

By Representative Lerner

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to school district financial
3 management; amending s. 230.23, F.S., relating
4 to powers and duties of the school board
5 relating to school finance; requiring the
6 annual school budget to reflect best financial
7 management practices; amending s. 230.23025,
8 F.S.; authorizing the Commissioner of Education
9 to require a district to complete a best
10 financial management practices review under
11 certain circumstances; correcting a cross
12 reference; 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. Paragraph (b) of subsection (10) of section
17 230.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

18 230.23 Powers and duties of school board.--The school
19 board, acting as a board, shall exercise all powers and
20 perform all duties listed below:

21 (10) FINANCE.--Take steps to assure children adequate
22 educational facilities through the financial procedure
23 authorized in chapters 236 and 237 and as prescribed below:

24 (b) Annual budget.--Cause to be prepared, adopt, and
25 have submitted to the Department of Education for review,as
26 required by law and by regulations of the state board, the
27 annual school budget.~~7~~Such budget shall ~~to~~ be so prepared and
28 executed as to promote the improvement of the district school
29 system and reflect the best financial management practices
30 adopted by the Commissioner of Education, pursuant to s.
31 230.23025.

1 Section 2. Subsections (2) and (5) of section
2 230.23025, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (3)
3 and (4) of said section are renumbered as subsections (4) and
4 (5) to read:

5 230.23025 Best financial management practices;
6 standards; reviews; designation of districts.--

7 (2)(a) School districts may, by a unanimous vote of
8 the membership of the school board, apply to OPPAGA for a
9 complete best financial management practice review or a review
10 of components of the best financial management practices,
11 including management, personnel, transportation, and food and
12 nutrition services. OPPAGA shall prioritize districts
13 requesting a for review based on their growth rates and
14 demonstrated need for review.

15 (b) The Commissioner of Education may require a
16 complete or partial best financial management practices review
17 of any district:

18 1. From which it has withheld budget approval pursuant
19 to s. 237.081 and rules of the state board; or

20 2. Based on complaints from the public pursuant to s.
21 237.081.

22 (3) The director of OPPAGA may, at his or her
23 discretion, contract with private consultants to perform part
24 or all of the review of any district.

25 (a) Districts applying for a complete review shall
26 contribute 50 percent of review costs, unless funding for the
27 entire cost of the review is specifically provided by the
28 Legislature.

29 (b) Districts applying for a review of a component
30 shall contribute 75 percent of the review cost.

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1 (c) Districts required to complete a full or partial
2 review shall contribute the full cost of the review.

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4 All moneys contributed by any school district under this
5 section toward the cost of a complete or component best
6 financial management practices review of the district shall be
7 deposited into the Florida School District Review Trust Fund
8 administered by OPPAGA.

9 (5) Any audit or performance review of one or more of
10 the designated components conducted or supervised by OPPAGA or
11 the Department of Management Services, and completed within 2
12 years before the date of application to OPPAGA for a best
13 financial practices review, may serve as all or part of the
14 audit or review required as the examination of district
15 operations necessary for a determination of whether a district
16 meets the "best financial management practices" designation.
17 The cost contribution requirements of subsection (3)~~(2)~~ do
18 not apply to any such audit or performance review.

19 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Requires the annual school budget prepared by a district school board to reflect best financial management practices. Authorizes the Commissioner of Education to require a district to complete a best financial management practices review under certain circumstances.