is teaching core-curricular courses in grade 9 through grade 12 public schools shall not exceed 25 students. Uses a phased in definition of average to meet the class size amendment: 2003-2004 through 2005-2006, uses a district average by grade; 2006-2007 through 2007-2008, uses a school average by grade; and 2008-2009, 2009-2010, and thereafter, uses an individual classroom calculation.

Provides that district school boards must consider toolbox items to assist in class size reduction, including: policies encouraging dual enrollment, policies encouraging participation in the Florida Virtual School, use

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methods to maximize use of teachers, use methods to reduce the cost of construction, use of joint-use facilities, block scheduling, rezoning, use of double/alternative sessions, year-round schools, and review of collective bargaining provisions that hinder implementing class size.

Creates the Class Size Reduction Operating Categorical. Funds are allocated to districts as prescribed in the General Appropriations Act. Districts that do not meet the 18, 22, 25 caps or the two-student reduction must use the funds for class size reduction. Districts that meet the 18, 22, 25 caps or the two-student reduction may use the funds for any lawful operating expenditure, but should give priority funding to increase classroom teacher salaries. Creates the Classrooms for Kids Program to allocate facilities funds to all 67 districts. The allocation formula is 25-percent based upon student enrollment, 65-percent based upon growth, and 10-percent based upon age and square footage of facilities. Creates the District Effort Recognition Program. Districts that a) levy a ½ cent sales tax, b) levy a 1-cent local government infrastructure tax, or c) levy voted millage may participate. Creates the Class Size Reduction Lottery Revenue Bond Program to provide additional lottery bonding authority. Amends the current corporate income tax credit scholarship program by increasing the cap from \$50 million to \$88 million.

Creates three high school graduation options: a) the regular high school program (current law – 15 ½ required credits and 8 ½ electives), b) a three-year standard college prep program (15 academic credits and 3 electives), and c) a three-year career prep program (15 academic credits and 3 electives). Revises the state university admission requirements by requiring 18 academic credits instead of 19 for the college-preparatory curriculum and three electives instead of four (aligns admission standards to the 18 credits outlined in the 3-year high school graduation options). Requires school districts and public postsecondary institutions to annually advise students and parents of the acceleration mechanisms options.

Encourages school boards to provide clerical personnel or volunteers to assist teachers in non-instructional activities, including paperwork and record keeping. Allows a teacher to remove disruptive students from the classroom. Teachers may press charges if they have reason to believe that a crime has been committed on school property or other locations. Requires principals to employ the teacher's recommended consequence; however, if the principal determines that a different action is appropriate, the principal should consult with the teacher prior to taking action. Amends the placement review committee law to require principals to notify teachers of the committee procedures.

Requires DOE to develop a First Response Center for teacher candidates to provide one-stop shopping for information on teaching careers in Florida. Requires DOE to establish a Teacher Lifeline Network to provide on-line support to beginning teachers and those needing assistance.

Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, schools must implement a salary career ladder for classroom teachers. The career ladder must have 4 levels: a) Associate Teacher – classroom teachers not professionally certified or low-performing teachers, b) Professional Teacher – classroom teachers who are professionally certified, c) Lead Teacher – classroom teachers who are responsible for leading other teachers, and d) Mentor Teacher – classroom teachers who serve as regular mentors and direct instruction of low-performing students. Clarifies that beginning in the 2004-2005 school year, a district's five-percent performance pay policy must provide for evaluation of teachers within each level of the salary career ladder.

Extends the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) from five to eight years for K-12 instructional personnel, including instructional personnel from the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind (subject to approval by school superintendent). Amends the teacher certification law to include: extending the time of the statement of status of eligibility to three years while eliminating the renewal period, streamlining teacher certification by allowing full reciprocity of teaching certificates from other states, and allowing two semesters of successful teaching in a community college, university, or private college to satisfy certain teacher certification requirements.

Authorizes school districts to process, via the DOE website, teaching certificates for additional coverage or endorsement areas, certificates to reflect name changes, and duplicate certificates to replace lost or damaged certificates. Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules through which principals may

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earn a leadership designation based on teacher retention, student performance, and school grade. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. Effective date of changes to DROP is 6/1/2003. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/9/03

Trust Funds

SB 28A - Educational Enhancement Trust Fund by Lynn

Increases the percentage of gross revenue from the sale of on-line lottery tickets and other lottery revenues deposited to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund from 38 percent to 39 percent. The Lottery Estimating Conference estimates an additional \$16.7 million will be deposited to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund during the 2003-04 Fiscal Year. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/26/03

