

By Senator Rossin

35-815-01

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the small-school
3 requirement; amending s. 235.2157, F.S.;
4 eliminating the requirement that schools other
5 than elementary schools must not exceed a
6 specified student population; providing an
7 effective date.

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

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11 Section 1. Section 235.2157, Florida Statutes, is
12 amended to read:

13 235.2157 Small school requirement.--

14 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.--The Legislature finds that:

15 (a) Florida's schools are among the largest in the
16 nation.

17 (b) Smaller schools provide benefits of reduced
18 discipline problems and crime, reduced truancy and gang
19 participation, reduced dropout rates, improved teacher and
20 student attitudes, improved student self-perception, student
21 academic achievement equal to or superior to that of students
22 at larger schools, and increased parental involvement.

23 (c) Smaller schools can provide these benefits while
24 not increasing administrative and construction costs.

25 (2) DEFINITION.--As used in this section, "small
26 school" means+

27 ~~(a)~~ an elementary school with a student population of
28 not more than 500 students.

29 ~~(b)~~ A middle school with a student population of not
30 more than 700 students.

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