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### Session Law 89-278

Florida Senate & House of Representatives

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**S 344 GENERAL BILL/1ST ENG** by Gardner (Similar CS/H 1243, CS/S 1396, Compare H 194, H 278, H 298, H 417, CS/H 935, CS/CS/H 980, H 1205, CS/H 1215, H 1235, CS/H 1404, H 1537, CS/H 1542, CS/H 1572, CS/CS/1ST ENG/H 1593, S 219, S 409, CS/S 421, S 456, CS/S 518, CS/CS/1ST ENG/S 543, 1ST ENG/S 590, S 937, S 1359, 1ST ENG/S 1364, CS/CS/2ND ENG/S 1388, 1ST ENG/S 1410, CS/S 1416, CS/CS/2ND ENG/S 1417)

**Education:** extends subject areas that educational improvement project may address; removes limit on amount that Education Commissioner can authorize for educational improvement project grant; provides for use of motor vehicles other than school buses under specified conditions; revises liability provisions re use of school buses for public purposes; grants access to certain child abuse or neglect reports to D.O.E., etc. Amends F.S. Effective Date: 07/05/89 except as otherwise provided.

03/02/89 SENATE Prefiled  
03/24/89 SENATE Referred to Education; Finance, Taxation and Claims; Appropriations  
04/04/89 SENATE Introduced, referred to Education; Finance, Taxation and Claims; Appropriations -SJ 36  
04/14/89 SENATE Extension of time granted Committee Education  
04/24/89 SENATE On Committee agenda—Education, 04/26/89, 2:00 pm, Room-A-(LL-37)  
04/26/89 SENATE Comm. Report: Favorable by Education -SJ 211  
04/27/89 SENATE Now in Finance, Taxation and Claims -SJ 211  
04/28/89 SENATE Extension of time granted Committee Finance, Taxation and Claims  
05/11/89 SENATE Withdrawn from Finance, Taxation and Claims -SJ 353; Now in Appropriations  
05/18/89 SENATE Extension of time granted Committee Appropriations  
05/25/89 SENATE Withdrawn from Appropriations -SJ 457; Placed on Calendar  
05/30/89 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar -SJ 560; Passed; YEAS 36 NAYS 0 -SJ 578  
05/30/89 HOUSE In Messages; Received, placed on Calendar -HJ 791; Substituted for HB 417; Read second time; Amendments adopted; Read third time; Passed as amended; YEAS 114 NAYS 0 -HJ 812  
05/30/89 SENATE In Messages  
06/01/89 SENATE Was taken up -SJ 703; Amendments to House amendments adopted; Concurred in House amendments as amended; Requested House to concur; Passed as amended; YEAS 36 NAYS 0 -SJ 723  
06/01/89 HOUSE In Messages; Concurred; Passed as amended; YEAS 107 NAYS 0 -HJ 1059  
06/01/89 Ordered engrossed, then enrolled -SJ 1406  
06/20/89 Signed by Officers and presented to Governor  
07/05/89 Approved by Governor; Chapter No. 89-278; See also: CS/CS/SB 1417 (Ch. 89-298), CS/CS/SB 1388 (Ch. 89-381), CS/CS/HB 1593 (Ch. 89-101) & CS/CS/SB 543 (Ch. 89-226)

**NOTES:** Above bill history from Division of Legislative Information's *FINAL LEGISLATIVE BILL INFORMATION, 1989 SESSIONS*. Staff Analyses for bills amended beyond final committee action may not be in accordance with the enacted law. Journal page numbers (HJ & SJ) refer to daily Journals and may not be the same as final bound Journals.

REVISED: April 26, 1989BILL NO. SB 344DATE: April 19, 1989Page 1

## SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

<u>ANALYST</u>	<u>STAFF DIRECTOR</u>	<u>REFERENCE</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
1. <u>O'Farrell</u>	<u>O'Farrell</u>	1. <u>ED</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2. _____	_____	2. <u>FTC</u>	_____
3. _____	_____	3. <u>AP</u>	_____
4. _____	_____	4. _____	_____

SUBJECT:

Education Improvement Projects

BILL NO. AND SPONSOR:

SB 344 by  
Senator GardnerI. SUMMARY:

## A. Present Situation:

Local school boards or school principals acting through the school board may submit an educational improvement project proposal to the Commissioner of Education for approval. The proposals must be developed with the assistance of district or school advisory committees and may address improvement in one or more of the following areas: school management, district and school advisory committees, school volunteers, or any other educational area that could be enhanced through a closer school-community working relationship.

