

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1664

An act relating to training centers; establishing training school consolidation pilot projects; providing for transfer of responsibility for the operation of existing programs; providing for the transfer of facilities and equipment; providing program requirements; providing for staffing; requiring the Department of Education to shift all FTE and other funding from a school district to a receiving community college; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Training school consolidation pilot projects.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—To consolidate and more efficiently use state and taxpayer resources by combining training programs, pilot training centers are established to provide public criminal justice training in Leon and St. Johns Counties. The following pilot training centers are established:

(a) The Pat Thomas Center at Tallahassee Community College.

(b) The Criminal Justice Academy at St. Johns River Community College.

(2) EXISTING PUBLIC CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING PROGRAMS.—Notwithstanding sections 229.551(1)(g), 230.02, 230.35, and 230.64, Florida Statutes, or any other provision of law to the contrary, criminal justice training programs in the pilot counties will transfer to community colleges, effective July 1, 1999, at which time responsibility for the provision of basic recruit, advanced, career development, and continuing training courses and programs offered in public criminal justice training programs and for the operation of existing public criminal justice training programs will be shifted from the school district to the community college in whose service area the public criminal justice training program is located. Certification of the program granted by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission will be transferred to the respective community college and the college must continue to meet the requirements of the commission.

(3) FACILITIES.—

(a) Criminal justice training program educational facilities, educational plants, and related equipment as defined in section 235.011(6) and (7), Florida Statutes, which are owned by the state and paid for with only state funds shall be transferred to the community college, except that, if such an educational facility or educational plant or part of such facility or plant is used for other purposes in addition to public criminal justice training, the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission shall mediate the transfer or a suitable multi-use arrangement.

(b) Criminal justice training program educational facilities, educational plants, and related equipment as defined in section 235.011(6) and (7), Florida Statutes, which are owned by the school district and paid for in whole or in part with local tax funds shall be leased to the community college. However, if such an educational facility or educational plant, or part of such facility or plant, is used for other purposes in addition to public criminal justice training, the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission shall mediate a suitable lease agreement. If a school district and a community college cannot agree on the terms and conditions of the lease agreement, the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission shall finalize the agreement and report its decision to the Legislature. The Department of Education, Office of Educational Facilities, shall conduct an analysis, by December 31, 1999, to determine the amount of local tax contribution used in the construction of a school-district-owned criminal justice training program, educational facility, or educational plant affected by the transfer. This analysis shall be used to establish a purchase price for the facility or plant. The local community college district board of trustees may make a legislative budget request through the State Board of Community Colleges to purchase the facility or plant, or it may continue to lease the facility or plant.

(4) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—Each pilot training center will be regional in nature, as defined by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission. Each Community College with responsibility for a public criminal justice training program must:

(a) Establish a pilot training center advisory committee made up of professionals from the field of each training program included in the pilot project.

(b) Provide certificate and noncredit options for students and training components of the pilot training center that so require.

(c) Develop an articulation agreement with the State University System to facilitate the transfer of graduates of a community college degree training program to the upper division of a state university with a corresponding program.

(5) STAFFING.—The community college board of trustees may provide for school district public criminal justice training staff employed in full-time budgeted positions to be transferred into the community college personnel system at the same rate of salary. Retirement and leave provisions will be transferred according to law.

(6) FUNDING.—Beginning July 1, 1999, the Department of Education shall shift funds generated by students in the pilot training centers established by this section, including workforce development recurring and non-recurring funds, from the appropriate school district to the respective community college. The community college shall qualify for future facilities funding upon transfer of the facility.

(a) Consistent with section 236.081(7), Florida Statutes, school districts that transfer programs will receive an amount equal to 15 percent of the funding generated for the program under the FEFP in 1996-1997.

(b) Reflecting the lower program costs in the Community College System, notwithstanding the funding generated in paragraph (a), community colleges will receive 90 percent of the funding generated for the program under the FEFP in 1996-1997. The school district will retain the remaining 10 percent.

(c) Notwithstanding sections 239.115(6)(a) and 239.117(6)(a), Florida Statutes, or any other provision of law to the contrary, fees for continuing workforce education for public law enforcement officers at these pilot centers shall not exceed 25 percent of the cost of the course, and state funding shall not under any circumstances exceed 50 percent of the cost of the course.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Became a law without the Governor's approval May 28, 1999.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 27, 1999.