

By Representatives Lynn and Fiorentino

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to public school funding;  
3           creating the "School District Flexibility Act  
4           of 2001"; providing for school district  
5           flexibility in the 2001-2002 fiscal year  
6           expenditure of specified funds appropriated in  
7           ch. 2001-253, Laws of Florida; providing for  
8           reports; authorizing equalized nonvoted capital  
9           improvement millage to be expended for  
10          operations in fiscal year 2001-2002; providing  
11          for repeal; providing an effective date.

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

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15           Section 1. School District Flexibility Act of 2001.--

16           (1) This act may be cited as the "School District  
17 Flexibility Act of 2001."

18           (2)(a) During the 2001-2002 fiscal year, each district  
19 school board is authorized flexibility to expend funds  
20 allocated to the school district from the appropriations in  
21 chapter 2001-253, Laws of Florida, as provided below:

22           1. If a district school board finds and declares in a  
23 resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the school board  
24 that the funds received for the programs listed below are  
25 urgently needed to maintain board specified academic classroom  
26 instruction, the school board may consider and approve an  
27 amendment to the school district's 2001-2002 operating budget  
28 transferring the identified amount of funds to the appropriate  
29 account for expenditure.

30           a. Section 236.083, Florida Statutes, Funds for  
31 Student Transportation, Specific Appropriation 121.

1           b. Section 236.081(3), Florida Statutes, Funds for  
2 Inservice Educational Personnel Training, Specific  
3 Appropriation 122.

4           c. Funds allocated for Safe Schools Activities,  
5 Specific Appropriation 118.

6           d. Funds for Public School Technology, Specific  
7 Appropriation 120A.

8           e. Funds for Teacher Recruitment Signing Bonuses,  
9 Specific Appropriation 119, which are in excess of the amount  
10 required to provide \$850 Teacher Retention Bonuses.

11           2. If the district school board finds that funds  
12 allocated for the purpose set forth in s. 236.08104, Florida  
13 Statutes, Supplemental Academic Instruction, Specific  
14 Appropriation 118, are budgeted to be expended for  
15 nonclassroom instruction, the school board may consider and  
16 approve an amendment to the school district's 2001-2002  
17 operating budget transferring such funds to an appropriate  
18 academic classroom instruction account for expenditure.

19           (b) Each district school board shall report to the  
20 Department of Education the amount of funds it transferred  
21 from each of the programs identified in this subsection and  
22 the specific academic classroom instruction for which these  
23 funds were expended. The department shall provide instructions  
24 and format to be used in submitting this required information.  
25 The department shall submit to the Governor, the President of  
26 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a  
27 report showing the actions taken by each district school board  
28 and a statewide summary for all school districts.

29           (3)(a) To help mitigate the impact of the midyear  
30 reduction in the 2001-2002 fiscal year appropriation for the  
31 Florida Education Finance Program, each district school board

1 is authorized to expend in its operating budget as  
2 nonrecurring funds up to 0.5 mills of its nonvoted capital  
3 improvement millage levied pursuant to s. 236.25(2), Florida  
4 Statutes, for the 2001-2002 fiscal year, that will produce an  
5 amount not to exceed \$183 per full-time equivalent student.  
6 This authorized use of proceeds from this millage levy is in  
7 addition to the authorized uses set forth in s. 236.25,  
8 Florida Statutes, and is for the 2001-2002 fiscal year only.  
9 Any proceeds from this millage levy used to replace the  
10 midyear budget reduction in the Florida Education Finance  
11 Program shall be transferred by budget amendment approved by  
12 the district school board at a regular meeting of the school  
13 board.

14 (b) If the proceeds from 0.5 mills produce less than  
15 \$183 per full-time equivalent student in any school district,  
16 the additional amount required to equal \$183 per full-time  
17 equivalent student shall be provided from state funds.

18 (c) If a district school board has not levied  
19 sufficient millage pursuant to s. 236.25(2), Florida Statutes,  
20 for the 2001-2002 fiscal year to produce \$183 per full-time  
21 equivalent student and the school board has other similar  
22 funds available, the school board may use such funds in lieu  
23 of proceeds from millage.

24 (4) This section is repealed effective June 30, 2002.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
26 law.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides for school district flexibility in the 2001-2002 fiscal year expenditure of specified funds appropriated in the 2001-2002 General Appropriations Act. Provides for reports. Authorizes equalized nonvoted capital improvement millage to be expended for district school board operations in fiscal year 2001-2002. Provides for repeal.