

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 2186

SPONSOR: Education Committee and Senator Sullivan

SUBJECT: Public Schools/Deregulated

DATE: April 6, 1999 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Harkey</u>	<u>O'Farrell</u>	<u>ED</u>	<u>Favorable/CS</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>FP</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

The bill amends s. 228.0565, F.S., to extend the pilot program for deregulated public schools through the 2003-2004 school year. In addition to the six counties that are conducting programs, the bill authorizes Duval and Lee County Public Schools to conduct pilot programs as well. A district school board will be free to receive and review proposals for deregulated schools at any time.

The bill takes effect upon becoming a law.

This bill substantially amends s. 228.0565, Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

The 1998 Legislature created s. 228.0565, F.S. to authorize six deregulated public schools in each of the following school districts: Citrus, Leon, Palm Beach, Pinellas, Seminole, and Walton Counties. The deregulation was for one year's duration, the 1998-99 school year. The deregulated public schools are exempt from all statutes of the Florida School Code except those that pertain to civil rights and student health, safety, and welfare, and certain statutes specified in the law, such as the laws relating to public meetings and records, teacher certification, and school funding. A school must submit a proposal to the school board describing the way it will operate under deregulation.

The law requires a school board to receive and review proposals for deregulated public schools during the months of July and August. The board must approve or deny a proposal by a majority vote no longer than 30 days after receiving the proposal. If a proposal is denied, the board must specify the reasons in writing within 10 calendar days.

Thirty-one schools have been granted deregulated status. Citrus County has 10 schools, Leon, 5, Palm Beach 5, Pinellas 1, Seminole 6, and Walton 4. District administrators report that one-year is too short a time to implement such a change.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill amends s. 228.0565 to extend the pilot program for deregulated public schools through the 2003-2004 school year. Two more school districts, Duval and Lee County Public Schools, are authorized to conduct a deregulated public schools pilot program. The requirement that a district school board receive and review all proposals for deregulated schools during July and August is deleted, leaving school districts the option to receive and review proposals at any time.

Terminology regarding assessment of students in deregulated public schools is updated according to the changes made in CS/SB 1756. When referring to student assessment, the committee substitute replaces the term “norm-referenced” with “statewide” and “FCAT”.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
