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A bill to be entitled An act relating to student discipline; creating s. 1006.01, F.S.; providing definitions; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; revising the duties of the district school boards relating to student discipline and school safety; requiring school districts to adopt standards for intervention, rather than a code of student conduct, which standards include certain requirements; amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; revising the qualifications of a school resource officer and school safety officer; authorizing a school resource officer and school safety officer to arrest a student only for certain violations of law; authorizing a school resource officer and a school safety officer to make an arrest only after certain circumstances occur; requiring the school resource officer and school safety officer to immediately notify the principal or the principal's designee if the officer arrests a student in a school-related incident; prohibiting a student from being arrested or referred to the criminal justice system or juvenile justice system for petty acts of misconduct; providing an exception; requiring written documentation of certain determinations; requiring a law enforcement agency that serves a school district to enter into cooperative agreements with the district school board,

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ensure the training of school resource officers and safety officers as specified, and develop quidelines for the selection of such officers; amending s. 1006.13, F.S.; requiring each district school board to adopt a policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system, rather than a policy of zero-tolerance for crime and victimization; revising and providing requirements for a policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system; providing that a school's authority and discretion to use other disciplinary consequences and interventions is not limited by the act; conforming terminology; requiring each district school board, in collaboration with students, educators, parents, and stakeholders, to enter into cooperative agreements with a county sheriff's office and a local police department for specified purposes; revising the requirements for these agreements; requiring each school district to annually review the cost, effectiveness, and necessity of its school safety programs and submit findings to the Department of Education; requiring a school district to arrange and pay for transportation for a student in certain circumstances; requiring, rather than encouraging, a school district to use alternatives to expulsion or referral to a law enforcement agency unless the use of

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such alternatives poses a threat to school safety; requiring each school district to submit to the Department of Education its policies and agreements; requiring the department to develop by a specified date a model policy for referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system; requiring the Commissioner of Education to report by a specified date each year to the Governor and the Legislature on the implementation of policies on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system; amending ss. 1002.20, 1002.23, 1003.32, 1006.09, 1006.147, and 1006.15, F.S.; conforming cross-references and provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: Section 1. Section 1006.01, Florida Statutes, is created to read: 1006.01 Definitions.—As used in part I of this chapter, the term: "Exclusionary consequence" means a consequence of a

- (1) "Exclusionary consequence" means a consequence of a student's serious breach of the standards for intervention which results in the student's being barred from attending school.
- (2) "Exclusionary discipline" means a disciplinary, punitive practice that removes a student from instruction time

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in the student's regular classrooms, including in-school suspension during class time, out-of-school suspension, transfer to an alternative school, and expulsion. Absences due to exclusionary discipline are considered excused absences.

- (3) "Restorative circle" means a space, guided by at least one individual who ensures that each participant has an equal opportunity to speak, in which participants take turns speaking about a topic and using a talking piece, a physical object that is used to assist communication between participants.
- (4) "Restorative group conferencing" means an intervention in which a facilitator leads the individuals who were involved in an incident, whether they were harmed or caused the harm, as well as their families or other supporters, in a face-to-face process. This process aims to address the harm, resolve any conflict, and prevent recurrence of the harm based on the ideas of restorative justice practices and mutual accountability.
- (5) "Restorative justice" means an intervening approach to justice which addresses root causes of harm caused or revealed by unjust behavior by emphasizing repair of the harm and giving equal attention to accountability, growth, community safety, the harmed student's needs, and the offender's needs.
- Section 2. Section 1006.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the

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attendance and control of students at school, for the creation of a safe and effective learning environment, regardless of the student's race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity, and for the proper attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the welfare of students, including the use of:

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- (1) <u>INTERVENTIONS FOR AND DISCIPLINE</u> CONTROL OF STUDENTS.— Each school district shall:
- Adopt rules for the control, discipline, in-school suspension, suspension, and expulsion of students and decide all cases recommended for expulsion. Suspension hearings are exempt exempted from the provisions of chapter 120. Expulsion hearings are shall be governed by ss. 120.569 and 120.57(2) and are exempt from s. 286.011. However, the student's parent must be given notice of the provisions of s. 286.011 and may elect to have the hearing held in compliance with that section. The district school board may prohibit the use of corporal punishment, if the district school board adopts or has adopted a written program of alternative control or discipline. In order to fulfill the paramount duty of this state to make adequate provisions for the education of all children residing within its borders in accordance with s. 1, Art. IX of the State Constitution, the district school board shall make every effort to reduce exclusionary discipline for minor behavior.
- (b) Require each student at the time of initial registration for school in the school district to note previous

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school expulsions, arrests resulting in a charge, and juvenile justice actions the student has had, and have the authority as the district school board of a receiving school district to honor the final order of expulsion or dismissal of a student by any in-state or out-of-state public district school board or private school, or lab school, for an act that which would have been grounds for expulsion according to the receiving district school board's standards for intervention code of student conduct, in accordance with the following procedures:

