

By Representative Dennis

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to postsecondary education;  
3           amending s. 240.529, F.S.; providing that,  
4           beginning in the 1998-1999 academic year,  
5           continued approval for a teacher preparation  
6           program is contingent upon the program's  
7           including an optional teacher internship in a  
8           socially and economically disadvantaged area;  
9           providing an effective date.

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

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13           Section 1. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (4) of  
14 section 240.529, Florida Statutes, to read:15           240.529 Public accountability and state approval for  
16 teacher preparation programs.--17           (4) CONTINUED PROGRAM APPROVAL.--Beginning July 1,  
18 1995, and notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3),  
19 failure by a public or nonpublic teacher preparation program  
20 to meet the criteria for continued program approval shall  
21 result in loss of program approval. The Department of  
22 Education in collaboration with the departments and colleges  
23 of education shall develop procedures for continued program  
24 approval that document the continuous improvement of program  
25 processes and graduates' performance.26           (d) Beginning with the 1998-1999 academic year,  
27 continued approval for a teacher preparation program is  
28 contingent upon the institution's providing all students with  
29 the option of a 1-year internship in a school located in a  
30 socially and economically disadvantaged urban or rural area.  
31 Each college of education in the State University System must

1 offer students the option of earning credit during a 1-year  
2 internship designed to provide the intern with the necessary  
3 supervision and teaching methodology to become an effective  
4 teacher of students who live in a disadvantaged area. The  
5 internship must be for 12 student credit hours and must be  
6 incorporated within the approved hours required for a  
7 bachelor's degree.

8 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.

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11 SENATE SUMMARY

12 Provides that, beginning with the 1998-1999 academic  
13 year, continued approval for a teacher preparation  
14 program is contingent upon a postsecondary educational  
15 institution's providing students with the option of a  
16 1-year internship, carrying 12 hours of credit toward a  
17 bachelor's degree, which is designed to help them  
18 effectively teach disadvantaged students.

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