

By Senator Flores

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to educational facilities; creating s.
3 1013.385, F.S.; providing for school district
4 construction flexibility; authorizing exceptions to
5 educational facilities construction requirements under
6 certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

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10 Section 1. Section 1013.385, Florida Statutes, is created
11 to read:

12 1013.385 School district construction flexibility.—

13 (1) A district school board may, with a supermajority vote
14 at a public meeting that begins no earlier than 5 p.m., adopt a
15 resolution to implement one or more of the exceptions to the
16 educational facilities construction requirements provided in
17 this section. Before voting on the resolution, a district school
18 board must conduct a cost-benefit analysis prepared according to
19 a professionally accepted methodology that describes how each
20 exception selected by the district school board achieves cost
21 savings, improves the efficient use of school district
22 resources, and impacts the life-cycle costs and life span for
23 each educational facility to be constructed, as applicable, and
24 demonstrates that implementation of the exception will not
25 compromise student safety or the quality of student instruction.
26 The district school board must conduct at least one public
27 workshop to discuss and receive public comment on the proposed
28 resolution and cost-benefit analysis, which must begin no
29 earlier than 5 p.m. and may occur at the same meeting at which

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30 the resolution will be voted upon.

31 (2) A resolution adopted under this section may propose
32 implementation of exceptions to requirements of the uniform
33 statewide building code for the planning and construction of
34 public educational and ancillary plants adopted pursuant to ss.
35 553.73 and 1013.37 relating to:

36 (a) Interior nonload-bearing walls, by approving the use of
37 fire-rated wood stud walls in new construction or remodeling for
38 interior nonload-bearing wall assemblies that will not be
39 exposed to water or located in wet areas.

40 (b) Walkways, roadways, driveways, and parking areas, by
41 approving the use of designated, stabilized, and well-drained
42 gravel or grassed student parking areas.

43 (c) Standards for relocatables used as classroom space, as
44 specified in s. 1013.20, by approving construction
45 specifications for installation of relocatable buildings that do
46 not have covered walkways leading to the permanent buildings
47 onsite.

48 (d) Site lighting, by approving construction specifications
49 regarding site lighting that:

50 1. Do not provide for lighting of gravel or grassed
51 auxiliary or student parking areas.

52 2. Provide lighting for walkways, roadways, driveways,
53 paved parking lots, exterior stairs, ramps, and walkways from
54 the exterior of the building to a public walkway through
55 installation of a timer that is set to provide lighting only
56 during periods when the site is occupied.

57 3. Allow lighting for building entrances and exits to be
58 installed with a timer that is set to provide lighting only

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59 during periods in which the building is occupied. The minimum
60 illumination level at single-door exits may be reduced to no
61 less than 1 footcandle.

62 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.