

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to a K-12 school route optimization  
 3           pilot program; amending s. 1006.23, F.S.; creating a  
 4           K-12 school route optimization pilot program in  
 5           specified county school districts; providing program  
 6           requirements; providing reporting requirements;  
 7           requiring the Department of Education to assist school  
 8           districts with the implementation of the pilot  
 9           program; providing for the expiration of the program;  
 10          providing an effective date.

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

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 14           **Section 1. Subsection (7) is added to section 1006.23,**  
 15 **Florida Statutes, to read:**

16           1006.23 Hazardous walking conditions.—  
 17           (7) ROUTE OPTIMIZATION PILOT PROGRAM.—There is created a  
 18 K-12 school route optimization pilot program in Duval,  
 19 Highlands, Hillsborough, Okeechobee, and Pasco County school  
 20 districts to model and evaluate the efficiencies and financial  
 21 impacts of different routing scenarios.  
 22           (a) Each school district must use its existing  
 23 transportation management system in conjunction with a student  
 24 transportation intelligence platform with artificial  
 25 intelligence, if available, to evaluate diverse routing

CODING: Words **stricken** are deletions; words **underlined** are additions.

26 scenarios and optimize student transportation efficiency while  
 27 maintaining student safety. The routing scenario evaluations  
 28 must include:

29 1. Expanding school transportation to students in grades  
 30 7-12, if such students are subject to current hazardous walking  
 31 conditions as provided in s. 1006.23 while en route to or from  
 32 school.

33 2. Expanding school transportation to students in  
 34 kindergarten through grade 12 whose homes are more than 1 mile  
 35 from the nearest appropriate school.

36 3. Reducing hazardous walking conditions that require  
 37 students to walk:

38 a. Along a roadway within 4 feet of lanes of traffic;

39 b. Along a roadway that is 30 miles per hour or greater;

40 c. In the dark; or

41 d. Along a path on which there is no sidewalk adjacent to  
 42 the road.

43 4. Dynamically changing routes if a student's route is  
 44 within 3 miles of the residence of a person registered as a  
 45 sexual predator under s. 775.21 or as a sexual offender under s.  
 46 943.0435.

47 (b) Each school district shall report the costs to  
 48 implement each of the requirements and the cost savings, if any,  
 49 associated with the use of artificial intelligence, including  
 50 reduction in fuel use, accidents, injuries, the number of buses

51 required to provide transportation, the number or length of  
52 routes, and any changes to existing routes based on the use of  
53 artificial intelligence or routing scenarios.

54 (c) The department shall assist school districts with the  
55 implementation of the pilot program and submit a summary report  
56 of the evaluations submitted by each school district to the  
57 Legislature by September 1, 2026.

58 (d) This subsection is repealed July 1, 2027.

59 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.