

STORAGE NAME: h0825a.ei

DATE: March 19, 1999

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION INNOVATION
ANALYSIS**

BILL #: HB 825

RELATING TO: Education/School Year Extension

SPONSOR(S): Representative Wallace

COMPANION BILL(S):

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) EDUCATION INNOVATION YEARS 8 DAYS 0
- (2) EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)

I. SUMMARY:

HB 825 allows districts to extend their school year up to six additional days beyond the 180 days of regular school instruction. Schools that do so will receive an allocation for one-half the cost of operation of schools for each additional day. This amount is to be based on a pro rata share of each school district's operational budget for the previous year divided by the number of classroom teaching days.

There would be an increase in costs if school districts chose to extend their school year. The cost is indeterminate at this time because there is no way to tell how many districts would choose to extend the school year.

HB 825 was heard by the Committee on Education Innovation on March 10, 1999. One amendment was passed but the bill was temporarily deferred. The bill was heard again on March 18, 1999, and passed unanimously with three amendments. The amendments have the following effects on the bill:

- Amendment 1** Deletes section one of the bill to help clarify the sponsor's intent of providing a means for school districts to extend their year to 186 days.
- Amendment 2** Provides funding criteria for the the current option in law for a district to extend to 210 days. The funding for the 210 day extension is different from the 50 percent funding for the six day extension.
- Amendment 3** Requires that additional days must be used for student-teacher instructional days.

For further more detailed information see section *VI--Amendments or Committee Substitute Changes*.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

Extended-School-Year Program

Section 236.081, F.S., states it is the intent of the Legislature that students are provided additional instruction by extending the school year to 210 days or more. Districts may apply to the Commissioner of Education for funds to be used in planning and implementing an extended-school-year program. The Department of Education (DOE) is then to recommend to the Legislature the policies necessary for full implementation of an extended school year.

There is one school in the state with an extended year calendar. The school is in Pinellas County and has had an extended year of 210 days for five years. This program is funded through full time equivalent funding (FTE) but had a planning grant for \$100,000 to start the program.

School Funding

The basic amount for current operation to be included in the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) for kindergarten through grade 12 for each district is the product of the following:

1. The full-time equivalent student membership in each program, multiplied by
2. The cost factor for each program, multiplied by
3. The base student allocation.

According to information gathered from a meeting of the Florida Commission on Education Reform and Accountability, a rough estimate of the cost to operate the Florida educational system for one day is \$60 million.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

HB 825 allows school districts to extend their school year up to six additional days beyond the 180 days of regular school instruction. They will receive an allocation for one-half the cost of operation of schools for each additional day. This amount is to be based on a pro rata share of each school district's operational budget for the previous year divided by the number of classroom teaching days.

An amendment passed in the Education Innovation Committee provides funding for the current option in law for a district to extend to 210 days. The funding for the 210 day extension is different from the 50 percent funding for the six day extension. For further more detailed information see section "VI-- Amendments or Committee Substitute Changes."

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

- a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

- (1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

No.

- (2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

Districts that choose to extend the school year will need to plan and implement the program.

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

No.

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced:

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

N/A

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

N/A

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

N/A

2. Lower Taxes:

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

No.

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

No.

c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

No.

d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

No.

e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

No.

3. Personal Responsibility:

a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

No.

b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

No.

4. Individual Freedom:

a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

The bill gives more flexibility to the school districts to implement an extended school year.

- b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

No.

5. Family Empowerment:

- a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:

- (1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

N/A

- (2) Who makes the decisions?

N/A

- (3) Are private alternatives permitted?

N/A

- (4) Are families required to participate in a program?

N/A

- (5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

N/A

- b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?

No.

- c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

- (1) parents and guardians?

No.

- (2) service providers?

The bill will allow school districts to extend the school year.

- (3) government employees/agencies?

The bill will allow school districts to extend the school year.

D. STATUTE(S) AFFECTED:

Amends section 236.081, F.S.

E. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

Section 1 Amends s. 236.081, F.S., allowing school districts to extend their school year up to six additional days beyond the 180 days of regular school instruction. They will receive an allocation for one-half the cost of operation of schools for each additional day. This

amount is to be based on a pro rata share of each school district's operational budget for the previous year divided by the number of classroom teaching days.

