By Senator Grall

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to childhood mental health, safety, and welfare; providing legislative findings; amending s. 394.495, F.S.; revising the array of services offered by the child and adolescent mental health system of care; amending s. 394.9086, F.S.; revising the duties of the Commission on Mental Health and Substance Abuse; creating s. 456.0342, F.S.; providing applicability; requiring specified mental health care professionals to complete a course on technology addiction and pornography addiction by a specified date; requiring that the course address certain content; requiring certain licensing boards to include the course hours in the total hours of continuing education required for certain professions; creating s. 490.0086, F.S.; requiring the Board of Psychology to require applicants to complete a course on technology addiction and pornography addiction as a condition of licensure; providing a time extension for certain applicants; creating s. 491.0066, F.S.; requiring the Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling to require applicants to complete a course on technology addiction and pornography addiction as a condition of licensure; providing a time extension for certain applicants; creating s. 501.172, F.S.; defining terms; requiring that a warning label be affixed to the packaging of certain digital devices; providing requirements for the warning label; creating s.

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501.173, F.S.; defining terms; requiring a commercial entity to verify the age of individuals attempting to access certain material online; prohibiting a commercial entity from retaining personal identifying information; providing an exception to news entities; providing that certain entities may not be held to have violated the section by performing certain services; creating s. 501.174, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Legal Affairs to adopt rules; authorizing the department to initiate a legal proceeding against a party for alleged violations; providing the party with a time to cure; providing judicial remedies; amending s. 847.001, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "harmful to minors"; amending s. 847.012, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which the distribution of harmful material to minors is deemed to have occurred; providing an exception for certain school-related materials; amending s. 1002.321, F.S.; limiting the proportion of instructional time that may be delivered in an electronic or digital format; providing that instructional time includes certain standardized or progress monitoring assessments; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules; requiring certain schools to notify a parent of instruction given in an electronic or digital format; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; revising the statutes with which a charter school must comply; amending s. 1002.42, F.S.; requiring private schools to publish online a list of

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websites approved for instructional purposes; requiring private schools to adopt a policy regarding the use of a wireless communications device by students; specifying that such policy must prohibit student use of such devices for any purpose during school hours, prohibit an individual from posting a student's image on social media which was created during school hours, and prohibit the online sharing of certain student location information; defining the term "personal wireless communications device"; prohibiting a student's parent or guardian from waiving policy requirements; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; defining the term "wireless communications device"; requiring district school boards to adopt a code of student conduct which prohibits the use of wireless communications devices by students during school hours; requiring district school boards to adopt a policy that prohibits an individual from posting a student's image or location information on a social media platform; providing that a student's parent or guardian may not waive the requirements; amending s. 1006.28, F.S.; deleting a time limit for the parent of a public school student to file a petition to contest a school board's adoption of specific instructional material; making technical changes; deleting a requirement for a certain hearing; requiring each district school board to annually publish a list of websites for use by students for instructional purposes; amending s. 1006.29, F.S.;

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revising the definition of the term "instructional materials"; reenacting and amending s. 1006.40, F.S., relating to instructional materials allocation; requiring the Department of Education to seize from district school boards certain materials purchased or employed which are harmful to minors; providing a penalty for violations; reenacting ss. 1006.31(2) and 1006.34(2), F.S., relating to evaluation of instructional materials and selection and adoption of instructional materials, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 847.012, F.S., in references thereto; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; requiring that school district plans adopted in connection with the Mental Health Assistance Allocation include strategies or programs to reduce the likelihood of and improve the early identification of students developing specified addictions; amending ss. 381.88 and 1011.67, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

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

impacts communication skills, focus and attention, the

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Section 1. The Legislature finds that:

health, and overall wellness.

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- (2) Excessive use of digital media has been shown to

(1) Healthy brain development in children positively

development of executive functioning skills, the ability to

solve simple and complex problems, impulse control, mental

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interfere with healthy sleep habits, expose children to

dangerous relationships and materials online, lead to a loss of

interest in activities, result in lower test scores and grades,

and result in an increase in addiction, aggression, depression

and anxiety, self-harm, attention deficit hyperactivity

disorder, and deceptive behaviors.

- (3) Young children who use screens more than an hour a day without parental involvement have been shown to have lower levels of development in the brain's white matter, which is an area key to the development of language, literacy, and cognitive skills.
- (4) Chronic sensory stimulation mimics early-stage dementia due to difficulty with concentration, orientation, memory acquisition and recall, and self-care.
- (5) Due to unprecedented access to digital devices, children have access to pornography at higher rates than ever.

