

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

**BILL #:** CS/HB 643

Safety at School Bus Stops

**SPONSOR(S):** Gibson

**TIED BILLS:**

**IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

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REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) <u>Committee on K-12</u>	<u>8 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Barnhill</u>	<u>Ahearn</u>
2) <u>Schools &amp; Learning Council</u>	<u>14 Y, 0 N, As CS</u>	<u>Barnhill</u>	<u>Cobb</u>
3) <u>Policy &amp; Budget Council</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>
4) <u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>
5) <u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>

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### SUMMARY ANALYSIS

CS/HB 643 addresses the issue of safety at school bus stops. It requires district school boards to have a plan to improve the safety at school bus stops.

CS/HB 643 does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state or local government.

## FULL ANALYSIS

### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

*Provide limited government* – CS/HB 643 increases district school boards' responsibilities, by requiring them to have a school bus safety improvement plan.

*Maintain public security* – The bill increases the safety of school bus stops.

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

##### **Present Situation**

Current Florida law requires district school boards to establish, school bus stops in the most reasonably safe locations available. If the district school board determines an unusual traffic hazard exists on a road outside of the municipality, then the school board can request school bus stop warning signs be placed on the road by the Department of Transportation.<sup>1</sup> Currently, there is no safety inspection of school bus stops required for district school boards.

##### **Effects of Proposed Changes**

CS/HB 643 requires each district school board to have a plan to improve safety at school bus stops in the district.

#### C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

**Section 1.** Creates an unnumbered section of Florida law requiring school districts to have a plan to improve safety at school bus stops in the district.

**Section 2.** Provides an effective date.

### II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

#### A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

##### 1. Revenues:

CS/HB 643 does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state government revenues.

##### 2. Expenditures:

CS/HB 643 does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state government expenditures.

#### B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

##### 1. Revenues:

CS/HB 643 does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government revenues.

##### 2. Expenditures:

CS/HB 643 does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government expenditures.

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<sup>1</sup> S. 1006.22(12)(c), F.S.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

### III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

CS/HB 643 does not require a city or county to expend funds or to take any action requiring the expenditure of funds.

CS/HB 643 does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate.

CS/HB 643 does not reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

D. STATEMENT OF THE SPONSOR

No statement submitted.

### IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

The Committee on K-12 adopted one amendment on March 27, 2007. Representative Gibson's amendment removes the provision of the bill that places requirements on the Department of Education (the Department) to annually assess school bus stop safety. The amendment also removes the provision of the bill that requires school districts to submit an annual report to the Department, and accordingly removes the provision of the bill that grants authority to the Department to adopt rules regarding the school district reports. The amendment retains the requirement for school districts to have a plan to improve safety at school bus stops.

On April 4, 2007, the Schools and Learning Council reported the bill favorably as a Council Substitute. The CS differs from the bill, as described above, regarding the strike everything amendment.