

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           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 inform students and parents of  
 11          specified information during middle school course  
 12          selection; providing an effective date.

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

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 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

26 | local school district, local workforce development boards,  
 27 | economic development agencies, and state-approved postsecondary  
 28 | institutions shall be constructed and based on:

29 |       (p) Strategies to provide professional development for  
 30 | secondary certified school counselors on the benefits of career  
 31 | and professional academies and career-themed courses that lead  
 32 | to industry certification; ~~and~~

33 |       (q) Strategies to redirect appropriated career funding in  
 34 | secondary and postsecondary institutions to support career  
 35 | academies and career-themed courses that lead to industry  
 36 | certification; and

37 |       (r) Strategies to inform and promote the career and  
 38 | technical education opportunities available in the district to  
 39 | students, parents, the community, and stakeholders.

40 |       Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 1003.492, Florida  
 41 | Statutes, is amended to read:

42 |       1003.492 Industry-certified career education programs.—

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  
 46 | annual review required under s. 1003.491 ~~that includes, but need~~  
 47 | ~~not be limited to, graduation rates, retention rates, Florida~~  
 48 | ~~Bright Futures Scholarship awards, additional educational~~  
 49 | ~~attainment, employment records, earnings, industry~~  
 50 | ~~certification, return on investment, and employer satisfaction.~~

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 (1) ~~Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year,~~ Each  
 56 district school board, in collaboration with local workforce  
 57 development boards, economic development agencies, and state-  
 58 approved postsecondary institutions, shall include plans to  
 59 implement a career and professional academy or a career-themed  
 60 course, as defined in s. 1003.493(1)(b), in at least one middle  
 61 school in the district as part of the strategic 3-year plan  
 62 pursuant to s. 1003.491(2). The strategic plan must provide  
 63 students the opportunity to transfer from a middle school career  
 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  
 67 complete a middle school career and professional academy or a  
 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 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.