

27 congressional district of this state.

28 (2) CREATION.—A Community Inclusion and Life Transition
29 Advisory Council is created in each congressional district of
30 this state. For administrative purposes only, the advisory
31 councils are housed within the Department of Education, but
32 shall independently exercise the duties and responsibilities
33 specified in this section.

34 (3) MEMBERSHIP.—Each advisory council shall consist of 11
35 members appointed by the Commissioner of Education with input
36 from district school boards and the boards of county
37 commissioners. The Commissioner of Education shall designate one
38 appointee to each advisory council as the chairperson, who may
39 vote only in the event of a tie. Members of the advisory council
40 shall be appointed to 2-year terms. However, in order to achieve
41 staggered terms, initial appointments to each advisory council
42 shall consist of six members appointed to 1-year terms and five
43 members appointed to 2-year terms. A vacancy on the board shall
44 be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. A
45 vacancy that occurs before the scheduled expiration of the
46 member's term shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired
47 term. The advisory council membership should have general
48 knowledge about issues that relate to community inclusion and
49 life transition for persons with disabilities, and may include:
50 (a) An attorney specializing in disability law.
51 (b) A business owner who employs an individual with an
52 intellectual or physical disability.

- 53 (c) A vocational rehabilitation counselor.
- 54 (d) The parent or guardian of an individual with an
 55 intellectual or physical disability.
- 56 (e) A teacher with experience in providing transition
 57 services.
- 58 (f) A teacher with experience in providing instruction to
 59 exceptional students, as defined in s. 1003.01, Florida
 60 Statutes.
- 61 (g) A representative of a postsecondary educational
 62 institution that is in compliance with the Americans with
 63 Disabilities Act.
- 64 (h) A student with experience in a leadership position,
 65 with priority given to a student with an intellectual or
 66 physical disability.
- 67 (i) A representative of an agency that provides services
 68 to transitioning individuals.
- 69 (j) A student currently transitioning to adulthood.
- 70 (k) A representative of a local advisory board relating to
 71 transition services established by a county government.
- 72 (4) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—Each advisory council
 73 shall, at a minimum:
- 74 (a) Conduct educational and outreach campaigns aimed at
 75 transitioning individuals which demonstrate that working and
 76 receiving benefits under the Social Security Disability
 77 Insurance program or the Supplemental Security Income program
 78 can result in a more sustainable and independent lifestyle.

79 (b) Seek funds for transition programs, participate in
80 fundraising activities, and apply for grants.

81 (c) Promote the creation of community partnerships that
82 encourage greater community inclusion of all individuals,
83 including opportunities for volunteerism.

84 (d) Determine the needs of transitioning individuals.

85 (e) Recommend to boards of county commissioners, the
86 Governor, and the Legislature ways to improve programs or
87 services offered to assist transitioning individuals.

88 (5) REPORT.—The advisory councils shall collaboratively
89 prepare a report that contains a summary of the work of each
90 council during the preceding year and any recommendations made
91 by the councils pursuant to paragraph (4) (e). The report shall
92 be submitted to boards of county commissioners, the Governor,
93 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
94 Representatives by December 1 of each year.

95 (6) PER DIEM AND TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of an advisory
96 council may not receive compensation for his or her service, but
97 is entitled to receive reimbursement for per diem and travel
98 expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties, as
99 provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

100 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.