

By Senator Siplin

19-1303A-04

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to job opportunities for
3 youths; providing legislative intent to support
4 vocational training and placement provided to
5 at-risk youths through the Professional
6 Opportunities Program for Students (POPS);
7 providing for a pilot program; requiring a
8 report to the Legislature; providing an
9 appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Professional Opportunities Program for
14 Students; legislative intent; pilot program.--

15 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide
16 support and funding for programs conducted by the Professional
17 Opportunities Program for Students (POPS). POPS identifies and
18 provides vocational-and-employability-skills training and
19 placement programs and initiatives to youths between the ages
20 of 16 and 18 years who meet the criteria for the Department of
21 Juvenile Justice's initiative program for youth who have
22 significant family troubles and significant school troubles,
23 who have experienced drug or alcohol use, or both, and who
24 exhibit predelinquent behavior.

25 (2) During the 2004-2005 fiscal year, a pilot
26 Professional Opportunities Program for Students may be
27 conducted in the central region of the state. In order to
28 receive funding under this act, a POPS entity must submit to
29 the Department of Juvenile Justice by September 1, 2004, a
30 proposal for a training and placement program for youths
31 between the ages of 16 and 18 years who reside in Central

1 Florida. The program should include up to 6 months of
2 education and training and appropriate followup, including
3 documentation of the percentage of the youths who have been
4 placed in jobs for which training was provided under the
5 program and the percentage of those youths who remain in such
6 jobs for at least 3 months after their placement. By January
7 1, 2005, the POPS entity that has received funding under this
8 act shall provide to the President of the Senate and the
9 Speaker of the House of Representatives a report that includes
10 an itemized list of program costs; the statistics on job
11 placement and retention of the youths served by the program;
12 and recommendations for further legislation, including an
13 opinion as to the feasibility of extending such programs
14 throughout the state.

15 Section 2. The sum of \$_____ is appropriated to
16 the Department of Juvenile Justice for the 2004-2005 fiscal
17 year to be allocated to a pilot project that has been proposed
18 by the Professional Opportunities Program for Students (POPS)
19 and approved by the department.

20 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

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23 SENATE SUMMARY

24 Provides legislative intent to support vocational
25 training and placement provided to at-risk youth through
26 the Professional Opportunities Program for Students
27 (POPS). Provides for a pilot program. Requires a report
28 to the Legislature. Provides an appropriation.