

By Senator Smith

29-00644-10

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to career and technical education in  
3       public schools; providing for pilot projects in  
4       Broward County and Duval County which are designed to  
5       incorporate the elements of career and technical  
6       education into the middle school curriculum; providing  
7       goals for the pilot projects; requiring that the  
8       Broward County District School Board and the Duval  
9       County District School Board implement the pilot  
10      projects in a certain number of middle schools within  
11      each of their respective districts; authorizing the  
12      Broward County District School Board and the Duval  
13      County District School Board to enter into a contract  
14      with a postsecondary educational institution to carry  
15      out the goals of the pilot projects; requiring that  
16      instructional and administrative staff from each  
17      middle school selected for a pilot project consult  
18      with their respective regional workforce board to  
19      implement the projects; requiring that each district  
20      school board and postsecondary educational  
21      institution, if applicable, develop criteria and  
22      evaluate each pilot project in consultation with the  
23      Council for Education Policy Research and Improvement;  
24      requiring that the council review the evaluations for  
25      the pilot projects and submit a report to the  
26      Legislature by a specified date; providing an  
27      effective date.

28  
29   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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31 Section 1. (1) The purpose of this section is to authorize  
32 the Broward County District School Board and the Duval County  
33 District School Board to implement pilot projects that more  
34 clearly and systematically incorporate the elements of career  
35 and technical education into the middle school curriculum in  
36 order to achieve the following goals:

37 (a) Exploring with middle school students how they can  
38 successfully live and work in a culturally diverse world.

39 (b) Helping middle school students recognize their  
40 interests, aptitudes, and abilities, and understand adult roles  
41 in the world of work.

42 (c) Helping middle school students understand the broad  
43 scope of work and career possibilities available currently and  
44 in the future.

45 (d) Helping middle school students to broaden their  
46 aspirations beyond the stereotypes of gender, socioeconomic  
47 status, and ethnicity.

48 (e) Integrating career and technical education into the  
49 general middle school academic curriculum in order to promote  
50 intellectual development and the acquisition of higher-level  
51 thinking and problem-solving skills.

52 (f) Assisting with middle school students' development of  
53 social skills, personal values, and self-esteem.

54 (g) Working with the families of middle school students to  
55 support their children's career aspirations.

56 (2) Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, the Broward  
57 County District School Board and the Duval County District  
58 School Board shall implement pilot projects in at least two but

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59 no more than four middle schools in each of their respective  
60 school districts. The district school boards may enter into a  
61 contract with a postsecondary educational institution to carry  
62 out the goals of the pilot projects. The middle schools that are  
63 selected to participate in the pilot projects shall be  
64 representative of both high and low scoring schools as measured  
65 by the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. All students who  
66 are enrolled in each of the middle schools may participate in  
67 the pilot projects.

68 (3) Instructional and administrative staff from each middle  
69 school selected for participation in the pilot project shall  
70 consult with their respective regional workforce board, as  
71 provided in s. 445.007, Florida Statutes, to develop and  
72 implement each pilot project. The regional workforce board shall  
73 provide technical assistance and resources to the middle schools  
74 in order to achieve the goals provided in subsection (1).

75 (4) Each district school board and postsecondary  
76 educational institution, if applicable, shall develop criteria  
77 for evaluating each pilot project in consultation with the  
78 Council for Education Policy Research and Improvement, created  
79 in s. 1000.01, Florida Statutes.

80 (5) The council shall review each evaluation and submit a  
81 report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
82 House of Representatives by January 1, 2012, regarding the  
83 effectiveness of each pilot project, including recommendations  
84 for implementing the projects on a statewide basis.

85 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.