  Such access at a young age interferes with normal development and the establishment of healthy relationships.
- (6) Excessive use of digital media negatively impacts brain development in children so significantly that the cognitive and mental health ramifications faced by children have manifested into a public health crisis.
- Section 2. Paragraphs (f) and (g) are added to subsection (2) and paragraphs (r) and (s) are added to subsection (4) of section 394.495, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 394.495 Child and adolescent mental health system of care; programs and services.—
- (2) The array of services must include assessment services that provide a professional interpretation of the nature of the

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problems of the child or adolescent and his or her family; family issues that may impact the problems; additional factors that contribute to the problems; and the assets, strengths, and resources of the child or adolescent and his or her family. The assessment services to be provided shall be determined by the clinical needs of each child or adolescent. Assessment services include, but are not limited to, evaluation and screening in the following areas:

- (f) Technology addiction.
- (g) Pornography addiction.

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The assessment for academic achievement is the financial responsibility of the school district. The department shall cooperate with other state agencies and the school district to avoid duplicating assessment services.

- (4) The array of services may include, but is not limited to:
  - (r) Technology addiction treatment.
  - (s) Pornography addiction treatment.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 394.9086, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 394.9086 Commission on Mental Health and Substance Abuse. -
- (4) DUTIES.-
- (a) The duties of the Commission on Mental Health and Substance Abuse include the following:
- 1. Conducting a review and evaluation of the management and functioning of the existing publicly supported mental health and substance abuse systems and services in the department, the Agency for Health Care Administration, and all other departments

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which administer mental health and substance abuse services. Such review shall include, at a minimum, a review of current goals and objectives, current planning, services strategies, coordination management, purchasing, contracting, financing, local government funding responsibility, and accountability mechanisms.

- 2. Considering the unique needs of persons who are dually diagnosed.
- 3. Addressing access to, financing of, and scope of responsibility in the delivery of emergency behavioral health care services.
- 4. Addressing the quality and effectiveness of current mental health and substance abuse services delivery systems, and professional staffing and clinical structure of services, roles, and responsibilities of public and private providers, such as community mental health centers; community substance abuse agencies; hospitals, including emergency services departments; law enforcement agencies; and the judicial system.
- 5. Addressing priority population groups for publicly funded mental health and substance abuse services, identifying the comprehensive mental health and substance abuse services delivery systems, mental health and substance abuse needs assessment and planning activities, and local government funding responsibilities for mental health and substance abuse services.
- 6. Reviewing the implementation of chapter 2020-107, Laws of Florida.
- 7. Identifying any gaps in the provision of mental health and substance use disorder services.
  - 8. Providing recommendations on how behavioral health

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managing entities may fulfill their purpose of promoting service continuity.

- 9. Providing recommendations on how service providers and school districts can best identify, treat, and serve children suffering from technology addiction or pornography addiction.
- 10. Providing Making recommendations regarding the mission and objectives of state-supported mental health and substance abuse services and the planning, management, staffing, financing, contracting, coordination, and accountability mechanisms which will best foster the recommended mission and objectives.
- 11.10. Evaluating and providing making recommendations regarding the establishment of a permanent, agency-level entity to manage mental health, substance abuse, and related services statewide. At a minimum, the evaluation must consider and describe the:
- a. Specific duties and organizational structure proposed for the entity;
- b. Resource needs of the entity and possible sources of funding;
  - c. Estimated impact on access to and quality of services;
- d. Impact on individuals with behavioral health needs and their families, both those currently served through the affected systems providing behavioral health services and those in need of services; and
- e. Relation to, integration with, and impact on providers, managing entities, communities, state agencies, and systems which provide mental health and substance abuse services in this state. Such recommendations must ensure that the ability of such

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other agencies and systems to carry out their missions and responsibilities is not impaired.

Section 4. Section 456.0342, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

456.0342 Required instruction on technology addiction and pornography addiction.—The requirements of this section apply to each person licensed or certified under chapter 490 or chapter 491, as a psychiatric nurse as defined in s. 394.455, as a psychiatrist as defined in s. 394.455, or as a physician assistant under chapter 458.

- (1) By January 1, 2024, each such licensed or certified practitioner shall complete a board-approved 2-hour continuing education course on the treatment of technology addiction and pornography addiction. The course must address the assessment, treatment, and management of technology addiction and pornography addiction.
- (2) Each licensing board that requires a licensee or certificateholder, as applicable, to complete a course pursuant to this section must include the hours required for completion in the total hours of continuing education required by law for such profession.