- 1. A final order of expulsion shall be recorded in the records of the receiving school district.
- 2. The expelled student applying for admission to the receiving school district shall be advised of the final order of expulsion.
- 3. The district school superintendent of the receiving school district may recommend to the district school board that the final order of expulsion be waived and the student be admitted to the school district, or that the final order of expulsion be honored and the student not be admitted to the school district. If the student is admitted by the district school board, with or without the recommendation of the district school superintendent, the student may be placed in an appropriate educational program at the direction of the district school board.
- (2) <u>STANDARDS FOR INTERVENTION</u> <del>CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT.</del>

  <u>Each school district shall</u> adopt <u>clear standards for</u>

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intervention, formerly known as a code of student conduct, which
create a safe, supportive, and positive school climate and which
address misbehavior with interventions and consequences aimed at
understanding and addressing the causes of misbehavior,
resolving conflicts, meeting students' needs, and keeping
students in school and teaching them to respond in age-
appropriate ways a code of student conduct for elementary
schools and a code of student conduct for middle and high
schools and distribute the appropriate code to all teachers,
school personnel, students, and parents, at the beginning of
every school year. The process for adopting standards for
intervention must include meaningful involvement with parents,
students, teachers, and the community. The standards for
intervention must be organized and written in language that is
understandable to students and parents and translated into all
languages represented by the students and their parents;
discussed at the beginning of every school year in student
classes, school advisory council meetings, and parent and
teacher association or organization meetings; made available at
the beginning of every school year in the student handbook or
similar publication distributed to all teachers, school
personnel, students, and parents; and posted online. The
standards for intervention must Each code shall be organized and
written in language that is understandable to students and
parents and shall be discussed at the beginning of every school
year in student classes, school advisory council meetings, and

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parent and teacher association or organization meetings. Each code shall be based on the rules governing student conduct and discipline adopted by the district school board and shall be made available in the student handbook or similar publication. Each code shall include, but need is not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Consistent policies and specific grounds for disciplinary action, including in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, interventions, supports, and any disciplinary action that may be imposed for the possession or use of alcohol on school property or while attending a school function or for the illegal use, sale, or possession of controlled substances as defined in chapter 893.
- (b) Procedures to be followed for acts requiring discipline, including corporal punishment.
- (c) A discipline chart or matrix that indicates that a student is not subject to exclusionary discipline for unexcused tardiness, lateness, absence, or truancy; for violation of the school dress code or rules regarding school uniforms; or for behavior infractions that do not endanger the physical safety of other students or staff members, including, but not limited to, insubordination, defiance, disobedience, disrespect, or minor classroom disruptions. The discipline chart or matrix must also:
- 1. Provide guidance on appropriate interventions and consequences to be applied to behaviors or behavior categories as provided in subparagraph 2. The school district may define

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specific interventions and provide a list of interventions that must be used and documented before exclusionary discipline is considered unless a behavior poses a serious threat to school safety. The interventions may include, but are not limited to:

- <u>a. Having a private conversation with the student about</u>
  <u>his or her behavior and underlying issues that may have</u>
  precipitated the behavior.
- b. Providing an opportunity for the student's anger, fear, or anxiety to subside.
- c. Providing restorative justice practices using a schoolwide approach of informal and formal techniques to build a sense of school community and to manage conflict by repairing harm and restoring positive relationships.
- d. Providing reflective activities, such as requiring the student to write an essay about his or her behavior.
- e. Participating in skill building and conflict resolution activities, such as social-emotional cognitive skill building, restorative circles, and restorative group conferencing.
  - f. Revoking student privileges.

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- g. Referring a student to a school counselor or social worker.
  - h. Speaking to a student's parent.
- 231 <u>i. Referring a student to intervention outside the school</u>
  232 setting.
- j. Ordering in-school detention or in-school suspension during lunch, after school, or on the weekends.

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2. Outline specific behaviors or behavior categories. Each
behavior or behavior category must include clear maximum
consequences to prevent inappropriate exclusionary consequences
for minor misbehavior and set clear requirements that must be
satisfied before imposing exclusionary discipline. The chart or
matrix must show that exclusionary discipline is a last resort
to be used only in cases of serious misconduct when in-school
interventions and consequences that do not lead to exclusionary
consequences are insufficient. The following behaviors, which
must be accompanied by appropriate intervention services, such
as substance abuse counseling, anger management counseling, or
restorative justice practices, may result in exclusionary
discipline and in notification of a law enforcement agency if
the behavior is a felony or a serious threat to school safety:
a. Illegal sale of a controlled substance, as defined in

- a. Illegal sale of a controlled substance, as defined in chapter 893, by a student on school property or in attendance at a school function.
- <u>b. Violation of the district school board's sexual</u>
  harassment policy.
- c. Possession, display, transmission, use, or sale of a firearm or weapon, as defined in s. 790.001 or 18 U.S.C. s. 921, or an object that is used as, or is intended to function as, a weapon, while on school property or in attendance at a school function.
- d. Making a threat or false report, as provided in ss. 790.162 and 790.163, respectively.

