

HB 883

2009

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 operating
7 expenditures that support classroom instruction; requiring
8 annual reporting of expenditures; requiring the Department
9 of Education and district school boards to analyze
10 expenditures of certain school districts and schools;
11 providing for technical assistance in budget preparation
12 and analysis; requiring explanation of financial and
13 performance status of school districts and schools under
14 certain circumstances; authorizing rulemaking and
15 enforcement by the State Board of Education; providing an
16 effective date.

17
18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

19
20 Section 1. Section 1010.2155, Florida Statutes, is created
21 to read:

22 1010.2155 Expenditures for classroom instruction.--

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

HB 883

2009

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

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

32 1. Salaries and benefits for instructional personnel,
33 instructional specialists, and educational support personnel, as
34 defined in s. 1010.215;

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 expenditures for student transportation and school
41 food services.

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

51 (4) The department shall analyze the expenditures of any
52 school district that:

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

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

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

59 (5) The district school board shall analyze the
60 expenditures of any school that:

61 (a) Fails to meet required classroom expenditure levels
62 and receives a school grade of "C" or lower;

63 (b) Meets the required classroom expenditure levels but
64 receives a school grade of "C" or lower; or

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

67 (6) The department shall provide technical assistance in
68 budget preparation and analysis to school districts that fail to
69 meet the required classroom expenditures and may provide
70 technical assistance to any district upon request. The district
71 school superintendent of any district that fails to meet the
72 minimum classroom expenditures shall appear before the State
73 Board of Education to explain the financial and performance
74 status of the district. Such appearance shall occur no later
75 than 60 days after release of the district expenditure report.
76 The Commissioner of Education shall make written recommendations
77 to the district school superintendent and district school board
78 regarding expenditure revisions that may result in higher
79 student achievement.

80 (7) The district school board shall provide technical
81 assistance in budget preparation and analysis to principals of
82 schools that fail to meet the required classroom expenditures.

HB 883

2009

83 The principal of any school that fails to meet the minimum
84 classroom expenditures shall appear before the district school
85 board to explain the financial and performance status of the
86 school. Such appearance shall occur no later than 30 days after
87 release of the school expenditure report.

88 (8) The State Board of Education may adopt rules pursuant
89 to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement this section and may
90 enforce this section pursuant to s. 1008.32.

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