1	A bill to be entitled			
2	An act relating to the Youth Conflict Resolution and			
3	Peer Mediation Pilot Program; creating the Youth			
4	Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation Pilot Program,			
5	subject to legislative appropriation; providing the			
6	purpose of the pilot program; providing for an			
7	application process for participation in the pilot			
8	program; requiring the Commissioner of Education to			
9	select a certain number of middle or high schools to			
10	participate in the pilot program; requiring the			
11	commissioner to select a nonprofit organization to			
12	implement the pilot program; providing participating			
13	middle or high school and nonprofit organization			
14	responsibilities; requiring the nonprofit organization			
15	to provide a report to the Governor, Legislature, and			
16	department; providing requirements for the report;			
17	authorizing the State Board of Education to adopt			
18	rules to administer the pilot program; providing an			
19	effective date.			
20				
21	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:			
22				
23	Section 1. Youth Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation			
24	Pilot ProgramBeginning with the 2025-2026 school year and			
25	subject to legislative appropriation, the Youth Conflict			
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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

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26	Resolution and Peer Mediation Pilot Program is created for a
27	period of 1 school year. The purpose of the program is to reduce
28	juvenile violence by equipping students with essential skills
29	for peaceful conflict resolution through the use of the
30	International Research and Exchange Board's (IREX) Conflict
31	Resolution and Peer Mediation Toolkit.
32	(1)(a) Middle and high schools within the state shall
33	apply to the Department of Education, in a format and by a date
34	prescribed by the department, to participate in the program.
35	(b) The Commissioner of Education shall select five middle
36	or high schools to participate in the program. To the extent
37	possible, the commissioner shall select schools with a high rate
38	of juvenile violence.
39	(c) The commissioner shall select a nonprofit organization
40	capable of working with the department and participating schools
41	to oversee the pilot program's implementation and analyze the
42	data resulting from the pilot program.
43	(2) A participating middle or high school shall:
44	(a) Implement IREX's Conflict Resolution and Peer
45	Mediation Toolkit into the school's existing curriculum,
46	focusing on skill-building without undermining the school's
47	existing disciplinary framework to provide students with
48	conflict resolution skills pertinent to their daily interactions
49	and overall community health.
50	(b) Provide data and information requested by the
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51	nonprofit organization selected pursuant to paragraph (1)(c).			
52	(3) The selected nonprofit organization shall:			
53	(a) Oversee the implementation of the pilot program.			
54	(b) Provide guidance to participating middle or high			
55	schools on implementing IREX's Conflict Resolution and Peer			
56	Mediation Toolkit into the school's existing curriculum.			
57	(c) Collect relevant data and information relating to the			
58	rates of juvenile violence in selected schools before the pilot			
59	program and the rates of such violence after the implementation			
60	of the pilot program.			
61	(d) Provide periodic updates to the department on the			
62	implementation of the pilot program.			
63	(4) Upon completion of the pilot program, the nonprofit			
64	organization shall provide a report to the Governor, the			
65	President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of			
66	Representatives, and the department. The report must include:			
67	(a) The number of students enrolled at the participating			
68	schools.			
69	(b) The rates of juvenile violence in selected schools			
70	before the pilot program.			
71	(c) The rates of juvenile violence in selected schools			
72	after the implementation of the pilot program.			
73	(d) Recommendations for the inclusion of IREX's Conflict			
74	Resolution and Peer Mediation Toolkit into the curriculum of			
75	middle and high schools across the state.			

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76	(5) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to
77	administer the pilot program.
78	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.
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