Amounts for approved grants may range from \$500 to \$5,000. The commissioner is required to include any promising innovations resulting from improvement projects in her annual report. In 1988-89 the commissioner's office received \$250,000 for educational improvement projects. With that amount the commissioner was able to fund 20 percent of the project proposals received.

The Florida Education Council was established in 1967 to serve as a liaison body between the Education Commission of the States and public education in Florida. The council also functioned as the chief state-level monitoring and coordinating body for district and school advisory committees.

Council membership includes the Florida members of the Education Commission of the States, six people appointed by the Governor, and four people appointed by the Commissioner of Education. The commissioner's appointees must be members of district or school advisory committees or members of recognized school support groups.

The education council is apparently an advisory body that has outlived its usefulness. The council has not met in over two years, and for some time its only observable public function has been to select award-winning district and school annual reports. The success of local advisory committees and the increased state-level involvement of lay people in the affairs of public education have served to hasten the council's obscurity and obsolescence. In addition, many of the council's duties have been assumed by the Board of Public Schools which was established in 1986. The council is scheduled for sunset October 1, 1991.

## B. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The legislation before the committee would expand the scope of educational improvement projects to include proposals to improve the professional development of teachers and to restructure education programs to better meet the needs of diverse students. The concept of projects to improve school-

community relationships would be expanded to encourage the improvement of relationships between school principals, teachers, parents, and other members of the community.

The dollar limitations on grant amounts for approved proposals would be removed. In addition, results from promising project innovations would be disseminated through publications, training programs, and conferences. Exceptional projects could be used as demonstration models for schools or districts contemplating similar efforts.

As a means of assessing the impact of improvement projects, the department would be required to initiate field-based research to evaluate project efforts.

The requirement that the commissioner's annual report include information about innovative proposals would be deleted.

The legislation would also repeal s. 244.07, F.S., which provides for the Florida Education Council.

## II. ECONOMIC IMPACT AND FISCAL NOTE:

### A. Public:

None.

### B. Government:

The 1988 Legislature appropriated \$250,000 for educational improvement projects.

The bill would not cause an increase in the total state amount for educational improvement projects; however, individual schools or districts could realize project amounts in excess of \$5,000. Such amounts might cause fewer projects to be funded if several high-cost proposals were approved, and the Legislature chose not to increase the total amount of funds available.

The field-based research would create a need for additional funding for travel if nothing else. Depending on how extensive and sophisticated the research might be, costs could possibly be absorbed within existing budgets.

The commissioner has included \$500,000 for educational improvement projects in her 1989-1990 budget request.

## III. COMMENTS:

None

## IV. AMENDMENTS:

None.

STORAGE NAME: \wp\summary\H0417F.edk

DATE: June 7, 1989

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
as revised by the Committee on  
APPROPRIATIONS  
STAFF ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

BILL #: HB 417 (See also SB 344 as passed by Legislature)

RELATING TO: Educational Improvement Projects

SPONSOR(S): Representative Sansom

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law

COMPANION BILL(S): SB 344 by Senator Gardner (Passed by the Legislature)

OTHER COMMITTEES OF REFERENCE: (1) Appropriations

(2)

\*\*\*\*\*

I. SUMMARY:

House Bill 417 expands the educational improvement projects program by adding additional areas for which grants may be awarded, removing the minimum and maximum limits on grant amounts, authorizing research, and providing for the dissemination of promising projects. The bill also repeals s. 244.07, F.S., establishing the Florida Education Council.

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

Section 229.59, F.S., permits district school boards or individual schools to apply to the Commissioner of Education for educational improvement grants of \$500 to \$5,000. The applications are developed with the assistance of district and school advisory committees and may address school management improvement, district and school advisory committee improvement, school volunteers, and a closer working relationship between school and community.

