By the Committees on Education Facilities Appropriations; Education Pre-K - 12; and Senator Bennett

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to educational facilities construction; amending s. 1013.45, F.S.; increasing the maximum authorized amount of a day-labor contract to \$300,000; providing for such amount to be adjusted annually; amending s. 1013.64, F.S.; providing duties of the Office of Educational Facilities with respect to approving school district construction projects and assisting districts in developing lists of proposed facilities; limiting total project costs except for providential causes; providing an effective date.

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

- Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 1013.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1013.45 Educational facilities contracting and construction techniques.--
- (1) Boards may employ procedures to contract for construction of new facilities, or major additions to existing facilities, that will include, but not be limited to:
- (e) Day-labor contracts not exceeding \$300,000 \$200,000 for construction, removation, remodeling, or maintenance of existing facilities. Beginning January 2009, this amount shall be adjusted annually based upon changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1013.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1013.64 Funds for comprehensive educational plant needs; construction cost maximums for school district capital projects.-

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-Allocations from the Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund to the various boards for capital outlay projects shall be determined as follows:

- The department shall establish, as a part of the Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund, a separate account, in an amount determined by the Legislature, to be known as the "Special Facility Construction Account." The Special Facility Construction Account shall be used to provide necessary construction funds to school districts which have urgent construction needs but which lack sufficient resources at present, and cannot reasonably anticipate sufficient resources within the period of the next 3 years, for these purposes from currently authorized sources of capital outlay revenue. A school district requesting funding from the Special Facility Construction Account shall submit one specific construction project, not to exceed one complete educational plant, to the Special Facility Construction Committee. No district shall receive funding for more than one approved project in any 3-year period. The first year of the 3-year period shall be the first year a district receives an appropriation. The department shall encourage a construction program that reduces the average size of schools in the district. The request must meet the following criteria to be considered by the committee:
- 1. The project must be deemed a critical need and must be recommended for funding by the Special Facility Construction Committee. Prior to developing plans for the proposed facility, the district school board must request a preapplication review by the Special Facility Construction Committee or a project review subcommittee convened by the committee to include two

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representatives of the department and two staff from school districts not eligible to participate in the program. Within 60 days after receiving the preapplication review request, the committee or subcommittee must meet in the school district to review the project proposal and existing facilities. To determine whether the proposed project is a critical need, the committee or subcommittee shall consider, at a minimum, the capacity of all existing facilities within the district as determined by the Florida Inventory of School Houses; the district's pattern of student growth; the district's existing and projected capital outlay full-time equivalent student enrollment as determined by the department; the district's existing satisfactory student stations; the use of all existing district property and facilities; grade level configurations; and any other information that may affect the need for the proposed project.

- 2. The construction project must be recommended in the most recent survey or surveys conducted and approved by the Office of Educational Facilities with the assistance of by the district under the rules of the State Board of Education.
- 3. The construction project must appear on the district's approved project priority list under the rules of the State Board of Education.
- 4. The district must have selected and had approved a site for the construction project in compliance with s. 1013.36 and the rules of the State Board of Education.
- 5. With the assistance of the Office of Educational Facilities, the district shall have developed a district school board adopted list of facilities that do not exceed the norm for net square feet occupancy requirements under the State

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Requirements for Educational Facilities, using all possible programmatic combinations for multiple use of space to obtain maximum daily use of all spaces within the facility under consideration.

- 6. Upon construction, the total cost per student station, including change orders, must not exceed the cost per student station as provided in subsection (6). The total project may not exceed the cost estimate approved by the Special Facility Construction Committee, and additional funding may not be awarded except for providential causes.
- 7. There shall be an agreement signed by the district school board stating that it will advertise for bids within 30 days of receipt of its encumbrance authorization from the department.
- 8. The district shall, at the time of the request and for a continuing period of 3 years, levy the maximum millage against their nonexempt assessed property value as allowed in s. 1011.71(2) or shall raise an equivalent amount of revenue from the school capital outlay surtax authorized under s. 212.055(6). Any district with a new or active project, funded under the provisions of this subsection, shall be required to budget no more than the value of 1.5 mills per year to the project to satisfy the annual participation requirement in the Special Facility Construction Account.
- 9. If a contract has not been signed 90 days after the advertising of bids, the funding for the specific project shall revert to the Special Facility New Construction Account to be reallocated to other projects on the list. However, an additional 90 days may be granted by the commissioner.

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10. The department shall certify the inability of the district to fund the survey-recommended project over a continuous 3-year period using projected capital outlay revenue derived from s. 9(d), Art. XII of the State Constitution, as amended, paragraph (3)(a) of this section, and s. 1011.71(2).

- 11. The district shall have on file with the department an adopted resolution acknowledging its 3-year commitment of all unencumbered and future revenue acquired from s. 9(d), Art. XII of the State Constitution, as amended, paragraph (3)(a) of this section, and s. 1011.71(2).
- 12. Final phase III plans must be certified by the board as complete and in compliance with the building and life safety codes, and reviewed and approved by the Office of Educational Facilities, prior to August 1.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.