

By Senator Klein

28-890-01

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to school health services;
 3 creating s. 381.0058, F.S., relating to
 4 public-private partnerships for the provision
 5 of school nurse services; providing legislative
 6 intent and purpose; providing departmental
 7 duties; providing a proposal submission and
 8 review process; providing for the scope of
 9 services to be provided; providing for review
 10 and selection criteria; providing legislative
 11 intent relating to funding of the act;
 12 providing an effective date.

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

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 16 Section 1. Section 381.0058, Florida Statutes, is
 17 created to read:

18 381.0058 Matching funds for school nurse services
 19 public-private partnerships.--

20 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that matching
 21 funds, in addition to those provided under s. 381.0056 for the
 22 School Health Services Act and s. 381.0057 for school health
 23 services funding, be provided in those communities where
 24 interest in school health services is evidenced by the
 25 participation of public or private entities in the funding or
 26 delivery of school nurse services. The purpose of this funding
 27 is to encourage the development of those programs that offer
 28 the greatest potential for promoting the health of students,
 29 increasing the availability of and access to nurses in the
 30 school setting, and fostering greater community participation
 31 in the delivery of school nurse services. Matching funds shall

1 be available specifically for implementation of programs as
2 described in ss. 381.0056, 381.0057, and 402.3026, and that
3 are designed to meet the particular needs of the community.
4 Further, it is the intent of the Legislature that
5 tobacco-settlement revenue be used to pay for health and human
6 services for children.

7 (2) The Secretary of Health, or his or her designee,
8 in cooperation with the Commissioner of Education, or his or
9 her designee, shall publicize the availability of matching
10 funds for public and private entities committed to enhancing
11 the availability of school nurse service, as reflected in
12 formal agreements that are part of the local school health
13 services plan.

14 (3) The Secretary of Health, or his or her designees,
15 in cooperation with the Commissioner of Education, or his or
16 her designees, in equal representation, shall form a committee
17 to determine the eligibility of sites to receive matching
18 funds.

19 (4) Any community that seeks to receive state matching
20 funds under this section must submit a proposal to the
21 committee established in subsection (3). The proposal must
22 state the goals of the program, provide specific plans for
23 enhancing local resources available for school nurse services,
24 and describe all of the health services to be made available
25 to students from matching funds provided under this section. A
26 county health department or school district receiving matching
27 funds may not supplant more than 50 percent of the current
28 local contributions to school health services funding, as
29 documented in the local school health services plan.

30 (5) In addition to the merits of a proposal, the award
31 of matching funds must be based on those proposals from sites

1 that include county health departments and school districts
2 that most closely meet the following criteria:

3 (a) Have evidence of a comprehensive inservice staff
4 development plan.

5 (b) Have evidence of a cooperative working
6 relationship between the county health department and the
7 school district and have community as well as parental
8 support.

9 (c) Have a high percentage of subsidized school
10 lunches.

11 (d) Have a high incidence of medically underserved
12 high-risk children, low-birthweight babies, infant mortality,
13 or teenage pregnancy.

14 (e) Have a high incidence of children with chronic
15 health conditions or high-risk behavioral problems.

16 (f) Have documented in the local school health
17 services plan a commitment from community entities to fund or
18 provide other direct resources for the enhanced availability
19 of school health services.

20 (g) Have a plan to ensure billing for Medicaid funding
21 for services rendered under the certified school match program
22 or the county health department certified match program as
23 specified in s. 409.9122.

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25 While these criteria are part of the proposal review process,
26 these criteria are not to be construed as the sole factors to
27 be considered in the proposal review process. The ability and
28 interest of a site in addressing locally identified needs and
29 priorities must also be considered. In addition, receipt of
30 matching funds is not intended to diminish a site's
31 eligibility for base funding for school health services.

1 Section 2. Legislative intent; funding.--It is the
2 intent of the Legislature that sufficient resources be made
3 available to fund a nurse in every public school in the state,
4 pursuant to this act. The Legislature recognizes that
5 extensive resources will be necessary to achieve this intent,
6 and that a portion of these resources can be found from a
7 variety of existing resources. The Legislature recognizes that
8 existing funding for basic and comprehensive school health
9 services and full service schools, as created under sections
10 381.0056 and 381.0057, Florida Statutes, can be used as
11 partial funding. The Legislature further recognizes that
12 funding earned by local school districts and county health
13 departments from the Agency for Health Care Administration
14 from the delivery of services to Medicaid-eligible students
15 can also be used as partial funding. Finally, the Legislature
16 recognizes that another source of funding is local funding
17 currently being used for school health services, which can now
18 be eligible for matching funds under school nurse services
19 public-private partnerships as created by this act. It is the
20 intent of the Legislature that the remainder of resources
21 necessary for placing a nurse in every school will need to be
22 derived from the state's tobacco settlement revenue.

23 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.
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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides legislative intent with respect to providing funding for school nurse services. Provides for matching funds to be available to public and private entities. Requires that the Secretary of Health and the Commissioner of Education form a committee to determine eligibility of sites to receive funds under the act. Requires that a community submit a proposal in order to receive matching funds for school nurse services. Specifies that the Legislature intends for a portion of funds for the program to be derived from revenues of the state's tobacco settlement.