

By Senator Jones

40-1552-99

See HB

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to natural disaster relief;  
3           providing relief to the Monroe County School  
4           District for certain declared natural  
5           disasters; holding the school district harmless  
6           with respect to its 1998-1999 FEFP  
7           appropriation; providing an appropriation to  
8           cover the costs of certain expenses related to  
9           recovery efforts; providing an effective date.

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11           WHEREAS, Monroe County suffered three natural disasters  
12           in 1998, the Groundhog Day tornadoes in February, Hurricane  
13           Georges in September, and Tropical Storm Mitch in November,  
14           each of which was declared a natural disaster by the President  
15           of the United States, and

16           WHEREAS, the Monroe County district schools serve  
17           children and adults throughout the county, and

18           WHEREAS, the Monroe County district schools have  
19           endured damages to the physical plant facilities expected to  
20           exceed \$10 million, and

21           WHEREAS, the Monroe County district schools are  
22           currently anticipating a loss of 350 to 400 students from the  
23           student enrollment estimate approved by the Legislature for  
24           the 1998-1999 school year, and

25           WHEREAS, this loss of students translates into the  
26           potential loss of \$1.5 million to \$2.5 million from the  
27           current year's operating budget, and

28           WHEREAS, no school district is in a position to  
29           maintain services and recovery efforts from such natural  
30           disasters without some financial relief and assistance, NOW,  
31           THEREFORE,

