

By Senator Forman

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to public school curricula;  
amending s. 233.0612, F.S.; requiring school  
boards to install a program in character  
development in the elementary schools;  
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 233.0612, Florida  
Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

233.0612 Authorized instruction.--Each school district  
may provide students with programs and instruction at the  
appropriate grade levels in areas including, but not limited  
to, the following:

(1) Character development and law education. Each  
school board shall ~~be encouraged to~~ install in the elementary  
schools of the district a program in character development  
which is the same as or similar to the Character Counts or  
Character First! Education Series. The programs must be  
secular in nature and stress such character qualities as  
attentiveness, patience, and initiative.

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

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SENATE SUMMARY

Requires that school boards implement programs in  
character development which are the same as or similar to  
the Character Counts or Character First! Education  
Series.