

By Senator Aronberg

27-1575A-03

See HB 585

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to career and technical  
3           education in the public schools; creating s.  
4           1003.492, F.S.; providing for pilot projects  
5           designed to blend into the middle school  
6           curriculum elements of career and technical  
7           education; providing goals of the pilot  
8           projects; requiring an evaluation component;  
9           requiring the Council for Education Policy  
10          Research and Improvement to review the pilot  
11          projects and provide recommendations; providing  
12          an effective date.

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

16           Section 1.   Section 1003.492, Florida Statutes, is  
17 created to read:

18           1003.492 Career and technical education pilot  
19 projects.--

20           (1) It is the purpose of this section to authorize the  
21 district school boards of Broward, Duval, Lee, and Palm Beach  
22 Counties to implement pilot projects that more clearly and  
23 systematically blend into the middle school curriculum  
24 elements of career and technical education for the purpose of  
25 achieving the following goals:

26           (a) Exploring with middle school students how they can  
27 successfully live and work in a culturally diverse world.

28           (b) Helping middle school students recognize their  
29 interests, aptitudes, and abilities, and understand adult  
30 roles in the world of work.

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1           (c) Helping middle school students understand the  
2 broad scope of work and career possibilities available  
3 currently and in the future.

4           (d) Helping middle school students to broaden their  
5 aspirations beyond the stereotypes of gender, socioeconomic  
6 status, and ethnicity.

7           (e) Integrating career and technical education into  
8 the general middle school academic curriculum in order to  
9 promote intellectual development and the acquisition of  
10 higher-level thinking and problem-solving skills.

11           (f) Assisting with middle school students' development  
12 of social skills, personal values, and self-esteem.

13           (g) Working with the families of middle school  
14 students to support their children's career aspirations.

15           (2) Beginning in the 2003-2004 school year, the  
16 Broward County District School Board and the Duval County  
17 District School Board shall implement pilot projects in at  
18 least two and no more than four middle schools in each school  
19 district designed to meet the goals in subsection (1). Middle  
20 schools selected shall be representative of both high and low  
21 scoring schools as measured by the Florida Comprehensive  
22 Assessment Test. Each pilot project may target all students in  
23 each middle school selected for the pilot projects.

24           (3) Instructional and administrative staff from each  
25 middle school selected for a pilot project and responsible for  
26 implementing each project shall consult with their respective  
27 regional workforce board, provided for in s. 445.007, in  
28 developing each pilot project and to assist in providing  
29 technical assistance and resources towards achieving the goals  
30 of the pilot project.

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1           (4) Each pilot project shall have an evaluation  
2 component designed and conducted by the district school board  
3 or designed and conducted pursuant to a contract with a  
4 university school of education in consultation with the  
5 Council for Education Policy Research and Improvement provided  
6 for in s. 1008.51.

7           (5) The Council for Education Policy Research and  
8 Improvement is responsible for reviewing each pilot project's  
9 evaluation and providing a report by January 1, 2005, to the  
10 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
11 Representatives on the effectiveness of each pilot project,  
12 with recommendations and suggestions for expanding the  
13 programs statewide.

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