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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

Senator Bullard moved the following:

1 **Senate Amendment to Amendment (420294) (with title**
2 **amendment)**

3
4 Delete lines 550 - 724

5 and insert:

6 1011.6202 Autonomy Pilot Program Initiative.—The Autonomy
7 Pilot Program Initiative is created within the Department of
8 Education. The purpose of the pilot program initiative is to
9 provide the highly effective principal or a highly effective
10 group of select teachers of a participating school with
11 increased autonomy and authority to operate their school in a



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12 way that produces significant improvements in student
13 achievement and school management while complying with
14 constitutional requirements. The State Board of Education may,
15 upon approval of an autonomy proposal, enter into a performance
16 contract with up to seven district school boards for
17 participation in the pilot program.

18 (1) PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICTS.—The district school
19 boards in Broward, Duval, Escambia, Jefferson, Madison, Palm
20 Beach, Pinellas, and Seminole Counties may submit to the state
21 board for approval an autonomy proposal that exchanges statutory
22 and rule exemptions for an agreement to meet performance goals
23 established in the proposal. If approved by the state board,
24 each of these school districts shall be eligible to participate
25 in the pilot program for 3 years. At the end of the 3 years, the
26 performance of all participating schools in the school district
27 shall be evaluated.

28 (2) AUTONOMY PROPOSAL.—

29 (a) To participate in a principal or teacher autonomy pilot
30 program, a school district must:

31 1. Identify three schools that received at least two school
32 grades of "D" or "F" pursuant to s. 1008.34 during the previous
33 3 school years.

34 2. If a principal autonomy proposal is chosen, identify
35 three principals who have earned a highly effective rating on
36 the prior year's performance evaluation pursuant to s. 1012.34,
37 one of whom shall be assigned to each of the participating
38 schools.

39 3. If a teacher autonomy proposal is chosen, identify three
40 teacher groups in which each of the teachers has earned highly



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41 effective performance evaluation ratings for at least 4
42 consecutive years pursuant to s. 1012.34. A group shall be
43 assigned to each of the participating schools.

44 4. Describe the current financial and administrative
45 management of each participating school; identify the areas in
46 which each school principal or group of select teachers will
47 have increased fiscal and administrative autonomy, including the
48 authority and responsibilities provided in s. 1012.28(8); and
49 identify the areas in which each participating school will
50 continue to follow district school board fiscal and
51 administrative policies.

52 5. Explain the methods used to identify the educational
53 strengths and needs of the participating school's students and
54 identify how student achievement can be improved.

55 6. Establish performance goals for student achievement, as
56 defined in s. 1008.34(1), and explain how the increased autonomy
57 of principals or teachers will help participating schools
58 improve student achievement and school management.

59 7. Provide each participating school's mission and a
60 description of its student population.

61 (b) The state board shall establish criteria, which must
62 include the criteria listed in paragraph (a), for the approval
63 of an autonomy proposal.

64 (c) A district school board must submit its principal or
65 teacher autonomy proposal to the state board for approval by
66 December 1 in order to begin participation in the subsequent
67 school year. By February 28 of the school year in which the
68 proposal is submitted, the state board shall notify the district
69 school board in writing whether the proposal is approved.



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70 (3) EXEMPTION FROM LAWS.—

71 (a) With the exception of those laws listed in paragraph
72 (b), a participating school is exempt from the provisions of
73 chapters 1000-1013 and rules of the state board that implement
74 those exempt provisions.

75 (b) A participating school shall comply with the provisions
76 of chapters 1000-1013, and rules of the state board that
77 implement those provisions, pertaining to the following:

78 1. Those laws relating to the election and compensation of
79 district school board members, the election or appointment and
80 compensation of district school superintendents, public meetings
81 and public records requirements, financial disclosure, and
82 conflicts of interest.

83 2. Those laws relating to the student assessment program
84 and school grading system, including chapter 1008.

85 3. Those laws relating to the provision of services to
86 students with disabilities.

87 4. Those laws relating to civil rights, including s.
88 1000.05, relating to discrimination.

89 5. Those laws relating to student health, safety, and
90 welfare.

91 6. Section 1001.42(4)(f), relating to the uniform opening
92 date for public schools.

93 7. Section 1003.03, governing maximum class size, except
94 that the calculation for compliance pursuant to s. 1003.03 is
95 the average at the school level for a participating school.

96 8. Sections 1012.22(1)(c) and 1012.27(2), relating to
97 compensation and salary schedules.

98 9. Section 1012.33(5), relating to workforce reductions for



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99 annual contracts for instructional personnel. This subparagraph
100 does not apply to at-will employees.

101 10. Section 1012.335, relating to annual contracts for
102 instructional personnel hired on or after July 1, 2011. This
103 subparagraph does not apply to at-will employees.

104 11. Section 1012.34, relating to personnel evaluation
105 procedures and criteria.

