By the Committee on Governmental Oversight and Productivity; and Senator Clary

302-2122-99

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to educational facilities; amending s. 235.056, F.S.; requiring certain plans to be prepared by an appropriate design professional; amending s. 235.0155, F.S.; revising the fee for prototype plans usage; amending s. 235.15, F.S.; requiring validation of certain surveys; amending s. 235.2155, F.S.; revising School Infrastructure Thrift awards and related uses; amending s. 235.216, F.S. authorizing enhanced School Infrastructure Thrift Awards; specifying eligibility criteria; repealing s. 235.186, F.S., relating to effort index grants; amending ss. 235.175, 235.185, 235.188, 235.217, 235.218, F.S.; conforming provisions; deleting obsolete provisions; amending s. 235.211, F.S.; revising plan review requirements; amending s. 235.212, F.S.; specifying areas exempt from operable glazing; amending s. 235.31, F.S.; revising review authority of contracts; amending s. 46 of ch. 97-384, Laws of Florida, relating to appropriations for School Infrastructure Thrift Program awards and effort index grants; limiting the appropriation to such awards; deleting funding for and references to effort index grants; amending s. 235.061; providing for the adoption of standards for relocatable classrooms; amending s. 404.056, F.S.; revising requirements related to radon testing; repealing s. 235.186, F.S., relating to effort

index grants for school district facilities work program projects; repealing s. 235.4355, 3 F.S., relating to SMART Schools Small County Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 1998-1999; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 235.056, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

235.056 Lease, rental, and lease-purchase of educational facilities and sites .--

(3)

- (b) Prior to occupying a rented or a leased existing building, or space within an existing building, pursuant to this subsection, a school board shall, in a public meeting, adopt a resolution certifying that the following circumstances apply to the building proposed for occupancy:
- 1. Growth among the school-age population in the school district has created a need for new educational facilities in a neighborhood where there is little or no vacant land.
- There exists a supply of vacant space in existing buildings that meet state minimum building and life safety codes.
- Acquisition and conversion to use as educational facilities of an existing building or buildings is a cost-saving means of providing the needed classroom space as determined by the difference between the cost of new 31 construction, including land acquisition and preparation and,

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if applicable, demolition of existing structures, and the cost of acquisition through rental or lease and conversion of an existing building or buildings.

- The building has been examined for suitability, safety, and conformance with state minimum building and life safety codes. The building examination shall consist, at a minimum, of a review of existing documents, building site reconnaissance, and analysis of the building conducted by, or under the responsible charge of, a licensed structural engineer.
- 5. A certificate of evaluation has been issued by an appropriately licensed design professional the structural engineer which states that, based on available documents, building site reconnaissance, current knowledge, and design engineering judgment in the professional's engineer's professional opinion, the building meets the requirements of state minimum building and life safety codes, provides safe egress of occupants from the building, provides adequate firesafety, and does not pose a substantial threat to life to persons who would occupy the building for classroom use.
- The plans for conversion of the building were prepared by an appropriate design professional architect or structural engineer licensed in this state, and the work of conversion was performed by contractors licensed in this state.
- 7. The conversion of the building was observed by an appropriate design professional architect or structural engineer licensed in this state.
- The building has been reviewed, inspected, and granted a certificate of occupancy by the local building department.

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9. All ceilings, light fixtures, ducts, and registers within the area to be occupied for classroom purposes were constructed or have been reconstructed to meet state minimum requirements.

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 235.0155, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

235.0155 Prototype designs.--

(3) District school boards may use the prototype plans free of charge from the department for all new facilities. Site adaptations, minor plan modifications, inspections, contract award, contract management, and final acceptance of the project shall be provided under contracts held by the school board.

Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 235.15, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

235.15 Educational plant survey; localized need assessment; PECO project funding. --

(1) At least every 5 years, each board, including the Board of Regents, shall arrange for an educational plant survey, to aid in formulating plans for housing the educational program and student population, faculty, administrators, staff, and auxiliary and ancillary services of the district or campus, including consideration of the local comprehensive plan. The Division of Workforce Development shall document the need for additional career and adult education programs and the continuation of existing programs before facility construction or renovation related to career or adult education may be included in the educational plant survey of a school district or community college that delivers career or adult education programs. Information used by the 31 Division of Workforce Development to establish facility needs

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must include, but need not be limited to, labor market data, needs analysis, and information submitted by the school district or community college.

(c) Review and validation.--When required by the Constitution, The department shall review and validate the surveys of school districts and community colleges and any amendments thereto for compliance with the requirements of this chapter and, when required by the State Constitution, shall recommend those in compliance for approval by the State Board of Education.

Section 4. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 235.175, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to read:

235.175 SMART schools; Classrooms First; legislative purpose.--

- (4) SMART SCHOOLS CLEARINGHOUSE.--It is the purpose of the Legislature to create s. 235.217, establishing the SMART Schools Clearinghouse to assist the school districts in building SMART schools utilizing functional and frugal practices. The SMART Schools Clearinghouse must review district facilities work programs and projects and identify districts qualified for incentive funding available through effort index grants and School Infrastructure Thrift Program awards; identify opportunities to maximize design and construction savings; develop school district facilities work program performance standards; and provide for review and recommendations to the Governor, the Legislature, and the State Board of Education.
- (5) EFFORT INDEX GRANTS.--It is the purpose of the

 Legislature to create s. 235.186, in order to provide grants

 from state funds to assist school districts that have provided

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a specified level of local effort funding and still have a need to build new student stations and associated core facility space to meet student membership requirements in K-12 programs. Districts must utilize state funds in accordance with statutory requirements and obligate from among all eliqible sources an amount that is equivalent to the potential available for construction from PECO funds, capital outlay and debt service bond proceeds, Classrooms First funds, and the one-half cent local option school sales surtax. Effort index grants will be based upon recommendation of the SMART Schools Clearinghouse.

(5)(6) SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE THRIFT (SIT) PROGRAM AWARDS. -- It is the purpose of the Legislature to convert the SIT Program established in ss. 235.2155 and 235.216 to an incentive award program to encourage functional, frugal facilities and practices and to reward school districts that increase their capital outlay funding through local efforts. Districts that find ways to reduce the cost of, or eliminate the need for, constructing educational facilities can receive SIT Program awards equal to 50 percent of the amount saved. In addition, districts may submit new schools to receive a SIT Program SMART school of the year recognition award. SIT Program awards will be based upon recommendation of the SMART Schools Clearinghouse and may be used for any authorized capital expenditure.

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 235.185, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

235.185 School district facilities work program; definitions; preparation, adoption, and amendment; long-term 31 work programs.--

(2)

1 2 PROGRAM. --

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(a) Annually, prior to the adoption of the district school budget, each school board shall prepare a tentative district facilities work program that includes:

PREPARATION OF TENTATIVE DISTRICT FACILITIES WORK

- A schedule of major repair and renovation projects necessary to maintain the educational plant and ancillary facilities of the district.
- 2. A schedule of capital outlay projects necessary to ensure the availability of satisfactory student stations for the projected student enrollment in K-12 programs. This schedule shall consider:
- The locations, capacities, and planned utilization rates of current educational facilities of the district.
 - The proposed locations of planned facilities.
- Plans for the use and location of relocatable C. facilities, leased facilities, and charter school facilities.
- Plans for multitrack scheduling, grade level organization, block scheduling, or other alternatives that reduce the need for permanent student stations.
- Information concerning average class size and utilization rate by grade level within the district that will result if the tentative district facilities work program is fully implemented. The average shall not include exceptional student education classes or prekindergarten classes.
- The number and percentage of district students planned to be educated in relocatable facilities during each year of the tentative district facilities work program.
- Plans for the closure of any school, including plans for disposition of the facility or usage of facility space, and anticipated revenues.