Section 5. Section 490.0086, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

490.0086 Requirement for instruction on technology addiction and pornography addiction.—Beginning January 1, 2024, the board shall require, as a condition of granting a license under this chapter, that an applicant making initial application for licensure complete an education course acceptable to the board on technology addiction and pornography addiction. Upon

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submission of an affidavit showing good cause, an applicant who has not taken the course at the time of licensure must be allowed 6 months to comply with this section.

Section 6. Section 491.0066, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

491.0066 Requirement for instruction on technology addiction and pornography addiction.—Beginning January 1, 2024, the board shall require, as a condition of granting a license under this chapter, that an applicant making initial application for licensure complete an education course acceptable to the board on technology addiction and pornography addiction. Upon submission of an affidavit showing good cause, an applicant who has not taken the course at the time of licensure must be allowed 6 months to comply with this section.

Section 7. Section 501.172, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

501.172 Digital devices.-

- (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Digital device" means an electronic device that can create, generate, send, share, communicate, receive, display, or process information, and includes, but is not limited to, desktop and laptop computers, computer tablets, mobile telephones, smartphones, and any similar device that currently exists or may exist as technology develops.
- (b) "Manufacturer" means a business that is classified in Sector 334, Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing, of the National American Industry Classification System (NAICS).
- (c) "Packaging" means any container or wrapping in which a consumer commodity is enclosed for use in the delivery or

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display of such consumer commodity to retail purchasers.

- (2) REQUIRED WARNING LABEL.—Any new digital device manufactured by a manufacturer to be sold in this state must include a warning label affixed to the packaging. The warning label must include clear and conspicuous text that conveys all of the following:
- (a) The use of digital devices can cause people, especially minors, to become addicted to such use.
- (b) Excessive use of digital devices can lead to undesirable behavior patterns and psychological effects.
- Section 8. Section 501.173, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
  - 501.173 Age verification.
  - (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Commercial entity" includes corporations, limited liability companies, partnerships, limited partnerships, sole proprietorships, or other legally recognized entities.
- (b) "Distribute" means to issue, sell, give, provide, deliver, transfer, transmute, circulate, or disseminate by any means.
- (c) "Internet" means the international computer network of both federal and nonfederal interoperable packet-switched data networks.
- $\underline{\mbox{(d)}}$  "Material harmful to minors" has the same meaning as in s. 847.001.
  - (e) "Minor" means any person under the age of 18 years.
  - (f) "News-gathering organization" means:
- 318 <u>1. A newspaper, news publication, or news source, printed</u>
  319 or published online or on a mobile platform, of current news and

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public interest, and includes an employee who can provide documentation of such employment.

- 2. A radio broadcast station, television broadcast station, cable television operator, or wire service, and includes an employee who can provide documentation of such employment.
- (g) "Publish" means to communicate or make information available to another person or entity on a publicly available Internet website.
- (h) "Reasonable age verification methods" means verifying that the person seeking to access certain material is 18 years of age or older by complying with an age verification system that verifies in any of the following ways:
  - 1. Government-issued identification.
- 2. Any commercially reasonable method that relies on public or private transactional data to verify that the person attempting to access the information is at least 18 years of age or older.
- (i) "Substantial portion" means more than 33.3 percent of total material on a website which meets the definition of "material harmful to minors" as defined by this section.
- (j) "Transactional data" means a sequence of information that documents an exchange, an agreement, or a transfer between an individual, a commercial entity, or a third party used for the purpose of satisfying a request or an event. Transactional data can include, but is not limited to, records from mortgage, education, and employment entities.
- (2) A commercial entity shall use age verification methods to verify the age of individuals attempting to access material deemed harmful to minors on the Internet from a website that

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contains a substantial portion of such material.

(3) Any commercial entity or third party that performs the required age verification may not retain any personal identifying information of the individual after access has been granted to the material.

- (4) This section does not apply to any bona fide news or public interest broadcast, website video, report, or event and may not be construed to affect the rights of any news-gathering organizations.
- subsidiaries, a search engine provider, or a cloud service provider may not be held to have violated this section solely for providing access or connection to or from a website or to other information or content on the Internet or a facility, system, or network not under that provider's control, including transmission, downloading, intermediate storage, access software, or other, to the extent such provider is not responsible for the creation of the content of the communication which constitutes material harmful to minors.

Section 9. Section 501.174, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

## 501.174 Enforcement; Attorney General; rules.-

- (1) The Department of Legal Affairs may adopt rules to implement this section. If the department has reason to believe that a manufacturer or consumer entity is in violation of s. 501.172 or s. 501.173 and that a proceeding would be in the public interest, the department may initiate an appropriate legal proceeding against such party.
  - (2) After the department has notified a party in writing of

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378 an alleged violation, the department may grant the party a 30-379 day period to cure the alleged violation. If the party cures the alleged violation to the satisfaction of the department and 380 381 provides proof of such cure to the department, the department 382 may issue a letter of guidance to the party which indicates that 383 the party will not be offered a 30-day cure period for any 384 future violations. If the party fails to cure the violation 385 within 30 days, the department may bring an action against the 386 party for the alleged violation.

