

By the Committee on Education Innovation and
Representative Sorensen

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to educational finance;
3 amending s. 236.081, F.S.; revising the
4 limitation on the percentage of a school
5 district's total K-12 Florida Education Finance
6 Program calculation that may be produced by the
7 district's revenue from required local effort
8 millage for certain counties; providing an
9 effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
14 236.081, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15 236.081 Funds for operation of schools.--If the annual
16 allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each
17 district for operation of schools is not determined in the
18 annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing
19 the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as
20 follows:

21 (4) COMPUTATION OF DISTRICT REQUIRED LOCAL
22 EFFORT.--The Legislature shall prescribe the aggregate
23 required local effort for all school districts collectively as
24 an item in the General Appropriations Act for each fiscal
25 year. The amount that each district shall provide annually
26 toward the cost of the Florida Education Finance Program for
27 kindergarten through grade 12 programs shall be calculated as
28 follows:

29 (a) Estimated taxable value calculations.--

30 1.a. Not later than 2 working days prior to July 19,
31 the Department of Revenue shall certify to the Commissioner of

1 Education its most recent estimate of the taxable value for
2 school purposes in each school district and the total for all
3 school districts in the state for the current calendar year
4 based on the latest available data obtained from the local
5 property appraisers. Not later than July 19, the commissioner
6 shall compute a millage rate, rounded to the next highest one
7 one-thousandth of a mill, which, when applied to 95 percent of
8 the estimated state total taxable value for school purposes,
9 would generate the prescribed aggregate required local effort
10 for that year for all districts. The commissioner shall
11 certify to each district school board the millage rate,
12 computed as prescribed in this subparagraph, as the minimum
13 millage rate necessary to provide the district required local
14 effort for that year.

15 b. The General Appropriations Act shall direct the
16 computation of the statewide adjusted aggregate amount for
17 required local effort for all school districts collectively
18 from ad valorem taxes to ensure that no school district's
19 revenue from required local effort millage will produce more
20 than 90 percent of the district's total K-12 Florida Education
21 Finance Program calculation, and the adjustment of the
22 required local effort millage rate of each district that
23 produces more than 90 percent of its total Florida Education
24 Finance Program entitlement to a level that will produce only
25 90 percent of its total Florida Education Finance Program
26 entitlement. The General Appropriations Act shall also direct
27 that, for any county whose millage has been adjusted as
28 provided in this sub-subparagraph and where more than 90
29 percent of the area of the county is owned by governmental
30 entities or public land trusts, the required local effort
31 millage rate shall be further adjusted for the 2002-2003

1 fiscal year to a level that will produce only 85 percent of
2 its total Florida Education Finance Program entitlement, and,
3 beginning with the 2003-2004 fiscal year and every fiscal year
4 thereafter, to a level that will produce only 80 percent of
5 its total Florida Education Finance Program entitlement.

6 2. As revised data are received from property
7 appraisers, the Department of Revenue shall amend the
8 certification of the estimate of the taxable value for school
9 purposes. The Commissioner of Education, in administering the
10 provisions of subparagraph (9)(a)2., shall use the most recent
11 taxable value for the appropriate year.

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
13 law.

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