

Emergent Design & Development Inc.
Legislative Update
JANUARY 4, 2008

Happy New Year! Mary and I wish each of you a healthy, prosperous, and successful 2008.

Florida, similar to many other states, may face a tough year financially. Our discussions with key Legislators lead us to believe that the funding levels in 2008 will be approximately the same level as the final 2007-08 budget. Legislators are expected to revisit the 2007-08 budget, with the expectations of another cut.

There is good news for education. A new Commissioner of Education is at work. Dr. Eric Smith has begun his tenure as our State Commissioner of Education. Chancellor Cheri Yecke announced that she was pursuing a position in higher education and Dr. Smith announced that she has been replaced by the new Chancellor of K-12 Education, Frances Haithcock. Dr. Haithcock recently worked for the College Board. Prior to that position she served as associate Superintendent for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in North Carolina. Dr. Haithcock served more than 30 years in Broward County, Florida in many administrative positions including Deputy Superintendent. Her Florida experience will serve us well throughout the coming years.

The Legislative Committees will meet the weeks of January 7-12, January 21-25, February 4-8, and February 18-22. The Committee membership is basically the same as last year. The 2008 Legislative Session officially begins on March 4, 2008.

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

The Department of Education has released the enrollment figures for the 2007-08 school year and the projections for the next three years.

Actual 2007-08	2,630,639	(down 6,911 from original projection)
2008-09	2,629,658	(loss of 980 from 2007-08)
2009-10	2,639,237	(gain of 9,579)
2010-11	2,666,770	(gain of 27,534)

MARGARET SPELLINGS VISITS FLORIDA

On January 8, 2008, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, Margaret Spellings will address a Joint Meeting of the House Committees of Education Innovation and Career Preparation, 21st Century Competitiveness, Postsecondary Education and the Schools and Learning Council. Secretary Spellings' presentation will be followed by a presentation by Florida Commissioner of Education, Dr Eric Smith.

CLASS SIZE

The Class Size Amendment continues to be a major financial issue in Tallahassee. The cost of implementing class size at the classroom level is requiring such a large amount of money that it creates a situation where there are no dollars for other educational needs. The Legislature appears to be looking for creative ways to get around this requirement and continue to fund class size at the school level. The House will discuss this issue on January 8, 2008. I expect similar discussions in both houses and that some type of legislation will be filed to address this issue.

BILLS OF INTEREST

There have been 110 bills of interest that we are tracking as of this date (40 House bills and 70 Senate bills). Many more will be filed in the following weeks. The following list is in the same format that was used last year (bill number, bill title, sponsor, and a brief description). You can look at the complete bill text as filed by going to the legislative web site: www.leg.state.fl.us then go to either the House or Senate site and enter the bill number in the space provided on the left side of the web page.

- HB 0003 Relating to Children's Zones** Bendross-Mindingall
 Children's Zones: Provides for counties & municipalities to designate certain areas as children's zones; provides process for nominating children's zones; provides for children's zone planning teams & corporations & strategic community plans; establishes Magic City Children's Zone pilot project & creates Magic City Children's Zone, Inc.; provides appropriations. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0007 Relating to Bicycle Safety** Jordan
 Bicycle Safety: Conforms helmet requirements to federal standards; provides for enforcement of nighttime equipment requirements. Effective Date: October 1, 2008.
- HB 0013 Relating to Telephone Solicitation** Jordan
 Telephone Solicitation: Revises disclosure statement requirements for certain telephone solicitations; prohibits certain telephone solicitation by any person on behalf of candidate for federal, state, or local political office, committee of continuous existence, or other political entity. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0019 Relating to Coverage for Mental, Nervous, and Substance-related Disorders** Homan
 Coverage for Mental, Nervous, and Substance-related Disorders: Revises requirements for optional coverage for mental, nervous, & substance-related disorders; revises benefits limitations; provides options application requirement; revises benefits offered by group plans. Effective Date: January 1, 2009.
- HB 0021 Relating to State Aid to Public Libraries** Davis
 State Aid to Public Libraries: Changes state grant eligibility criteria for multicounty library grants; revises determination for & amount of base grants; revises eligibility criteria, calculation, & grant determination for equalization grants; limits equalization grants & grant amounts under specified conditions. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0023 Relating to Education Facilities** Richardson
 Education Facilities: Establishes Green Schools Pilot Project to enable selected school districts to comply with certain building-certification standards; provides for selection of school districts, evaluation, & funding; provides appropriation. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0033 Relating to Presumption of Correctness for Ad Valorem Tax Assessment** Frishe
 Presumption of Correctness for Ad Valorem Tax Assessment: Provides that presumption of correctness of property appraiser's ad valorem tax assessment for income-producing property is lost if assessment is not based on income approach to value. Effective Date: January 1, 2009.
- HB 0037 Relating to Contracting for Efficiency or Conservation Measures by State Agencies** McKeel
 Contracting for Efficiency or Conservation Measures by State Agencies: Includes water & wastewater efficiency & conservation in measures encouraged by Legislature; provides for inclusion of water & wastewater efficiency & conservation measures in guaranteed performance savings contracts entered into by state agencies, municipalities, or political subdivisions. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- SB 0044 Relating to Relief/Karen W. Stripling/DOE** Posey
 Relief/Karen W. Stripling/DOE; Provides relief for Karen Stripling for damages she sustained as a result of a breach of contract by the Department of Education, etc. CLAIM WITH APPROPRIATION: \$2,720,000. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- HB 0053 Relating to Health Insurance** Peterman
 Health Insurance: Designates act "Senator Les Miller Act"; requires health insurance policies, group health insurance policies, & health maintenance contracts to provide coverage for annual screening for prostate cancer for men of age 40 or older; provides that coverage for prostate cancer screening does not limit diagnostic benefits otherwise allowed under policy or contract. Effective Date: January 1, 2009, and shall apply to policies or contracts issued or renewed on or after that date.
- HB 0055 Relating to Composition of Cabinet; Office of Commissioner of Education** Brisé
 Composition of Cabinet; Office of Commissioner of Education: Proposes amendment of s. 4, Art. IV & s. 2, Art. IX & creation of s. 27, Art. XII of State Constitution to create office of Commissioner of Education, who will be elected member of Cabinet & responsible for supervision of public education system in manner prescribed by law, & to provide effective date of January 4, 2011, for such change & for office of Commissioner of Education to be filled initially at 2010 general election. Effective Date: Not Specified
- HB 0059 Relating to Tuition Waivers** Scionti

Tuition Waivers: Designates act as "Veterans' Tuition Assistance Act"; requires state universities & community colleges to waive percentage of in-state tuition rate for veterans who meet specified criteria; provides percentage cap on number of required credit hours for which tuition waiver may be received. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.

- HB 0065 Relating to Supplemental Educational Services** Gonzalez
Supplemental Educational Services: Requires DOE to annually evaluate & grade supplemental educational services providers; specifies evaluation criteria; requires publication of grades. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0067 Relating to Florida Retirement System** Culp
Florida Retirement System: Increases period of time in which members of FRS who are employed as certain administrative personnel in grades K-12 may participate in DROP; provides declaration of important state interest. Effective Date: upon becoming a law.
- HB 0073 Relating to Illegal Immigration** Brown
Illegal Immigration: Prohibits restrictions on reporting of immigration status information by public employees; prohibits local government restrictions concerning immigration law enforcement; requires verification of immigration status of persons confined for DUI or BUJ; limits issuance of driver's licenses to US citizens or persons with specified legal immigration status; limits duration of specified licenses or identification cards; requires public employer participation in specified federal program to verify work authorization status of newly hired employees; requires participation in program by contractors & subcontractors; provides that discharge of US citizen or permanent resident alien employee by employer who on date of discharge employed unauthorized alien is unfair trade practice; provides civil remedy; requires verification of lawful presence of persons over specified age applying for ... Effective Date: October 1, 2008.
- HB 0077 Relating to Driver License Restrictions** Skidmore
Driver License Restrictions: Restricts number of certain passengers permitted in vehicle operated by person under certain age; provides for secondary enforcement & citation procedures for violations. Effective Date: October 1, 2008.
- HB 0085 Relating to Lewd or Lascivious Molestation** Kravitz
Lewd or Lascivious Molestation: Requires life sentences for second or subsequent offenses of lewd or lascivious molestation against victim less than 12 years of age. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- SB 0088 Relating to School Safety/Bullying and Harassment** Baker
School Safety/Bullying and Harassment [SPCC]; Cites this act as the "Jeffrey Johnson Stand Up for All Students Act" which prohibits bullying or harassment during education programs or activities, on school buses, or through use of data or computer software accessed through computer systems of certain education institutions. Defines "bullying" as systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0090 Relating to United States Flag Display/Local Ordinances** Saunders (B)
United States Flag Display/Local Ordinances [RPCC]; Designates this act as the "Florida Flies the Flag Act." Prohibits a county or municipality from enacting or enforcing an ordinance or regulation that prohibits the display of a United States flag by a property owner or tenant in a respectful manner or that requires a permit or payment of a fee to authorize such display, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- HB 0095 Relating to Legislature** Llorente
Legislature: Designates act "Truth in Government Act"; revises current provisions for oaths & affirmations for committee witnesses & penalties for false swearing; requires committee witnesses to take oath or affirmation; provides exceptions; requires committee member to administer oath or affirmation; provides penalties for false statements; provides for use of signed appearance card in lieu of oral oath or affirmation & penalties for making false statement after signing card. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0097 Relating to State Government Websites** Scionti
State Government Websites: Expands AEIT duties to include strategies for providing information on state Internet portal in English & Spanish by time certain & strategies & timeframes for phasing in deployment of information on state government websites in English & Spanish; requires information on state Internet portal & state government websites to be in English & Spanish by time certain. Effective Date: October 1, 2008.
- SB 0104 Relating to School Wellness and Physical Education Policies** Wilson
School Wellness and Physical Education Policies [SPCC]; Requires that each school district shall set school wellness and physical education policies in an effort to enable students to establish good health and nutrition habits. Provides policy guidelines re nutrition education, physical activity, school-based activities, and nutritional guidelines for food and beverages sold or served on campuses or in the school district, etc
- SB 0112 Relating to Student Voter Education Program** Fasano
Student Voter Education Program [SPCC]; Encourages each district school board and county supervisor of

elections to cooperate in providing voter education to high school students who are in grade 12. The voter education program shall be in the form of a presentation and is voluntary for public and nonpublic high schools. Requires the program to provide students with the opportunity, sufficient information, and the time to submit a voter registration application, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.

- SB 0128 Relating to AIDS Education Grants in Public Schools** Wilson
AIDS Education Grants in Public Schools [SPCC]; Requires the Department of Education to award grants to public school districts to implement school-based AIDS educational activities. Requires each school district that receives a grant to file an annual report with the Department of Education, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0130 Relating to School-based Health Centers** Wilson
School-based Health Centers [SPCC]; Includes in the definition of "school-based health center," for purposes of the School Health Services Act, an organization that provides at least 25 hours per week of primary care services for adolescents or other school-age children for the majority of the year, primarily provides services onsite at the school, and provides other comprehensive services, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0132 Relating to Commissioner of Education/Elected Cabinet Member** Wilson
Commissioner of Education/Elected Cabinet Member [SPCC]; Proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to create the office of Commissioner of Education, who will be an elected member of the Cabinet and responsible for the supervision of the free public education system in the manner prescribed by law. Deletes the power of the state board of education to appoint the Commissioner of Education, etc.
- HB 0143 Relating to Detention by Licensed Security Officers** Taylor
Detention by Licensed Security Officers: Permits certain licensed security officers to detain certain individuals until arrival of law enforcement officers; provides limits on such detention; requires transfer of alleged offenders to officers' custody; authorizes limited searches of persons detained or about to be detained when licensed security officer has probable cause to believe that person is armed with dangerous weapon; requires that seized weapons & evidence be provided to responding law enforcement officer. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- SB 0148 Relating to Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program** Wilson
Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program [SPCC]; Requires that a school-year prekindergarten program delivered by a private provider must comprise up to 720 instructional hours or the same number of instructional hours provided to a student in kindergarten and first grade, if the provider provides instruction in kindergarten and first grade. Provides that a prekindergarten program provided by a public school must comprise at least the same number of instructional hours, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0158 Relating to Public Schools/Reading Lab for Grades 1-3** Wilson
Public Schools/Reading Lab for Grades 1-3 [SPCC]; Requires each student who is entering kindergarten through third grade to be assessed in reading proficiency and, if reading below grade level, be placed into an intensive reading lab. Requires that each student be reassessed in the middle and at the end of each school year. Encourages the principal to ask for donations of funds or materials for the lab. Requires the principal to hire teachers, or secure training for teachers, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0162 Relating to Veterans' In-state Tuition** Crist
Veterans' In-state Tuition [SPCC]; Cites this act as the "Veterans' Tuition Assistance Act". Requires state universities and community colleges to waive 50 percent of the in-state tuition rate for veterans who meet certain criteria including, but not limited to, being a wartime veteran or having received an honorable discharge. Provides a cap of 110 percent on the number of required credit hours for which a tuition waiver may be received, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0172 Relating to Teachers/Beginning and Average Salaries** Wilson
Teachers/Beginning and Average Salaries [SPCC]; Proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to require that, by 2011, the beginning salary for full-time public school teachers shall be no less than the national average beginning salary for full-time public school teachers, as provided by law. Requires that, by 2011, the average salary for full-time public school teachers shall be no less than the national average salary for full-time public school teachers, as provided by law, etc.
- SB 0176 Relating to School Nurse Services** Wilson
School Nurse Services [SPCC]; Creates the "One School, One Nurse Act" to provide for funding of a nurse in every public school. Provides matching funds in those communities where interest in school health services is evidenced by the participation of public or private entities in the funding or delivery of school nurse services. Encourages the development of those programs that offer potential for promoting the health of students, etc. APPROPRIATION: \$75,000. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0180 Relating to Teachers/Public School/Cost-of-Living Increase** Wilson
Teachers/Public School/Cost-of-Living Increase [SPCC]; Requires the Legislature to fund a cost-of-living increase in the General Appropriations Act for teachers who teach prekindergarten through grade 12 in the public school system, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.

