

By Senator Wilson

33-32-07

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to motor vehicle insurance for
3 foster children; creating a pilot program to
4 reimburse foster parents, residential
5 facilities, or foster children who live
6 independently for a portion of the increased
7 costs of motor vehicle insurance for a foster
8 child who has a driver's license; directing the
9 Department of Children and Family Services to
10 establish the pilot program in Miami-Dade
11 County; providing that the person who incurs
12 the increased cost must 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 obtains a driver's license is borne by the
28 foster parents or the authorized representative of the
29 residential facility. The increased cost of insurance creates
30 an additional barrier for a foster child in gaining
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1 independence and may limit the child's opportunities for
2 obtaining employment.

3 (2) The Department of Children and Family Services
4 shall establish a 3-year pilot program in Miami-Dade County to
5 pay a portion of the cost of motor vehicle insurance for
6 foster children who have obtained a driver's license. To the
7 extent that funding is available, the pilot program shall
8 provide funds to pay a portion of the increase in the cost of
9 such insurance. To be eligible for payment under the program,
10 the person incurring the cost must submit to the department
11 appropriate documentation demonstrating the increase in the
12 cost of insurance. The amount of the payment provided to the
13 foster parent, residential facility, or foster child if living
14 independently shall be one-half of the amount of the increase
15 in the cost of motor vehicle insurance which is incurred by
16 adding the foster child to the policy or less than one-half if
17 another source of funding is available to pay for the
18 increase. The foster child must be encouraged to pay the other
19 half of the increase in insurance costs.

20 (3) The department shall develop operating procedures
21 for the pilot program, including, but not limited to,
22 determining eligibility, providing the payment, ensuring that
23 payment is limited solely to the additional costs of including
24 the foster child in the insurance coverage, and allocating
25 available funds.

26 (4) The department shall examine and use, to the
27 extent possible, other available options for funding the
28 increase in the cost of motor vehicle insurance, such as, but
29 not limited to, the child's master trust fund, social security
30 income, child support payments, and other income available to
31 the child.

1 (5) Beginning January 1, 2008, and continuing for the
2 duration of the pilot program, the department shall submit to
3 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
4 the House of Representatives an annual report on the results
5 and outcomes achieved by the pilot program, with a
6 recommendation as to whether the program should be continued,
7 terminated, or expanded.

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

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11 SENATE SUMMARY

12 Creates a pilot program to reimburse foster parents,
13 residential facilities, or foster children who live
14 independently for a portion of the increased costs of
15 motor vehicle insurance for a foster child who has a
16 driver's license. Directs the Department of Children and
17 Family Services to establish the pilot program in
18 Miami-Dade County. Requires a person who incurs the
19 increased cost to submit documentation of the increase.
20 Requires that foster children be encouraged to pay the
21 remaining portion of the increased costs. Directs the
22 department to develop procedures to operate the pilot
23 program. Directs the department to submit a report with
24 recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature by a
25 specified date.