By Representative Rayson

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to education; creating the "Florida Maximum Class Size Goals Act"; providing intent; providing goals relating to class size in certain grade levels; providing for funding; providing for review of statutory mandates; requiring annual reports and a study based on class size reductions; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Maximum Class Size Goals Act."
(2) The Legislature finds that class size, especially in the primary grades, is a major factor in the ability of students to learn and classroom teachers to teach. It is, therefore, the intent of the Legislature to establish class size standards which will promote educational success.
(3) It shall be the goal of each school district that each elementary school in the school district beginning with kindergarten in the 1997-1998 school year, for kindergarten and grade level one in the 1998-1999 school year, for kindergarten and grade levels one and two in the 1999-2000 school year, and for kindergarten and grade levels one, two, and three in the 2000-2001 school year, class sizes not exceed 20 students, with a ratio of one full-time equivalent teacher per 20 students. For the purposes of this act, a class in grades kindergarten, 1, 2, and 3 may not exceed 29 students. Classes that exceed 20 students must have a full-time equivalent teacher aide.

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(4) Each school district shall implement the goals set forth in this section to the extent funds are provided through the General Appropriations Act. The funds may not be used for any purpose other than implementing this act.
(5) Beginning January 1, 1998, and each year thereafter, the Department of Education shall report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives school district expenditures and class size reductions as a result of the provisions of this act.
(6) The Department of Education shall provide for a longitudinal study of the benefits to students and the impact on student achievement of small class size based on reductions in class size for the $1997-1998$ school year, as a result of an appropriation for such purpose, and for the 1998-1999, 1999-2000, and 2000-2001 school years, as a result of implementation of this act. The results of the study shall be reported to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1, 2001.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.
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SENATE SUMMARY
Specifies the goal that public school kindergarten and grades one through three class sizes not exceed 20
students. Provides for school district implementation to the extent funds are appropriated through the General
Appropriations Act. Requires annual reports on
expenditures and ciass size reductions and a study of the impact on student achievement of implementation of the act.

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