

By Senator Wasserman Schultz

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to public swimming pools;  
creating s. 514.0305, F.S.; requiring such  
pools to be enclosed by a barrier; establishing  
additional safety requirements; requiring  
inspections; providing penalties for  
violations; providing definitions and for  
application; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 514.0305, Florida Statutes, is  
created to read:

514.0305 Public pools; safety barriers.--

(1) Public pools must be equipped with the following  
safety features:

(a) A permanent barrier that completely encloses the  
pool.

(b) Pedestrian gates that open outward, are  
self-closing, and equipped with a release mechanism that is  
located on the pool side of the gate and placed so that a  
young child cannot reach it.

(c) Gates, other than pedestrian gates, which must be  
equipped with lockable hardware or padlocks and which must  
remain locked when not being used.

(2)(a) The barriers and other equipment required by  
this section shall be inspected by the county health  
department during each routine inspection.

(b) The inspector shall immediately close any pool  
that does not comply with the requirements of this section.  
Upon such closing, the owner or operator of the pool must

1 correct the deficiencies or be subject to an administrative  
2 fine not to exceed \$1,500.

3 (3) The definitions in s. 515.25 apply to this section  
4 and are incorporated herein by reference.

5 (4) This section applies to all public pools that are  
6 operated or constructed on or after July 1, 2004, except that  
7 pools in operation on that date must be brought into  
8 compliance by October 1, 2004.

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

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12 SENATE SUMMARY

13 Requires public swimming pools to be enclosed by barriers  
14 and have other safety devices. Provides for inspections  
and provides penalties for violations.

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