

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Competency-Based Education
 3 Pilot Program; creating s. 1003.4996, F.S.; creating
 4 the Competency-Based Education Pilot Program;
 5 providing for participation in the program and
 6 application requirements; exempting participating
 7 school districts from specified rules; providing for
 8 funding of students enrolled in participating schools;
 9 providing duties of the Department of Education;
 10 providing for rulemaking; providing an effective date.

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 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 14 Section 1. Section 1003.4996, Florida Statutes, is created
 15 to read:

16 1003.4996 Competency-Based Education Pilot Program.—
 17 Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, the Competency-Based
 18 Education Pilot Program is created within the Department of
 19 Education to be administered for a period of 5 years. The
 20 purpose of the pilot program is to provide an educational
 21 environment that allows students to advance to higher levels of
 22 learning upon the mastery of concepts and skills through
 23 statutory exemptions relating to student progression and the
 24 awarding of credits.

25 (1) PARTICIPATION.—The P. K. Yonge Developmental Research
 26 School and the Lake, Palm Beach, and Pinellas County School

27 Districts may submit an application in a format prescribed by
 28 the department to participate in the pilot program.

29 (2) APPLICATION.—The application to participate in the
 30 pilot program must, at a minimum, include:

31 (a) The vision and timelines for the implementation of
 32 competency-based education within the school district, including
 33 a list of the schools that will participate in the pilot program
 34 during the first school year and the list of schools that will
 35 be integrated into the program in subsequent school years.

36 (b) The annual goals and performance outcomes for
 37 participating schools, including, but not limited to:

- 38 1. Student performance as defined in s. 1008.34.
- 39 2. Promotion and retention rates.
- 40 3. Graduation rates.
- 41 4. Indicators of college and career readiness.

42 (c) A communication plan for parents and other
 43 stakeholders, including local businesses and community members.

44 (d) The scope of and timelines for professional
 45 development for school instructional and administrative
 46 personnel.

47 (e) A plan for student progression based on the mastery of
 48 content, including mechanisms that determine and ensure that a
 49 student has satisfied the requirements for grade-level promotion
 50 and content mastery.

51 (f) A plan for using technology and digital and blended
 52 learning to enhance student achievement and facilitate the

53 competency-based education system.

54 (g) The proposed allocation of resources for the pilot
 55 program at the school and district levels.

56 (h) The recruitment and selection of participating
 57 schools.

58 (i) The rules to be waived for participating schools
 59 pursuant to subsection (3) to implement the pilot program.

60 (3) EXEMPTION FROM RULES.—In addition to the waivers
 61 authorized in s. 1001.10(3), the State Board of Education may
 62 authorize the commissioner to grant an additional waiver of
 63 rules relating to student progression and the awarding of
 64 credits.

65 (4) STUDENT FUNDING.—Students enrolled in a participating
 66 school shall be reported for and generate funding pursuant to s.
 67 1011.62.

68 (5) DEPARTMENT DUTIES.—The department shall:

69 (a) Compile the student and staff schedules of
 70 participating schools before and after implementation of the
 71 pilot program.

72 (b) Provide participating schools with access to
 73 statewide, standardized assessments required under s. 1008.22.

74 (c) Annually, by June 1, provide to the Governor, the
 75 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
 76 Representatives a report summarizing the activities and
 77 accomplishments of the pilot program and any recommendations for
 78 statutory revisions.

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79 (6) RULES.—The State Board of Education shall adopt rules
80 to administer this section.

81 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.