

By the Committee on Education; and Senator Margolis

304-2674-04

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to school district governance;
requiring the creation of a committee in
specified school districts to review the
current governing structure of the school
district; specifying the areas to be evaluated;
providing committee membership and staff;
providing for committee recommendations and a
report; providing for repeal and termination of
the committee; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) A committee shall be established in each school district that is in a county as defined in section 125.011(1), Florida Statutes, and that has a K-12 student enrollment in excess of 350,000 students. Because of the large student enrollment in the school district, the committee shall review the current governing structure of the school district. The emphasis of the committee's review shall be an evaluation of the school district's performance in delivery of services and the ability of the community to interact with the school district. Additionally, the committee shall evaluate, but not be limited to, the following: the number of district school board members; single-member representation; district school board member term limits; campaign finance relating to election of district school board members; the position of district school superintendent; the school district's administrative organizational structure; and the creation of a construction and facilities board comprised of citizens in the

1 community to monitor land purchase and construction of
2 educational facilities.

3 (2) The committee shall have the following membership:

4 (a) Two members appointed by the Governor.

5 (b) One member of the State Board of Education.

6 (c) One member appointed by the President of the
7 Senate.

8 (d) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House
9 of Representatives.

10 (e) One district school board member of the school
11 district being evaluated.

12 (f) The district school superintendent of the school
13 district being evaluated.

14 (g) The school district attorney, who shall be a
15 nonvoting member.

16 (h) The mayors of the two municipalities in the school
17 district with a population greater than 50,000 selected by a
18 vote of the local Florida League of Cities.

19 (i) One member of the education committee of the local
20 Chamber of Commerce.

21 (j) One member of the teachers' collective bargaining
22 unit.

23 (k) The president of the Parent Teacher Association.

24 (l) The dean of the college of education of the local
25 state university or his or her designee.

26 (m) The president of the local community college or
27 his or her designee.

28 (n) One member of the county commission.

29 (o) The county mayor.

30 (3) The committee shall have a staff consisting of an
31 executive secretary, who shall be hired and paid by the

1 district school board, and a contracted specialized consultant
2 to assist in the school district review.

3 (4) The committee shall report to the district school
4 board, the State Board of Education, the President of the
5 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
6 July 1, 2005, its findings and recommendations regarding
7 changes to the governing structure of the school district.

8 (5) On January 1, 2006, this section shall stand
9 repealed and the committee established pursuant to this
10 section shall cease to exist.

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

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13 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
14 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
15 Senate Bill 2440

16 Requires that committees be established in school districts
17 with K-12 student enrollment in excess of 350,000 students.

18 Provides that the committees created by the bill are no longer
19 required to review the issue of dividing large school
20 districts into multiple smaller districts.

21 Revises membership of the committee created by the bill.

22 Provides that committees will no longer be provided with
23 contracted attorneys to assist with their work, but requires
24 the district school board attorney to act as a non-voting
25 member of the committee.

26 Requires each district school board to hire and pay for an
27 executive secretary for the district's committee.

28 Requires each committee to report its findings and
29 recommendations to the district school board, the State Board
30 of Education, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
31 the House of Representatives.

Provides that the section of law created by the bill will
stand repealed and the committees created by the bill will
cease to exist on July 1, 2006.