- HB 0181 Relating to State and Local Government Spending** Harrell
 State and Local Government Spending: Requires DOS to create & manage free website disclosing certain spending by state & local governmental entities under certain contracts; provides requirements concerning content of website; provides exemption for public records that are not subject to disclosure. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0185 Relating to Public K-12 Education** Heller
 Public K-12 Education: Authorizes parent of multiple birth siblings to request certain classroom placement; provides exceptions to implementation of requested placement; authorizes appeal of placement; specifies conditions under which provisions do not apply. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0191 Relating to Prohibited Discrimination** Skidmore
 Prohibited Discrimination: Prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, & marital status; defines terms; conforms terminology. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0193 Relating to Use of an Electronic Wireless Communications Device While Driving** Legg
 Use of an Electronic Wireless Communications Device While Driving: Prohibits person under 18 years of age from using electronic wireless communications device while operating motor vehicle, except under certain circumstances. Effective Date: October 1, 2008.
- SB 0194 Relating to Students Withdrawing From School** Wilson
 Students Withdrawing From School [SPCC]; Requires that a student who is withdrawing from school, who has not graduated, and who attains the age of 16 during the school year must be assigned a counselor or other school personnel to provide educational information until the student is 18. Requires that 9th graders, prior to the second semester, and students who are withdrawing without graduating or transferring to another school be provided certain information, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- HB 0207 Relating to Educator Certification Requirements** Sachs
 Educator Certification Requirements: Requires subject area examinations in specified foreign languages for purpose of demonstrating mastery of that subject area knowledge. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- SB 0210 Relating to STOP Day/April 18, 2008** Wilson
 STOP Day/April 18, 2008; Realizes the importance of stopping violence in schools and recognizes April 18, 2008, as "STOP Day" in the State of Florida.
- HB 0213 Relating to Education** Legg
 Education: Authorizes district school boards to establish school, class, or educational program in which enrollment is limited to students of single gender; provides conditions to such authorization; requires that students' participation in single-gender classes be voluntary. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0231 Relating to Student Financial Assistance** Ambler
 Student Financial Assistance: Creates Sure Futures Postgraduate Scholarship Program to match private-sector businesses that need employees who have advanced degrees with students who are seeking advanced degrees & employment; establishes Sure Futures Foundation & foundation board to administer program; provides criteria for student & corporate partner participation in program; provides that corporate partners shall donate funds for scholarships & receive corporate income tax credits for amounts donated; provides for scholarship conversion to low-interest loan if certain obligations are not met; adds new tax credit to list of allowable credits & to list of state corporate income tax credits that must be added to taxpayer's adjusted federal income; provides appropriation. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- SB 0234 Relating to Governor's School for Science and Technology** Wise
 Governor's School for Science and Technology [SPCC]; Establishes the school within the Florida K-20 public education system with administrative offices in the Department of Education. Provides advanced educational classes in the areas of science, mathematics, engineering, and technology in a residential setting for qualified students who are selected through a statewide application and qualification system, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- HB 0235 Relating to Community College Finance** Heller
 Community College Finance: Authorizes community college boards of trustees to enter into short-term loans & contracts, make certain payments subject to appropriation, & incur long-term debt; revises provisions relating to pledge of fee revenues to repayment of debt; revises provisions relating to securing & validating bonds; provides for transmittal of funds for amounts required for capital improvement revenue bond debt service. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- SB 0238 Relating to Charter Schools** Wise
 Charter Schools [SPCC]; Provides for the extension of Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) beyond 60

months to up to 96 calendar months for certain charter school instructional personnel in grades prekindergarten through 12. Provides that eligibility for participation requires authorization from the governing board of the school. Authorizes charter school instructional personnel employed in grades prekindergarten through 12 to participate in the DROP extension, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.

