

By Representative Waters

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to education accountability;
3 amending s. 229.58, F.S.; revising requirements
4 for the composition of school advisory
5 councils; requiring school boards to develop
6 procedures to ensure balanced school advisory
7 council membership; providing an effective
8 date.

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

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12 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 229.58, Florida
13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 229.58 District and school advisory councils.--

15 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.--

16 (a) The school board shall establish an advisory
17 council for each school in the district, and shall develop
18 procedures for the election and appointment of advisory
19 council members. Each school advisory council shall include in
20 its name the words "school advisory council." The school
21 advisory council shall be the sole body responsible for final
22 decisionmaking at the school relating to implementation of the
23 provisions of ss. 229.591, 229.592, and 230.23(16). A majority
24 of the members of each school advisory council must be persons
25 who are not employed by the school. Each advisory council
26 shall be composed of the following:

27 1. The school principal ~~and an appropriately balanced~~
28 ~~number of~~

29 2. Teachers, education support employees, students,
30 parents, and other business and community citizens who are
31 representative of the ~~ethnic, racial, and economic~~ community

1 served by the school, giving consideration to the school's
2 ethnic, racial, and economic makeup.

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4 School boards shall develop procedures to ensure balanced
5 school advisory council membership. Vocational-technical
6 center and high school advisory councils shall include
7 students, and middle and junior high school advisory councils
8 may include students. School advisory councils of
9 vocational-technical and adult education centers are not
10 required to include parents as members.

11 (b) Council members representing teachers, education
12 support employees, students, and parents shall be elected by
13 their respective peer groups at the school in a fair and
14 equitable manner as follows:

- 15 1. Teachers shall be elected by teachers.
- 16 2. Education support employees shall be elected by
17 education support employees.
- 18 3. Students shall be elected by students.
- 19 4. Parents shall be elected by parents.

20
21 The school board shall establish procedures for use by schools
22 in selecting business and community members. Such procedures
23 shall include means of ensuring wide notice of vacancies and
24 for taking input on possible members from local business,
25 chambers of commerce, community and civic organizations and
26 groups, and the public at large. The school board shall review
27 the membership composition of each advisory council. Should
28 the school board determine that the membership elected by the
29 school is not representative of the ethnic, racial, and
30 economic community served by the school, the board shall
31 appoint additional members to achieve proper representation.

1 The Commissioner of Education shall determine if schools have
2 maximized their efforts to include on their advisory councils
3 minority persons and persons of lower socioeconomic status.
4 Although schools should be strongly encouraged to establish
5 school advisory councils, any school district that has a
6 student population of 10,000 or fewer may establish a district
7 advisory council which shall include at least one duly elected
8 teacher from each school in the district. For the purposes of
9 school advisory councils and district advisory councils, the
10 term "teacher" shall include classroom teachers, certified
11 student services personnel, and media specialists. For
12 purposes of this paragraph, "education support employee" means
13 any person employed by a school who is not defined as
14 instructional or administrative personnel pursuant to s.
15 228.041 and whose duties require 20 or more hours in each
16 normal working week.

17 (c)~~(b)~~ The school board may establish a district
18 advisory council representative of the district and composed
19 of teachers, students, parents, and other citizens or a
20 district advisory council which may be comprised of
21 representatives of each school advisory council. Recognized
22 schoolwide support groups which meet all criteria established
23 by law or rule may function as school advisory councils.

24 (d)~~(c)~~ For those schools operating for the purpose of
25 providing educational services to youth in Department of
26 Juvenile Justice programs, school boards may establish a
27 district advisory council with appropriate representatives for
28 the purpose of developing and monitoring a district school
29 improvement plan which encompasses all such schools in the
30 district, pursuant to s. 230.23(16)(a).

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

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Revises requirements for the composition of school advisory councils. Requires school boards to develop procedures to ensure balanced school advisory council membership.