Florida Senate - 2006

By Senator Wilson

33-539-06

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to motor vehicle insurance for
3	foster children; creating a pilot program for
4	the purpose of reimbursing foster parents,
5	residential facilities, or foster children who
6	live independently for a portion of the
7	increased costs of motor vehicle insurance for
8	a foster child who has a driver's license;
9	directing the Department of Children and Family
10	Services to establish the pilot program in
11	Miami-Dade County; requiring that the person
12	who incurs the increased cost submit to the
13	department documentation of that increase;
14	requiring that foster children be encouraged to
15	pay the remaining portion of the increase in
16	costs; directing the department to develop
17	procedures for operating the pilot program;
18	requiring the department to submit a report
19	with recommendations to the Governor and the
20	Legislature by a specified date; providing an
21	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 the
26	increased cost of motor vehicle insurance for a foster child
27	after that child attains a driver's license is borne by the
28	foster parents and the authorized representative of the
29	residential facility. This increase in the cost of insurance
30	creates an additional barrier for a foster child in gaining
31	independence and may limit the child's opportunities for
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1	obtaining employment. In accordance with these findings, the
2	Department of Children and Family Services shall establish a
3	3-year pilot program in Miami-Dade County to pay a portion of
4	the cost of motor vehicle insurance for foster children who
5	have obtained a driver's license.
б	(2) To the extent that funding is available, the pilot
7	program shall provide funds to pay for a portion of the
8	increase in the cost of motor vehicle insurance incurred by
9	the foster parents, residential facilities, or the foster
10	child if living independently. To be eligible for payment
11	under the pilot program, the person incurring the cost must
12	submit to the department appropriate documentation
13	demonstrating the increase in the cost of insurance. The
14	amount of the payment provided to the foster parent,
15	residential facility, or foster child if living independently
16	shall be one-half of the amount of the increase in the cost of
17	motor vehicle insurance which is incurred as a result of
18	adding the foster child to the policy or less than one-half if
19	another source of funding is available to pay for the
20	increase. The foster child must be encouraged to pay the other
21	half of the increase in insurance costs.
22	(3) The department shall develop procedures for
23	operating the pilot program, including, but not limited to,
24	determining eligibility, providing the payment, ensuring that
25	payment is limited solely to the additional costs of including
26	the foster child in the insurance policy, and allocating
27	available funds.
28	(4) The department shall examine and use, to the
29	extent possible, other available options for funding the
30	increase in the cost of motor vehicle insurance, such as, but
31	not limited to, the child's master trust fund, social security

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1	income, child support payments, and other income available to
2	the child.
3	(5) Beginning January 1, 2007, and continuing for the
4	duration of the pilot program, the department shall submit to
5	the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
6	the House of Representatives an annual report on the success
7	and outcomes achieved by the pilot program, with a
8	recommendation as to whether the pilot program should be
9	continued, terminated, or expanded.
10	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
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13	SENATE SUMMARY
14	Creates a pilot program to reimburse foster parents, residential facilities, or foster children who live
15	independently for a portion of the increased costs of motor vehicle insurance for a foster child who has a
16	driver's license. Directs the Department of Children and Family Services to establish the pilot program in
17	Miami-Dade County. Requires a person who incurs the increased cost to submit documentation of the increase.
18	Requires that foster children be encouraged to pay the remaining portion of the increased costs. Directs the
19	department to develop procedures to operate the pilot program. Directs the department to submit a report with
20	recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date.
21	Specified date.
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