

By the Committee on Education Innovation and
Representative Rodriguez-Chomat

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to education; creating a pilot
3 program to increase the number of school
4 counselors; providing for grant allocations;
5 requiring an evaluation; providing an effective
6 date.

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

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10 Section 1. There is hereby created a 3-year pilot
11 program using "Break the Mold" grants for school districts to
12 provide additional certified school counselors in the public
13 schools. In order to positively impact school attendance,
14 student behavior, the graduation rate, the school climate, and
15 parent involvement; to advise students in the decisionmaking
16 process with regard to a student's abilities, aptitudes, and
17 interests; to better assist students in the selection of a
18 program of study appropriate for a student's career goals; to
19 provide guidance regarding career awareness and postsecondary
20 educational options; and to help in the successful transition
21 to the world of work, this funding shall be used to hire
22 additional certified school counselors to result in a low
23 student to counselor ratio.

24 Section 2. A school district may select schools to
25 receive the additional counselor grant allocation based on
26 high student to counselor ratios and any other criteria that
27 the school district deems appropriate in addressing students'
28 educational, behavioral, and career goals.

29 Section 3. A school district involved in the 3-year
30 pilot program shall conduct an evaluation of the pilot program
31 and provide a report with recommendations to the President of

1 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
2 December 1, 2000.

3 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.
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