

The Florida Senate
HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Education

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BILL:

INTRODUCER: General Oversight and Accountability and Senator Hays and others

SUBJECT: Instructional Materials For K-12 Public Education

DATE: April 29, 2014

I. Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment 1 – 291729 (body with title)

II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment 1 is a strike-all amendment that inserts the language from CS/CS/HB 921 and other provisions into CS/SB 864. The amendment:

- Retains current law that: authorizes the state-level and district-level adoption processes; requires districts to use the publisher's depository, and requires instructional materials to be in an electronic or digital format. CS/SB 864 would repeal the state-level process, make use of the depository optional, and repeal reference to electronic instructional materials.
- Authorizes the Department of Education to charge publishers up to \$1,000, per instructional material submission, in order to pay reviewers a stipend.
- Requires a district school board to adopt policies that allow a parent to: object to his or her child's use of a specific instructional material, and challenge the district school board's adoption of a specific instructional material in a public hearing. CS/SB 864 contains a similar type of challenge process, but would allow appeals by any members of the public.
- Provides that district school board is responsible for the content of all instructional materials used or made available in a classroom in the school district.
- Confirms that the act does not limit or remove the responsibility of a school district to include required instruction (e.g., the history of the United States, the study of women's contributions to the United States, and the principles of agriculture) in its curriculum.