

By the Committee on Education/K-12 and Representatives C. Green and Cantens

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to hazardous walking
3 conditions; requiring school districts to
4 conduct a study on hazardous walking
5 conditions; requiring a report; providing an
6 effective date.

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

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10 Section 1. Study of hazardous walking
11 conditions.--Each school district and the state or local
12 governmental entity having jurisdiction shall conduct a study
13 of hazardous walking conditions. Each school district shall
14 include charter schools in its study. Each district shall
15 report its findings to the Department of Education by December
16 31, 2000. The Department of Education shall submit a statewide
17 report of the districts' findings to the Legislature by March
18 1, 2001.

19 (1) Each school district and the state or local
20 governmental entity having jurisdiction shall jointly develop
21 a priority list of hazardous walking conditions projects that
22 have been identified and have not yet been corrected. Each
23 school district shall use this part of the study to monitor
24 school transportation safety. The study must include the
25 following for the hazardous walking conditions determined
26 under the provisions of s. 234.021, Florida Statutes:

27 (a) The number of hazardous walking conditions which
28 have been identified and have not been corrected by the state
29 or local governmental entity having jurisdiction within 5
30 years after identification of the hazard and a fiscal impact
31 of the cost to correct each hazard; and

1 (b) For each hazardous walking condition that has been
2 identified and has not been corrected, a statement of the
3 reason given for the deficiency by the state or local
4 governmental entity having jurisdiction.

5 (2) The study must also include recommendations and
6 fiscal estimates for:

7 (a) Any changes to current law for expanding the
8 definition of student in s. 234.021(1), Florida Statutes, to
9 include students in grades kindergarten through 12.

10 (b) Any changes to current law for identifying
11 hazardous walking conditions for walkways parallel to the
12 road, including, but not limited to:

13 1. Increasing the size of the walk area adjacent to
14 the road from 4 feet or making changes to the walk area
15 surface;

16 2. Increasing the size of the current set off
17 requirement for uncurbed walkways to at least 6 feet or
18 decreasing the qualifying posted speed limit of 55 miles per
19 hour; or

20 3. Amending the current exceptions to the criteria for
21 determining hazardous walking conditions for certain
22 residential areas and roads that have a certain volume of
23 traffic and a posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour or less.

24 (c) Any changes to current law for identifying
25 hazardous walking conditions for walkways perpendicular to the
26 road, including, but not limited to:

27 1. Limitations in the volume of traffic for the road
28 or the direction of traffic.

29 2. The definition of an uncontrolled crossing site.

30 3. The identification of any hazards associated with
31 multilane crossings.

1 (d) Any other recommendations, including, but not
2 limited to, the consideration of additional criteria for
3 determining hazardous walking conditions, such as crime,
4 construction, adjacent bodies of water, or other risks,
5 procedures for identifying hazardous walking conditions,
6 procedures for locating bus stops, required level of auditing
7 claims for funding, and identification of responsibilities of
8 parents or guardians for the safety of their children when
9 transportation is not required and is not provided by the
10 school district or charter school.

11 (3) The study must also identify, by district, the
12 number of schools that:

13 (a) Separate the school bus loading and departure
14 locations from the loading and departure locations for
15 parents, guardians, or others who provide transportation to
16 children.

17 (b) Provide transportation to students for whom
18 transportation is not currently required under state law,
19 including data on the numbers of students and their grade
20 levels.

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22 The identification of schools under this subsection may be
23 used as a basis for providing incentive funds to specific
24 school districts in the 2001-2002 General Appropriations Act.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.
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