- SB 0240 Relating to Workforce Education Grant Program** Wise
Workforce Education Grant Program [SPCC]; Creates the Workforce Education Grant Program (WEG Program) to be administered by the Department of Education (DOE). Requires a grant be issued by DOE to any student who meets the residency requirements and is enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student in a nonpublic higher educational institution and is seeking an associate or higher degree that leads to employment in occupations consistent with the workforce needs, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0242 Relating to Schools/Single-gender Classes** Wise
Schools/Single-gender Classes [SPCC]; Authorizes district school boards to establish and maintain a school, class, or program limited to pupils of a single-gender if the school district makes available a coeducational and other gender school, class, or program that has substantially equal academic standards. Provides that participation is voluntary, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- HB 0243 Relating to Automated External Defibrillators** Anderson
Automated External Defibrillators: Revises provisions relating to maintenance & training requirements & notice to local emergency medical services medical director; revises requirements for civil immunity for use or attempted use of defibrillator on victim of perceived medical emergency. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- SB 0244 Relating to Statewide Educational Assessment Program** Wilson
Statewide Educational Assessment Program [SPCC]; Requires that the Commissioner of Education receive input as to the statewide educational assessment program from a minimum of two persons recommended by the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind and from a minimum of two persons recommended by the Americans with Disabilities Working Group. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- HB 0249 Relating to School Zone Signs** Gibson, III (H)
School Zone Signs: Requires that certain signs contain warning statement regarding increased fines for speeding in school zones. Effective Date: July 1, 2008.
- HB 0251 Relating to Public Secondary Schools** Jordan
Public Secondary Schools: Prohibits school district or public secondary school from prohibiting ROTC units on campus, preventing students from enrolling in ROTC unit at another educational institution, or preventing military recruiters from having certain access to students; provides for enforcement. Effective Date: July 1, 2008
- SB 0252 Relating to Compulsory School Attendance/Age Requirement** Wilson
Compulsory School Attendance/Age Requirement [SPCC]; Changes the ending age for compulsory school attendance from 16 years to 18 years, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0254 Relating to School Progression/Retention/Reading Proficiency** Wilson
School Progression/Retention/Reading Proficiency [SPCC]; Removes the requirement for alternative placement of a student who has been retained two or more years from the comprehensive program for student progression. Eliminates the guidelines for allocating school district remedial and supplemental instruction resources. Eliminates mandatory retention of a student who is not reading at grade level by grade three, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0256 Relating to Council on the Social Status of Black Men & Boys** Wilson
Council on the Social Status of Black Men & Boys; Transfers the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys from the Department of Legal Affairs to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Transfers administrative support and staffing for the council from the Office of Attorney General to DCFS, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- B 0258 Relating to Corporate Income Tax Credits/Nonprofit Educ. Orgs.** Wilson
Corporate Income Tax Credits/Nonprofit Educ. Orgs. [SPCC]; Provides for tax credits for contributions to eligible nonprofit educational-improvement organizations. Requires such organization to spend 100 percent of any eligible contribution it receives to establish scholarships to eligible students in the same year the contribution was received and that no portion of the contribution may be used for administrative expenses, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0260 Relating to Gold Seal Quality Care/Child Care Placement** Wilson
Gold Seal Quality Care/Child Care Placement [SPCC]; Provides legislative intent that children who have not attained the age of eligibility for kindergarten, and who are under the jurisdiction of a circuit court due to a documented case of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect, receive first priority for placement in a Gold Seal Quality Care facility, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.

- SB 0264 Relating to Kidcare Outreach Program Study/Uninsured Children** Wilson
Kidcare Outreach Program Study/Uninsured Children [SPCC]; Requires the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) to perform a study of the effectiveness of the Kidcare outreach program for uninsured children. Requires OPPAGA to consult with the Department of Health, the Department of Children and Family Services and other interested entities that would provide experiences and perspectives when conducting the report, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- HB 0265 Relating to Health Education** Long
Health Education: Provides for mandatory one-half credit in health education, independent of physical education credit requirements, for high school students beginning with those entering first year of high school in 2007-2008; provides waiver for students who request to take & successfully complete health assessment created by DOE; reduces number of elective courses chosen by students. Effective Date: July 1, 2008
- HB 0283 Relating to High School Athletics** Mayfield
High School Athletics: Revises provisions relating to membership of board of directors & representative assembly of FHSAA; redesignates FHSAA's commissioner as executive director; requires separate playoff systems for public & nonpublic schools; requires executive director to investigate alleged violations of bylaws & policies; provides for appointment of judicial officer to determine violations & impose penalties; provides due process procedures for student athletes & member schools. Effective Date: July 1, 2008
- SB 0286 Relating to Educators Teaching English/Inservice Requirements** Wise
Educators Teaching English/Inservice Requirements [SPCC]; Requires that educators of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) have inservice requirements that will ensure a conducive learning environment and the use of appropriate teaching strategies for students with limited English. Requires that primary English instructors have 300 inservice hours or the equivalent, that instructors in basic subject areas have 60 inservice hours or the equivalent, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0292 Relating to School Grading System** Wilson
School Grading System [SPCC]; Removes letter grades from the performance grade categories by which schools must be identified in the Commissioner of Education's annual report of the results of the statewide assessment program, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- HB 0297 Relating to Gifted and Academically Talented Student Education** Legg
Gifted and Academically Talented Student Education: Requires DOE to develop screening procedures & eligibility criteria for identification of gifted or academically talented students; requires DOE to develop model gifted & academically talented student education programs & procedures for evaluation thereof; requires district school board implementation; requires state-approved teacher preparation programs to incorporate related instruction; requires certain school district guaranteed allocation expenditures to be reported separately. Effective Date: July 1, 2008
- SB 0298 Relating to Blind Children/Literacy Education** Crist
Blind Children/Literacy Education [SPCC]; Requires that instruction in braille be part of the individualized education program for a child who is blind or visually impaired based on an evaluation of the child. Requires the evaluation to be based on reading and writing skills and needs and of appropriate reading and writing media, including, but not limited to, an evaluation of the child's future needs for instruction in braille, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0302 Relating to Public School Dress Requirements** Siplin
Public School Dress Requirements [SPCC]; Prohibits students from wearing and exposing below-waist underwear in a specified manner while on the grounds of a public school, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- HB 0309 Relating to Student Voter Education** Bendross-Mindingall
Student Voter Education: Requires district school boards & county supervisors of elections to cooperate to provide program of voter education for high school seniors. Effective Date: July 1, 2008
- HB 0315 Relating to Local Government Officers and Employees** Meadows
Local Government Officers and Employees: Expands eligibility for participation in state group health insurance program & prescription drug coverage program to include all counties, municipalities, & district school boards; specifies prerequisites & conditions for participation; provides minimum period of enrollment; requires that participating counties, municipalities, or school boards reimburse DMS for its costs, including administrative costs; prohibits counties, municipalities, or school boards from participating in state's plan allowing for pretax treatment of premium contributions. Effective Date: October 1, 2008
- SB 0318 Relating to Exceptional Students with Disabilities/Cost** Constantine
Exceptional Students with Disabilities/Cost [SPCC]; Provides that educational services to an exceptional student with a disability who receives such services in a school district other than his or her assigned school district is the responsibility of the school district where the parent resides, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.