Section 2 Provides an effective date of July 1, 1999.

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

None.

2. Recurring Effects:

There would be an increase in costs if school districts chose to extend their school year. The cost is indeterminate at this time because it is dependent on how many districts choose to extend the school year. An approximate estimate of the cost to operate the Florida educational system for one day for all districts is \$60 million. The bill allows districts to receive 50 percent of the operational cost; if all schools chose to extend their school year that cost would be approximately \$30 million statewide for one day. Since school districts may extend the year six additional days per year, the cost, if *all* districts chose to extend their school year by the maximum six days, would be \$30 million times six or \$180 million.

An amendment passed in the Education Innovation Committee provides funding for the current option in law for a district to extend to 210 days. The funding for the 210 day extension is different from the 50 percent funding for the six day extension. For further more detailed information see section "VI--Amendments or Committee Substitute Changes."

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None.

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

There would be an increase in costs if school districts chose to extend their school year. The cost is indeterminate at this time because there is no way to tell how many districts would choose to extend the school year.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

None.

2. Recurring Effects:

None.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

None.

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

None.

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise and Employment Markets:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

N/A

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

The bill does not require counties or municipalities to expend funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

The bill does not reduce the authority of counties or municipalities to raise revenue.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

The bill does not reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties and municipalities.

V. COMMENTS:

N/A

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

HB 825 was heard by the Committee on Education Innovation on March 10, 1999. One amendment was passed but the bill was temporarily deferred. The bill was heard again on March 18, 1999, and passed unanimously with three amendments. The amendments have the following effects on the bill:

Amendment 1 Deletes section one of the bill to help clarify the sponsor's intent of providing a means for school districts to extend their year to 186 days.

Amendment 2 Subsection 1: Provides for distribution of a specific appropriation funding school year extension to 210 days for schools that choose to do so.

Requires schools wishing to extend their year to submit a letter of commitment to the Commissioner of Education by August 1, 1999.

Requires schools to submit by January 1, 2000, an extended year implementation plan which must include:

- * assurance that teacher training, individual collaborative teacher planning time and innovative use of technology are key elements;
- * assurance that additional time-on-task for students will be used to provide additional course content.

Subsection 2: Requires that the letter of commitment have a letter of endorsement and statement of cooperation from the school board.

Requires extended year schools to provide a 12 month contract for teachers.

Requires extended year school to be included in the open enrollment plan for the district.

Requires student performance data to be collected in such a way to be compared with data from students in 180 day schools.

Authorizes the Commissioner to reduce a district's 2000-2001 FEFP funding entitlement by the amount of its 1999-2000 extended year allocation if the district fails to submit 1999-2000 student performance data by September 1, 2000.

Requires the demonstration of improved student performance in order for a school to qualify for extended year funds in subsequent years.

Subsection 3: Specifies that funds appropriated for the 210 day extended school year are to be provided for both planning and operations grants.

Planning grants

- * Schools with 300 or fewer students will receive \$80,000
- * Schools with more than 500 but less than 1,000 students will receive \$120,000

Subsection 4 Outlines the calculation process for allocation for the extended year program

- * multiplying the district's base FEFP by
- * the number of students participating in an extended year school year
- * divided by the total student enrollment of the district
- * multiplied by 1/6
- * multiplied by 1/2

If the amount necessary to fund the planning and operations grants for all schools that have submitted letters of commitment is less than the amount of the appropriation for an extended school year, the uncommitted amount is to be prorated among all school districts based on each district's share of the state total FEFP base funding amount.

Subsection 5: Requires that the Commissioner of Education not release any funds until that school certifies that its planning is complete and is ready to fully implement the extended school year.

Authorizes the Commissioner of Education to receive letters of commitment and implementation plans from additional schools that wish to receive extended year funding provided that both letters of commitment and implementation plans are received by the deadlines and provided that the total amount necessary to fund them does not exceed the appropriation.

Subsection 6: The allocation of extended year funds is to be calculated as part of the first, third and fourth calculations of the FEFP for 1999-2000 using data current at the time of the calculations.

Amendment 3 Requires that additional days must be used for student-teacher instructional days.

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION INNOVATION:

Prepared by:

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