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- The projected cost for each project identified in the tentative district facilities work program. For proposed projects for new student stations, a schedule shall be prepared comparing the planned cost and square footage for each new student station, by elementary, middle, and high school levels, to the low, average, and high cost of facilities constructed throughout the state during the most recent fiscal year for which data is available from the Department of Education.
- A schedule of estimated capital outlay revenues from each currently approved source which is estimated to be available for expenditure on the projects included in the tentative district facilities work program.
- 5. A schedule indicating which projects included in the tentative district facilities work program will be funded from current revenues projected in subparagraph 4.
- 6. A schedule of options for the generation of additional revenues by the district for expenditure on projects identified in the tentative district facilities work program which are not funded under subparagraph 5. Additional anticipated revenues may include effort index grants, SIT Program awards, and Classrooms First funds.

Section 6. Section 235.188, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

235.188 Full bonding required to participate in programs. -- Any district with unused bonding capacity in its Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund allocation that certifies in its district facilities work program that it will not be able to meet all of its need for new student stations within existing revenues must fully bond its Capital Outlay 31 and Debt Service Trust Fund allocation before it may

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participate in Classrooms First or-the School Infrastructure 2 Thrift (SIT) Program, or the Effort Index Grants Program. 3 Section 7. Subsection (4) of section 235.211, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 4 5 235.211 Educational facilities contracting and 6 construction techniques .--7 (4) Except as otherwise provided in this section and 8 s. 481.229, the services of a registered architect must be 9 used for the development of plans for the erection, 10 enlargement, or alteration of any educational facility. The 11 services of a registered architect are not required for a minor renovation project for which the construction cost is 12 less than \$50,000 or for the placement or hookup of 13 relocatable educational facilities that conform with standards 14 adopted under s. 235.26(2) and (3). However, boards must 15 provide compliance with building code requirements and ensure 16 17 that these structures are adequately anchored for wind 18 resistance as required by law. Boards are encouraged to 19 consider the reuse of existing construction documents or 20 design criteria packages where such reuse is feasible and practical. Notwithstanding s. 287.055, a board may purchase 21 the architectural services for the design of educational or 22 ancillary facilities under an existing contract agreement for 23 24 professional services held by a school board in the State of 25 Florida, provided that the purchase is to the economic advantage of the purchasing board, the services conform to the 26

permission from, the architect of record whose plans or design criteria are being reused. The department shall review these

standards prescribed by rules of the Commissioner of

31 | Plans shall be reviewed for compliance with the state

Education, and such reuse is not without notice to, and

requirements for educational facilities. Rules adopted under this section must establish uniform prequalification, selection, bidding, and negotiation procedures applicable to construction management contracts and the design-build process. This section does not supersede any small, woman-owned or minority-owned business enterprise preference program adopted by a board. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the negotiation procedures applicable to construction management contracts and the design-build process must conform to the requirements of s. 287.055. A board may not modify any rules regarding construction management contracts or the design-build process.

Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) and subsections (7) and (8) of section 235.2155, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to read:

235.2155 School Infrastructure Thrift Program Act.--

- (3) The SIT Program is designed as:
- (a) An incentive program to reward districts for:
- 1. Savings realized through functional, frugal construction.
- 2. Savings realized through the operation of charter schools in non-school-district facilities.
- 3. Increasing capital outlay funding through local efforts.
- (7) Awards from the SIT Program shall be made by the commissioner from funds appropriated by the Legislature. An award funded by an appropriation from the General Revenue Fund and may be used for any lawful capital outlay expenditure. An award funded by an appropriation of the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to s. 235.2195 may be used only for bondable capital outlay projects.

1 (8)(a) For each award to a school district pursuant to 2 paragraph (3)(a) that is recommended by the SMART Schools 3 Clearinghouse, the commissioner may award up to 50 percent of 4 the savings realized from the district's frugality. 5 (b) For each award to a school district pursuant to 6 paragraph (3)(b) that is recommended by the SMART Schools Clearinghouse, The commissioner may present a trophy or plaque 7 8 and a cash award to the school recommended by the SMART Schools Clearinghouse for a SMART school of the year 9 10 recognition award. 11 Section 9. Section 235.216, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read: 12 235.216 SIT Program award eligibility; maximum cost 13 per student station of educational facilities; frugality 14 incentives; local effort awards; recognition awards. --15 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that district 16 17

- school boards that seek awards of SIT Program funds use due diligence and sound business practices in the design, construction, and use of educational facilities.
- (2) Beginning with the 1997-1998 fiscal year, A school district may seek an award from the SIT Program, pursuant to this section and s. 235.2155, based on the district's:
- (a) New construction of educational facilities if the cost per student station is less than:
 - 1. \$11,600 for an elementary school,
 - 2. \$13,300 for a middle school, or
 - 3. \$17,600 for a high school,

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(1997) as adjusted annually by the Consumer Price Index. The award shall be up to 50 percent of such savings, as 31 | recommended by the SMART Schools Clearinghouse.

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- (b) Operation of charter schools in non-school-district facilities. SIT Program awards pursuant to this paragraph shall be as recommended by the SMART Schools Clearinghouse. After the initial award, the recommendation must be based on savings realized from proportionate district increase in such charter school enrollment in excess of original enrollment, and the award shall be up to 50 percent of such savings.
- (3)(a) The SMART Schools Clearinghouse shall recommend the payment of an additional enhanced SIT award equal to 25 percent of the SIT award granted under paragraph (2)(a) if the construction contract for the educational facility that generated the SIT award was granted during a year in which the school district was:
- 1. Levying more than 2 mills of voted and nonvoted ad valorem taxes for capital outlay purposes;
- 2. Receiving direct proceeds from the half-cent local option sales surtax authorized by s. 212.055(7); or
- 3. Receiving direct proceeds from the local government infrastructure sales surtax authorized by s. 212.055(2).
- (b) A school district seeking an enhanced SIT award shall certify to the clearinghouse that the district meets the eligibility criteria for an enhanced SIT award. The certification shall be submitted with the application for the related SIT award.
- (4)(3) Beginning with the 1998-1999 fiscal year, a school district may seek a SMART school of the year recognition award for building the highest quality functional, frugal school.

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Section 10. Subsection (1), and paragraph (b) of subsection (3), of section 235.217, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to read:

235.217 SMART (Soundly Made, Accountable, Reasonable, and Thrifty) Schools Clearinghouse. --

- (1)(a) The SMART Schools Clearinghouse is established to assist school districts that seek to access School Infrastructure Thrift (SIT) Program awards pursuant to ss. 235.2155 and 235.216 or effort index grants pursuant to s. 235.186. The clearinghouse must use expedited procedures in providing such assistance.
- (b) The clearinghouse shall consist of five members who are not members of the Legislature or school district officers or employees and who have substantial business experience in the private sector. Two members shall be appointed by the Governor for initial 1-year and 3-year terms, respectively. One member shall be appointed by the President of the Senate for an initial 2-year term. One member shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for an initial 2-year term. The Commissioner of Education or a designee shall be a member. All subsequent terms of the four appointed members shall be 3 years. The Governor's appointee for the initial 3-year term shall chair the clearinghouse, and each subsequent holder of that position shall serve as the chair.
- (c) Members of the clearinghouse shall be appointed no later than November 28, 1997, and shall convene for their first meeting no later than December 1, 1997.
- (c)(d) The clearinghouse is assigned to the Department of Management Services for administrative and fiscal 31 accountability purposes, but it shall otherwise function

 independently of the control and direction of the department, except as otherwise provided in chapters 110, 255, and 287 for agencies of the executive branch.

