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| 1 | A bill to be entitled |
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| | An act relating to career-themed courses; amending s. |
| 3 | 1003.491, F.S.; revising the requirements for a |
| 4 | specified school district strategic plan to include |
| 5 | certain information; amending s. 1003.492, F.S.; |
| 6 | requiring the Department of Education to include |
| 7 | specified data in an annual review of K-12 and |
| 8 | postsecondary career and technical education |
| 9 | offerings; amending s. 1003.4935, F.S.; requiring |
| 10 | school districts to provide specified information to |
| 11 | students and parents during middle school course |
| 12 | selection; providing an effective date. |
| 13 | |
| 14 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: |
| 15 | |
| 16 | Section 1. Paragraphs (p) and (q) of subsection (3) of |
| 17 | section 1003.491, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph |
| 18 | (r) is added to subsection (3) of that section, to read: |
| 19 | 1003.491 Florida Career and Professional Education Act |
| 20 | The Florida Career and Professional Education Act is created to |
| 21 | provide a statewide planning partnership between the business |
| 22 | and education communities in order to attract, expand, and |
| 23 | retain targeted, high-value industry and to sustain a strong, |
| 24 | knowledge-based economy. |
| 25 | (3) The strategic 3-year plan developed jointly by the |
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26 local school district, local workforce development boards, 27 economic development agencies, and state-approved postsecondary 28 institutions must be constructed and based on: 29 (g) Strategies to provide professional development for secondary certified school counselors on the benefits of career 30 31 and professional academies and career-themed courses that lead 32 to industry certification; and 33 Strategies to redirect appropriated career funding in (q) 34 secondary and postsecondary institutions to support career academies and career-themed courses that lead to industry 35 36 certification; and (r) Strategies to inform and promote the career and 37 38 technical education opportunities available in the district to 39 students, parents, the community, and stakeholders. Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 1003.492, Florida 40 41 Statutes, is amended to read: 1003.492 Industry-certified career education programs.-42 43 (3) The Department of Education shall collect student 44 achievement and performance data in industry-certified career 45 education programs and career-themed courses as part of the annual review required under s. 1003.491 that includes, but need 46 47 not be limited to, graduation rates, retention rates, Florida 48 Bright Futures Scholarship awards, additional educational 49 attainment, employment records, earnings, industry certification, return on investment, and employer satisfaction. 50 Page 2 of 3

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51 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 1003.4935, Florida 52 Statutes, is amended to read:

53 1003.4935 Middle grades career and professional academy 54 courses and career-themed courses.-

55 Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, Each (1)56 district school board, in collaboration with local workforce 57 development boards, economic development agencies, and stateapproved postsecondary institutions, shall include plans to 58 59 implement a career and professional academy or a career-themed course, as defined in s. 1003.493(1)(b), in at least one middle 60 61 school in the district as part of the strategic 3-year plan pursuant to s. 1003.491(2). The strategic plan must provide 62 students the opportunity to transfer from a middle school career 63 64 and professional academy or a career-themed course to a high 65 school career and professional academy or a career-themed course 66 currently operating within the school district. Students who complete a middle school career and professional academy or a 67 68 career-themed course must have the opportunity to earn an 69 industry certificate and high school credit and participate in 70 career planning, job shadowing, and business leadership 71 development activities. The district must inform students and 72 parents during course selection for middle school of the career 73 and professional academy or career-themed course available 74 within the district. 75 This act shall take effect July 1, 2024. Section 4.

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