

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Provides Limited Government-- This bill requires school districts to observe November 11 as the Veteran's Day holiday. School districts currently have discretion to designate dates for the observance of school holidays.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation:

Current Florida law grants authority to district school boards to establish an annual instructional calendar for all schools in the district. District school boards are responsible for designating dates for the start and end of the school year, school holidays and vacation periods, and inservice and teacher planning days.¹ Florida law requires each school board to conduct programs pertaining to the contributions and sacrifices that veterans have made in serving our country on or before Veteran's Day and Memorial Day.² According to the Department of Education, forty eight Florida school districts designated Veteran's Day as a school holiday during the 2005-2006 school year.³

Effect of Proposed Changes:

House bill 397 requires each school district to observe November 11 of each year as the Veteran's Day holiday. The bill provides that observance of Veteran's Day correspond with federal observance when November 11 falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

The bill provides that no classes may be held for any reason except to make up instructional time lost due to a declared state of emergency.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Creates an unnumbered section of law requiring school districts to observe Veteran's Day.

Section 2. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2006.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state government revenues.

2. Expenditures:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state government expenditures.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

¹ Section 1001.42(4), F.S.

² Section 1003.42(2)(r), F.S.

³ Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Education Information and Accountability Services, Statistical Brief: School District Calendars 2005-2006 *available at* <http://www.firn.edu/doe/eias/eiaspubs/pdf/calendar.pdf>.

1. Revenues:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government revenues.

2. Expenditures:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government expenditures.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on the private sector.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The bill does not require a city or county to spend funds or to take any action requiring the expenditure of funds.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

The effective date of the bill is July 1, 2006. School calendars for the 2006-2007 school year will have been determined and published prior to the effective date. Some school districts will have to revise their calendars and notify their communities.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES