

By the Committees on Health and Human Services Appropriations;  
Health Care; and Senators Peadar and Hill

603-2374-06

1                                 A bill to be entitled

2                     An act relating to the prevention of obesity;

3                     amending s. 381.0054, F.S.; requiring the

4                     Department of Health to collaborate with other

5                     state agencies in developing policies and

6                     strategies to prevent obesity which shall be

7                     incorporated into agency programs; requiring

8                     the department to advise health care

9                     practitioners regarding morbidity, mortality,

10                    and costs associated with the condition of

11                    being overweight or obese; requiring the

12                    department to inform health care practitioners

13                    about clinical best practices for obesity

14                    prevention and to encourage practitioners to

15                    counsel their patients regarding the adoption

16                    of healthy lifestyles; providing an effective

17                    date.

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

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21                    Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 381.0054, Florida

22 Statutes, is amended to read:

23                    381.0054 Healthy lifestyles promotion.--

24                    (1) The Department of Health shall promote healthy

25 lifestyles to reduce the prevalence of excess weight gain

26 ~~overweight~~ and obesity in Florida by implementing appropriate

27 physical activity and nutrition programs that are directed

28 towards target all Floridians by:

29                    (a) Using all appropriate media to promote maximum

30 public awareness of the latest research on healthy lifestyles

31 and chronic diseases and disseminating relevant information

1 through a statewide clearinghouse relating to wellness,  
2 physical activity, and nutrition and their impact on chronic  
3 diseases and disabling conditions.

4 (b) Providing technical assistance, training, and  
5 resources on healthy lifestyles and chronic diseases to the  
6 public, county health departments, health care providers,  
7 school districts, and other persons or entities, including  
8 faith-based organizations, that request such assistance to  
9 promote physical activity, nutrition, and healthy lifestyle  
10 programs.

11 (c) Developing, implementing, and using all available  
12 research methods to collect data, including, but not limited  
13 to, population-specific data, and track the incidence and  
14 effects of weight gain, obesity, and related chronic diseases.  
15 The department shall include an evaluation and data collection  
16 component in all programs as appropriate.

17 (d) Partnering with the Department of Education, local  
18 communities, school districts, and other entities to encourage  
19 Florida schools to promote activities during and after school  
20 to help students meet a minimum goal of 60 minutes of activity  
21 per day.

22 (e) Partnering with the Department of Education,  
23 school districts, and the Florida Sports Foundation to develop  
24 a program that recognizes schools whose students demonstrate  
25 excellent physical fitness or fitness improvement.

26 (f) Collaborating with other state agencies to develop  
27 policies and strategies for preventing obesity, which shall be  
28 incorporated into programs administered by each agency and  
29 shall include promoting healthy lifestyles of employees of  
30 each agency.

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1           (g) Advising, in accordance with s. 456.081, health  
2 care practitioners licensed in this state regarding the  
3 morbidity, mortality, and costs associated with the condition  
4 of being overweight or obese, informing such practitioners of  
5 clinical best practices for preventing obesity, and  
6 encouraging practitioners to counsel their patients regarding  
7 the adoption of healthy lifestyles.

8           ~~(h)(f)~~ Maximizing all local, state, and federal  
9 funding sources, including grants, public-private  
10 partnerships, and other mechanisms, to strengthen the  
11 department's current physical activity and nutrition programs  
12 and to enhance similar county health department programs.

13           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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15           STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
16           COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
17           CS for SB 1324

18 Removes the provision requiring the Department of Health to  
19 partnership with the Department of Education in awarding  
20 grants to local school districts to implement a pilot program  
21 promoting healthy eating habits, increase physical activity,  
22 and improved fitness.

23  
24 Removes the provision requiring the Office of Program Policy  
25 Analysis and Government Accountability to complete reports  
26 determining the grant program's effectiveness.  
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