

THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE



October 12, 2007

The Honorable Ken Pruitt  
President of the Senate

ADOPTED OCT 12 2007

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Speaker, House of Representatives

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

Your Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 6-C, same being:

**An act relating to adjustments to education appropriations; amending s. 1003.03, F.S.; authorizing the Commissioner of Education to recommend a reduction in the amount transferred to a school district's fixed capital outlay fund based on the reduction in the district's allocation for its class size operating categorical; amending s. 1011.62, F.S.; providing for a district school board to transfer certain categorical funds for academic classroom instruction; requiring the Department of Education to report to the Legislature the amounts transferred and the activities for which the funds were expended; requiring a district school board to report to the department if the board transfers funds from its allocation for research-based reading instruction; requiring that the Legislature determine the percent of decline in funding for unweighted full-time equivalent students if funds are reduced during a fiscal year; providing for future expiration of certain provisions; amending s. 1011.71, F.S.; revising requirements for a school district with respect to expending revenue generated by the district school tax millage; providing for future expiration of such provisions; amending s. 1012.225, F.S.; providing for the release of funds appropriated for the Merit Award Program for Instructional Personnel and School-Based Administrators; amending s. 1012.72, F.S., relating to the Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program; providing for funds for mentoring and related services to be prorated among eligible recipients if funds are insufficient in any fiscal year to pay such Legislature for the 2007-2008 fiscal year; providing legislative intent with respect to reductions in expenditures made by district school boards; providing an effective date.**

having met, and after full and free conference, do recommend to their respective houses as follows:

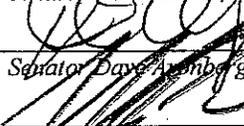
1. That the House of Representatives recede from House Amendment 156805 to Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 6-C, and
2. That the Senate and the House of Representatives adopt Conference Committee Amendment 032768 to Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 6-C, attached hereto and by reference made a part of this report.

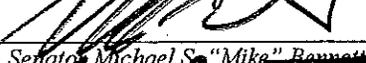
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Managers on the part of the Senate

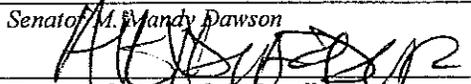


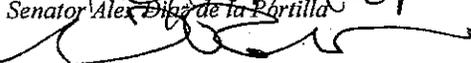
Senator Lisa Carlton, Chair

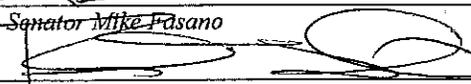
  
Senator Dave Aronberg

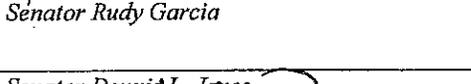
  
Senator Michael S. "Mike" Bennett

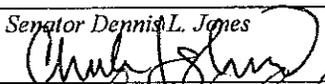
  
Senator Lee Constantine

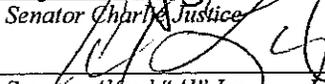
  
Senator M. Mandy Dawson

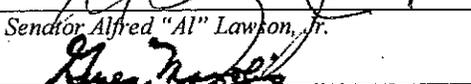
  
Senator Alex Diaz de la Portilla

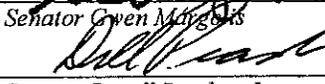
  
Senator Mike Fasano

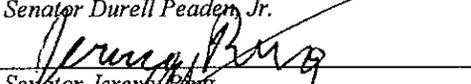
  
Senator Rudy Garcia

  
Senator Dennis L. Jones

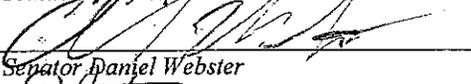
  
Senator Charles Justice

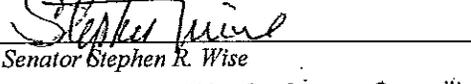
  
Senator Alfred "Al" Lawson, Jr.

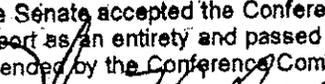
  
Senator Gwen Margolis

  
Senator Durrell Peaden, Jr.

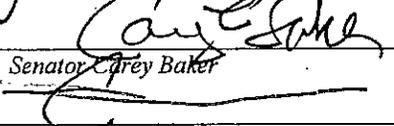
  
Senator Jeremy Ring

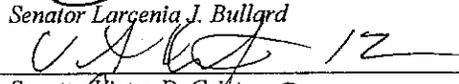
  
Senator Gary Siplin

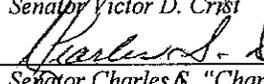
  
Senator Daniel Webster

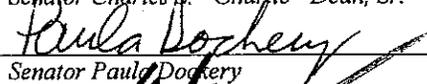
  
Senator Stephen R. Wise

  
Senator JD Alexander

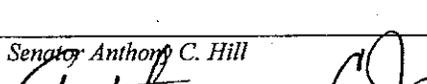
  
Senator Carey Baker

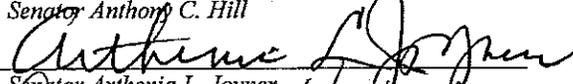
  
Senator Largentia J. Bullard

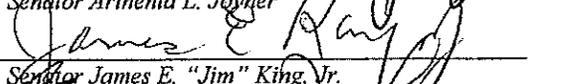
  
Senator Victor D. Crist

  
Senator Charles S. "Charlie" Dean, Sr.

