

By Senator Laurent

17-1094-99

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to government purchasing;  
3           amending s. 229.79, F.S.; requiring the  
4           Department of Education to provide certain  
5           bid-pooling assistance to school boards;  
6           providing for the department to assist other  
7           agencies and nonprofit organizations in  
8           purchasing; providing an effective date.

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

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12           Section 1. Section 229.79, Florida Statutes, is  
13   amended to read:

14           229.79 Special services of the department; pooling of  
15   purchases by school boards.--The Department of Education shall  
16   render such special services as will be of benefit to the  
17   schools of the state. As one phase of these services it shall  
18   assist school boards in securing school buses, services,  
19   contractual needs, equipment, and supplies at as reasonable  
20   prices as possible by providing a plan under which school  
21   boards may voluntarily pool their bids for such purchases. The  
22   Department of Education shall prepare bid forms and  
23   specifications, obtain quotations of prices and make such  
24   information available to school boards in order to facilitate  
25   this service. School boards from time to time, as prescribed  
26   by the state board, shall furnish the Department of Education  
27   with information concerning the prices paid for such items and  
28   the Department of Education shall furnish to school boards  
29   periodic information concerning the lowest prices at which  
30   school buses, services, equipment, and school supplies are  
31   available based upon comparable specifications. Suppliers may

1 make such commodities and services available to other  
2 governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations under  
3 contracts approved by the department. If the department  
4 determines that it is in the best interest of the school  
5 boards, contracts authorized under this section may be awarded  
6 to multiple suppliers.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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10 SENATE SUMMARY

11 Requires the Department of Education to assist school  
12 boards in securing services by providing a plan to pool  
13 their bids. Allows suppliers to make commodities and  
14 services available to other agencies and nonprofit  
15 organizations under contracts approved by the department.  
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