106 12. Those laws pertaining to educational facilities,
107 including chapter 1013, except that s. 1013.20, relating to
108 covered walkways for relocatables, and s. 1013.21, relating to
109 the use of relocatable facilities exceeding 20 years of age, are
110 eligible for exemption.

111 13. Those laws pertaining to participating school
112 districts, including this section and ss. 1011.69(2) and
113 1012.28(8).

114 (4) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—Each participating school
115 district shall require that the principal or select group of
116 teachers of each participating school, a three-member leadership
117 team from each participating school, and district personnel
118 working with each participating school complete a nationally
119 recognized school turnaround program which focuses on improving
120 leadership, instructional infrastructure, talent management, and
121 differentiated support and accountability. The required
122 personnel must enroll in the school turnaround program upon
123 acceptance into the pilot program.

124 (5) TERM OF PARTICIPATION.—The state board shall authorize
125 a school district to participate in the pilot program for a
126 period of 3 years commencing with approval of the autonomy
127 proposal. Authorization to participate in the pilot program may



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128 be renewed upon action of the state board. The state board may
129 revoke authorization to participate in the pilot program if the
130 school district fails to meet the requirements of this section
131 during the 3-year period.

132 (6) REPORTING.—Each participating school district shall
133 submit an annual report to the state board. The state board
134 shall annually report on the implementation of the Autonomy
135 Pilot Program Initiative. Upon completion of the pilot program's
136 first 3-year term, the Commissioner of Education shall submit to
137 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
138 Representatives by December 1 a full evaluation of the
139 effectiveness of the pilot program.

140 (7) FUNDING.—The Legislature may appropriate funding to the
141 department in the General Appropriations Act for the costs of
142 the pilot program initiative, including administrative costs and
143 enrollment costs for the school turnaround program and an
144 additional scholarship to each participating principal or select
145 group of teachers to be used at their schools.

146 (8) RULEMAKING.—The State Board of Education shall adopt
147 rules to administer this section.

148 Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 1011.69, Florida
149 Statutes, is amended to read:

150 1011.69 Equity in School-Level Funding Act.—

151 (2) Beginning in the 2003-2004 fiscal year, district school
152 boards shall allocate to schools within the district an average
153 of 90 percent of the funds generated by all schools and
154 guarantee that each school receives at least 80 percent, except
155 schools participating in an autonomy pilot program under s.
156 1011.6202 are guaranteed to receive at least 90 percent, of the



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157 funds generated by that school based upon the Florida Education
158 Finance Program as provided in s. 1011.62 and the General
159 Appropriations Act, including gross state and local funds,
160 discretionary lottery funds, and funds from the school
161 district's current operating discretionary millage levy. Total
162 funding for each school shall be recalculated during the year to
163 reflect the revised calculations under the Florida Education
164 Finance Program by the state and the actual weighted full-time
165 equivalent students reported by the school during the full-time
166 equivalent student survey periods designated by the Commissioner
167 of Education. If the district school board is providing programs
168 or services to students funded by federal funds, any eligible
169 students enrolled in the schools in the district shall be
170 provided federal funds.

171 Section 12. Subsection (8) is added to section 1012.28,
172 Florida Statutes, to read:

173 1012.28 Public school personnel; duties of school
174 principals.-

175 (8) The principal of a school or a select group of teachers
176 participating in an autonomy pilot program under s. 1011.6202
177 have the following additional authority and responsibilities:

178 (a) In addition to the authority provided in subsection
179 (6), the authority to select qualified instructional personnel
180 for placement or to refuse to accept the placement or transfer
181 of instructional personnel by the district school
182 superintendent. Placement of instructional personnel at a
183 participating school in a participating school district does not
184 affect the employee's status as a school district employee.

185 (b) The authority to deploy financial resources to school



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186 programs at the principal's or the select group of teachers'
187 discretion to help improve student achievement, as defined in s.
188 1008.34(1), and meet performance goals identified in the
189 autonomy proposal submitted

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191 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

192 And the title is amended as follows:

193 Delete lines 1589 - 1607

194 and insert:

195 creating s. 1011.6202, F.S.; creating the Autonomy
196 Pilot Program Initiative; providing a purpose for the
197 initiative; providing a procedure for a school
198 district to participate in the initiative; providing
199 requirements for participating school districts and
200 schools; exempting participating schools from certain
201 laws and rules; requiring principals or select groups
202 of teachers at participating schools and other
203 specified personnel to complete a nationally
204 recognized school turnaround program; providing for
205 the term of participation in a pilot program;
206 providing for renewal or revocation of authorization
207 to participate in a pilot program; providing for
208 reporting, funding, and eligibility requirements for
209 certain funding and rulemaking; amending s. 1011.69,
210 F.S.; requiring participating district school boards
211 to allocate a specified percentage of certain funds to
212 participating schools; amending s. 1012.28, F.S.;

213 providing additional authority and responsibilities of
214 the principal or select group of teachers of a