

By the Committee on Education and Senator Clary

304-1730-01

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to education; amending s.
3 231.6135, F.S.; exempting regional educational
4 consortia from certain requirements to become
5 eligible for grants to create professional
6 development academies; providing an effective
7 date.

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

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11 Section 1. Subsections (5) and (6) of section
12 231.6135, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

13 231.6135 Statewide system for inservice professional
14 development.--The intent of this section is to establish a
15 statewide system of professional development that provides a
16 wide range of targeted inservice training to teachers,
17 managers, and administrative personnel designed to upgrade
18 skills and knowledge needed to reach world class standards in
19 education. The system shall consist of a network of
20 professional development academies in each region of the state
21 that are operated in partnership with area business partners
22 to develop and deliver high-quality training programs
23 purchased by school districts. The academies shall be
24 established to meet the human resource development needs of
25 professional educators, schools, and school districts. Funds
26 appropriated for the initiation of professional development
27 academies shall be allocated by the Commissioner of Education,
28 unless otherwise provided in an appropriations act. To be
29 eligible for startup funds, the academy must:

30 (5) Be operated under contract with its public
31 partners and governed by an independent board of directors,

1 which should include at least one superintendent of schools
2 and one district school board chair from the participating
3 school districts, the president of the collective bargaining
4 unit that represents the majority of the region's teachers,
5 and at least three individuals who are not employees or
6 elected or appointed officials of the participating school
7 districts. Regional educational consortia as defined in s.
8 228.0857 satisfy the requirements of this subsection.

9 (6) Be financed during the first year of operation by
10 an equal or greater match from private funding sources and
11 demonstrate the ability to be self-supporting within 1 year
12 after opening through fees for services, grants, or private
13 contributions. Regional educational consortia as defined in s.
14 228.0857 are exempt from the funding match required by this
15 subsection.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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18 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
19 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
20 SB 1640

21 Instead of creating a new statute, the Committee Substitute
22 amends s. 231.6135, F.S., to exempt regional education
23 consortia from the requirements to match state funds with
24 private sources and establish a board of directors.
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