By the Committee on Children and Families; and Senators Bennett and Fasano

586-891-06

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	Sarasota, DeSoto, Manatee, Pinellas, and Pasco
12	Counties; requiring that the person who incurs
13	the increased cost submit to the department
14	documentation of that increase; requiring that
15	foster children be encouraged to pay the
16	remaining portion of the increase in costs;
17	directing the department to develop procedures
18	for operating the pilot program; requiring the
19	department to submit a report with
20	recommendations to the Governor and the
21	Legislature by a specified date; providing an
22	appropriation; providing an effective date.
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24	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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26	Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that the
27	increased cost of motor vehicle insurance for a foster child
28	after that child attains a driver's license is borne by the
29	foster parents and the authorized representative of the
30	residential facility. This increase in the cost of insurance
31	creates an additional barrier for a foster child in gaining

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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independence and may limit the child's opportunities for 2 obtaining employment. In accordance with these findings, the Department of Children and Family Services shall establish a 3 4 3-year pilot program in Sarasota, Desoto, Manatee, Pinellas, and Pasco Counties to pay a portion of the cost of motor 5 6 vehicle insurance for foster children who have obtained a 7 driver's license. (2) To the extent that funding is available, the pilot 8 program shall provide funds to pay for a portion of the 9 10 increase in the cost of motor vehicle insurance incurred by the foster parents, residential facilities, or the foster 11 child if living independently. To be eligible for payment 12 13 under the pilot program, the person incurring the cost must submit to the department appropriate documentation 14 demonstrating the increase in the cost of insurance. The 15 amount of the payment provided to the foster parent, 16 residential facility, or foster child if living independently shall be one-half of the amount of the increase in the cost of 18 motor vehicle insurance which is incurred as a result of 19 adding the foster child to the policy or less than one-half if 2.0 21 another source of funding is available to pay for the 2.2 increase. The foster child must be encouraged to pay the other 23 half of the increase in insurance costs. (3) The department shall develop procedures for 2.4 operating the pilot program, including, but not limited to, 2.5 determining eligibility, providing the payment, ensuring that 26 2.7 payment is limited solely to the additional costs of including 2.8 the foster child in the insurance policy, and ensuring that the payments are made to eliqible persons in the order each is 29 30 determined eligible until the funds are exhausted.

1	(4) The department shall examine and use, to the
2	extent possible, other available options for funding the cost
3	of the motor vehicle insurance increase, such as, but not
4	limited to, through the child's master trust fund, social
5	security income, child support payments, and other income
6	available to the child.
7	(5) Beginning January 1, 2007, and continuing for the
8	duration of the pilot program, the department shall submit to
9	the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
10	the House of Representatives an annual report on the success
11	and outcomes achieved by the pilot program, with a
12	recommendation as to whether the pilot program should be
13	continued, terminated, or expanded.
14	Section 2. The sum of \$150,000 is appropriated from
15	the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Children and
16	Family Services for the purpose of implementing this act
17	during the 2006-2007 fiscal year. This sum shall be
18	apportioned as follows: \$110,000 to be divided between
19	Pinellas and Pasco Counties and \$40,000 to be divided among
20	the Manatee, Sarasota, and DeSoto Counties.
21	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
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1	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
2	Senate Bill 220
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Increases the appropriation for a pilot project subsidizing the automobile insurance premiums of foster children from \$50,000 to \$150,000.	Increases the appropriation for a pilot project subsidizing
6 Provides that the appropriation will be allocated as foll	Provides that the appropriation will be allocated as follows: \$110,000 to be divided between Pasco and Pinellas counties;
7	and \$40,000 to be divided among Manatee, Sarasota, and Desoto counties.
8	Directs the Department of Children and Families to ensure that
9	the payments are made to eligible persons in the pilot project area in the order each is determined eligible until the funds
10	are exhausted.
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