- HB 0319 Relating to Public School Student Transportation** Adams
Public School Student Transportation: Provides that hazardous walking conditions for purpose of transportation to schools applies to K-12 students; revises criteria for determination of hazardous walking conditions. Effective Date: July 1, 2008
- SB 0320 Relating to University Fees/Undergraduate Tuition Differential** Constantine
University Fees/Undergraduate Tuition Differential [SPCC]; Modifies the criteria for establishing a uniform maximum undergraduate tuition differential for universities that have research contracts, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- HB 0331 Relating to Education** Bean
Education: Redesignates "technical centers" as "technical colleges." Effective Date: July 1, 2008
- SB 0332 Relating to Construction/Notices of Commencement** Saunders (B)
Construction Liens/Notices of Commencement [EPCC]; Requires that if a direct contract for construction is greater than \$2,500, a notice of commencement must be recorded before a building permit can be issued. Requires that notices of commencement be accepted in electronic format and be in a searchable format on the Internet for public use, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0346 Relating to Sure Futures Postgraduate Scholarship Program** Ring
Sure Futures Postgraduate Scholarship Program [SPCC]; Creates the Sure Futures Postgraduate Scholarship Program to match private-sector businesses with students who are seeking advanced degrees and employment. Provides for a better-educated workforce by offering students greater access to advanced degrees and to recruit and retain the best and brightest graduate students by offering them comprehensive financial assistance and employment, etc. APPROPRIATION: \$200,000. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- HB 0359 Relating to Exceptional Students** Randolph
Exceptional Students: Requires agency that places exceptional student with disability in private residential care facility outside of assigned school district to make best efforts to ensure negotiation between school districts of cost of placement & educational services; provides responsibility for costs; specifies requirements for student who participates in scholarship program; requires study by OPPAGA on provision of educational services to exceptional students referred to or placed in private residential care facilities. Effective Date: July 1, 2008
- SB 0368 Relating to Collective Bargaining Impasse/Legislative Body** Oelrich
Collective Bargaining Impasse/Legislative Body [RPCC]; Specifies that for resolution of a collective bargaining impasse, the sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections, and clerk of the circuit court shall each be deemed to be the legislative body for their respective employees, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0372 Relating to Florida Prepaid Tuition Scholarship Endowment** Wise
Florida Prepaid Tuition Scholarship Endowment [SPCC]; Creates the endowment within the State Board of Administration for the purpose of funding scholarships for economically disadvantaged youth. Provides for moneys from taxes on slot machines to be transferred from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund to the endowment as provided in the General Appropriations Act. Provides for the transfer of earnings from the endowment to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- HB 0379 Relating to Florida Retirement System** Flores
Florida Retirement System: Authorizes certain employees to purchase additional retirement credit in order to upgrade prior service to Special Risk Class service; provides for calculation of contributions for such service upgrade; authorizes employer to purchase additional credit for employee; provides statement of important state interest. Effective Date: July 1, 2008
- HB 0393 Relating to Education** McBurney
Education: Specifies student performance standards that must be used for civics education; establishes Florida Joint Center for Citizenship to promote civic learning & engagement; requires Commissioner of Education to include social studies as part of FCAT. Effective Date: upon becoming a law
- SB 0396 Relating to FRS/Defined Contribution Retirement Program** Fasano
FRS/Defined Contribution Retirement Program [RPCC]; Changes the name of the Public Employee Optional Retirement Program to the Public Employee Retirement Investment Program. Limits the option of enrolling in the State Retirement System's defined benefit program or defined contribution program to public employees employed prior to January 1, 2009. Requires public employees employed on or after such date to enroll in the defined contribution program, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0422 Relating to School Funding/Student's District of Residence** Baker
School Funding/Student's District of Residence [SPCC]; Provides that when a student is enrolled in one school

district but attends a school located in another district, the school district where the student resides shall distribute the funds for the student's education to the school district where the student is enrolled, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.

- SB 0436 Relating to High School Graduation/Diploma Requirements/Voting** Margolis
High School Graduation/Diploma Requirements/Voting [SPCC]; Requires that, as a prerequisite to graduate or receive a high school equivalency diploma, a high school student or candidate for the equivalency diploma register or pre-register to vote if qualified to do so. Provides that with a written request from the candidate's parent or guardian, or if the candidate is 18 years of age or older, or an emancipated minor, he or she shall be excused from this requirement, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0440 Relating to High School Graduation Requirements/Health Ed.** Justice
High School Graduation Requirements/Health Ed. [SPCC]; Provides for a mandatory one-half credit in health education, independent of physical education credit requirements, for all high school students beginning with those entering the first year of high school in 2007-2008. Provides a waiver for students who request to take and successfully complete a health assessment created by the Department of Education. Reduces, by one-half credit, the number of elective courses chosen by students, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0462 Relating to Prevention of Harassment/Public K-12 Schools** Ring
Prevention of Harassment/Public K-12 Schools; Requires school districts to adopt a policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students by August 1, 2008. Requires the Commissioner of Education to adopt a model policy that school districts may adopt to meet the minimum criteria by December 1, 2008. Requires each school district to include a notice of the policy in each district publication of rules, procedures, and conduct standards, and in any student handbook, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0466 Relating to Veterans' Day Observance/School Districts** Hill
Veterans' Day Observance/School Districts [LPCC]; Requires school districts to observe Veterans' Day on November 11. Prohibits the holding of classes on that day with the exception of a declared state emergency. Requires the date of the Veterans' Day observance to correspond with the federal holiday, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0474 Relating to Growth Management** Garcia
Growth Management [RPCC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to growth management. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0476 Relating to Growth Management** Garcia
Growth Management [RPCC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to growth management. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0498 Relating to Agency Inspectors General** Bennett
Agency Inspectors General [RPCC]; Requires agency inspectors general to comply with the General Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General as published and revised by the Association of Inspectors General. Requires notification to be made in writing to the Chief Inspector General prior to the appointment or termination of inspectors general of agencies under the direction of the Governor, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0504 Relating to Motor Vehicles/Wireless Communications Devices** Baker
Motor Vehicles/Wireless Communications Devices [EPCC]; Prohibits a person who has not attained 18 years of age from using an electronic wireless communications device while operating a motor vehicle. Provides that this offense must be a secondary action when a driver has been detained for a violation of another noncriminal traffic infraction. Provides that the driver shall receive a one point assessment against their driver's license, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/2008.
- SB 0510 Relating to School-entry/Vision Examinations** Wilson
School-entry/Vision Examinations [SPCC]; Requires that children who are entering school present evidence of having received a comprehensive vision examination which was performed within one year of their enrollment in school. Allows each district school board, and the governing authority of each private school, to establish a policy that permits a student up to 120 school days to present a certification of the vision exam, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008 except as otherwise provided.
- SB 0514 Relating to Schools/Disability History & Awareness Instruction** Fasano
Schools/Disability History & Awareness Instruction [SPCC]; Requires each district school board to provide disability history and awareness instruction to students in all K-12 public schools during the first 2 weeks in October of each year. Requires school boards to designate these 2 weeks as "Disability History and Awareness Weeks." Encourages state postsecondary institutions to conduct and promote activities related to disability history and awareness, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.

