

By Senator Horne

6-1320-99

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to training centers;  
3           establishing training school consolidation  
4           pilot projects; providing for transfer of  
5           responsibility for the operation of existing  
6           programs; providing for the transfer of real  
7           property; providing program requirements;  
8           providing for exemptions from statutes and  
9           rules; requiring the Department of Education to  
10          shift all FTE and other funding from a school  
11          district to a receiving community college;  
12          providing a guideline for the future approval  
13          of programs; requiring a study; providing an  
14          effective date.

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

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18           Section 1. Training school consolidation pilot  
19 projects.--

20           (1) ESTABLISHMENT.--To consolidate and more  
21 efficiently use state and taxpayer resources by combining  
22 training programs, pilot training centers shall be established  
23 to combine existing training programs for law enforcement  
24 officers, correctional officers, and firefighters and other  
25 public criminal justice training in Lake, Leon, Pinellas, and  
26 St. Johns counties. The following pilot training centers are  
27 established:

28           (a) The Ken Bragg Center at Lake-Sumter Community  
29 College.

30           (b) The Pat Thomas Center at Tallahassee Community  
31 College.

1           (c) The Criminal Justice Academy at St. Johns River  
2 Community College.

3           (d) The Criminal Justice Training Center at St.  
4 Petersburg Community College.

5           (2) EXISTING PUBLIC CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING  
6 PROGRAMS.--In the pilot counties, responsibility for the  
7 operation of existing public criminal justice training  
8 programs will be shifted from the school district to the  
9 community college in whose service area the public criminal  
10 justice training program is located. Ownership of existing  
11 school-district-owned public criminal justice training program  
12 real property will be transferred to the respective community  
13 college. Lease of state-owned public criminal justice training  
14 program real property will be transferred to the respective  
15 community college.

16           (3) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.--Each pilot training center  
17 will be regional in nature, as defined by the Criminal Justice  
18 Standards and Training Commission and the Firefighters  
19 Standards and Training Council. Each pilot training center  
20 must obtain from the Criminal Justice Standards and Training  
21 Commission and the Firefighters Standards and Training Council  
22 a certificate of compliance for those components of the newly  
23 established pilot training center for which that body  
24 currently provides uniform policies and procedures. The  
25 certificate of compliance will be granted based upon  
26 compliance with applicable standards and the following  
27 requirements. Each community college board of trustees must:

28           (a) Establish a pilot training center advisory  
29 committee made up of professionals from the field of each  
30 training program included in the pilot project.

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1           (b) Adopt a schedule for reimbursement to the school  
2 district, from funds provided by the Legislature specifically  
3 for that purpose, for loss of actual profits from funds  
4 received through the Florida Education Finance Program and for  
5 documented local funds previously expended in the facility for  
6 purposes of public criminal justice training.

7           (c) Provide certificate and noncredit options for  
8 students and training components of the pilot training center  
9 that so require.

10           (d) Develop an articulation agreement with the state  
11 university system to facilitate the transfer of graduates of a  
12 community college degree training program to the upper  
13 division of a state university with a corresponding program.

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15 The community college board of trustees may provide for school  
16 district public criminal justice training staff employed in  
17 full-time budgeted positions to be transferred into the  
18 community college personnel system at their existing rate of  
19 salary. Retirement and leave provisions will be transferred  
20 according to law.

21           (4) EXEMPTIONS FROM STATUTES AND RULES.--To facilitate  
22 the utilization of innovative training methods, the Criminal  
23 Justice Standards and Training Commission or the Firefighters  
24 Standards and Training Council shall waive, upon the request  
25 of the community college board of trustees, any provisions of  
26 law or rule which prohibits the pilot training center from  
27 utilizing that innovative training method. The Criminal  
28 Justice Standards and Training Commission and the Firefighters  
29 Standards and Training Council shall have waiver jurisdiction  
30 over those components of the pilot training center course or  
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1 program for which that body currently provides uniform  
2 standards and policies.

3 (5) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.--The Department of  
4 Education shall shift all FTE and other funding from all  
5 sources, including incentive funding and other recurring and  
6 nonrecurring funding, from the appropriate school district to  
7 the receiving community college. The community college shall  
8 qualify for new facilities funding upon transfer of the  
9 facility. These shifts in funding are effective for the  
10 1999-2000 fiscal year.

11 (6) GUIDING PRINCIPLES.--In the future, it shall be  
12 the policy of the Criminal Justice Standards and Training  
13 Commission and the Firefighters Standards and Training Council  
14 to approve public criminal justice training programs based  
15 upon the principle that programs that serve students who have  
16 received a high school diploma, or its equivalent, shall be  
17 administered under the governance of the appropriate  
18 postsecondary system. Those programs that serve students who  
19 have not received a high school diploma, or its equivalent,  
20 shall be administered under the governance of the appropriate  
21 public school system. Students enrolled for these purposes may  
22 qualify under dual-enrollment provisions.

23 (7) STUDY.--The Criminal Justice Standards and  
24 Training Commission and the Firefighters Standards and  
25 Training Council shall jointly review and analyze alternative  
26 training methods used by the pilot training centers. The State  
27 Board of Community Colleges and the Office of the Auditor  
28 General shall jointly conduct a 5-year longitudinal study of  
29 the effect of the pilot programs relative to cost and  
30 efficiency. A report on the pilot center shall be filed with  
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1 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
2 Representatives by January 1, 2004.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
4 law.

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7 SENATE SUMMARY

8 Establishes training school consolidation pilot projects.  
9 Provides for the transfer of responsibility for the  
10 operation of existing programs from the school district  
11 to the community college in whose service area the  
12 program is located. Provides for the transfer of real  
13 property. Provides program requirements. Provides for  
14 exemptions from statutes and rules. Requires the  
15 Department of Education to shift all FTE and other  
16 funding from the appropriate school district to the  
17 receiving community college. Provides a guideline for the  
18 future approval of programs. Requires the Criminal  
19 Justice Standards and Training Commission and the  
20 Firefighters Standards and Training Council to conduct a  
21 study. Requires the State Board of Community Colleges and  
22 the Office of the Auditor General to conduct a 5-year  
23 longitudinal study.  
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