HB 655 2009

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to funds for the operation of schools; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the computation of the statewide adjusted aggregate amount for the required local effort millage rate of each school district; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.62 Funds for operation of schools.——If the annual allocation from the Florida Education Finance Program to each district for operation of schools is not determined in the annual appropriations act or the substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act, it shall be determined as follows:

- (4) COMPUTATION OF DISTRICT REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT.—The Legislature shall prescribe the aggregate required local effort for all school districts collectively as an item in the General Appropriations Act for each fiscal year. The amount that each district shall provide annually toward the cost of the Florida Education Finance Program for kindergarten through grade 12 programs shall be calculated as follows:
 - (a) Estimated taxable value calculations. --
- 1.a. Not later than 2 working days prior to July 19, the Department of Revenue shall certify to the Commissioner of Education its most recent estimate of the taxable value for

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school purposes in each school district and the total for all school districts in the state for the current calendar year based on the latest available data obtained from the local property appraisers. Not later than July 19, the Commissioner of Education shall compute a millage rate, rounded to the next highest one one-thousandth of a mill, which, when applied to 95 percent of the estimated state total taxable value for school purposes, would generate the prescribed aggregate required local effort for that year for all districts. The Commissioner of Education shall certify to each district school board the millage rate, computed as prescribed in this subparagraph, as the minimum millage rate necessary to provide the district required local effort for that year.

- b. The General Appropriations Act shall direct the computation of the statewide adjusted aggregate amount for required local effort for all school districts collectively from ad valorem taxes to ensure that no school district's revenue from required local effort millage will produce more than 90 percent of the district's total Florida Education Finance Program calculation for students residing in the county, and the adjustment of the required local effort millage rate of each district that produces more than 90 percent of its total Florida Education Finance Program entitlement to a level that will produce only 90 percent of its total Florida Education Finance Program entitlement in the July calculation.
- 2. As revised data are received from property appraisers, the Department of Revenue shall amend the certification of the estimate of the taxable value for school purposes.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

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