

By Senator Jones

34-01025B-26

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to a pilot program for students with  
reading deficiencies; creating s. 1008.251, F.S.;  
creating the First Grade Summer Reading Immersion  
Pilot Program for a specified period of time;  
providing the purpose of the pilot program; providing  
requirements for a student to be deemed at risk of  
having a reading deficiency; providing Department of  
Education and participating school district duties;  
requiring the department to provide a report to the  
Legislature upon completion of the pilot program;  
providing requirements for such report; providing for  
the future repeal of the pilot program; providing an  
effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 1008.251, Florida Statutes, is created  
to read:

1008.251 The First Grade Summer Reading Immersion Pilot  
Program.—Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, the First  
Grade Summer Reading Immersion Pilot Program is created for a  
period of 3 school years. The purpose of the program is to  
assist school districts in providing a summer reading immersion  
program for students who completed grade 1 and are at risk of  
having a reading deficiency or exhibit a substantial deficiency  
in reading. For purposes of the pilot program, a student is  
deemed to be at risk of having a reading deficiency if he or she  
scored a Level 1 on the midyear or the third administration of

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the coordinated screening and progress monitoring under s.  
1008.25.

(1) The Department of Education shall:

(a) Select two school districts to participate in the pilot program.

(b) Create a First Grade Summer Reading Immersion Pilot Program for school districts to implement each year of the pilot program. The program must:

1. Be a minimum of 6 weeks in length.

2. Focus on:

a. Foundational grade 1 reading skills.

b. Phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension.

3. Assess student learning gains and reading skills at the conclusion of the program using the first grade final administration of the coordinated screening and progress monitoring or a state-approved diagnostic assessment.

(c) Establish reporting requirements for participating school districts.

(2) Each participating school district shall:

(a) Invite students who have completed grade 1 who are at risk of having a reading deficiency or exhibit a substantial deficiency in reading to attend the First Grade Summer Reading Immersion Pilot Program.

(b) Administer the First Grade Summer Reading Immersion Pilot Program pursuant to department requirements and guidance.

(c) Provide the data and information requested by the department.

(d) Provide periodic updates to the department on the

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59 implementation of the First Grade Summer Reading Immersion Pilot  
60 Program.

61 (e) Upon completion of each First Grade Summer Reading  
62 Immersion Pilot Program, provide a report on student learning  
63 gains and reading skills at the conclusion of the program,  
64 including participation rates.

65 (3) Upon the completion of the pilot program, the  
66 department shall provide a report to the Legislature. The report  
67 must include all of the following:

68 (a) Student outcomes for students who participated in the  
69 First Grade Summer Reading Immersion Pilot Program.

70 (b) Rates of student participation in the First Grade  
71 Summer Reading Immersion Pilot Program.

72 (c) Policy recommendations for further implementation of  
73 the First Grade Summer Reading Immersion Pilot Program.

74 (4) This section shall expire upon the submission of the  
75 department's report to the Legislature pursuant to subsection  
76 (3).

77 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.