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e. Homicide.

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- f. Sexual battery.
- g. Armed robbery.
- h. Aggravated battery.
- <u>i.</u> Battery or aggravated battery on a teacher, other school personnel, or district school board personnel.
  - j. Kidnapping.
  - k. Arson.
  - (d) A glossary of clearly defined terms and behaviors.
- (e) An explanation of the responsibilities, dignity, and rights of and respect for students, including, but not limited to, a student's right not to be discriminated against based on race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity; a student's right to participate in student publications, school programs, and school activities; and a student's right to exercise free speech, to assemble, and to maintain privacy.
- (f) An explanation of the school's dress code or rules regarding school uniforms and notice that students have the right to dress in accordance with their stated gender within the constraints of the school's dress code.
- (g) Notice that violation of transportation policies of a district school board by a student, including disruptive behavior on a school bus or at a school bus stop, is grounds for disciplinary action by the school.
  - (h) Notice that a student who is determined to have

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brought a weapon or firearm, as defined in s. 790.001 or 18
U.S.C. s. 921, to school, to a school function, or onto schoolsponsored transportation, or to have possessed a weapon or
firearm at school, will be expelled from the student's regular
school for at least 1 full year and referred to the criminal
justice system or juvenile justice system; and notice that a
district school superintendent may consider the requirement of
1-year expulsion on a case-by-case basis and may request the
district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the
student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if:

- 1. The request for modification is in writing; and
- 2. The modification is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school district.
- (i) Notice that a student who is determined to have made a threat or false report, as provided in ss. 790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving the school's or school personnel's property, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity may be expelled, with continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for at least 1 full year and referred to the criminal justice system or juvenile justice system; and notice that a district school superintendent may consider the requirement of 1-year expulsion on a case-by-case basis and may request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if:
  - 1. The request for modification is in writing; and

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2. The modification is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school district.

- (j) A clear and complete explanation of due process rights afforded to a student, including a student with a disability, and the types of exclusionary discipline to which a student may be subjected.
- (c) An explanation of the responsibilities and rights of students with regard to attendance, respect for persons and property, knowledge and observation of rules of conduct, the right to learn, free speech and student publications, assembly, privacy, and participation in school programs and activities.
- (d) 1. An explanation of the responsibilities of each student with regard to appropriate dress, respect for self and others, and the role that appropriate dress and respect for self and others has on an orderly learning environment. Each district school board shall adopt a dress code policy that prohibits a student, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, from wearing clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner or that disrupts the orderly learning environment.
- 2. Any student who violates the dress policy described in subparagraph 1. is subject to the following disciplinary actions:
- a. For a first offense, a student shall be given a verbal warning and the school principal shall call the student's parent or guardian.

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b. For a second offense, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period of time not to exceed 5 days and the school principal shall meet with the student's parent or guardian.

c. For a third or subsequent offense, a student shall receive an in-school suspension pursuant to s. 1003.01(5) for a period not to exceed 3 days, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 30 days, and the school principal shall call the student's parent or guardian and send the parent or guardian a written letter regarding the student's in-school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

(e) Notice that illegal use, possession, or sale of controlled substances, as defined in chapter 893, by any student while the student is upon school property or in attendance at a school function is grounds for disciplinary action by the school and may also result in criminal penalties being imposed.

(f) Notice that use of a wireless communications device includes the possibility of the imposition of disciplinary action by the school or criminal penalties if the device is used in a criminal act. A student may possess a wireless communications device while the student is on school property or in attendance at a school function. Each district school board shall adopt rules governing the use of a wireless communications device by a student while the student is on school property or in attendance at a school function.

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(g) Notice that the possession of a firearm or weapon as defined in chapter 790 by any student while the student is on school property or in attendance at a school function is grounds for disciplinary action and may also result in criminal prosecution.

- (h) Notice that violence against any district school board personnel by a student is grounds for in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or imposition of other disciplinary action by the school and may also result in criminal penalties being imposed.
- (i) Notice that violation of district school board transportation policies, including disruptive behavior on a school bus or at a school bus stop, by a student is grounds for suspension of the student's privilege of riding on a school bus and may be grounds for disciplinary action by the school and may also result in criminal penalties being imposed.
- (j) Notice that violation of the district school board's sexual harassment policy by a student is grounds for in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or imposition of other disciplinary action by the school and may also result in criminal penalties being imposed.
- (k) Policies to be followed for the assignment of violent or disruptive students to an alternative educational program.
- (1) Notice that any student who is determined to have brought a firearm or weapon, as defined in chapter 790, to school, to any school function, or onto any school-sponsored

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transportation, or to have possessed a firearm at school, will be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than 1 full year and referred to the criminal justice or juvenile justice system. District school boards may assign the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school for the purpose of continuing educational services during the period of expulsion. District school superintendents may consider the 1year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis and request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if the request for modification is in writing and it is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school system. (m) Notice that any student who is determined to have made a threat or false report, as defined by ss. 790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving school or school personnel's property, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity will be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than 1 full year and referred for criminal prosecution. District school boards may assign the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school for the purpose of continuing educational services during the period of expulsion. District school superintendents may consider the 1-year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis and request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a

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disciplinary program or second chance school if it is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school system.

