By Senator Miller

21-17-02

21-17-0

An act relating to reading instruction; providing legislative intent regarding required reading instruction; requiring each public elementary school to develop and implement programs for reading and literacy development in kindergarten through grade 4; requiring the Department of Education to provide technical support; providing an effective date.

A bill to be entitled

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

## Section 1. Required reading instruction in kindergarten through grade 4.--

(1) The Legislature recognizes that reading is a major foundational skill for all school-based learning. It further recognizes the importance of instruction in reading in primary grades to improve a student's academic performance. The public schools of this state have successfully improved student performance by increasing the number of instructional hours spent on reading in the primary grades. Engaging students in learning through curriculum that emphasizes reading offers the additional benefits of reducing disciplinary problems and diminishing the need for social promotion of students who have not learned to read.

(2) To encourage local control in the determination of reading and literacy development programs, each public elementary school shall develop and implement an appropriately designed reading program to include daily reading and literacy development in kindergarten through grade 4.

1	(3) Each public school shall devote a locally
2	determined amount of time each day to reading and literacy
3	development in kindergarten through grade 4.
4	(4) The Department of Education shall provide
5	technical support and guidance to any public school that
6	requests assistance pertaining to the implementation of this
7	section.
8	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.
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12	Descrided logical stirry intent responding naminal reading
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14	develop and implement programs for reading and literacy development in kindergarten through grade 4. Requires the Department of Education to provide technical support.
15	Department of Education to provide technical support.
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