

By Representative Sorensen

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to natural disaster relief;
3 providing relief to the Monroe County School
4 District for certain declared natural disasters
5 by holding the school district harmless with
6 respect to its 1998-1999 FEFP appropriation.
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8 WHEREAS, Monroe County suffered three natural disasters
9 in 1998, the Groundhog Day tornadoes in February, Hurricane
10 Georges in September, and Tropical Storm Mitch in November,
11 each of which was declared a natural disaster by the President
12 of the United States, and
13 WHEREAS, the Monroe County district schools serve
14 children and adults throughout the county, and
15 WHEREAS, the Monroe County district schools have
16 endured damages to the physical plant facilities expected to
17 exceed \$10 million, and
18 WHEREAS, the Monroe County district schools are
19 currently anticipating a loss of 350 to 400 students from the
20 student enrollment estimate approved by the Legislature for
21 the 1998-1999 school year, and
22 WHEREAS, this loss of students translates into the
23 potential loss of \$1.5 million to \$2.5 million from the
24 current year's operating budget, and
25 WHEREAS, no school district is in a position to
26 maintain services and recovery efforts from such natural
27 disasters without some financial relief and assistance, NOW,
28 THEREFORE,
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30 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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1 Section 1. The Monroe County School District shall be
2 held harmless with respect to its FEFP appropriation for
3 fiscal year 1998-1999, notwithstanding any change in estimated
4 enrollment in the district for that fiscal year resulting from
5 the three natural disasters that affected Monroe County in
6 1998, which were presidentially declared natural disasters and
7 which consisted of the Groundhog Day tornadoes in February,
8 Hurricane Georges in September, and Tropical Storm Mitch in
9 November of that year.

10 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
11 law.

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14 HOUSE SUMMARY

15 Provides relief to the Monroe County School District for
16 natural disasters that affected the county in 1998 by
17 holding the school district harmless with respect to its
18 1998-1999 FEFP appropriation.
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