- WATCH PROGRAM.—Each school district shall ensure meaningful involvement with parents, students, teachers, and the community in creating and applying policies regarding student discipline and school safety By resolution of the district school board, implement a student crime watch program to promote responsibility among students and to assist in the control of criminal behavior within the schools.
- (4) EMERGENCY DRILLS <u>AND</u>; <u>EMERGENCY</u> PROCEDURES.—<u>Each</u> school district shall:
- (a) Formulate and prescribe policies and procedures for emergency drills and for actual emergencies, including, but not limited to, fires, natural disasters, and bomb threats, for all the public schools of the district which comprise grades K-12. District school board policies <u>must shall</u> include commonly used alarm system responses for specific types of emergencies and verification by each school that drills have been provided as required by law and fire protection codes. The emergency response agency that is responsible for notifying the school district for each type of emergency must be listed in the district's emergency response policy.
- (b) Establish model emergency management and emergency preparedness procedures, including emergency notification procedures pursuant to paragraph (a), for the following life-

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443 threatening emergencies:

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- 1. Weapon-use and hostage situations.
- 2. Hazardous materials or toxic chemical spills.
- 3. Weather emergencies, including hurricanes, tornadoes, and severe storms.
  - 4. Exposure as a result of a manmade emergency.
- EDUCATIONAL SERVICES IN DETENTION FACILITIES. Each (5) school district shall offer educational services to minors who have not graduated from high school and eligible students with disabilities under the age of 22 who have not graduated with a standard diploma or its equivalent who are detained in a county or municipal detention facility as defined in s. 951.23. These educational services must shall be based upon the estimated length of time the student will be in the facility and the student's current level of functioning. A county sheriff or chief correctional officer, or his or her designee, shall notify a district school superintendent, superintendents or his or her designee their designees shall be notified by the county sheriff or chief correctional officer, or his or her designee, when upon the assignment of a student under the age of 21 is assigned to the facility. A cooperative agreement with the district school board and applicable law enforcement units shall develop a cooperative agreement be developed to address the notification requirement and the provision of educational services to such these students.
  - (6) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—<u>Each school</u>

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district shall use the Safety and Security Best Practices developed by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct a self-assessment of the school districts' current safety and security practices. Based on these self-assessment findings, the district school superintendent shall provide recommendations to the district school board which identify strategies and activities that the district school board should implement in order to improve school safety and security. Annually Each district school board must annually receive the self-assessment results at a publicly noticed district school board meeting to provide the public an opportunity to hear the district school board members discuss and take action on the report findings. Each district school superintendent shall report the self-assessment results and school board action to the commissioner within 30 days after the district school board meeting.

(7) RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICES.—Each school district shall provide funding for, train school staff members on, and support the implementation of school-based restorative justice practices. These practices shall be used to build a sense of school community and to resolve conflict by reporting harm and restoring positive relationships. There are many different ways to use these practices in schools and the juvenile justice system where students and educators work together to set academic goals, develop core values for the classroom community, and resolve conflicts. Many types of restorative justice

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practices, such as restorative circles, may be used to promote a positive learning environment and to deal with issues as they arise. Some main restorative circles that schools use for discipline may include, but need not be limited to:

(a) Discipline circles that address the harm that occurred, repair the harm, and develop solutions to prevent recurrence of the harm among the relevant parties.

- (b) Proactive behavior management circles that use role play to develop positive behavioral models for students.
- (8) SUPPORT STAFF.—Each school district shall provide funding to hire staff members to improve school climate and safety, such as social workers, counselors, and restorative justice coordinators, at the nationally recommended ratio of 250 students to 1 counselor in order to reduce dependency on school safety officers, school resource officers, and other school resources.
- (9) SURVEYS.—Each school district shall annually survey parents, students, and teachers regarding school safety and disciplinary issues.
- Section 3. Section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1006.12 School resource officers and school safety officers.—
- (1)  $\underline{A}$  district school  $\underline{board}$   $\underline{boards}$  may establish  $\underline{a}$  school resource officer  $\underline{program}$   $\underline{programs}$ , through a cooperative agreement with a law enforcement agency  $\underline{agencies}$  or in

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accordance with subsection (2).

