

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to public school assessment and
 3 accountability; creating s. 1008.365, F.S.; creating the
 4 Total Local Control and Accountability Pilot Project;
 5 providing for exemption from certain statutes and
 6 requiring development and implementation of local
 7 assessment and accountability programs; providing for
 8 Department of Education selection and State Board of
 9 Education approval of school district participants;
 10 requiring reporting; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Section 1008.365, Florida Statutes, is created
 15 to read:

16 1008.365 Total Local Control and Accountability Pilot
 17 Project.--

18 (1) The Legislature recognizes that assessment and
 19 accountability measures to improve school and student
 20 performance may be better addressed at the local level by school
 21 districts than at the state level. With this in mind, there is
 22 created the Total Local Control and Accountability Pilot Project
 23 to allow up to three school districts to be exempt from many of
 24 the assessment and accountability provisions of this chapter.
 25 Specifically, school districts selected for the pilot project
 26 shall be exempt from ss. 1008.22, 1008.25, 1008.31, 1008.32,
 27 1008.33, 1008.34, 1008.341, 1008.345, and 1008.36. In exchange,
 28 each selected school district shall be responsible for

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29 developing and implementing its own assessment and
30 accountability program to improve school and student performance
31 and provide a means by which to measure improvement.

32 (2) School districts shall volunteer to participate in the
33 pilot project by submitting to the Department of Education a
34 local assessment and accountability program proposal. The
35 department shall select, and submit to the State Board of
36 Education for approval, up to three school districts for
37 participation in the pilot project: one in a county with a
38 population of 1 million or more residents; one in a county with
39 a population of 250,000 to 999,999 residents; and one in a
40 county with a population of under 250,000 residents. School
41 districts selected for the pilot project must represent
42 different geographic regions of the state: north, central, and
43 south. The state board may not deny approval of a local
44 assessment and accountability program proposal unless it finds
45 that the local assessment and accountability program is likely
46 to result in a decrease in school and student performance as
47 measured under the current state assessment and accountability
48 system under this chapter.

49 (3) The pilot project shall commence at the beginning of
50 the 2007-2008 school year and conclude at the end of the 2009-
51 2010 school year.

52 (4) Each school district participating in the pilot
53 project shall submit an annual report on the progress and
54 results of its local assessment and accountability program to
55 the Governor, the State Board of Education, the President of the

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56 | Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by June
57 | 1 of each year it participates in the pilot project.

58 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.