

By Senator Sullivan

22-1246-99

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to education; amending s.
228.0565, F.S.; extending the duration of pilot
programs for deregulated public schools;
authorizing an additional pilot program;
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1), paragraph (b) of subsection
(3), and paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (6) of section
228.0565, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to
read:

228.0565 Deregulated public schools.--
(1) PILOT PROGRAM.--To provide public schools the same
flexibility and accountability afforded charter schools, pilot
programs for deregulated public schools shall be conducted in
two large, three ~~two~~ medium-sized, and two small school
districts. Beginning in For the 1998-1999 school year and
continuing through the 2003-2004 school year, no more than six
schools per district, to include no more than two high
schools, two middle schools, and two elementary schools, may
participate in the flexibility program. The following
districts are authorized to conduct pilot programs ~~program~~ in
~~1998-1999~~: Palm Beach, Pinellas, Seminole, Lee, Leon, Walton,
and Citrus Counties.

(3) PROPOSAL.--
(b) A district school board shall receive and review
all proposals for a deregulated public school ~~during July and~~
~~August~~. A district school board must by a majority vote
approve or deny a proposal no later than 30 days after the

1 proposal is received. If a proposal is denied, the district
2 school board must, within 10 calendar days, articulate in
3 writing the specific reasons based upon good cause supporting
4 its denial of the proposal.

5 (6) ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSAL.--The major issues
6 involving the operation of a deregulated public school shall
7 be considered in advance and written into the proposal.

8 (a) The proposal shall address, and criteria for
9 approval of the proposal shall be based, on:

10 1. The school's mission and the students to be served.

11 2. The focus of the curriculum, the instructional
12 methods to be used, and any distinctive instructional
13 techniques to be employed.

14 3. The current baseline standard of achievement and
15 the outcomes to be achieved and the method of measurement that
16 will be used.

17 4. The methods used to identify the educational
18 strengths and needs of students and how well educational goals
19 and performance standards are met by students attending the
20 school. Students in deregulated ~~and flexible~~ public schools
21 shall, at a minimum, participate in the statewide assessment
22 program.

23 5. In secondary schools, a method for determining
24 that a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation
25 in s. 232.246.

26 6. A method for resolving conflicts between the school
27 and the district.

28 7. The admissions procedures and dismissal procedures,
29 including the school's code of student conduct.

30 8. The ways by which the school's racial/ethnic
31 balance reflects the community it serves or reflects the

1 racial/ethnic range of other public schools in the same school
2 district.

3 9. The financial and administrative management of the
4 school including a statement of the areas in which the school
5 will have administrative and fiscal autonomy and the areas in
6 which the school will follow school district fiscal and
7 administrative policies.

8 10. The manner in which the school will be insured,
9 including whether or not the school will be required to have
10 liability insurance, and, if so, the terms and conditions
11 thereof and the amounts of coverage.

12 11. The qualifications to be required of the teachers.

13 (d) Upon receipt of the annual report required by
14 paragraph (b), the Department of Education shall provide ~~to~~
15 the State Board of Education, the Commissioner of Education,
16 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
17 Representatives with a copy of each report and an analysis and
18 comparison of the overall performance of students, to include
19 all students in deregulated public schools whose scores are
20 counted as part of the norm-referenced assessment tests,
21 versus comparable public school students in the district as
22 determined by norm-referenced assessment tests currently
23 administered in the school district, and, as appropriate, the
24 Florida Writes Assessment Test, the High School Competency
25 Test, and other assessments administered pursuant to s.
26 229.57(3).

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
28 law.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Extends the duration of pilot programs for deregulated public schools. Authorizes conducting a pilot program in Lee County.