

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
OTHER	<u>    </u>	

1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Education Committee  
 2 Representative Lee offered the following:

**Amendment (with title amendment)**

5 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:  
 6 Section 1. (1) The Department of Education shall establish the  
 7 5-year Literacy Jump Start Pilot Project in St. Lucie County to  
 8 assist low-income, at-risk children in developing emergent  
 9 literacy skills.

10 (a) The department shall consult with local organizations  
 11 within St. Lucie County and identify an organization to  
 12 implement the pilot project. It shall also consult with the  
 13 Early Learning Coalition of St. Lucie County to select  
 14 municipalities within St. Lucie County eligible for  
 15 participation in the pilot project. The Office of Early  
 16 Learning shall oversee the implementation of the pilot project.

17 (b) A municipality is eligible for participation in the  
 18 pilot project if locally or federally subsidized housing is  
 19 located within it.

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20       (c) The department shall select to implement the pilot  
21 project a local organization that is a not-for-profit  
22 corporation, qualified as charitable under s. 501(c) (3) of the  
23 Internal Revenue Code, that provides training to parents to  
24 assist their children with success in school, such as the Parent  
25 Academy of St. Lucie County or another similarly qualified local  
26 organization. The department may select a faith-based  
27 organization; however, funds provided for the purpose of  
28 implementing the pilot project may be used for only those  
29 purposes expressly provided in this section and may not be used  
30 for the purpose of religious indoctrination.

31       (2) The organization selected by the department must use  
32 funds provided for the pilot program only to provide emergent  
33 literacy instruction to children. In order to provide easy  
34 access for participating children and families, the instruction  
35 must be provided in a subsidized housing unit located within an  
36 eligible municipality selected by the department.

37       (3) As used in this section, the term "emergent literacy"  
38 means a variety of early behaviors and skills associated with  
39 successful reading and writing development.

40       (4) A child is eligible to receive emergent literacy  
41 instruction provided through the pilot program only if the child  
42 is:

43       (a) Two or 3 years of age;

44       (b) Eligible for a federally subsidized child care  
45 program; and

46       (c) A member of a family that is economically  
47 disadvantaged and resides in locally or federally subsidized

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48 housing. For purposes of this paragraph, "economically  
49 disadvantaged" means having a family income that does not exceed  
50 150 percent of the federal poverty level.

51 (5) The organization selected by the department may not  
52 receive any funds from the state for purposes of implementing  
53 the pilot project until the Office of Early Learning receives  
54 written certification from the organization and confirms that  
55 all of the organization's volunteers, instructors, and  
56 noninstructional personnel who make direct contact with children  
57 have cleared level 2 background screening pursuant to s. 435.04  
58 within 5 years before implementation of the pilot project. The  
59 organization shall require volunteers and applicants for  
60 employment as instructors or noninstructional personnel who make  
61 direct contact with children participating in the pilot project  
62 to undergo level 2 background screening pursuant to s. 435.04  
63 prior to hiring the applicant or allowing the volunteer to  
64 participate in the pilot project. The organization may not use  
65 state funds provided to implement the pilot project to pay for  
66 background screenings.

67 (6) An instructor in the pilot project must successfully  
68 complete an emergent literacy training course, approved by the  
69 department, prior to providing emergent literacy instruction  
70 under this section.

71 (7) The organization is encouraged to coordinate with the  
72 St. Lucie County Health Department for the provision of basic  
73 health screening and immunization services for children  
74 participating in the pilot project in conjunction with emergent  
75 literacy instruction. The organization is further encouraged to

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76 engage in community outreach efforts to local community service  
77 organizations for the purpose of improving the availability and  
78 effective delivery of emergent literacy instruction.

79 (8) By December 31 of each year the organization provides  
80 emergent literacy instruction, the organization shall submit to  
81 the Office of Early Learning, the Early Learning Coalition of  
82 St. Lucie County, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and  
83 the Speaker of the House of Representatives an accountability  
84 report. The accountability report must include, at minimum, the  
85 following information:

86 (a) The manner in which all state funds received by the  
87 organization are used to implement the pilot project, separated  
88 by type of expenditure and measured in exact dollar amounts.

89 (b) Other sources of funding received by the organization  
90 for purposes of providing emergent literacy instruction.

91 (c) The municipalities selected by the department for  
92 participation in the pilot project.

93 (d) The identities of the corporation's officers.

94 (e) The number of children receiving emergent literacy  
95 instruction in each municipality.

96 (f) Information and data relating to coordinated health  
97 screening and immunization services provided in conjunction with  
98 the emergent literacy instruction, if any.

99 (9) The department shall allocate funds for implementation  
100 of the pilot project pursuant to this section. Expenditures of  
101 state funds pursuant to this section must be verified by  
102 affidavit submitted to the department in a procedure and format  
103 determined by the department.

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104 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

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109 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

110 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

111 An act relating to the Literacy Jump Start Pilot Project;  
112 requiring the Department of Education to establish the pilot  
113 project in St. Lucie County to assist low-income, at-risk  
114 children in developing emergent literacy skills; providing  
115 eligibility requirements for participation; requiring background  
116 screening for instructors, volunteers, and noninstructional  
117 personnel who make direct contact with children; requiring  
118 emergent literacy training for instructors; encouraging the  
119 coordination of basic health screening and immunization services  
120 in conjunction with emergent literacy instruction; requiring  
121 annual submission of an accountability report; requiring the  
122 department to allocate funds for the pilot project; providing an  
123 effective date.