

By Senator Atwater

25-1265-04

See HB 115

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Florida School  
 3           Recognition Program; amending s. 1008.36, F.S.;  
 4           revising provisions relating to the  
 5           distribution of financial awards; providing an  
 6           effective date.

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

9  
10           Section 1. Section 1008.36, Florida Statutes, is  
11 amended to read:

12           1008.36 Florida School Recognition Program.--

13           (1) The Legislature finds that there is a need for a  
14 performance incentive program for outstanding faculty and  
15 staff in highly productive schools. The Legislature further  
16 finds that performance-based incentives are commonplace in the  
17 private sector and should be infused into the public sector as  
18 a reward for productivity.

19           (2) The Florida School Recognition Program is created  
20 to provide financial awards to public schools that:

21           (a) Sustain high performance by receiving a school  
22 grade of "A," making excellent progress; or

23           (b) Demonstrate exemplary improvement due to  
24 innovation and effort by improving a letter grade.

25           (3) All public schools, including charter schools,  
26 that receive a school grade pursuant to s. 1008.34 are  
27 eligible to participate in the program.

28           (4) All selected schools shall receive financial  
29 awards depending on the availability of funds appropriated and  
30 the number and size of schools selected to receive an award.  
31 Funds must be distributed to the school's fiscal agent and

1 placed in the school's account and must be used for purposes  
2 listed in subsection (5) as determined jointly by the school's  
3 staff and school advisory council. If school staff and the  
4 school advisory council cannot reach agreement by November 1,  
5 the awards must be ~~equally~~ distributed in the following  
6 manner:

7 (a) Forty percent of the funds must be divided equally  
8 among all school employees who are currently employed at the  
9 school.

10 (b) Sixty percent of the funds must be used as the  
11 school advisory council deems appropriate for the purposes  
12 listed in paragraph (5)(b) or paragraph (5)(c) to all  
13 classroom teachers currently teaching in the school.

14 (5) School recognition awards must be used for the  
15 following:

16 (a) Nonrecurring bonuses to the faculty and staff;

17 (b) Nonrecurring expenditures for educational  
18 equipment or materials to assist in maintaining and improving  
19 student performance; or

20 (c) Temporary personnel for the school to assist in  
21 maintaining and improving student performance.

22  
23 Notwithstanding statutory provisions to the contrary,  
24 incentive awards are not subject to collective bargaining.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.