

By the Committee on Education Pre-K - 12; and Senator Diaz de la Portilla

581-03931-09

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to education; creating s. 1010.2155,  
3       F.S.; requiring that school districts spend a  
4       specified percentage of operating funds on classroom  
5       instruction; requiring each school district to  
6       annually calculate this percentage based on a uniform  
7       calculation developed by the Department of Education;  
8       requiring school districts to report classroom  
9       expenditures according to a format developed by the  
10      department; requiring that the department provide  
11      technical assistance to districts that fail to meet  
12      the required expenditures and to any district upon  
13      request; requiring that the school board provide  
14      assistance to principals of schools that fail to meet  
15      the required expenditures; authorizing the State Board  
16      of Education to adopt rules; providing an effective  
17      date.

18  
19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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

23       1010.2155 Expenditures for classroom instruction.—

24       (1) Effective July 1, 2009, school districts shall spend a  
25 minimum of 70 percent of district operating funds on classroom  
26 instruction and school administrators shall spend a minimum of  
27 70 percent of each school's budget on classroom instruction.

28       (2) Each school district shall calculate annually the  
29 percentage of state-funded operating expenditures that support

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30 classroom instruction.

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

33 1. Salaries and benefits for instructional personnel as  
34 defined in s. 1012.01(2);

35 2. Instructional materials and instructional supplies;

36 3. Inservice teacher education; and

37 4. Curriculum development.

38 (b) The denominator for this calculation shall be the sum  
39 of state-funded school district operating expenditures,  
40 excluding student transportation and school food services.

41 (3) The Department of Education shall develop a uniform  
42 calculation for determining classroom expenditure percentages  
43 and shall develop a common format for district reporting. School  
44 districts shall publish classroom expenditure information  
45 annually in the financial report required in s. 1010.215 and in  
46 the school report card required in s. 1008.34, and shall post  
47 the information on the school district's Internet website.  
48 Annual expenditure reports shall be published no later than  
49 December 15 for the prior school year.

50 (4) The Department of Education shall analyze the  
51 expenditures of any school district that:

52 (a) Fails to meet required classroom expenditure levels and  
53 receives a district grade of "C" or lower.

54 (b) Meets the required classroom expenditure levels, but  
55 receives a district grade of "C" or lower.

56 (c) Fails to meet the required classroom expenditure  
57 levels, but receives a grade higher than "C."

58 (5) The district school board shall analyze the

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59 expenditures of any school that:

60 (a) Fails to meet required classroom expenditure levels and  
61 receives a district grade of "C" or lower.

62 (b) Meets the required classroom expenditure levels, but  
63 receives a district grade of "C" or lower.

64 (c) Fails to meet the required classroom expenditure  
65 levels, but receives a grade higher than "C."

66

67 The department shall provide technical assistance in budget  
68 preparation and analysis to districts that fail to meet the  
69 required classroom expenditures and may provide technical  
70 assistance to any district upon request. The superintendent of  
71 schools of any district that fails to meet the minimum classroom  
72 expenditures shall appear before the State Board of Education to  
73 explain the financial and performance status of the district.

74 Such appearance shall occur no later than 60 days after release  
75 of the district expenditure report. The Commissioner of  
76 Education shall make written recommendations to the  
77 superintendent of schools and school board regarding expenditure  
78 revisions that may result in higher student achievement.

79 (6) The school board shall provide technical assistance in  
80 budget preparation and analysis to principals of schools that  
81 fail to meet the required classroom expenditures. The school  
82 principal shall appear before the district school board to  
83 explain the financial and performance status of the school. Such  
84 appearance shall occur no more than 30 days after release of the  
85 school expenditure report.

86 (7) The State Board of Education may adopt rules pursuant  
87 to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to administer the provisions of

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88 this section and may enforce the provisions of this section  
89 pursuant to s. 1008.32.

90 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.