

By Senator Montford

3-01453A-14

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to a pilot program for improving low-
3 performing schools; requiring the Department of
4 Education to establish the pilot program; providing
5 requirements for the pilot program; providing an
6 implementation schedule for the pilot program;
7 requiring a report to the Governor and the Legislature
8 at the conclusion of the pilot program; requiring the
9 State Board of Education to adopt rules; providing an
10 effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Pilot program for improving low-performing
15 schools.-

16 (1) Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, the Department
17 of Education shall implement a 4-year pilot program in each of
18 the state's lowest-performing traditional public schools that
19 have a large population of low-income, failing, or at-risk
20 students in kindergarten through grade 3. The Commissioner of
21 Education shall establish criteria for participation in the
22 program.

23 (2) The pilot program shall consist of a summer school
24 program that provides additional school hours with a certified
25 classroom teacher who is physically present with the students.

26 (3) The pilot program shall focus on improving academic
27 achievement by providing instruction that helps students develop
28 strong literacy, mathematical, and other academic skills.

29 (4) The pilot program shall be implemented as follows:

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30 (a) During the first year of summer school operation, a
31 school shall work with the local school district and local
32 teachers and parents to advertise the program, establish
33 baseline data, begin offering the academic instructional
34 services, and report costs and benefits.

35 (b) During the second, third, and fourth years of operation
36 of the pilot program, a school shall continue offering the
37 academic and instructional services during the summer months;
38 seek input and feedback for, and refine, the services that are
39 offered; and report progress, costs, and benefits to the State
40 Board of Education.

41 (5) At the conclusion of the pilot program, the Department
42 of Education shall submit to the Governor, the President of the
43 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a review
44 of the program, which must include successful practices and the
45 impact on student performance and success, and shall make a
46 recommendation for continuing or terminating the program.

47 (6) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
48 administer this section.

49 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.