Education Related Bills Passed During Regular Session

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K-20

HB 915 - Relating to K-20 Education Accountability by Pickens/Carlton

Establishes a K-20 education accountability system by holding each sector responsible for student progression and provides consistency in accountability and performance-based funding across all K-20 sectors. The bill codifies that Florida has established a single, unified accountability system with multiple components, including, but not limited to: measures of adequate yearly progress, individual student learning gains in public schools, school grades, and return on investment. Requires the State Board of Education to develop common standards and measures to implement performance-based funding for the K-20 education accountability system by December 1, 2003. Requires the Department of Education to recommend a formula for performance-based funding to the Legislature by December 1, 2004. Requires the Department of Education to compare other standardized assessments such as SAT, ACT, PSAT, etc. for equivalency with the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/2/03

SB 2488 - Relating to Law Enforcement by Dockery/Barreiro

Streamlines and clarifies agencies that may participate in mutual-aid agreements that are voluntary cooperation agreements between two or more law enforcement agencies. The specific references to school boards and state universities is replaced by a more general definition of "law enforcement agency," meaning any agency or unit of government that has authority to employ or appoint law enforcement officers. It also allows mutual aid channels to be made available to federal and state agencies and agencies of political subdivisions of the state. Permits the State Technology Office to create and implement an interoperability network to enable better communications among law enforcement operations. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/12/03

Universities

HB 315 - Relating to the Institute of Human and Machine Cognition by Benson/Clary

Codifies in law the Florida Institute of Human and Machine Cognition at the University of West Florida. Creates a not-for-profit corporation to govern the Institute. Removes the Institute from under the governance of the university and redirects local, state, federal, and private funds to the newly created not-for-profit corporation. Provides for the Institute and its subsidiaries to enter into contracts and agreements with or without competitive bidding. Provides for an annual report to the Commissioner of Education on the Institute's activities and state budget allocation expenditures. A copy of the Institute's annual report shall also be delivered to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the chair of the Board of Governors, and the University of West Florida. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 7/16/03

SB 680 - Relating to Florida Gulf Coast University by Saunders/Davis

Authorizes Florida Gulf Coast University to implement a bachelor of science in human performance degree program with a concentration in athletic training. This academic degree program requires licensure by the state of Florida. The Florida Legislature must approve academic degree programs requiring licensure. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 5/27/03

Student Financial Aid

SB 354 - Relating to Bright Futures Scholarship Program by Carlton/Kilmer

Abolishes the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Testing Program that required all Bright Futures recipients to complete at least five acceleration mechanisms (i.e., examinations in the following subject areas: English, Humanities, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences or successful completion of IB, AP, and/or dual enrollment courses count towards meeting the requirement). The original legislation was created for the 2002-2003 academic year. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/4/03

SB 638 - Relating to Student Tuition Assistance by Clary/Baxley

Establishes the Access to Better Learning and Education (ABLE) Grant Program to be administered by the Department of Education. Provides tuition assistance for Florida residents who seek a baccalaureate degree at eligible postsecondary institutions. Eligible institutions include for-profit, are located and chartered in the state, are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, offer a baccalaureate degree, and have a secular purpose; or a non-profit college or university that is chartered out of the state, has been located in the state for ten years or more, and is accredited by a regional accrediting body. The State Board of Education is directed to adopt rules for administering the program. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/2/03

Military

SB 1098 - Relating to Armed Forces/Reserves/National Guard by Fasano/Ambler

Provides military personnel with an extension of Bright Futures eligibility. Students enlisting in the U.S. Armed Forces directly after graduating from high school will commence their three-year eligibility open-enrollment period upon the date of their separation from active duty. Students currently receiving Bright Futures scholarships, who discontinue their education to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces, will receive the remainder of their 7-year renewal eligibility period upon the date of their separation from active duty. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/2/03

Other Bills of Interest

HB 23B - High School Graduation by Quinones/Diaz de la Portilla

Creates new learning opportunities for out-of-state, foreign country transfer students, and students requiring additional instruction to meet high school graduation requirements. Provides that students entering a Florida public school (from out of state or a foreign country) in eleventh or twelfth grade are not required to spend additional time in order to meet high school course requirements if the student has met all requirements of the school district, state, or country from which he or she is transferring. Provides that students, who are not proficient in English, should receive immediate and intensive instruction in English language acquisition. In order to receive a standard high school diploma, a transfer student must earn a 2.0 grade point average and pass the grade 10 FCAT or an alternative assessment that is determined to be the comparable validity of other standardized tests. Provides that the district school superintendent is responsible for notifying students about the consequences of not receiving a standard high school diploma.

Students meeting the requirements for a standard high school diploma, except for the passage of grade 10 FCAT or an alternative assessment by the end of grade 12, must be provided the following learning opportunities: a) accelerated high school equivalency diploma summer preparation program, b) take the College Placement Test and be admitted to remedial or credit courses at a state community college, and c) participate in an adult general education program until the student has mastered English, reading, mathematics or any other subject required for high school graduation. Students attending an adult general

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education program are provided an opportunity to take the grade 10 FCAT an unlimited number of times in order to receive a standard high school diploma.

Students who have been enrolled in an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program for less than 2 school years and have met all requirements for the standard high school diploma, except for passage of the grade 10 FCAT or alternate assessment, may receive immersion English language instruction during the summer following their senior year. Students receiving immersion instruction are eligible to take the FCAT or alternate assessment and receive a standard high school diploma upon passage of the grade 10 FCAT or the alternate assessment. Grants the State Board of Education rulemaking authority to administer the new learning opportunities and students requiring additional instruction to meet high school graduation requirements.

The Commissioner of Education shall determine the comparable validity of other available standardized tests, including the CPT, SAT, ACT, PSAT, PLAN, and tests used for entry into the military. For the 2002-2003 school year, the Commissioner shall approve tests that are deemed to be valid and reliable measures as alternate assessments to the grade 10 FCAT. Students who attain scores that equate to the passing scores on the grade 10 FCAT shall satisfy the assessment requirement for a standard high school diploma. Prior to the application of alternative assessments in subsequent school years, the Legislature will review the continued use of the alternative tests. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law and shall apply retroactively with respect to any provision that specifically refers to the 2002-2003 school year. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/20/03

SB 162 - Relating to American Sign Language by Fasano/Cretul

Requires American Sign Language (ASL) courses to be accepted as foreign-language credit for high school graduation. Requires the Commissioner of Education to establish an ASL task force to develop a report containing the most up-to-date information on ASL and guidelines for developing and maintaining ASL curriculum. Requires ASL teachers in Florida to be certified by the Florida American Sign Language Teachers Association by January 1, 2006, and to be certified by the Department of Education by January 1, 2008. Requires the Commissioner to work with postsecondary education providers to ensure the institutions will accept ASL as meeting the secondary foreign language requirement. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/10/03

SB 1006 - Relating to State Employee Health Insurance by Pruitt/Mack

The bill makes changes to the laws governing health insurance and prescription drug benefits provided to employees and dependents of the State of Florida. It implements recommendations made in several legislative and consultant reports. Clarifies that state university employees are eligible to participate in the pre-tax benefits program such as insurance premiums, and health care and child-care expense reimbursement accounts. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/4/03

HB 1527 - Florida Alzheimer's Training Act by Gibson/Saunders

States that Alzheimer's disease and related disorders pose an urgent health problem in Florida. Encourages state universities, colleges, and postsecondary schools that prepare undergraduate or graduate students for health professions to include basic training about Alzheimer's disease and related disorders in their curriculums. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/26/03

HB 1739 - Relating to Access to Postsecondary Education by Kilmer/Wise

Creates the Enhanced New Needed Opportunity for Better Life and Education for Students with Disabilities (ENNOBLES) Act to expand access to postsecondary education and meaningful careers for students with disabilities. Provides for a waiver of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) requirement for receiving a standard high school diploma for students with disabilities whose Individual Education Program (IEP) team determines that the FCAT doesn't accurately measure the student's ability, with allowable accommodations, if the student has the required grade point average and coursework for graduation, and has attempted the FCAT once in the tenth grade and once in the eleventh grade. Requires district school boards to provide instruction to prepare students with disabilities for successful grade-to-grade progression and high school graduation.

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Removes the statutory requirement that a half credit in Life Management must be taken in either the ninth or tenth grade. Clarifies authority of the State Board of Education to adopt rules for the provision of test accommodations and modifications of procedures as necessary for students with disabilities, which will demonstrate the students' abilities. Allows reasonable substitutions for postsecondary education, including admission, graduation, admission into a program of study, or entry into the upper division, for certain disabled persons, and authorizes the State Board of Education to adopt rules for the substitutions.

Requires the State Board of Education to conduct a review of the acceleration mechanisms currently utilized by school districts and postsecondary institutions and submit their report findings to the Governor and the Legislature by December 31, 2003. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 4/24/03

Trust Funds

SB 754 - Relating to State Student Financial Assistance by Carlton

Re-creates the State Student Financial Assistance Trust Fund within the Department of Education, for student financial aid programs. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 764 - Relating to University of Florida Institute of Food Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Relocation and Construction Trust Fund within the Department of Education for fiscal activity related to the sale and acquisition of fixed assets to facilitate the relocation and consolidation of IFAS Research and Education Centers. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 766 - Relating to Student Loan Operating Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the Student Loan Operating Trust Fund within the Department of Education to provide support for the operational expenses of federal student loan programs and administrative expenses of student financial assistance programs. Places the trust fund on the standard review cycle. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. This trust fund will terminate on 7/1/2007 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 768 - Relating to Student Loan Operating Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the Student Loan Operating Trust Fund within the Department of Education to provide support for the operational expenses of federal student loan programs and administrative expenses of student financial assistance programs. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. This trust fund will terminate on 7/1/2007 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 774 - Relating to Student Loan Guaranty Reserve Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the Student Loan Guaranty Reserve Trust Fund within the Department of Education to guarantee student loans made by commercial financial institutions. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 784 - Relating to Capital Facilities Matching Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the Alec P. Courtelis Capital Facilities Matching Trust Fund within the Department of Education, to provide matching funds for private contributions for capital facilities. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 790 - Relating to University of Florida Experiment Station Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station Incidental Trust Fund within the Department of Education to segregate funds generated by the activities conducted at the various Research and Education Centers throughout the state. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

