

By Representative Farkas

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to in-school suspension;  
 3           amending s. 228.041, F.S.; revising the  
 4           definition of "in-school suspension" to include  
 5           an additional alternative program; creating s.  
 6           230.23155, F.S.; providing funding for the  
 7           establishment of On-Campus Intervention  
 8           Programs (OCIPs); providing a process for  
 9           applying to the Commissioner of Education for  
 10          funds to establish and conduct an OCIP;  
 11          providing program requirements; requiring an  
 12          annual report; providing for future repeal;  
 13          providing an effective date.

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

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 17           Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (25) of section  
 18   228.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

19           228.041 Definitions.--Specific definitions shall be as  
 20   follows, and wherever such defined words or terms are used in  
 21   the Florida School Code, they shall be used as follows:

22           (25) SUSPENSION.--

23           (b) In-school suspension is the temporary removal of a  
 24   student from the student's regular school program and  
 25   placement in an alternative program, such as that provided in  
 26   ~~ss. s-230.2316~~ and 230.23155, under the supervision of school  
 27   district personnel, for a period not to exceed 10 school days.

28           Section 2. Section 230.23155, Florida Statutes, is  
 29   created to read:

30           230.23155 On-Campus Intervention Programs.--To provide  
 31   an alternative to out-of-school suspension, the Legislature

1 hereby appropriates the sum of \$5 million from the General  
2 Revenue Fund for each of fiscal years 2000-2001, 2001-2002,  
3 2002-2003, and 2003-2004 to the Department of Education for  
4 the establishment of On-Campus Intervention Programs (OCIPs),  
5 according to the provisions of this act.

6 (1) A public school principal may apply to the  
7 Commissioner of Education for up to \$75,000 to establish and  
8 conduct an OCIP, according to the provisions of this act.

9 Such application must include:

10 (a) A letter of support from the district  
11 superintendent of schools.

12 (b) Letters of commitment from local community  
13 organizations with expertise in youth and family counseling or  
14 local government agencies for funds equaling at least  
15 one-third of the amount of the grant request.

16 (c) Projected student outcomes.

17 (d) A proposal for fulfilling the program requirements  
18 of subsection (2).

19 (2) Using the guidelines established for the Pinellas  
20 County OCIP as a model, a school principal may establish an  
21 OCIP which must include the following components:

22 (a) Students participating in the OCIP must be  
23 provided counseling, tutoring, instruction in life skills and  
24 anger management, and referrals to continued individual or  
25 family counseling.

26 (b) The school day for an OCIP shall be at least the  
27 length of the school day as defined by s. 228.041(13), and a  
28 student participating in an OCIP shall be required to attend  
29 for the full day each day he or she is assigned to the OCIP.

30 (c) Space within the fixed school building must be  
31 dedicated solely to the OCIP. Such space must include

1 classroom space and separate office space for individual and  
2 group counseling.

3 (d) The OCIP staff shall include, but not be limited  
4 to, a certified teacher, a counselor with expertise in youth  
5 and family counseling who possesses a master's degree, and a  
6 clerical employee or intern.

7 (e) Staff of the OCIP must be provided with a phone or  
8 other means of direct communication with the school  
9 administration.

10 (3) With the parent's permission, a student may be  
11 assigned by the school principal to an OCIP for 3 or 5 days,  
12 in lieu of an out-of-school suspension. A student may  
13 participate in an OCIP a maximum of 3 times per school year.

14 (4) By October 1, annually, each OCIP that receives  
15 funds according to this section must submit to the  
16 Commissioner of Education an annual report which includes, but  
17 is not limited to, the following:

18 (a) Program expenditures.

19 (b) Enrollment by grade.

20 (c) Number of suspensions, by student.

21 (d) Total number of suspensions.

22 (e) Student recidivism rates.

23 (f) Dropout rate.

24 (g) Student outcomes.

25 (h) Principal and OCIP staff comments regarding the  
26 effectiveness of the program.

27 (5) By January 1, 2004, the Commissioner of Education  
28 must submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the  
29 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the majority and  
30 minority leaders of the Senate and the House of  
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1 Representatives an evaluation of the effectiveness of  
2 On-Campus Intervention Programs.  
3 (6) This section is repealed effective July 1, 2004.  
4 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.  
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7 HOUSE SUMMARY  
8  
9 Revises the definition of "in-school suspension" to  
10 include an additional alternative. Provides funding for  
11 the establishment of On-Campus Intervention Programs  
12 (OCIPs) as an alternative to out-of-school suspension.  
13 Provides a process for applying to the Commissioner of  
14 Education for funds to establish and conduct an OCIP.  
15 Provides program requirements. Requires an annual report.  
16 Provides for future repeal.  
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