

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2       An act relating to blended learning courses; amending  
 3       s. 1003.498, F.S.; deleting a requirement that  
 4       students in a blended learning course receive online  
 5       instruction in a classroom setting at the school;  
 6       providing an effective date.

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

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 10       Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1003.498, Florida  
 11       Statutes, is amended to read:

12       1003.498 School district virtual course offerings.—  
 13       (1) School districts may deliver courses in the  
 14       traditional school setting by personnel certified pursuant to s.  
 15       1012.55 who provide direct instruction through virtual  
 16       instruction or through blended learning courses consisting of  
 17       both traditional classroom and online instructional techniques.  
 18       Students in a blended learning course must be full-time students  
 19       of the school ~~and receive the online instruction in a classroom~~  
 20       ~~setting at the school~~. The funding, performance, and  
 21       accountability requirements for blended learning courses are the  
 22       same as those for traditional courses. To facilitate the  
 23       delivery and coding of blended learning courses, the department  
 24       shall provide identifiers for existing courses to designate that  
 25       they are being used for blended learning courses for the purpose  
 26       of ensuring the efficient reporting of such courses. A district

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27 | may report full-time equivalent student membership for credit  
28 | earned by a student who is enrolled in a virtual education  
29 | course provided by the district which is completed after the end  
30 | of the regular school year if the FTE is reported no later than  
31 | the deadline for amending the final student membership report  
32 | for that year.

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