

By Senator Constantine

22-1626-07

See HB

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to educational facilities;
3 creating s. 1013.441, F.S.; establishing the
4 Green Schools Pilot Project to enable selected
5 school districts to comply with certain
6 building certification standards; providing for
7 an application and selection process for
8 participation in the 3-year pilot project;
9 providing for annual appropriations; providing
10 an effective date.

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

14 Section 1. Section 1013.441, Florida Statutes, is
15 created to read:

16 1013.441 Green Schools Pilot Project.--

17 (1) The Legislature recognizes that it is both
18 cost-effective and healthy for citizens and the environment to
19 build schools that maximize low water usage and the use of
20 energy efficiencies, renewable energy, and recycling
21 technologies. As such, there is established the Green Schools
22 Pilot Project to create a program for selected school
23 districts to comply with Leadership in Energy and
24 Environmental Design (LEED) building certification standards
25 in every new educational building construction project and,
26 where feasible, every educational building renovation project.

27 (2) LEED building certification standards are defined
28 by the U.S. Green Building Council and address the total
29 impact that new buildings have on the environment so as to
30 maximize their energy efficiency and to minimize their adverse
31 environmental impacts.

1 (3) The Florida Energy Office in conjunction with the
2 Department of Education shall develop by August 1, 2007, an
3 application process for school districts to participate in the
4 pilot project. A maximum of three school districts shall be
5 selected by the State Board of Education by January 1, 2008,
6 to participate in the pilot project. One school district shall
7 be in a county with a population of 1 million or more
8 residents; one school district shall be in a county with a
9 population of 250,000 to 999,999 residents; and one school
10 district shall be in a county with a population under 250,000
11 residents. School districts selected to participate in the
12 pilot project shall, to the extent possible, represent
13 geographically different regions of the state.

14 (4) The pilot project shall commence with the
15 2008-2009 school year and continue through the 2010-2011
16 school year.

17 (5) The Legislature shall appropriate an amount equal
18 to 3 percent of the annual capital projects budget of a school
19 district participating in the pilot project to be allocated to
20 that school district to cover the additional costs of building
21 facilities to the LEED building certification standards. This
22 additional annual appropriation shall begin with the 2008-2009
23 fiscal year and continue through the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

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