

The Florida Senate
HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Education Pre-K -12

[2024s07004.hms.ed]

BILL: CS/SB 7004

INTRODUCER: Fiscal Policy Committee; Education Pre-K -12 Committee; and Senators Simon and Osgood

SUBJECT: Deregulation of Public Schools/Assessment and Accountability, Instruction, and Education Choice

DATE: February 29, 2024

I. Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment – 944089 (body with title)

II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment – 944089 removes from the Senate bill the provisions that:

- Change the assessment requirements for high school graduation.
- Extend the timeline from 2 to 4 years for district-managed turnaround plans under school improvement.
- Specify that the value-added model (VAM) may not be used a sole determinate for bonus funding and teacher recruitment for schools that are in turnaround.
- Use the initial and mid-year progress monitoring assessment scores to meet the grade three retention requirement.
- Change the district calculation of capacity for controlled open enrollment.
- Require the Department of Education (DOE) to adopt a timeline to disburse federal school improvement funds.
- Remove the requirement for school districts to offer summer voluntary prekindergarten (VPK).
- Remove early learning coalition (ELC) oversight of district VPK programs.
- Authorize school districts to use other VPK attendance methods.
- Modify the timing in adoption cycles relating to school district instructional materials purchasing.
- Remove the uniform K-12 assessment calendar.
- Modify the timing for seeking an extraordinary exemption from assessments for exceptional student education students.

The amendment modifies provisions in the Senate bill that:

- Require the DOE to publish an initial list of state-adopted instructional materials, but makes changes to the required dates.
- Authorize a school district to meet turnaround options in law by implementing a community partnership school, but changes the timeline requirements to specify that the State Board of

Education (SBE) may provide additional time to a school in school turnaround, if the school has received a community school grant.

- Allow a student to take the GED at age 16 or 17, but requires the student to file a formal declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment.
- Authorize a school district to satisfy the requirement to offer a summer VPK program by contracting with a private VPK provider, rather than removing the requirement for a district to offer such program.
- Remove additional requirements in the Department of Juvenile Justice education accountability programs.

The amendment adds to the Senate bill provisions that:

- Delete SBE responsibility for establishing the tuition and out-of-state fees for developmental education and college-credit instruction.
- Delete the requirement for the SBE to establish performance metrics for the Florida College System (FCS).
- Require the DOE to review each ELC's school readiness program every 3 years instead of 2.
- Require each ELC to submit a school readiness program every 3 years instead of 2.
- Delete the requirement that automotive service technology education programs be accredited.
- Delete outdated language related to the authorization for St. Petersburg College to establish one or more bachelor's degrees.
- Delete outdated language related to the annual evaluation of the executive director of the FCS.
- Authorize, rather than require, school districts to offer virtual school options, and remove the requirement that approved virtual instruction providers are non-sectarian.