  
Senator Paula Dookery

  
Senator Don Gaetz

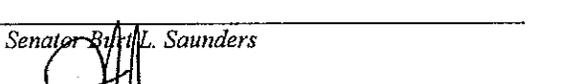
  
Senator Anthony C. Hill

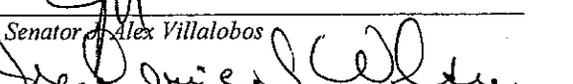
  
Senator Arthenia L. Joyner

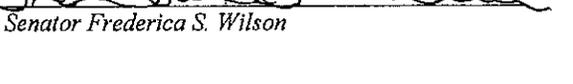
  
Senator James E. "Jim" King, Jr.

  
Senator Evelyn J. Lynn

  
Senator Steve Oelrich

  
Senator Nan H. Rich

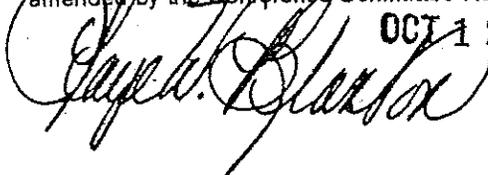
  
Senator Bill L. Saunders

  
Senator Alex Villalobos

  
Senator Frederica S. Wilson

The Senate accepted the Conference Committee Report as an entirety and passed the bill as amended by the Conference Committee Report

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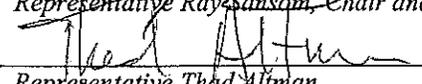


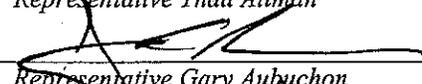
The Conference Committee Amendment for SB 6-C relating to adjustments to education appropriations revises several statutory provisions necessary to conform the statutes and the Special Appropriations Act making appropriations and reductions to appropriations for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. The bill:

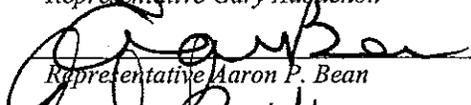
- Provides that if the appropriation for Class Size Reduction is reduced, the Commissioner of Education may recommend a reduction in the Class Size Reduction operating categorical transfer to fixed capital outlay of 10%.
- Provides flexibility to use specified categorical allocations for classroom instruction, and requires documentation and reporting when flexibility is used. This statutory modification expires on July 1, 2008.
- Provides that if the appropriation for the FEFP is reduced, the Legislature is to designate the percent of the decline in the unweighted FTE students to be funded for the Declining Enrollment Supplement.
- Provides expanded flexibility for a school district to use revenue from the 2 mill levy for capital outlay up to \$25 per student to pay for certain motor vehicles and property and casualty insurance. Criteria for district eligibility are revised to remove audit compliance, district responsibility for charter school class size reduction compliance, and to add a certification that the district does not need all of its 2 mill revenue for capital outlay purposes. This statutory modification expires on July 1, 2008.
- Requires that funds for the Merit Award Program be released and distributed to eligible school districts on or before July 31, and distributed to eligible recipients by October 1 with documentation and refunds of undisbursed appropriations by November 1, pursuant to the provisions of s. 1012.225 (2) (a), Florida Statutes.
- Provides that if funds available for the Excellent Teaching Program are insufficient for all payments, the payments for mentoring and related services shall be prorated among the eligible recipients.
- Incorporates by reference the legislative calculations for the Florida Education Finance Program as adjusted for the appropriations and reductions to appropriations for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.
- Provides legislative intent that expenditures for classroom instruction shall not be reduced as a result of the 2007-2008 Special Appropriations Act.

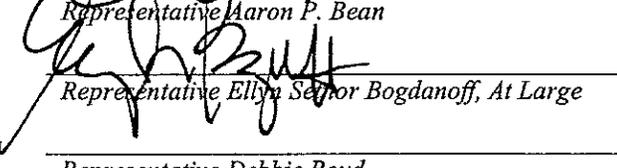
Managers on the part of the House of Representatives