- (3) The trial court, upon a showing that any party is in violation of s. 501.172 or s. 501.173, may take any of the following actions:
  - (a) Issue a temporary or permanent injunction.
- (b) Impose a civil penalty of not more than \$7,500 for each violation.
- (c) Award reasonable costs of enforcement, including reasonable attorney fees and costs.
- (d) Grant such other relief as the court may deem appropriate.

Section 10. Subsection (7) of section 847.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 847.001 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:
- (7) "Harmful to minors" means any reproduction, imitation, characterization, description, exhibition, presentation, or representation, of whatever kind or form, depicting nudity, sexual conduct, or sexual excitement, including, but not limited to, pubic hair, the anus, the vulva, genitals, or the nipple of the female breast; touching, caressing, or fondling of nipples, breasts, buttocks, anuses, or genitals; or sexual intercourse,

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29-01085D-23 20231620 407 masturbation, sodomy, bestiality, oral copulation, flagellation, 408 excretory functions, or any other sexual act or exhibition. when it: 409 410 (a) Predominantly appeals to a prurient, shameful, or 411 morbid interest; 412 (b) Is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the 413 adult community as a whole with respect to what is suitable material or conduct for minors; and 414 415 (c) Taken as a whole, is without serious literary, 416 artistic, political, or scientific value for minors. 417 418 A mother's breastfeeding of her baby is not under any circumstance "harmful to minors." 419 Section 11. Subsections (3) and (5) of section 847.012, 420 421 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 422 847.012 Harmful materials; sale or distribution to minors 423 or using minors in production prohibited; penalty.-424 (3) A person may not knowingly sell, rent, give, send, 425 show, or loan for monetary consideration to a minor: 426 (a) Any picture, photograph, drawing, sculpture, motion 427 picture film, videocassette, social media post, or digital 428 video, or similar visual representation or image, of a person or 429 portion of the human body which depicts nudity or sexual conduct, sexual excitement, sexual battery, bestiality, or 430 sadomasochistic abuse and which is harmful to minors; or 431 432 (b) Any book, pamphlet, magazine, printed matter however 433 reproduced, or sound recording that contains any matter defined

narrative accounts of sexual excitement, or sexual conduct and

in s. 847.001, explicit and detailed verbal descriptions or

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that is harmful to minors.

(5) An adult may not knowingly distribute to a minor on school property, or post on school property, any material described in subsection (3). As used in this subsection, the term "school property" means the grounds or facility of any kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, junior high school, or secondary school, whether public or nonpublic. This subsection does not apply to the distribution or posting of materials aligned with the state academic standards under s.

1003.41 school-approved instructional materials that by design serve as a major tool for assisting in the instruction of a subject or course by school officers, instructional personnel, administrative personnel, school volunteers, educational support employees, or managers as those terms are defined in s. 1012.01.

Section 12. Subsections (7) and (8) are added to section 1002.321, Florida Statutes, to read:

1002.321 Digital learning.-

- (7) LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding ss. 1002.37, 1002.45, 1002.451, 1002.455, and 1003.499, no more than 10 percent of instructional time given in a traditional school setting for prekindergarten through grade 8 in a public school, including charter schools, may be delivered in an electronic format or a digital format as those terms are defined in s. 1006.29(3)(a) and (b), respectively.
- (a) Instructional time delivered in an electronic format or a digital format includes any statewide or schoolwide standardized or progress monitoring assessment administered pursuant to s. 1008.22.
  - (b) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules pursuant

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to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer this subsection.

(8) PARENTAL NOTIFICATION AND REVIEW.—A public school, including a charter school, must notify a parent of instruction that will be delivered to a student in an electronic format or a digital format. All such instructional material must be made available to the parent to review and access in advance.

Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (16) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.-

- (16) EXEMPTION FROM STATUTES.-
- (b) Additionally, a charter school shall be in compliance with the following statutes:
- 1. Section 286.011, relating to public meetings and records, public inspection, and criminal and civil penalties.
  - 2. Chapter 119, relating to public records.
- 3. Section 1003.03, relating to the maximum class size, except that the calculation for compliance pursuant to s. 1003.03 shall be the average at the school level.
- 4. Section 1012.22(1)(c), relating to compensation and salary schedules.
  - 5. Section 1012.33(5), relating to workforce reductions.
- 6. Section 1012.335, relating to contracts with instructional personnel hired on or after July 1, 2011.
- 7. Section 1012.34, relating to the substantive requirements for performance evaluations for instructional personnel and school administrators.
  - 8. Section 1006.12, relating to safe-school officers.
  - 9. Section 1006.07(7), relating to threat assessment teams.
  - 10. Section 1006.07(9), relating to School Environmental

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- 11. Section 1006.07(10), relating to reporting of involuntary examinations.
- 12. Section 1006.1493, relating to the Florida Safe Schools
  Assessment Tool.
  - 13. Section 1006.07(6)(d), relating to adopting an active assailant response plan.
  - 14. Section 943.082(4)(b), relating to the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool.
  - 15. Section 1012.584, relating to youth mental health awareness and assistance training.
  - $\underline{\text{16. Section 1006.07(2)(f), relating to wireless}}$  communications devices.
  - 17. Section 1006.07(12), relating to online posting or sharing of student images or of the location of students in such images.
  - 18. Section 1006.28(4)(f), relating to posting of electronic instructional material.
  - Section 14. Present subsections (12) through (17) of section 1002.42, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (13) through (18), respectively, a new subsection (12) is added to that section, and subsection (10) of that section is amended, to read:
    - 1002.42 Private schools.-
    - (10) INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS.-
  - (a) A private school shall publish on the school's website in an easily accessible location a list of the websites approved for use by teachers and students for instructional purposes.
    - (b) District school boards may dispose of instructional

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materials when they become unserviceable or surplus or are no longer on state contract by giving them to a private school in accordance with the provisions of s. 1006.41.

## (12) INTERNET SAFETY.—

- (a) A private school shall adopt a policy regarding student use of a personal wireless communications device while on school property or in attendance at a school function. Such policy must include a prohibition on student use of a personal wireless communications device for any purpose during school hours. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "personal wireless communications device" means hardware that uses wireless technology to transmit and receive data, and includes, but is not limited to, a wireless telephone, text-messaging device, computer tablet, or laptop computer.
- (b) Each private school shall adopt a policy that prohibits an individual, including, but not limited to, a student, an employee, or a contractor, from posting online to any social media platform as defined in s. 501.2041 a student's image created during school hours. Such policy must also prohibit the online sharing of any information that could identify the location of a student at the time the information is shared. A student's parent or guardian may not waive the requirements of this paragraph.

Section 15. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 1006.07, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (12) is added to that section, 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, and for proper attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the welfare of students, including:

- (2) CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT.—Adopt 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. 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 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 is not limited to:
- (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. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "wireless communications device" means hardware that uses wireless technology to transmit and receive data, and includes, but is not limited to, a wireless telephone, text-messaging device, computer tablet, or laptop computer. 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. Such

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rules must include a prohibition on student use of a personal wireless communications device for any purpose during school hours.

adopt a policy that prohibits an individual, including, but not limited to, a student, an employee, or a contractor, from posting online to any social media platform as defined in s. 501.2041 a student's image created during school hours. Such policy must also prohibit the online sharing of any information that could identify the location of a student at the time the information is shared. A student's parent or guardian may not waive the requirements of this subsection.

Section 16. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1006.28, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (f) is added to that subsection, to read:

1006.28 Duties of district school board, district school superintendent; and school principal regarding K-12 instructional materials.—

- (2) DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.—The district school board has the constitutional duty and responsibility to select and provide adequate instructional materials for all students in accordance with the requirements of this part. The district school board also has the following specific duties and responsibilities:
- (a) Courses of study; adoption.—Adopt courses of study, including instructional materials, for use in the schools of the district.
- 1. Each district school board is responsible for the content of all instructional materials and any other materials used in a classroom, made available in a school library, or

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included on a reading list, whether adopted and purchased from the state-adopted instructional materials list, adopted and purchased through a district instructional materials program under s. 1006.283, or otherwise purchased or made available.

- 2. Each district school board <u>shall</u> <u>must</u> adopt a policy regarding an objection by a parent or a resident of the county to the use of a specific material, which clearly describes a process to handle all objections and provides for resolution. The process must provide the parent or resident the opportunity to proffer evidence to the district school board that:
- a. An instructional material does not meet the criteria of s. 1006.31(2) or s. 1006.40(3)(d) if it was selected for use in a course or otherwise made available to students in the school district but was not subject to the public notice, review, comment, and hearing procedures under s. 1006.283(2)(b)8., 9., and 11.
- b. Any material used in a classroom, made available in a school library, or included on a reading list contains content that is pornographic or prohibited under s. 847.012, is not suited to student needs and their ability to comprehend the material presented, or is inappropriate for the grade level and age group for which the material is used.

