

# Emergent Design and Development Final Legislative Update July 3, 2007

June 28, 2007, was the last day for Governor Crist to take action upon the education bills which we have tracked during the 2007 Legislative Session.

Of the 35 bills which passed both houses of the Legislature, 32 were signed into law, while 3 were vetoed. Vetoed Bills included:

- HB 7123      An energy bill that included 3 school projects.
- HB 7183      A bill dealing with administrative procedures (also School Board salaries).
- SB 2512      A bill which changed the number of required in-service hours of ESOL training for teachers.

All bills are available in their final form through the internet. The web address for the Legislative site can be found at [www.leg.state.fl.us](http://www.leg.state.fl.us) . From there, just click on the House site for House bills or the Senate for Senate bills. Make sure you click on the 2007 regular session, then type in the bill number. Make sure that the bill you read or print is the **enrolled** version.

If you are interested in budget information beyond the line item information we sent in our last newsletter, go to [www.fldoe.org](http://www.fldoe.org) . scroll down to **News and Current Information**, click on 2007 Legislative Regional Update Meetings, once that is open click on 2007 Overview and Highlights.

It is a certainty that there is a budget shortfall of approximately \$1 Billion for the 2007-08 school year. The Governor's office informed all agencies that quarterly releases of the General Revenue funds would be reduced by 1%. This means a 4% reduction in income for the year. I would expect that School Districts will soon be informed of a reduction in their General Revenue from the state.

The big news regarding education is the search process for a Commissioner of Education. The State Board is advertising for the position. It appears that prospective candidates may apply directly, and there is also a nominating process. We feel sure that there will be a group of highly qualified candidates for the position. Future newsletters will keep you up on the process.

There is also a possibility of another Special Session – this one for the auto insurance issue (PIP). Special sessions can include other items of concern, and we will inform you if education issues are included in the call.

Have a great summer!

