



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Education Legislative Priorities

State Board of Education Meeting

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College Affordability

Senate Bill 938 Sponsored by Senator Flores

Textbook Sales Tax Exemption

- Exempts required textbooks, for courses offered by public and certain nonpublic postsecondary institutions, from sales tax

College Affordability

- Allows workforce education programs, universities and state colleges to charge any amount below the standard tuition rates
- Requires governing boards for state universities and state colleges to research options to reduce the cost of higher education

College Transparency

- Requires state colleges and universities to publicly notice any potential tuition or fee increases 30 days prior to the board of trustees meeting

College Affordability

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Hold the line on Graduate Tuition

- Prohibit state universities from increasing tuition for graduate and professional programs

Textbook Affordability

- Requires the cost of recommended and required textbooks and instructional materials in the course registration system 14 days prior to student registration
- Requires the use of textbooks for a minimum of three years
- Requires consultation with school districts on dual enrollment textbooks
- Requires a regular cost benefit analysis in comparing textbook and instructional materials options to ensure lowest price available
- Requires annual report from Board of Governors and State Board on textbook initiatives

Assessment

Commissioner's Assessment Investigation Recommendations:

- Elimination of Grade 11 ELA assessment
- Elimination of the PERT requirement for 11th grade and make it optional
- Eliminate progress monitoring requirements
- Eliminate local final exams where there is also a statewide standardized end-of-course exam

Personal Learning Scholarship Account (PLSA) Senate Bill 602 Sponsored by Senator Gaetz

- Expands the definition of autism to be eligible for the PLSA program to be consistent with the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, fifth edition
- Governor Scott's recommended budget provided for an additional \$5 million for a total of \$23.4 million to provide this opportunity for additional students

Charter Schools

- Allow for immediate termination of double “F” charters unless a waiver is granted
- Defines financial emergency for charters that receive capital outlay funding
- Requires the consideration of past performance by an applicant or applicant group
- Clarifies that districts must provide monthly funding based on 1/12 projected state and local funding
- Allows charter schools to receive a proportionate share of the reading allocation with an approved reading plan
- Governor Scott’s Budget Recommendations provided for \$100 million for charter school FCO

Educator Professional Practices

SB 888 Sponsored by Sen. Detert/ House Bill 587 Sponsored by Rep. Spano

- Authority for Letter of Caution
- Access to DCF child protective investigations
- Reorganize Education Practices Commission (EPC) membership
- Allow for emeritus members to continue to serve

Career Education and Job Training

Senate Bill 948 sponsored by Senator Gaetz

- Technical revisions to align apprenticeship program with federal definitions
- Provides rulemaking authority to define quality components of a career and technical education program
- Clarifies additional FTE funding for career and professional academies (CAPE) as well as career themed courses
- Governor Scott's budget recommendation provided for \$20 million new funds for the Technical Center Rapid Response Grants for programs linked to workforce demands

Repealer/Clean up/Technical Legislation

- Removes duplicative and outdated statutes and statutory references
- Provides clarifying language including:
 - Defines double session schools
 - Revises current transportation funding methodology
 - Clarifies funding for DJJ students
 - Clarifies employment and loan status for the Nursing Loan Forgiveness Program
 - Removes VR as a resource for interpreter services for deaf persons

Additional Educational Topics

- Teacher Evaluation
- Accountability
- Performance Funding for Florida College System
- Class size



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