By Senator Laurent

17-583A-99

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to education; creating a pilot program to extend the school calendar for 3 4 students in Polk County; requiring additional 5 training days for teachers; requiring 6 evaluations and reports to legislative 7 officers; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date. 8 9 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 11 12 Section 1. There is created a 5-year pilot program in Polk County to extend the school calendar. In order to achieve 13 14 greater improvements in student performance as measured by the Sunshine State Standards, beginning with school year 15 1999-2000, the school year for all K-12 students in Polk 16 17 County is to be extended by 7 days, and teachers are to receive an additional 3 training days. This pilot project will 18 19 be in effect for 5 school years, commencing with school year 20 1999-2000 and concluding with school year 2003-2004. However, the continuation of the pilot project after school year 21 22 1999-2000 depends upon the Legislature's appropriation of 23 adequate state funds. Section 2. The Polk County school district shall 24 25 conduct an annual evaluation of the pilot program and shall 26 provide to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the 27 House of Representatives, by June 1 of the year following the 28 end of the school year that is being evaluated, an annual report that includes recommendations. The first evaluative 29 30 report is due June 1, 2001. 31

Section 3. There is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Education in fiscal year 1999-2000 the sum of \$11 million, to be allocated on a full-time-equivalent, pro-rata basis to the Polk County school district for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act during school year 1999-2000. Appropriations should continue during the 5-year period of this pilot program. Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999. *********** SENATE SUMMARY Creates a 5-year pilot program in Polk County which extends the school calendar by 7 days and requires teachers to receive an additional 3 training days. Requires an annual evaluative report to be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Provides an appropriation.