  
Representative Ray Sansam, Chair and At Large

  
Representative Thad Altman

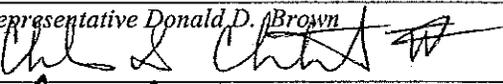
  
Representative Gary Aubuchon

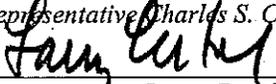
  
Representative Aaron P. Bean

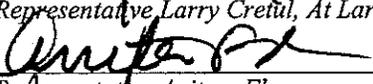
  
Representative Elysa Senor Bogdanoff, At Large

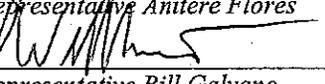
Representative Debbie Boyd

Representative Donald D. Brown

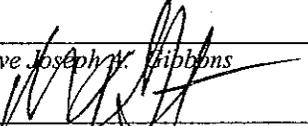
  
Representative Charles S. Chestnut

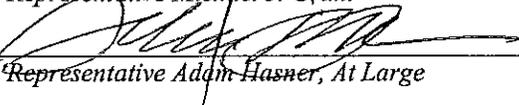
  
Representative Larry Cretul, At Large

  
Representative Anitere Flores

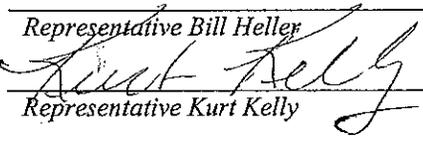
  
Representative Bill Galvano

Representative Joseph W. Gibbons

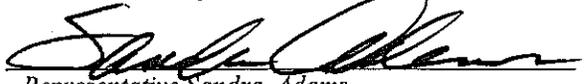
  
Representative Michael J. Grant

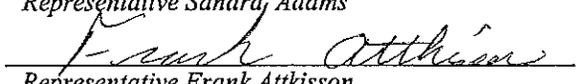
  
Representative Adam Hasner, At Large

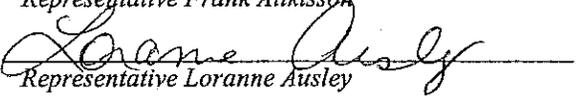
Representative Bill Heller

  
Representative Kurt Kelly

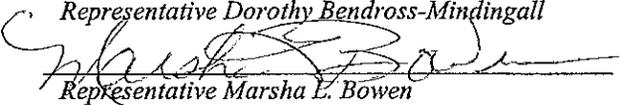
Representative Martin David Kiar

  
Representative Sandra Adams

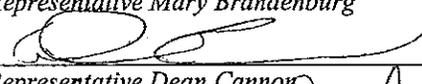
  
Representative Frank Attkisson

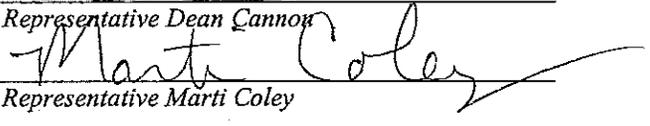
  
Representative Lorraine Ausley

Representative Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall

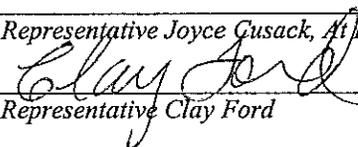
  
Representative Marsha L. Bowen

Representative Mary Brandenburg

  
Representative Dean Cannon

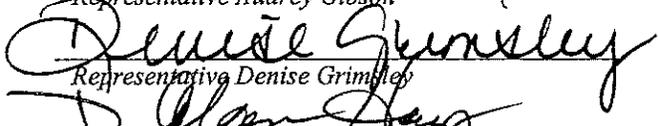
  
Representative Marti Coley

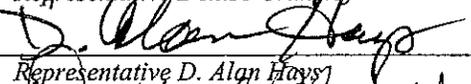
Representative Joyce Cusack, At Large

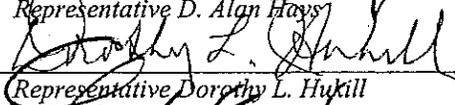
  
Representative Clay Ford

Representative Rene Garcia

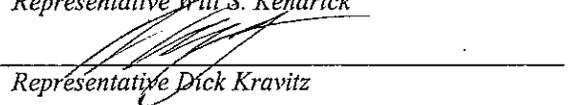
Representative Audrey Gibson

  
Representative Denise Grimsley

  
Representative D. Alan Hays

  
Representative Dorothy L. Hukill

  
Representative Will S. Kendrick

  
Representative Dick Kravitz

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The Honorable Marco Rubio  
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*Representative Richard A. Macheek*

*J. Murzin*  
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*Representative Dave Murzin*

*J. Patronis*  
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*Representative Jimmy T. Patronis*

*J. H. Pickens*  
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*Representative Joe H. Pickens*

*B. Reed*  
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*Representative Betty Reed*

*D. A. Ross*  
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*Representative Dennis A. Ross*

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*Representative Ron Saunders, At Large*

*D. Simmons*  
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*Representative David Simmons*

*N. R. Thompson*  
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*Representative Nicholas R. Thompson*

*B. G. Troutman*  
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*Representative Baxter G. Troutman*

*J. C. Zapata*  
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*Representative Juan C. Zapata, At Large*

*Stan Mayfield*  
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*Representative Stan Mayfield*

*Mitch Needelman*  
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*Representative Mitch Needelman*

*Pat Patterson*  
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*Representative Pat Patterson*

*Ron Reagan*  
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*Representative Ron Reagan*

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*Representative Curtis B. Richardson*

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*Representative Maria Lorts Sachs*

*John P. Seiler*  
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*Representative John P. Seiler, At Large*

*P. Taylor*  
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*Representative Priscilla Taylor*

*Anthony Trey Traviesa*  
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*Representative Anthony Trey Traviesa*

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*Representative Will W. Weatherford*