

HB 1463

2008

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to expenditures for classroom instruction;  
3           creating s. 1010.2155, F.S.; providing minimum  
4           requirements for expenditures for classroom instruction at  
5           the school district and school levels; specifying  
6           requirements for uniform calculation of district and  
7           school operating expenditures that support classroom  
8           instruction; requiring annual reporting of expenditures;  
9           requiring the Department of Education and district school  
10          boards to analyze expenditures; providing for technical  
11          assistance in budget preparation and analysis; requiring  
12          explanation of financial and performance status of school  
13          districts and schools under certain circumstances;  
14          authorizing rulemaking by the State Board of Education;  
15          amending ss. 1008.25 and 1008.34, F.S.; requiring the  
16          inclusion of information regarding classroom instruction  
17          expenditures in certain school district and school  
18          reports; providing an effective date.

19  
20   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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22          Section 1.   Section 1010.2155, Florida Statutes, is created  
23   to read:

24          1010.2155 Expenditures for classroom instruction.--

25          (1) Effective July 1, 2008, school districts shall spend a  
26          minimum of 65 percent of district operating funds on classroom  
27          instruction and school administrators shall spend a minimum of  
28          65 percent of each school's budget on classroom instruction.

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29 Effective July 1, 2010, the minimum expenditures for classroom  
30 instruction at the district level and the school level shall be  
31 70 percent of district operating funds and 70 percent of the  
32 school's budget, respectively.

33 (2) Each school district shall calculate annually the  
34 percentage of operating expenditures that support classroom  
35 instruction.

36 (a) The numerator for this calculation shall be the sum of  
37 school district operating expenditures related to:

38 1. Salaries and benefits for instructional personnel,  
39 instructional specialists, and instructional support personnel  
40 as defined in s. 1010.215;

41 2. Instructional materials and instructional supplies;

42 3. Inservice teacher education;

43 4. Curriculum development; and

44 5. Student activities such as field trips, athletics, and  
45 interscholastic competitions. For the purposes of this  
46 subparagraph, interscholastic competitions include, but are not  
47 limited to, athletic, academic, career or technical, and fine  
48 arts competitions.

49 (b) The denominator for this calculation shall be the sum  
50 of all school district operating expenditures.

51 (3) The Department of Education shall develop a uniform  
52 calculation for determining classroom expenditure percentages  
53 and a common format for school district reporting. School  
54 districts shall publish classroom expenditure information  
55 annually in the financial report required in s. 1010.215(6) and  
56 post the information on the school district's Internet website.

57       (4) Effective July 1, 2010, each school district shall  
58 calculate annually the percentage of school operating  
59 expenditures that support classroom instruction for each public  
60 school and charter school within the district. The numerator for  
61 this calculation shall be the sum of school expenditures  
62 delineated in paragraph (2) (a). The denominator for this  
63 calculation shall be the total operating budget for the school.  
64 School-specific expenditure information shall be reported in the  
65 same manner as school district expenditures.

66       (5) The Department of Education shall analyze the  
67 expenditures of any school district that:

68       (a) Fails to meet required classroom instruction  
69 expenditure levels and receives a district grade of "C" or  
70 lower.

71       (b) Meets the required classroom instruction expenditure  
72 levels and receives a district grade of "C" or lower.

73       (c) Fails to meet the required classroom instruction  
74 expenditure levels and receives a district grade higher than  
75 "C."

76       (6) The district school board shall analyze the  
77 expenditures of any school that:

78       (a) Fails to meet required classroom instruction  
79 expenditure levels and receives a school grade of "C" or lower.

80       (b) Meets the required classroom instruction expenditure  
81 levels and receives a school grade of "C" or lower.

82       (c) Fails to meet the required classroom instruction  
83 expenditure levels and receives a school grade higher than "C."

84       (7) The department shall provide technical assistance in  
85 budget preparation and analysis to school districts that fail to  
86 meet the required classroom instruction expenditure levels and  
87 may provide technical assistance to any district upon request.  
88 The superintendent of schools of any district that fails to meet  
89 the minimum classroom instruction expenditure levels shall  
90 appear before the State Board of Education to explain the  
91 financial and performance status of the district. Such  
92 appearance shall occur no later than 60 days after release of  
93 the district expenditure report. The Commissioner of Education  
94 shall make written recommendations to the district school  
95 superintendent and district school board regarding expenditure  
96 revisions that may result in improved district performance.

97       (8) The district school board shall provide technical  
98 assistance in budget preparation and analysis to school  
99 principals whose schools fail to meet the required classroom  
100 instruction expenditure levels. The school principal shall  
101 appear before the district school board to explain the financial  
102 and performance status of the school. Such appearance shall  
103 occur no later than 30 days after release of the school  
104 expenditure report.

105       (9) The State Board of Education may adopt rules pursuant  
106 to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this  
107 section and may enforce the provisions of this section pursuant  
108 to s. 1008.32.

109       Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section  
110 1008.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

111 1008.25 Public school student progression; remedial  
 112 instruction; reporting requirements.--

113 (8) ANNUAL REPORT.--

114 (b) Each district school board must annually publish in  
 115 the local newspaper, and report in writing to the State Board of  
 116 Education by September 1 of each year, the following information  
 117 on the prior school year:

118 1. The provisions of this section relating to public  
 119 school student progression and the district school board's  
 120 policies and procedures on student retention and promotion.

121 2. By grade, the number and percentage of all students in  
 122 grades 3 through 10 performing at Levels 1 and 2 on the reading  
 123 portion of the FCAT.

124 3. By grade, the number and percentage of all students  
 125 retained in grades 3 through 10.

126 4. Information on the total number of students who were  
 127 promoted for good cause, by each category of good cause as  
 128 specified in paragraph (6) (b).

129 5. Any revisions to the district school board's policy on  
 130 student retention and promotion from the prior year.

131 6. The percentage of district operating funds expended on  
 132 classroom instruction as calculated pursuant to s. 1010.2155.

133 Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 1008.34, Florida  
 134 Statutes, is amended to read:

135 1008.34 School grading system; school report cards;  
 136 district grade.--

137 (5) SCHOOL REPORT CARD.--The Department of Education shall  
 138 annually develop, in collaboration with the school districts, a

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139 school report card to be delivered to parents throughout each  
140 school district. The report card shall include the school's  
141 grade, information regarding school improvement, an explanation  
142 of school performance as evaluated by the federal No Child Left  
143 Behind Act of 2001, and indicators of return on investment. The  
144 report card shall also include the percentage of the school's  
145 operating funds expended on classroom instruction as calculated  
146 pursuant to s. 1010.2155. Each school's report card shall be  
147 published annually by the department on its website, and the  
148 school district shall provide the school report card to each  
149 parent.

150 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.