A bill to be entitled

An act relating to state employment; creating s. 110.175, F.S.; creating the Florida State Employee Involvement in Education Act and providing purpose thereof; requiring the Department of Management Services to develop a rule relating to administrative leave for state employees to participate in education-related activities; providing definition of the term "education-related activities"; providing procedural requirements for enactment of rule; requiring a report from the Secretary of Management Services; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 110.175, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

110.175 Florida state employee involvement in education.--

(1) TITLE.--This section may be cited as the "Florida State Employee Involvement in Education Act."

(2) PURPOSE.--The Legislature recognizes the need for greater parental and community involvement in the education of children in Florida. It is the intent of the Legislature to require state agencies to establish personnel policies that will enable state employees to balance employment responsibilities with education-related responsibilities to children. It is the further intent of the Legislature to

encourage other public and private employers to establish

similar personnel policies to enable more parents and interested adults to assist in the education of the children of this state.

(3) RULES.--

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- (a) The Department of Management Services shall develop a rule establishing policies that permit all state employees to receive 4 hours of noncumulative paid administrative leave per month to participate in education-related activities. The rule shall authorize the head of any state agency, as defined in s. 20.055, to provide administrative leave in excess of 4 hours for employees to participate in such activities. For purposes of this section, 'education-related activities" shall include, but not be limited to, parent-teacher conferences, mentoring, tutoring, sponsorship of school clubs, attendance at athletic events, and attendance at or participation in school assemblies, school-sponsored field trips, programs, and plays. These activities or events shall take place at, be sponsored by, or be approved by a public school, private school, or licensed child care facility responsible for the care and education of children from birth through grade 12.
- (b) The Department of Management Services shall publish such rule in the Florida Administrative Weekly no later then October 1, 1998, and proceed to adopt a rule without undue delay pursuant to chapter 120. The rule shall be effective 20 days after having been filed with the Department of State and shall become part of the personnel rules of all applicable state agencies 30 days after the effective date of the rule. Any employee or organization representing employees shall be considered a party for purposes of any rule required

by this section, notwithstanding any provision of chapter 120 to the contrary. (4) REPORT FROM SECRETARY OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES. -- The Secretary of Management Services shall report to the Legislature no later than October 1, 1999, recommendations for modifications of statutes or rules of the Department of Management Services or of any state agency affected by this section which are necessary to remove statutory or regulatory barriers that may affect implementation of any provision of this section. Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law. *********** HOUSE SUMMARY Creates the Florida State Employee Involvement in Education Act, the purpose of which is to establish personnel policies that will enable state employees to balance employment responsibilities with education-related responsibilities to children. Requires a rule permitting 4 hours of administrative leave per month for participation in education-related activities. Provides procedural requirements and a report. 2.6