1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Youth Conflict Resolution and 3 Peer Mediation Pilot Program; creating the Youth 4 Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation Pilot Program, 5 subject to legislative appropriation; providing the 6 purpose of the pilot program; providing for an 7 application process for participation in the pilot 8 program; requiring the Commissioner of Education to 9 select a certain number of middle or high schools to participate in the pilot program; requiring the 10 11 commissioner to select a nonprofit organization to 12 implement the pilot program; providing participating 13 middle or high school and nonprofit organization responsibilities; requiring the nonprofit organization 14 15 to provide a report to the Governor, Legislature, and 16 department; providing requirements for the report; 17 authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt 18 rules to administer the pilot program; providing an effective date. 19

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

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Section 1. Youth Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation

Pilot Program.—Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year and

subject to legislative appropriation, the Youth Conflict

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Resolution and Peer Mediation Pilot Program is created for a period of 1 school year. The purpose of the program is to reduce juvenile violence by equipping students with essential skills for peaceful conflict resolution through the use of the International Research and Exchange Board's (IREX) Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation Toolkit.

- (1) (a) Middle and high schools within the state shall apply to the Department of Education, in a format and by a date prescribed by the department, to participate in the program.
- (b) The Commissioner of Education shall select five middle or high schools to participate in the program. To the extent possible, the commissioner shall select schools with a high rate of juvenile violence.
- (c) The commissioner shall select a nonprofit organization capable of working with the department and participating schools to oversee the pilot program's implementation and analyze the data resulting from the pilot program.
 - (2) A participating middle or high school shall:
- (a) Implement IREX's Conflict Resolution and Peer

 Mediation Toolkit into the school's existing curriculum,

 focusing on skill-building without undermining the school's

 existing disciplinary framework to provide students with

 conflict resolution skills pertinent to their daily interactions
 and overall community health.
 - (b) Provide data and information requested by the

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51	nonprofit organization selected pursuant to paragraph (1)(c).
52	(3) The selected nonprofit organization shall:
53	(a) Oversee the implementation of the pilot program.
54	(b) Provide guidance to participating middle or high
55	schools on implementing IREX's Conflict Resolution and Peer
56	Mediation Toolkit into the school's existing curriculum.
57	(c) Collect relevant data and information relating to the
58	rates of juvenile violence in selected schools before the pilot
59	program and the rates of such violence after the implementation
60	of the pilot program.
61	(d) Provide periodic updates to the department on the
62	implementation of the pilot program.
63	(4) Upon completion of the pilot program, the nonprofit
64	organization shall provide a report to the Governor, the
65	President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
66	Representatives, and the department. The report must include:
67	(a) The number of students enrolled at the participating
68	schools.
69	(b) The rates of juvenile violence in selected schools
70	before the pilot program.
71	(c) The rates of juvenile violence in selected schools
72	after the implementation of the pilot program.
73	(d) Recommendations for the inclusion of IREX's Conflict
71	Resolution and Peer Mediation Toolkit into the curriculum of

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middle and high schools across the state.

76	(5) The State Board of Education may adopt rules	to
77	administer the pilot program.	
78	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 20	24.

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