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SB 792 - Relating to University of Florida Extension Service Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the University of Florida Agricultural Extension Service Incidental Trust Fund within the Department of Education to segregate funds generated by Cooperative Extension Service Activities throughout the state. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 796 - Relating to University of Florida Food and Agriculture Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Relocation and Construction Trust Fund within the Department of Education for fiscal activity related to the sale and acquisition of fixed assets to facilitate the relocation and consolidation of IFAS Research and Education Centers. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 798 - Relating to University of Florida Health Center Operations Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the University of Florida Health Center Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund within the Department of Education as a repository of revenues from the veterinary hospital. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. This trust fund will terminate on 7/1/2007 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 800 - Relating to University of Florida Health Center Operations Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the University of Florida Health Center Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund within the Department of Education as a repository of revenues from the veterinary hospital. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 802 - Relating to State University System Law Enforcement Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the State University System Law Enforcement Trust Fund within the Department of Education as a depository for contraband pursuant to provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. This trust fund will terminate on 7/1/2007 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 804 - Relating to Law Enforcement Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the State University System Law Enforcement Trust Fund within the Department of Education as a depository for contraband pursuant to provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 806 - Relating to Trust Fund for Major Gifts by Carlton

Re-creates the Major Gifts Trust Fund within the Department of Education, to encourage individual universities to seek private matching funds to support instruction and research. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 808 - Relating to Board of Regents Operations Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the Board of Regents Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund within the Department of Education, a depository for charity racing scholarship funds and for fees collected for the operation of university personnel systems and the Ringling Museum. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 810 - Relating to Phosphate Research Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the Phosphate Research Trust Fund within the Department of Education, for research conducted by the Florida Institute of Phosphate Research. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

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SB 812 - Relating to State University System Replacement Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the State University System Replacement Trust Fund within the Department of Education for deposit of casualty insurance claim proceeds from the Department of Insurance. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 814 - Relating to University Concurrency Trust Fund by Carlton

Re-creates the University Concurrency Trust Fund within the Department of Education to fund off-site improvements required of universities to meet concurrency standards. Provides for sources of funds, exempts trust fund from service charges, provides for annual carry forward of funds, and provides for the future legislative review and termination or re-creation of trust fund. EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/4/2004. This trust fund will terminate on 11/4/2008 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/25/03

SB 816 - Relating to University Concurrency Trust Fund by Carlton

Creates the University Concurrency Trust Fund within the Department of Education to fund off-site improvements required of universities to meet concurrency standards. Provides for sources of funds, exempts trust fund from service charges, provides for annual carry forward of funds, and provides for the future legislative review and termination or re-creation of trust fund. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. This trust fund will terminate on 7/1/2007 unless otherwise re-created. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/23/03

SB 818 - Relating to Termination of Trust Funds by Carlton

Terminates the Facility Construction Administrative Trust Fund and the University of South Florida Medical Center Trust Fund within the Department of Education and provides for disposition of balances in and revenues of the trust funds. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. APPROVED BY GOVERNOR 6/20/03

SB 2178 - Relating to Digital Divide Trust Fund by Crist

Creates the Digital Divide Trust Fund in the State Technology Office to facilitate the design and implementation of programs using information technology to educate and train members of economically disadvantaged families to become qualified to compete effectively for high-skill, high-wage employment opportunities in this state. Provides for sources of monies and purposes, provides for administration of fund, and provides for future review and termination or re-creation of trust fund. EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2003. This trust fund will terminate on 7/1/2007 unless otherwise re-created. VETOED 6/20/03



Just Read, Florida!
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1402
Tallahassee, FL 32399
850-245-0503 (office) • 850-245-9530 (fax)
JustReadFlorida@fldoe.org

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Florida Department of Education

Governmental Relations Office

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325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1524
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400
850-245-0507 (office) • 850-245-9672 (fax)
www.fldoe.org/gr

DISCLAIMER: This document represents bills passed by the Florida Legislature during the 2003 Regular Legislative Session, Special Session A, and Special Session B, and unless otherwise noted, these bills will not become law until they are signed by the Governor and issued a chapter number.