- (a) Each school resource officer must officers shall be a certified law enforcement officer officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1), and who are employed for at least 2 years by a law enforcement agency as defined in s. 943.10(4). The powers and duties of a law enforcement officer shall continue throughout the employee's tenure as a school resource officer.
- district school board policies and shall consult with and coordinate activities through the school principal, but is shall be responsible to the law enforcement agency in all matters relating to employment, subject to agreements between a district school board and the a law enforcement agency. A school resource officer's activities that conducted by the school resource officer which are part of the regular instructional program of the school are shall be under the direction of the school principal.
- (c) A school resource officer may arrest a student only for a violation of law which constitutes a serious threat to school safety and only after consultation with the school principal or the principal's designee, documented attempts at intervention or in-school consequences, and pursuant to the standards for intervention and the cooperative agreement as described in ss. 1006.07 and 1006.13, respectively. If a school resource officer arrests a student in a school-related incident, the officer shall immediately notify the principal or the

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principal's designee. A school resource officer may not arrest or otherwise refer a student to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system for a petty act of misconduct unless it is determined that the failure to do so would endanger the physical safety of other students or staff within the school. Such determination must be documented in a written report that includes a description of the behavior at issue and an explanation of why an arrest or referral was necessary.

- (2) (a) Each school safety officer must officers shall be a law enforcement officer officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1), certified under the provisions of chapter 943 and employed for at least 2 years by either a law enforcement agency or by the district school board. If the officer is employed by the district school board, the district school board is the employing agency for purposes of chapter 943, and must comply with the provisions of that chapter.
- (b) A district school board may commission one or more school safety officers for the protection and safety of school personnel, property, and students within the school district. The district school superintendent may recommend and the district school board may appoint one or more school safety officers.
- (c) A school safety officer <u>may</u> has and shall exercise the power to make arrests for violations of law on district school board property and to arrest persons, whether on or off such property, who violate any law on such property under the same

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conditions that deputy sheriffs are authorized to make arrests. A school safety officer may arrest a student only for a violation of law that constitutes a serious threat to school safety and only after consultation with the school principal or the principal's designee, documented attempts at intervention or in-school consequences, and pursuant to the standards for intervention and the cooperative agreement as described in ss. 1006.07 and 1006.13, respectively. If a school safety officer arrests a student in a school-related incident, the officer shall immediately notify the principal or the principal's designee. A school safety officer may not arrest or otherwise refer a student to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system for a petty act of misconduct unless it is determined that the failure to do so would endanger the physical safety of other students or staff within the school. Such determination must be documented in a written report that includes a description of the behavior at issue and an explanation of why an arrest or referral was necessary A school safety officer has the authority to carry weapons when performing his or her official duties.

- (d) A district school board may enter into mutual aid agreements with one or more law enforcement agencies as provided in chapter 23. A school safety officer's salary may be paid jointly by the district school board and the law enforcement agency, as mutually agreed to.
  - (3) Each law enforcement agency serving a school district

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shall do all of the following:

- (a) Enter into a cooperative agreement with the district school board pursuant to s. 1006.13.
- (b) Ensure that each school resource officer and school safety officer is trained in appropriate and positive interactions with students in different stages of mental, emotional, and physical development and on the range of interventions and school-based consequences that should be used to avoid an arrest. Training must include, but need not be limited to, topics regarding child and adolescent development and psychology; instruction on teaching students how to respond in age-appropriate ways; cultural competence; implicit bias; restorative justice practices; rights of students with disabilities and appropriate responses to their behaviors; practices that improve school climate; and the creation of safe environments for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students.
- (c) Develop clear guidelines for selecting qualified school safety officers and school resource officers who have a passion for and are suited to interacting positively with students and who do not have a history of excessive force or racial bias.
- Section 4. Section 1006.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1006.13 Policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system of zero tolerance for crime and

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## victimization.-

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- It is the intent of the Legislature to promote a safe and supportive learning environment in schools, to protect students and staff from conduct that poses a serious threat to school safety, and to encourage schools to use alternatives to expulsion or referral to law enforcement agencies by addressing disruptive behavior through restitution, civil citation, teen court, neighborhood restorative justice, or similar programs. The Legislature finds that referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system zero-tolerance policies are not intended to be rigorously applied to petty acts of misconduct and misdemeanors, including, but not limited to, minor fights or disturbances. The Legislature finds that zerotolerance policies on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system must apply equally to all students regardless of their economic status, race, or disability.
- (2) Each district school board shall adopt a policy <u>on</u>

  <u>referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice</u>

  system which <del>of zero tolerance that:</del>
- (a) Defines criteria for reporting to a law enforcement agency any act that occurs whenever or wherever students are within the jurisdiction of the district school board and that poses a serious threat to school safety. An act that does not pose a serious threat to school safety must be handled within the school's discipline system.

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(b) Defines acts that pose a serious threat to school
safety, including, but not limited to, homicide; sexual battery;
armed robbery; aggravated battery; battery or aggravated battery
on a teacher or other school personnel; kidnapping; arson;
possession, display, transmission, use, or sale of a firearm or
weapon as defined in s. 790.001 or 18 U.S.C. s. 921, or an
object that is used as, or is intended to function as, a weapon,
while the student is on school property, in attendance at a
school function, in a school vehicle, or at a school bus stop;
making a threat or intimidation using any pointed or sharp
object or the use of any substance or object as a weapon with
the threat or intent to inflict bodily harm; and making a threat
or deliberate false report of an explosive or destructive
device.