If the district school board finds that an instructional material does not meet the criteria under sub-subparagraph a. or that any other material contains prohibited content under sub-subparagraph b., the school district <u>must shall</u> discontinue use of the material for any grade level or age group for which such use is inappropriate or unsuitable.

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3. Each district school board shall must establish a process by which the parent of a public school student or a resident of the county may contest the district school board's adoption of a specific instructional material. The parent or resident must file a petition, on a form provided by the school board, within 30 calendar days after the adoption of the instructional material by the school board. The school board shall must make the form available to the public and publish the form on the school district's website. The form must be signed by the parent or resident, include the required contact information, and state the objection to the instructional material based on the criteria of s. 1006.31(2) or s. 1006.40(3)(d). Within 30 days after the 30-day period has expired, the school board must, for all petitions timely received, conduct at least one open public hearing before an unbiased and qualified hearing officer. The hearing officer may not be an employee or agent of the school district. The hearing before the school board is not subject to the provisions of chapter 120; however, the hearing must provide sufficient procedural protections that to allow each petitioner an adequate and fair opportunity to be heard and present evidence to the hearing officer. The school board's decision after convening a hearing is final agency action and is not subject to further petition or review pursuant to chapter 120.

4. Meetings of committees convened for the purpose of ranking, eliminating, or selecting instructional materials for recommendation to the district school board must be noticed and open to the public in accordance with s. 286.011. Any committees convened for such purposes must include parents of district

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students.

(f) Websites.—Annually publish to the school board's website a list of all websites or software applications adopted for use by teachers and students for instructional purposes.

Section 17. Subsection (2) of section 1006.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.29 State instructional materials reviewers.-

(2) For purposes of this part, the term "instructional materials" means items having intellectual content that by design serve as a major tool for assisting in the instruction of a subject or course. These items may be available in bound, unbound, kit, or package form and may consist of hardbacked or softbacked textbooks, electronic content, consumables, learning laboratories, manipulatives, electronic media <a href="that includes">that includes</a>
<a href="Internet websites">Internet websites</a>, and computer courseware or software. A publisher or manufacturer providing instructional materials as a single bundle shall also make the instructional materials available as separate and unbundled items, each priced individually. A publisher may also offer sections of state-adopted instructional materials in digital or electronic versions at reduced rates to districts, schools, and teachers.

Section 18. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 847.012, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 1006.40, Florida Statutes, is reenacted, and subsection (4) of that section is amended, to read:

1006.40 Use of instructional materials allocation; instructional materials, library books, and reference books; repair of books.—

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- (d) Any materials purchased pursuant to this section must be:
- 1. Free of pornography and material prohibited under s. 847.012.
- 2. Suited to student needs and their ability to comprehend the material presented.
- 3. Appropriate for the grade level and age group for which the materials are used or made available.
- (4) (a) Each district school board is responsible for the content of all materials used in a classroom or otherwise made available to students. Each district school board shall adopt rules, and each district school superintendent shall implement procedures, that:
- $\underline{1.}$  (a) Maximize student use of the district-approved instructional materials.
- $\frac{2.(b)}{(b)}$  Provide a process for public review of, public comment on, and the adoption of materials, including those used to provide instruction required by s. 1003.42, which satisfies the requirements of s. 1006.283(2)(b)8., 9., and 11.
- (b) If a district school board is found by the Department of Education to have purchased or employed material harmful to minors as defined in s. 847.001, the department must seize such materials.
- Section 19. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 847.012, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 1006.31, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:
  - 1006.31 Duties of the Department of Education and school

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district instructional materials reviewer.—The duties of the instructional materials reviewer are:

- (2) EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS.—To use the selection criteria listed in s. 1006.34(2)(b) and recommend for adoption only those instructional materials aligned with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards provided for in s. 1003.41. Instructional materials recommended by each reviewer shall be, to the satisfaction of each reviewer, accurate, objective, balanced, noninflammatory, current, free of pornography and material prohibited under s. 847.012, and suited to student needs and their ability to comprehend the material presented. Reviewers shall consider for recommendation materials developed for academically talented students, such as students enrolled in advanced placement courses. When recommending instructional materials, each reviewer shall:
- (a) Include only instructional materials that accurately portray the ethnic, socioeconomic, cultural, religious, physical, and racial diversity of our society, including men and women in professional, career, and executive roles, and the role and contributions of the entrepreneur and labor in the total development of this state and the United States.
- (b) Include only materials that accurately portray, whenever appropriate, humankind's place in ecological systems, including the necessity for the protection of our environment and conservation of our natural resources and the effects on the human system of the use of tobacco, alcohol, controlled substances, and other dangerous substances.
- (c) Include materials that encourage thrift, fire prevention, and humane treatment of people and animals.

