



HB 0377

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1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Indian River County School Board;
 3 providing for the relief of Taylor Rosemond, a minor, by
 4 and through her parents and natural guardians, Alvin and
 5 Shirley Rosemond; providing for an appropriation to
 6 compensate her for injuries sustained due to the
 7 negligence of the Indian River County School Board;
 8 providing for the use of such funds; providing an
 9 effective date.

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 11 WHEREAS, on January 25, 1999, 7-year-old Taylor Rosemond
 12 was a passenger on a school bus owned by the Indian River County
 13 School Board and operated by its employee, Deborah Colletti, and

14 WHEREAS, Deborah Colletti failed to stop at a stop sign
 15 located at the intersection of 45th Street and 66th Avenue in
 16 Indian River County, which failure caused the bus to collide
 17 with a tractor-trailer traveling on 66th Avenue, resulting in
 18 injuries to Taylor Rosemond and 15 other children and the deaths
 19 of two other persons, and

20 WHEREAS, Deborah Colletti was cited with failure to obey a
 21 traffic-control device and failure to yield the right-of-way,
 22 and

23 WHEREAS, Taylor Rosemond was taken by ambulance to a local
 24 hospital and thence airlifted to Arnold Palmer Children's
 25 Hospital in Orlando, and

26 WHEREAS, Taylor Rosemond was diagnosed with a lacerated
 27 kidney, bruised liver, and right renal laceration, and

28 WHEREAS, Taylor Rosemond's injuries resulting from the
 29 negligence of the school bus operator have caused her bodily
 30 injury and permanent pain and suffering, disability,



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31 disfigurement, mental anguish, loss of capacity for the
 32 enjoyment of life, hospitalization expenses, nursing care
 33 expenses, medical expenses, loss of earnings and capacity to
 34 earn, and aggravation of previously existing conditions, and

35 WHEREAS, Taylor Rosemond's injuries have caused her parents
 36 lost income, permanent loss of support and services, and
 37 expenses for medical care, psychiatric care, hospitalization
 38 care, and nursing care for their daughter, and

39 WHEREAS, suit was filed in Indian River County following
 40 the collision, and prior to trial the case was settled in the
 41 amount of \$60,000, and

42 WHEREAS, the Indian River County School Board has agreed to
 43 support this claim bill, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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

49 Section 2. The Indian River County School Board is
 50 authorized and directed to appropriate from funds of the county
 51 not otherwise appropriated and to draw a warrant in the sum of
 52 \$60,000, payable after July 1, 2003, to Alvin and Shirley
 53 Rosemond, parents and natural guardians of Taylor Rosemond, a
 54 minor, as compensation for injuries and damages sustained by
 55 Taylor Rosemond due to the negligence of Indian River County.
 56 Such funds are to be deposited into a guardianship account for
 57 the exclusive use and benefit of Taylor Rosemond. The amount
 58 payable pursuant to this section is inclusive of costs and
 59 attorney's fees as limited by s. 768.28(8), Florida Statutes.

60 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.