
**Senate Committee on
Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations**

CS/SB 840 — School Readiness Equity Allocation

by Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee and Senator Fasano

This bill revises the approval process for the allocation formula for School Readiness funds provided to the early learning coalitions. It provides that the Agency for Workforce Innovation must submit the recommended formula to the Governor and to the Legislature by January 1 of each year, instead of to the Governor and to the Legislative Budget Commission for approval. The Legislature must specify in the General Appropriations Act any changes from the prior year allocation methodology that must be used by the Agency for Workforce Innovation in allocating funds to the early learning coalitions.

This bill also authorizes the Agency for Workforce Innovation to contract for the Teacher Education And Compensation Helps, or “TEACH” program, instead of the Department of Children and Families, using funds appropriated for school readiness. This change conforms the statutes to current practice, as authorization has been granted for the Agency for Workforce Innovation to administer this program in each of the past four years in the appropriations implementing bill.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2006.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-0

HB 821 — Community Contribution Tax Credit

by Rep. Goodlette and others (CS/SB 784 by Ways and Means Committee; Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Committee; and Senators Lynn and Crist)

This bill increases the amount of tax credits authorized for the Community Contribution Tax Credit Program from \$12 million to \$14 million. It provides separate annual limitations for tax credits for donations made to eligible sponsors for projects that provide homeownership opportunities for low-income and very-low-income households, and for donations made to eligible sponsors for all other projects. The bill establishes the annual limitation for homeownership projects at \$10.5 million and the annual limitation for all other projects located in enterprise zones or Front Porch Florida Communities at \$3.5 million.

This bill eliminates the requirement that the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development reserve specified percentages of annual tax credits for particular projects. Changes made by this bill reflect recommendations contained in Senate Interim Project Report 2006-148.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2006.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 118-0

