

By Senator Webster

12-759A-01

See HB

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to educator professional
3 liability insurance; creating s. 231.800, F.S.;
4 providing legislative intent; requiring
5 educator professional liability insurance
6 coverage for all full-time instructional
7 personnel; providing for specific
8 appropriations in the General Appropriations
9 Act; extending such coverage at cost to
10 part-time instructional personnel; providing an
11 effective date.

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13 WHEREAS, Article IX, section 1, of the State
14 Constitution states that "The education of children is a
15 fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida," and

16 WHEREAS, effective teachers directing orderly
17 classrooms provide the key to the best public education the
18 State of Florida can offer, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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22 Section 1. Section 231.800, Florida Statutes, is
23 created to read:

24 231.800 Florida educators' professional liability
25 insurance protection.--

26 (1) The Legislature intends that all the teachers in
27 this state be protected from liability for monetary damages
28 and the cost of defense of actions resulting from claims made
29 against them arising out of occurrences in the course of
30 activities in their professional capacity.

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1 (2)(a) Beginning July 1, 2001, educator professional
2 liability coverage for all instructional personnel as defined
3 by s. 228.041(9) who are full-time personnel under their
4 district contracts shall be provided by specific
5 appropriations under the General Appropriations Act.

6 (b) Beginning July 1, 2001, educator professional
7 liability coverage shall be extended at cost to all
8 instructional personnel as defined by s. 228.041(9) who are
9 part-time personnel under their district contracts and who
10 choose to participate in the state-provided program.

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

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Specifies that educator professional liability insurance coverage for all full-time instructional personnel be provided by specific appropriations under the General Appropriations Act to protect teachers from liability for monetary damages in defense of actions resulting from claims made against them arising out of occurrences in the course of activities in their professional capacity and extends such coverage to part-time instructional personnel at cost.