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(d) Require, when appropriate to the comprehension of students, that materials for social science, history, or civics classes contain the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. A reviewer may not recommend any instructional materials that contain any matter reflecting unfairly upon persons because of their race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, gender, religion, disability, socioeconomic status, or occupation or otherwise contradict the principles enumerated under s. 1003.42(3).

Section 20. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 847.012, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 1006.34, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1006.34 Powers and duties of the commissioner and the department in selecting and adopting instructional materials.—

- (2) SELECTION AND ADOPTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS.-
- (a) The department shall notify all publishers and manufacturers of instructional materials who have submitted bids that within 3 weeks after the deadline for receiving bids, at a designated time and place, it will open the bids submitted and deposited with it. At the time and place designated, the bids shall be opened, read, and tabulated in the presence of the bidders or their representatives. No one may revise his or her bid after the bids have been filed. When all bids have been carefully considered, the commissioner shall, from the list of suitable, usable, and desirable instructional materials reported by the state instructional materials reviewers, select and adopt instructional materials for each grade and subject field in the curriculum of public elementary, middle, and high schools in

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which adoptions are made and in the subject areas designated in the advertisement. The adoption shall continue for the period specified in the advertisement, beginning on the ensuing April 1. The adoption shall not prevent the extension of a contract as provided in subsection (3). The commissioner shall always reserve the right to reject any and all bids. The commissioner may ask for new sealed bids from publishers or manufacturers whose instructional materials were recommended by the state instructional materials reviewers as suitable, usable, and desirable; specify the dates for filing such bids and the date on which they shall be opened; and proceed in all matters regarding the opening of bids and the awarding of contracts as required by this part. In all cases, bids shall be accompanied by a cash deposit or certified check of from \$500 to \$2,500, as the department may direct. The department, in adopting instructional materials, shall give due consideration both to the prices bid for furnishing instructional materials and to the report and recommendations of the state instructional materials reviewers. When the commissioner has finished with the report of the state instructional materials reviewers, the report shall be filed and preserved with the department and shall be available at all times for public inspection.

- (b) In the selection of instructional materials, library media, and other reading material used in the public school system, the standards used to determine the propriety of the material shall include:
- 1. The age of the students who normally could be expected to have access to the material.
  - 2. The educational purpose to be served by the material.

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Priority shall be given to the selection of materials that align with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards as provided for in s. 1003.41 and include the instructional objectives contained within the curriculum frameworks for career and technical education and adult and adult general education adopted by rule of the State Board of Education under s. 1004.92.

- 3. The degree to which the material would be supplemented and explained by mature classroom instruction as part of a normal classroom instructional program.
- 4. The consideration of the broad racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and cultural diversity of the students of this state.

Any instructional material containing pornography or otherwise prohibited by s. 847.012 may not be used or made available within any public school.

Section 21. Paragraph (b) of subsection (13) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.—If the annual allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each district for operation of schools is not determined in the annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as follows:

(13) MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION.—The mental health assistance allocation is created to provide funding to assist school districts in establishing or expanding school-based mental health care; train educators and other school staff in

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detecting and responding to mental health issues; and connect children, youth, and families who may experience behavioral health issues with appropriate services. These funds shall be allocated annually in the General Appropriations Act or other law to each eligible school district. Each school district shall receive a minimum of \$100,000, with the remaining balance allocated based on each school district's proportionate share of the state's total unweighted full-time equivalent student enrollment. Charter schools that submit a plan separate from the school district are entitled to a proportionate share of district funding. The allocated funds may not supplant funds that are provided for this purpose from other operating funds and may not be used to increase salaries or provide bonuses. School districts are encouraged to maximize third-party health insurance benefits and Medicaid claiming for services, where appropriate.

- (b) The plans required under paragraph (a) must be focused on a multitiered system of supports to deliver evidence-based mental health care assessment, diagnosis, intervention, treatment, and recovery services to students with one or more mental health or co-occurring substance abuse diagnoses and to students at high risk of such diagnoses. The provision of these services must be coordinated with a student's primary mental health care provider and with other mental health providers involved in the student's care. At a minimum, the plans must include the following elements:
- 1. Direct employment of school-based mental health services providers to expand and enhance school-based student services and to reduce the ratio of students to staff in order to better

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align with nationally recommended ratio models. These providers include, but are not limited to, certified school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and other licensed mental health professionals. The plan also must identify strategies to increase the amount of time that school-based student services personnel spend providing direct services to students, which may include the review and revision of district staffing resource allocations based on school or student mental health assistance needs.