- (c) Defines petty acts of misconduct, including, but not limited to, behavior that could amount to the misdemeanor criminal charges of disorderly conduct, disturbing a school function, trespassing, loitering, simple assault or battery, affray, theft of less than \$300, vandalism of less than \$1,000, criminal mischief, and other behavior that does not pose a serious threat to school safety.
- (d) Specifies that students not be arrested or otherwise referred to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system for petty acts of misconduct unless it is determined that the failure to do so would endanger the physical safety of other students or staff within the school. Such determination must be

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documented in a written report that includes a description of the behavior at issue and an explanation of why an arrest or referral was necessary.

- (e) (d) Minimizes the victimization of students, staff, or volunteers, including taking all steps necessary to protect the victim of any violent crime from any further victimization.
- $\underline{\text{(f)}}$  Establishes a procedure that provides each student with the opportunity for a review of the disciplinary action imposed pursuant to s. 1006.07.
- (g) Establishes data-sharing protocols so that each school district receives, at least twice a year, a report on the number of school-based arrests of students. All data must be disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, school, offense, and the name of the law enforcement officer involved and match the school district's records on grade, disability, and status as a limited-English-proficient student.
- (h) Clearly limits the role of law enforcement intervention to serious threats to school safety and delineates clear roles in which school principals and their designees, under the constraints of the standards for intervention as described in s. 1006.07 and other district policies, are the final decision makers on disciplinary consequences, including referrals to law enforcement agencies.
- (3) This section does not a limit a school's authority and discretion under law to use other disciplinary consequences and interventions as appropriate to address school-based incidents.

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<u>(4) (3)</u> The policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system Zero-tolerance policies must require a student who is students found to have committed one of the following offenses to be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than 1 full year, and to be referred to the criminal justice system or juvenile justice system:—

- (a) Bringing a firearm or weapon, as defined in <u>s. 790.001</u> or 18 U.S.C. s. 921 chapter 790, to school, to any school function, or onto any school-sponsored transportation or possessing a firearm at school.
- (b) Making a threat or false report, as <u>provided in</u> defined by ss. 790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving school or school personnel's property, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity.

 $\underline{\underline{A}}$  district school  $\underline{\underline{boards}}$  may assign the student to a disciplinary program for the purpose of continuing educational services during the period of expulsion.  $\underline{\underline{A}}$  district school  $\underline{\underline{superintendents}}$  may consider the 1-year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis and request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if the request for modification is in writing and it is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school system. If a student

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committing any of the offenses in this subsection is a student who has a disability, the district school board shall comply with applicable State Board of Education rules.

- <u>(5) (4) (a)</u> Each district school board, in collaboration with students, educators, parents, and stakeholders, shall enter into <u>cooperative</u> agreements with the county sheriff's office and local police department specifying guidelines for ensuring that acts that pose a serious threat to school safety, whether committed by a student or adult, are reported to a law enforcement agency. Such agreements must:
- <u>(a) (b)</u> The agreements must Include the role of <u>school</u> safety officers and school resource officers, if applicable, in handling reported incidents that pose a serious threat to school <u>safety and</u>, circumstances in which school officials may handle incidents without filing a report with a law enforcement agency, and a procedure for ensuring that school personnel properly report appropriate delinquent acts and crimes.
- (b) (c) Clarify that Zero-tolerance policies do not require the reporting of petty acts of misconduct and misdemeanors may not be reported to a law enforcement agency, including, but not limited to, disorderly conduct, disturbing disrupting a school function, loitering, simple assault or battery, affray, theft of less than \$300, trespassing, and vandalism of less than \$1,000, criminal mischief, and other misdemeanors that do not pose a serious threat to school safety.
  - $\underline{\text{(c)}}\underline{\text{(d)}}$  Clarify the role of the school principal  $\underline{\text{in}}$

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ensuring shall ensure that all school personnel are properly informed of as to their responsibilities regarding crime reporting, that appropriate delinquent acts and crimes are properly reported, and that actions taken in cases with special circumstances are properly taken and documented.

- (d) Provide for every school resource officer and school safety officer on school grounds to be trained on appropriate and positive interactions with students in different stages of development and the range of interventions and school-based consequences that should be used to avoid an arrest. Training must include, but need not be limited to, topics such as child and adolescent development and psychology; instruction on teaching students how to respond in age-appropriate ways; cultural competence; implicit bias; restorative justice practices; rights of students with disabilities and appropriate responses to their behaviors; practices that improve school climate; and the creation of safe environments for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students.
- (e) Include clear guidelines for selecting school resource officers and school safety officers, who must meet the following minimum qualifications:
- 1. Be proficient in verbal, written, and interpersonal skills that include public speaking;
- 2. Possess knowledge and experience in matters involving cultural diversity and sensitivity;
  - 3. Be trained in best practices for working with students

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781 as specified in paragraph (d);

