

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to enhanced safety for school
3 crossings; creating s. 316.1896, F.S.; requiring the
4 Department of Transportation to adopt a uniform system
5 of high-visibility markings and signage for
6 designation of safe school crossing locations and to
7 compile and distribute a system manual; requiring
8 markings and signage to be installed and maintained in
9 conformity with such system; requiring the department
10 to install and maintain markings and signage under
11 certain circumstances; authorizing the department to
12 enter into maintenance agreements with counties or
13 municipalities; requiring a county or municipality to
14 maintain safe school crossings located therein;
15 requiring inspection of safe school crossing
16 locations; requiring the department to establish
17 standards for permanent and portable signs; providing
18 construction; providing an effective date.

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

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22 Section 1. Section 316.1896, Florida Statutes, is created
23 to read:

24 316.1896 Safe school crossing locations; establishment,
25 designation, maintenance.—

26 (1) (a) The Department of Transportation shall adopt a
 27 uniform system of specific, high-visibility pavement markings
 28 and signage for use on arterial roads or collector roads, as
 29 defined in s. 334.03, within a 1-mile radius of all schools,
 30 public and private, to designate safe school crossing locations.
 31 In adopting the uniform system, the department may consider
 32 implementation of new technology or innovations that enhance
 33 pedestrian and crosswalk visibility.

34 (b) The Department of Transportation shall compile,
 35 publish, and transmit a manual containing all specifications and
 36 requirements with respect to the system of markings and signage
 37 established pursuant to paragraph (a) to the governing body of
 38 each county and municipality in the state. The Department of
 39 Transportation and each county and municipality in the state
 40 shall install and maintain such markings and signage in
 41 conformity with such uniform system.

42 (2) Upon request from the appropriate local governmental
 43 entity, the Department of Transportation shall install and
 44 maintain such safe school crossing markings and signage on
 45 arterial or collector roads as prescribed in this section for
 46 all schools, public and private, within the jurisdiction of the
 47 local governmental entity.

48 (3) (a) A safe school crossing located on a state-
 49 maintained arterial or collector road shall be maintained by the
 50 Department of Transportation. However, this section does not

51 prohibit the Department of Transportation from entering into
52 agreements with counties or municipalities whereby the local
53 governmental entities would maintain specified safe school
54 crossings located on state-maintained arterial or collector
55 roads.

56 (b) The county shall maintain a safe school crossing
57 located outside any municipality and on a county road.

58 (c) A municipality shall maintain a safe school crossing
59 located in the municipality.

60 (d) For the purposes of this section, the term
61 "maintained," with respect to any safe school crossing location,
62 means the care and maintenance of all safe school crossing
63 markings and signage.

64 (4) (a) A safe school crossing location maintained by a
65 county shall be periodically inspected by the county sheriff's
66 office or any other qualified agent to determine whether the
67 safe school crossing location is being properly maintained.

68 (b) A safe school crossing location maintained by a
69 municipality shall be periodically inspected by the municipal
70 police department or any other qualified agent to determine
71 whether the safe school crossing location is being properly
72 maintained.

73 (5) The Department of Transportation shall establish
74 adequate standards for permanent and portable signs used for the
75 designation of safe school crossing locations.

76 (a) Permanent signs designating safe school crossing
77 locations shall be uniform in size and color.

78 (b) Portable signs designating safe school crossing
79 locations shall be uniform in size and color and shall be
80 erected on the roadway only during those hours when students are
81 arriving at and leaving regularly scheduled school sessions.

82 (6) This section does not prohibit the use of automatic
83 traffic control devices for the control of vehicular and
84 pedestrian traffic at school crossing locations.

85 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.