- 2. Contracts or interagency agreements with one or more local community behavioral health providers or providers of Community Action Team services to provide a behavioral health staff presence and services at district schools. Services may include, but are not limited to, mental health screenings and assessments, individual counseling, family counseling, group counseling, psychiatric or psychological services, traumainformed care, mobile crisis services, and behavior modification. These behavioral health services may be provided on or off the school campus and may be supplemented by telehealth.
- 3. Policies and procedures, including contracts with service providers, which will ensure that:
- a. Students referred to a school-based or community-based mental health service provider for mental health screening for the identification of mental health concerns and students at risk for mental health disorders are assessed within 15 days of referral. School-based mental health services must be initiated within 15 days after identification and assessment, and support by community-based mental health service providers for students

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who are referred for community-based mental health services must be initiated within 30 days after the school or district makes a referral.

- b. Parents of a student receiving services under this subsection are provided information about other behavioral health services available through the student's school or local community-based behavioral health services providers. A school may meet this requirement by providing information about and Internet addresses for web-based directories or guides for local behavioral health services.
- c. Individuals living in a household with a student receiving services under this subsection are provided information about behavioral health services available through other delivery systems or payors for which such individuals may qualify, if such services appear to be needed or enhancements in those individuals' behavioral health would contribute to the improved well-being of the student.
- 4. Strategies or programs to reduce the likelihood of atrisk students developing social, emotional, or behavioral health problems, depression, anxiety disorders, suicidal tendencies, technology addiction, pornography addiction, or substance use disorders.
- 5. Strategies to improve the early identification of social, emotional, or behavioral problems or substance use disorders, including, but not limited to, technology addiction and pornography addiction, to improve the provision of early intervention services, and to assist students in dealing with trauma and violence.
  - 6. Procedures to assist a mental health services provider

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or a behavioral health provider as described in subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2., respectively, or a school resource officer or school safety officer who has completed mental health crisis intervention training in attempting to verbally de-escalate a student's crisis situation before initiating an involuntary examination pursuant to s. 394.463. Such procedures must include strategies to de-escalate a crisis situation for a student with a developmental disability as that term is defined in s. 393.063.

7. Policies of the school district which must require that in a student crisis situation, school or law enforcement personnel must make a reasonable attempt to contact a mental health professional who may initiate an involuntary examination pursuant to s. 394.463, unless the child poses an imminent danger to themselves or others, before initiating an involuntary examination pursuant to s. 394.463. Such contact may be in person or using telehealth as defined in s. 456.47. The mental health professional may be available to the school district either by contracts or interagency agreements with the managing entity, one or more local community behavioral health providers, or the local mobile response team or be a direct or contracted school district employee.

Section 22. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 381.88, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.88 Emergency allergy treatment.

- (2) As used in this section and s. 381.885, the term:
- (b) "Authorized entity" means an entity or organization at or in connection with which allergens capable of causing a severe allergic reaction may be present. The term includes, but

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is not limited to, restaurants, recreation camps, youth sports leagues, theme parks and resorts, and sports arenas. However, a school as described in s. 1002.20(3)(i) or  $\underline{s.\ 1002.42(18)(b)}$  s.  $\underline{1002.42(17)(b)}$  is an authorized entity for the purposes of s. 381.885(4) and (5) only.

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 1011.67, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.67 Funds for instructional materials.-

(2) Annually by July 1 and before the release of instructional materials funds, each district school superintendent shall certify to the Commissioner of Education that the district school board has approved a comprehensive staff development plan that supports fidelity of implementation of instructional materials programs, including verification that training was provided; that the materials are being implemented as designed; and, beginning July 1, 2021, for core reading materials and reading intervention materials used in kindergarten through grade 5, that the materials meet the requirements of s. 1001.215(8). Such instructional materials, as evaluated and identified pursuant to s. 1001.215(4), may be purchased by the school district with funds under this section without undergoing the adoption procedures under s.  $1006.40(4)(a)2 = \frac{1006.40(4)(b)}{a}$ . The certification must identify any material that received an objection pursuant to s. 1006.28 for the school year and the specific objections thereto, each material that was removed or discontinued as a result of an objection, and the grade level and course for which a removed or discontinued material was used, as applicable. This subsection does not preclude school districts from purchasing or using

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987	other materials to supplement reading instruction and provide	
988	additional skills practice.	
989	Section 24. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.	