 $\underline{(d)}$ (e) The clearinghouse may adopt rules necessary to carry out its duties, including, but not limited to, rules relating to design and performance standards, the SMART Schools Design Directory, project delivery process, and prioritization of $\underline{SIT\ Program}$ awards.

- (3) The clearinghouse shall:
- (b) Prioritize school district SIT Program awards and effort index grants based on a review of the district facilities work programs and proposed construction projects.

Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 235.212, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

235.212 Low-energy use design; solar energy systems; swimming pool heaters.--

(1)(a) Passive design elements and low-energy usage features shall be included in the design and construction of new educational facilities. Operable glazing consisting of at least 5 percent of the floor area shall be placed in each classroom located on the perimeter of the building. Operable glazing is not required, except in community colleges, auxiliary facilities, music rooms, gyms, locker and shower rooms, special laboratories requiring special climate control, and large group instruction areas having a capacity of more than 100 persons.

Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 235.31, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

235.31 Advertising and awarding contracts; prequalification of contractor.--

1 (1)(a) As soon as practicable after any bond issue has 2 been voted upon and authorized or funds have been made 3 available for the construction, remodeling, renovation, demolition, or otherwise for the improvement, of any 4 5 educational or ancillary plant, and after plans for the work 6 have been approved, the board, if competitively bidding the project pursuant to s. 235.211, after advertising the same in 7 8 the manner prescribed by law or rule, shall award the contract 9 for the building or improvements to the lowest responsible 10 bidder. However, if after taking all deductive alternates, 11 the bid of the lowest responsible bidder exceeds the construction budget for the project established at the phase 12 13 III submittal, the board may declare an emergency. After 14 stating the reasons why an emergency exists, the board may negotiate the construction contract or modify the contract, 15 including the specifications, with the lowest responsible 16 17 bidder and, if the contract is modified, shall resubmit the 18 documents to the authorized review authority department for 19 review to confirm that the project remains in compliance with 20 building and fire codes. The board may reject all bids received and may readvertise, calling for new bids. 21 Section 13. Subsection (3) of section 235.218, Florida 22 Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read: 23 24 235.218 School district facilities work program 25 performance and productivity standards; development; measurement; application. --26 27 (3) The clearinghouse shall conduct ongoing 28 evaluations of district educational facilities program 29 performance and productivity, using the measures adopted under this section. If, using these measures, the clearinghouse 30

31 | finds that a district failed to perform satisfactorily, the

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clearinghouse must recommend to the district school board actions to be taken to improve the district's performance. A district that refuses to follow the recommended actions may be denied an effort index grant.

Section 14. Section 46 of chapter 97-384, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 46. There is hereby appropriated to the Department of Education for fiscal year 1997-1998 the sum of \$150 million from the General Revenue Fund and, contingent upon the sale of 1997 school capital outlay bonds pursuant to s. 235.2195, Florida Statutes, the sum of \$450 million from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund. The purpose of this appropriation is to fund School Infrastructure Thrift (SIT) Program awards pursuant to the provisions of ss. 235.2155 and 235.216, Florida Statutes., and effort index grants pursuant to the provisions of s. 235.186, Florida Statutes. The maximum amount of funds authorized for effort index grant awards through June 30, 1998, is \$70 million. Effort index grants shall only be funded from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund appropriation authorized in this section. The funds appropriated in this section shall not be subject to the provisions of s. 216.301, Florida Statutes.

Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 235.061, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

235.061 Standards for relocatables used as classroom space; inspections. --

(1) The Commissioner of Education shall adopt rules establishing standards for relocatables intended for long-term use as classroom space at a public elementary school, middle school, or high school. "Long-term use" means the use of 31 relocatables at the same educational plant for a period of 4

years or more. These rules must be implemented by July 1, 2 1998, and each relocatable acquired by a district school board 3 after the effective date of the rules and intended for 4 long-term use must comply with the standards. The rules shall 5 require that, by July 1, 2001, relocatables that fail to meet 6 the standards may not be used as classrooms. The standards shall protect the health, safety, and welfare of occupants by 7 8 requiring compliance with the Uniform Building Code for Public 9 Educational Facilities or other locally adopted state minimum 10 building codes to ensure the safety and stability of 11 construction and onsite installation; fire and moisture protection; air quality and ventilation; appropriate wind 12 13 resistance; and compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If appropriate, the 14 15 standards must also require relocatables to provide access to the same technologies available to similar classrooms within 16 17 the main school facility and, if appropriate, to be accessible by adequate covered walkways. By July 1, 2003, the 18 19 commissioner shall adopt standards for all relocatables 20 intended for long-term use as classrooms. A relocatable that is subject to this section and does not meet the standards 21 shall not be reported as providing satisfactory student 22 stations in the Florida Inventory of School Houses. 23 24 Section 16. Subsection (5) of section 404.056, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read: 25 404.056 Environmental radiation standards and 26 27 programs; radon protection. --28 (5) MANDATORY TESTING. -- All public and private school 29 buildings or school sites housing students in kindergarten through grade 12; all state-owned, state-operated, 30

31 state-regulated, or state-licensed 24-hour care facilities;

and all state-licensed day care centers for children or minors which are located in counties designated within the Department 2 3 of Community Affairs' Florida Radon Protection Map Categories as "Intermediate" or "Elevated Radon Potential"shall be 4 5 measured to determine the level of indoor radon, using 6 measurement procedures established by the department. Testing 7 shall be completed within the first year of construction in 20 8 percent of the habitable first floor spaces within any of the 9 regulated buildings. Initial measurements shall be completed 10 and reported to the department by July 1, of the year the 11 building is opened for occupancy. Follow-up testing must be completed in 5 percent of the habitable first floor spaces 12 13 within any of the regulated buildings after the building has 14 been occupied for 5 years, and results must be reported to the department by July 1 of the 5th year of occupancy. After radon 15 measurements have been made twice, regulated buildings need 16 not undergo further testing unless significant structural 17 changes occur. Where fill soil is required for the 18 19 construction of a regulated building, initial testing of fill soil must be performed using measurement procedures 20 established by the department, and the results must be 21 reported to the department prior to construction. 1990, and 22 repeated measurements shall be performed and reported to the 23 24 department at 5-year intervals. Test results, prior to the 25 effective date of this act, may be accepted by the department as long as the tests conducted meet the standards for testing 26 27 promulgated by the department, and the school or care facility 28 certifies this in writing to the department. The provisions 29 of paragraph (3)(c) as to confidentiality shall not apply to this subsection. No funds collected pursuant to s. 553.721 30 31 shall be used to carry out the provisions of this subsection.

1 Section 17. Section 235.186, Florida Statutes, as 2 created by section 5 of chapter 97-384, Laws of Florida, is 3 repealed. 4 Section 18. Section 235.4355, Florida Statutes, as 5 created by section 19 of chapter 97-384, Laws of Florida, is 6 repealed. 7 Section 19. This act shall take effect upon becoming a 8 law. 9 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR 10 Senate Bill 1848 11 12 13 The Committee Substitute: 1. Provides for school plant plan review by appropriately licensed professionals other than structural engineers. 14 15 2. Eliminates the free use of prototype plans for school 16 construction. 17 3. Eliminates Effort Index Grants. 18 4. Provides for school construction or renovation plan review by the appropriate reviewing authority. 19 5. Provides for an enhanced SIT program for school districts which achieve certain local effort requirements and construct frugal schools. 20 21 6. Exempts certain rooms and community colleges from operable 22 glazing requirements on windows. 7. Provides for standard setting by the Commissioner of education on relocatable classrooms by the year 2003. 23 24 8. Revises radon testing frequency and application to facilities in intermediate or elevated radon areas. 25 26 27 28 29 30 31