- 4. Be committed to serve as a positive role model for students;
- 5. Has a passion for and desire to interact positively with, students; and
  - 6. Lacks a history of excessive force or racial bias.
- (f) Require a school district to annually review the cost and effectiveness of its school safety programs, including the use of school safety officers, school resource officers, and other security measures, to report its findings to the Department of Education by August 1 of each school year, and to use these findings to reevaluate and improve school safety programs.
- (6) (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each district school board shall adopt rules providing that a any student found to have committed an any offense in s. 784.081(1), (2), or (3) shall be expelled or placed in an alternative school setting or other program, as appropriate. Upon being charged with the offense, and pending disposition, the student shall be removed from the classroom immediately and placed in an alternative school setting pending disposition.
- (7)(6)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law prohibiting the disclosure of the identity of a minor, if a whenever any student who is attending a public school is adjudicated guilty of or delinquent for, or is found to have committed, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, or pleads guilty or nolo

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- 1. Chapter 782, relating to homicide;
- 2. Chapter 784, relating to assault, battery, and culpable negligence;
- 3. Chapter 787, relating to kidnapping, false imprisonment, luring or enticing a child, and custody offenses;
  - 4. Chapter 794, relating to sexual battery;
- 5. Chapter 800, relating to lewdness and indecent exposure;
  - 6. Chapter 827, relating to abuse of children;
  - 7. Section 812.13, relating to robbery;
  - 8. Section 812.131, relating to robbery by sudden snatching;
    - 9. Section 812.133, relating to carjacking; or
    - 10. Section 812.135, relating to home-invasion robbery,

and, before or at the time of such adjudication, withholding of adjudication, or plea, the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> was attending a school attended by the victim or a sibling of the victim of the offense, the Department of Juvenile Justice shall notify the appropriate district school board of the adjudication or plea, the requirements <u>of in</u> this paragraph, and whether the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> is prohibited from attending that school or riding on a school bus <u>if</u> whenever the victim or a sibling of the victim is attending the same school or riding on the same school bus, except as provided pursuant to a written disposition order under

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s. 985.455(2). Upon receipt of such notice, the district school board shall take appropriate action to effectuate the provisions in paragraph (b).

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- Each district school board shall adopt a cooperative agreement with the Department of Juvenile Justice which establishes guidelines for ensuring that a any no contact order entered by a court is reported and enforced and that all of the necessary steps are taken to protect the victim of the offense. Any student offender described in paragraph  $(a)_{\tau}$  who is not exempt exempted as provided in paragraph (a)  $\tau$  may not attend the any school attended by the victim or a sibling of the victim of the offense or ride on a school bus on which the victim or a sibling of the victim is riding. The district school board shall allow the student offender shall be permitted by the district school board to attend another school within the district in which the student offender resides, only if the other school is not attended by the victim or sibling of the victim. Another district school board may allow of the offense; or the student offender may be permitted by another district school board to attend a school in that district if the student offender is unable to attend any school in the district in which the student offender resides.
- (c) If the <u>student</u> offender is unable to attend any other school in the district in which the <u>student</u> offender resides and is prohibited from attending a school in another school district, the district school board in the school district in

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which the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> resides shall take every reasonable precaution to keep the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> separated from the victim while on school grounds or on school transportation. The steps to be taken by a district school board to keep the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> separated from the victim must include, but are not limited to, in-school suspension of the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> and the scheduling of classes, lunch, or other school activities of the victim and the <u>student</u> <u>offender</u> so as not to coincide.

- offender if the student offender is a juvenile, shall arrange and pay for transportation associated with or required by the student's offender's attending another school or that would be required as a consequence of the prohibition against riding on a school bus on which the victim or a sibling of the victim is riding. If the student is experiencing homelessness as described in s. 1003.01(12) or belongs to a family whose income does not exceed 150 percent of the federal poverty level, the school district shall arrange and pay for the transportation. However, The student offender or the parents of the student offender may not be charged for existing modes of transportation which that can be used by the student offender at no additional cost to the district school board.
- (8) (7) Any disciplinary or prosecutorial action taken against a student who violates the a zero-tolerance policy on referrals to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system must be based on the particular circumstances of the

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student's misconduct.

(9) (8) A school district shall districts are encouraged to use alternatives to expulsion or referral to a law enforcement agency agencies unless the use of such alternatives will pose a threat to school safety. By August 1 of each year, a school district shall provide to the department all policies and agreements adopted or implemented pursuant to this section.

- (10) To assist a school district in developing policies that ensure students are not arrested or otherwise referred to the criminal justice system or the juvenile justice system for petty acts of misconduct, the department shall, by March 1, 2015, in collaboration with students, educators, parents, and stakeholders, develop and provide to each school district a model policy.
- of Education shall report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the implementation of this section. The report must include data regarding school-based arrests and referrals of students to a law enforcement agency.

Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public school students must receive accurate and timely information regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12

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students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory rights including, but not limited to, the following:

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- (5) SAFETY.—In accordance with the provisions of  $\underline{s}$ .  $\underline{1006.13(7)}$  s.  $\underline{1006.13(6)}$ , students who have been victims of certain felony offenses by other students, as well as the siblings of the student victims, have the right to be kept separated from the student offender both at school and during school transportation.
- Section 6. Subsection (5) of section 1002.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1002.23 Family and School Partnership for Student Achievement Act.—
- (5) Each school district shall develop and disseminate a parent guide to successful student achievement, consistent with the guidelines of the Department of Education, which addresses what parents need to know about their child's educational progress and how parents can help their child to succeed in school. The guide must:
  - (a) Be understandable to students and parents;
- (b) Be distributed to all parents, students, and school personnel at the beginning of each school year;
- (c) Be discussed at the beginning of each school year in meetings of students, parents, and teachers;
- (d) Include information concerning services, opportunities, choices, academic standards, and student assessment; and

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(e) Provide information on the importance of student health and available immunizations and vaccinations, including, but not limited to:

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- 1. A recommended immunization schedule in accordance with United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations.
- 2. Detailed information regarding the causes, symptoms, and transmission of meningococcal disease and the availability, effectiveness, known contraindications, and appropriate age for the administration of any required or recommended vaccine against meningococcal disease, in accordance with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The parent guide <u>described in this subsection</u> may be included as a part of the standards for intervention under s. 1006.07 <del>code</del>

of student conduct that is required in s. 1006.07(2).

Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 1003.32, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.32 Authority of teacher; responsibility for control of students; district school board and principal duties.—Subject to law and to the rules of the district school board, each teacher or other member of the staff of any school shall have such authority for the control and discipline of students as may be assigned to him or her by the principal or the principal's

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designated representative and shall keep good order in the classroom and in other places in which he or she is assigned to be in charge of students.

- (3) A teacher may send a student to the principal's office to maintain effective discipline in the classroom and may recommend an appropriate consequence consistent with the <a href="maintaintended">standards for intervention</a> student code of conduct under s. 1006.07. The principal shall respond by employing the teacher's recommended consequence or a more serious disciplinary action if the student's history of disruptive behavior warrants it. If the principal determines that a lesser disciplinary action is appropriate, the principal should consult with the teacher before <a href="maintaintended">prior to</a> taking disciplinary action.
- Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 1006.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1006.09 Duties of school principal relating to student discipline and school safety.—
- (4) When a student has been the victim of a violent crime perpetrated by another student who attends the same school, the school principal shall make full and effective use of the provisions of subsection (2) and  $\underline{s.\ 1006.13(7)}\ \underline{s.\ 1006.13(6)}$ . A school principal who fails to comply with this subsection  $\underline{is}\ \underline{shall\ be}\ ineligible$  for any portion of the performance pay or the differentiated pay under s. 1012.22. However, if any party responsible for notification fails to properly notify the school, the school principal is  $\underline{shall\ be}\ eligible$  for the

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performance pay or differentiated pay.

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Section 9. Paragraph (n) of subsection (4) of section 1006.147, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.147 Bullying and harassment prohibited.-

- By December 1, 2008, each school district shall adopt a policy prohibiting bullying and harassment of any student or employee of a public K-12 educational institution. Each school district's policy shall be in substantial conformity with the Department of Education's model policy mandated in subsection (5). The school district bullying and harassment policy shall afford all students the same protection regardless of their status under the law. The school district may establish separate discrimination policies that include categories of students. The school district shall involve students, parents, teachers, administrators, school staff, school volunteers, community representatives, and local law enforcement agencies in the process of adopting the policy. The school district policy must be implemented in a manner that is ongoing throughout the school year and integrated with a school's curriculum, a school's discipline policies, and other violence prevention efforts. The school district policy must contain, at a minimum, the following components:
- (n) A procedure for publicizing the policy, which must include its publication in the standards for intervention code of student conduct required under  $\underline{s.\ 1006.07}\ \underline{s.\ 1006.07(2)}$  and in all employee handbooks.

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Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1006.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.15 Student standards for participation in interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular student activities; regulation.—

- (3) (a) To be eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular student activities, a student must:
- 1. Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the previous semester or a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429.
- 2. Execute and fulfill the requirements of an academic performance contract between the student, the district school board, the appropriate governing association, and the student's parents, if the student's cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0, or its equivalent, on a 4.0 scale in the courses required by s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429. At a minimum, the contract must require that the student attend summer school, or its graded equivalent, between grades 9 and 10 or grades 10 and 11, as necessary.
- 3. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1003.428 or s. 1003.429 during his or her junior or senior year.
- 4. Maintain satisfactory conduct, including adherence to appropriate dress and other standards for intervention under s.

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1006.07 codes of student conduct policies described in s.
1006.07(2). If a student is convicted of, or is found to have
committed, a felony or a delinquent act that would have been a
felony if committed by an adult, regardless of whether
adjudication is withheld, the student's participation in
interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon
established and published district school board policy.
Section 11. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

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