The 1988 General Appropriations Act included an appropriation of \$250,000 for education improvement grants. For the last school year, 339 requests for these grants were submitted to the Department of Education; 80 of were funded with the available funds. Both the Commissioner of Education and the Governor have requested and recommended \$500,000 for education improvement grants for the 1989-90 fiscal year.

Section 244.07, F.S., establishes the Florida Education Council. The council consists of the seven members of the Education Commission of the States from Florida and 14 additional members. Membership includes the Governor and eight persons appointed by the Governor, two members of the Senate and two additional persons appointed by the President, two members of the House of Representatives and two additional persons appointed by the Speaker, and four persons who are members of district or school

advisory committees appointed by the Commissioner of Education. The council may consider any matter relating to the Education Commission of the States and serves as the chief state-level coordinating and monitoring body for district and school advisory committees.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The kinds of projects for which educational improvement grants could be awarded would be expanded to include the professional development of teachers and the restructuring of educational programs to meet the needs of diverse students. There would be no minimum or maximum limits on the grants, and the Department of Education would initiate research to assess the impact of education improvement efforts. Promising innovations would be disseminated through publications, training programs, conferences, and demonstration and training sites.

The Florida Education Council would be abolished.

C. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

None

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:

1. Non-recurring or First Year Start-Up Effects:

None

2. Recurring or Annualized Continuation Effects:

None

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None

4. Appropriations Consequences:

None

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:

1. Non-recurring or First Year Start-Up Effects:

None

2. Recurring or Annualized Continuation Effects:

None

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

None

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

None

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise, and Employment Markets:

None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

An estimated \$21,000 would be saved in expenses for the Florida Education Council by elimination of the council.

III. LONG RANGE CONSEQUENCES:

The provisions of HB 417 related to expanding the educational improvement projects are consistent with the goal and policies for education of the state comprehensive plan. The following policies are specifically addressed:

(1)(b)3. Ensure salaries, benefits, and other incentives which will attract and retain high-quality educators in the numbers needed to meet the educational needs of an increasing population.

(1)(b)16.f. Implement research-based dropout prevention programs in all school districts.

(1)(b)16.m. Ensure standards of excellence for teacher education and certification, and continuing professional development activities for all school personnel.

The provisions of HB 417 related to eliminating the Florida Education Council are not consistent with the goal and policies for education of the state comprehensive plan. Specifically, the provision is not in compliance with the following policy:

(1)(b)16.o. Strengthen citizen involvement at all levels in public education.

IV. COMMENTS:

The provisions of HB 417 relating to education improvement projects is consistent with the following declarations of the Speaker's Policy Statement:

Business Growth:

I.A. Florida's educational system from preschool through higher education is not as strong as it should be, and this fact hampers

economic development.

Human Resource Development:

I.A. Comprehensive strategies, with priorities placed on programs that work, must be developed and implemented....include restructuring the educational system, increasing parental involvement, creating mentoring programs....Some specific techniques include:

I.A.1.b. Innovative teaching and school-based management techniques and community involvement should be encouraged in our public schools.

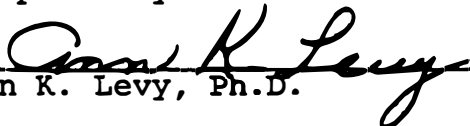
I.A.1.c. Pilot programs should be targeted at various levels of education....new programs can be developed.

House Bill 417 was reported favorably by the Committee on Education's Subcommittee on Appropriations on April 13, 1989, and by the full committee on April 17, 1989. The Committee on Appropriations approved the bill on May 16, 1989. On May 30, 1989, the companion bill, SB 344, was substituted for HB 417 by the House; a lengthy amendment was added; and the bill passed (114/0). The Senate further amended the bill on June 1, 1989, and the House concurred with the Senate amendments on the same day.

V. AMENDMENTS:

VI. SIGNATURES:

SUBSTANTIVE COMMITTEE:  
Prepared by:

  
Ann K. Levy, Ph.D.

APPROPRIATIONS:  
Prepared by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
David E. Lycan

Staff Director:

  
Neal H. Berger, Ph.D.

Staff Director:

\_\_\_\_\_  
James A. Zingale, Ph.D.