



HB 1537

2003

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to public school personnel; creating s.
3 1012.235, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education to
4 develop a policy that specifies the ratio of school social
5 workers to students and the ratio of school psychologists
6 to students to be maintained in the public schools;
7 requiring reporting; providing an effective date.

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

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11 Section 1. Section 1012.235, Florida Statutes, is created
12 to read:

13 1012.235 School social workers and school psychologists.--

14 (1) The Department of Education shall develop a policy
15 that specifies the ratio of school social workers to students
16 and the ratio of school psychologists to students that should be
17 maintained in the public schools based on guidelines provided by
18 the National Association of School Social Workers and the
19 National Association of School Psychologists.

20 (2) The policy shall include the rationale for employing
21 school social workers and school psychologists in the public
22 schools, a statement of the purpose of school social workers and
23 school psychologists, a summary of the current ratios, and
24 proposals to increase the number of school social workers and
25 school psychologists to meet the specified ratios.

26 (3) By January 2004, the department shall provide a copy
27 of the policy to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and
28 the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

29 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.