

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Committee on Future of Florida's Families recommends the  
2 following:

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4 **Committee Substitute**

5 Remove the entire bill and insert:

6 A bill to be entitled

7 An act relating to motor vehicle insurance for foster  
8 children; creating a pilot program for the purpose of  
9 reimbursing foster parents for a portion of the increased  
10 costs of motor vehicle insurance for a foster child who  
11 has a driver's license; directing the Department of  
12 Children and Family Services to establish the pilot  
13 program in Sarasota, DeSoto, and Manatee Counties;  
14 requiring that the remaining portion of the increase in  
15 costs be borne by the foster child; directing the  
16 department to develop procedures for operating the pilot  
17 program; prohibiting a child who accumulates a specified  
18 number of points due to moving traffic violations from  
19 participating in the pilot program; requiring a report on  
20 the success and outcome of the pilot program; providing an  
21 appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

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25           Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that foster parents  
26 bear the increased cost of motor vehicle insurance for a foster  
27 child after that child attains a driver's license. This increase  
28 in the cost of insurance creates an additional barrier for a  
29 foster child in gaining independence and may limit the child's  
30 opportunities for obtaining employment. In accordance with these  
31 findings, the Legislature directs the Department of Children and  
32 Family Services to establish a 3-year pilot program in Sarasota,  
33 DeSoto, and Manatee Counties.

34           (2) To the extent that funding is available, the pilot  
35 program shall provide funds to reimburse foster parents for a  
36 portion of the increase in the cost of motor vehicle insurance.  
37 To be eligible for reimbursement under the pilot program, a  
38 foster parent must submit appropriate documentation to the  
39 department demonstrating the increase in the cost of insurance.  
40 The reimbursement amount to be provided to foster parents shall  
41 be one-half of the amount of the increase in the foster parent's  
42 cost of motor vehicle insurance which is incurred as a result of  
43 adding the foster child to the policy. The foster child must pay  
44 the other half of the increase in insurance costs. If a foster  
45 child accumulates 6 or more points due to one or more moving  
46 traffic violations, the child's foster parent is ineligible to  
47 receive reimbursement for the increase in insurance costs  
48 incurred for that child. The department shall develop procedures  
49 for operating the pilot program, including, but not limited to,  
50 determining eligibility, providing the reimbursement, ensuring  
51 that reimbursement is limited solely to the additional costs of

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52 | including the foster child in the insurance policy, and  
53 | allocating available funds.

54 | (3) The department shall submit an annual report to the  
55 | Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the  
56 | House of Representatives with the first report due July 1, 2005,  
57 | on the success and outcomes achieved by the pilot program with a  
58 | recommendation as to whether the pilot program should be  
59 | continued, terminated, or expanded.

60 | Section 2. The sum of \$50,000 is appropriated from the  
61 | General Revenue Fund to the Department of Children and Family  
62 | Services for the purpose of implementing this act during the  
63 | 2004-2005 fiscal year.

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