By Senator Torres

15-01675-18   20181732__

1   A bill to be entitled

2   An act relating to school garden programs; creating s.

3   1003.483, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education,

4   in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture

5   and Consumer Services, to annually provide to school

6   districts certain information relating to school

7   garden programs; authorizing schools that establish a

8   school garden program to allow certain students to

9   select and receive produce from the garden on a

10   specified day each week; authorizing school garden

11   programs to establish procedures; exempting

12   participating schools from certain statutes and rules;

13   providing an effective date.

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

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17   Section 1. Section 1003.483, Florida Statutes, is created

18   to read:

19   1003.483 School garden programs.—

20   (1) The Department of Education, in collaboration with the

21   Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, shall annually

22   provide information to each school district related to

23   establishing a school garden program at schools within the

24   district. The information must include, but need not be limited

25   to, requirements for establishing a school garden program, state

26   grants available for school garden programs, and other available

27   resources.

28   (2) A school that establishes a school garden program may

29   specify one day each week on which students who qualify for free

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30 or reduced-price school lunches may select and receive produce
31 from the school garden. Each program may establish procedures
32 for the distribution of the produce.
33   (3) A school that establishes a school garden program is
34 exempt from provisions of law or rule that prohibit a student
35 from receiving produce from, or consuming produce grown in, a
36 garden on school grounds.
37   Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.