

By Senator Pruitt

28-20-03

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to Indian River County;  
3           providing for the relief of Debra Smith, Pamela  
4           Hughes, Michael Truitt, and Charles Hughes;  
5           authorizing and directing the Indian River  
6           County School Board to compensate them for the  
7           death of their father, Sammie Lee Hughes, due  
8           to the negligence of the school board;  
9           providing an effective date.

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11           WHEREAS, on Monday, January 25, 1999, at approximately  
12   3:30 p.m., a school bus driver employed by the Indian River  
13   County School District ran a stop sign at the intersection of  
14   45th Street and 66th Avenue and collided with a truck driven  
15   by Sammie Lee Hughes, and

16           WHEREAS, the impact sent the truck careening into a  
17   drainage ditch, killing Mr. Hughes, and

18           WHEREAS, as a result of this accident, several injured  
19   parties filed legal actions, and

20           WHEREAS, Debra Smith and Pamela Hughes, as co-personal  
21   representatives of the estate of Sammie Lee Hughes, filed suit  
22   in the Circuit Court of the 19th Judicial Circuit in and for  
23   Indian River County, Florida (Case Number 99-0656-CA-10), and

24           WHEREAS, in a final judgment dated February 20, 2002,  
25   the court awarded the sum of \$75,000 to Debra Smith, \$75,000  
26   to Pamela Hughes, \$75,000 to Michael Truitt, and \$100,000 to  
27   Charles Hughes, plus costs in the amount of \$530.72, for a  
28   total sum of \$325,530.72, and

29           WHEREAS, the maximum amount that may be awarded under  
30   section 768.28, Florida Statutes, has already been paid to

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1 other plaintiffs for injuries suffered as a result of this  
2 incident, and

3 WHEREAS, recovery of the amounts set forth in this act  
4 may be obtained only through the Florida Legislature's passage  
5 of a claim bill awarding such sums, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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9 Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this  
10 act are found and declared to be true.

11 Section 2. The Indian River County School Board is  
12 authorized and directed to appropriate from funds not  
13 otherwise appropriated and to draw a warrant payable to Debra  
14 Smith for the total amount of \$75,000 for injuries and damages  
15 sustained due to the death of her father, Sammie Lee Hughes.

16 Section 3. The Indian River County School Board is  
17 authorized and directed to appropriate from funds not  
18 otherwise appropriated and to draw a warrant payable to Pamela  
19 Hughes for the total amount of \$75,000 for injuries and  
20 damages sustained due to the death of her father, Sammie Lee  
21 Hughes.

22 Section 4. The Indian River County School Board is  
23 authorized and directed to appropriate from funds not  
24 otherwise appropriated and to draw a warrant payable to  
25 Michael Truitt for the total amount of \$75,000 for injuries  
26 and damages sustained due to the death of his father, Sammie  
27 Lee Hughes.

28 Section 5. The Indian River County School Board is  
29 authorized and directed to appropriate from funds not  
30 otherwise appropriated and to draw a warrant payable to  
31 Charles Hughes for the total amount of \$100,000 for injuries

1 and damages sustained due to the death of his father, Sammie  
2 Lee Hughes.

3           Section 6. The Indian River County School Board is  
4 authorized and directed to appropriate from funds not  
5 otherwise appropriated and to draw a warrant payable to Debra  
6 Smith and Pamela Hughes, as co-personal representatives of the  
7 estate of Sammie Lee Hughes, for the total amount of \$530.72  
8 for costs incurred in Case Number 99-0656-CA-10 in the Circuit  
9 Court of the 19th Judicial Circuit in and for Indian River  
10 County, Florida.

11           Section 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
12 law.

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