- SB 0526 Relating to Private School Students/Interscholastic Activities** Wise
Private School Students/Interscholastic Activities [SPCC]; Provides that a private school student may participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities at a public school to which the student would normally be assigned. Provides that a private school student may participate in a public school sport if the private school in which the student is enrolled does not offer the interscholastic sport, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0562 Relating to Educational Facilities/Building Standards** Constantine
Educational Facilities/Building Standards [RPCC]; Requires that educational facilities of a school district, a community college, a university, or the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, which cost more than \$100,000, must achieve certain ratings used by the United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design or by the Green Building Initiative. Applies to facility designs that are approved after July 1, 2009, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0574 Relating to Schools/ROTC/Military Recruiters** Baker
Schools/ROTC/Military Recruiters [SPCC]; Prohibits any school district or public secondary school from prohibiting ROTC units on campus or preventing a student from enrolling in an ROTC unit at another educational institution. Provides for military recruiters to have the same access to students as provided by the school to postsecondary institutions or to prospective employers of those students, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0582 Relating to Construction Contracting** Jones
Construction Contracting [EPCC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to construction contracting. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0584 Relating to Construction Lien Law** Jones
Construction Lien Law [EPCC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to the construction lien law. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0586 Relating to Department of the Lottery** Jones
Department of the Lottery [EPCC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to the Department of the Lottery. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0598 Relating to Slot Machine Gaming** Jones
Slot Machine Gaming [EPCC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to slot machine gaming. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0600 Relating to Tribal-state Gaming Compact** Jones
Tribal-state Gaming Compact [EPCC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to the tribal-state gaming compact. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0602 Relating to Video Lotteries** Jones
Video Lotteries [EPCC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to video lotteries. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0610 Relating to Physical Education/Grades 6-8** Constantine
Physical Education/Grades 6-8 [SPCC]; Requires district school boards to provide 225 minutes of physical education each week for students in grade 6 through grade 8, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0634 Relating to Veterans' Day/Paid Holiday** Fasano
Veterans' Day/Paid Holiday [EPCC]; Requires employers to give honorably discharged veterans a paid holiday on November 11 of each year, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0636 Relating to Domestic Violence/Injunction for Protection** Fasano
Domestic Violence/Injunction for Protection [LPCC]; Adds circumstances that violate an injunction for protection against repeat violence, sexual violence, or dating violence, including but not limited to, being within 500 feet of the petitioner's residence, defacing or destroying the petitioner's personal property, or refusing to surrender firearms or ammunition if ordered to do so by the court, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0642 Relating to School/Multiple Birth Siblings/Classroom Placement** Siplin
School/Multiple Birth Siblings/Classroom Placement; Defines "multiple birth siblings" as twins, triplets, quadruplets, or other siblings resulting from a multiple birth. Gives parents the right to request the same or separate classrooms in the same grade level for said siblings. Specifies that the provisions of this bill do not apply to the rights or obligations of exceptional or disabled students or the removal of students pursuant to discipline policies, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0680 Relating to Cellular Telephones in School Zones** Bullard (L)
Cellular Telephones in School Zones; Prohibits the use of cellular telephones while operating a motor vehicle in a school zone. Provides that a violation is punishable as a nonmoving violation and the fine shall be doubled, etc.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.

- SB 0690 Relating to School District Division** Wise
School District Division; Proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to provide that counties, having 45,000 or more students, may be divided into two or more school districts as provided by law; to provide for the creation of a commission, by special law, to draw school district boundary lines, allocate assets, and provide for the contractual obligations, debts, and bonded indebtedness of the school district, etc.
- SB 0702 Relating to Prekindergarten Education** Rich
Prekindergarten Education: Makes mandatory the requirements for increased levels of education for prekindergarten instructors in future years, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0768 Relating to Public Display of a Noose** Bullard (L)
Public Display of a Noose; Prohibits a person from placing a noose in a public place, on the property of another without written permission of the owner or occupier of the property, or in an exhibit of any kind with the intention of intimidating another person. Provides that the prohibition applies only if the person placed or exhibited the noose with specified intentions including, but not limited to, injuring, intimidating, or interfering with another person, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0772 Relating to Florida Retirement System/Regular Class Benefits** Jones
Florida Retirement System/Regular Class Benefits; Revises the formula for calculating retirement benefits payable to Regular Class members to increase the benefit. Provides for funding the benefit increase, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.
- SB 0790 Relating to School Safety/Bullying and Harassment** Baker
School Safety/Bullying and Harassment; Cites this act as the "Jeffrey Johnson Stand Up for All Students Act" which prohibits bullying or harassment during education programs or activities, on school buses, or through use of data or computer software accessed through computer systems of certain education institutions. Defines "bullying" as systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.
- SB 0848 Relating to Public Schools/Human Sexuality Education** Deutch
Public Schools/Human Sexuality Education; Creates the "Florida Healthy Teens Act." Requires that any public school that receives state funding, directly or indirectly, and that provides information, offers programs, or contracts with third parties to provide information or offer programs regarding family planning, pregnancy, or sexually transmitted infections, including HIV and AIDS, shall provide comprehensive, medically accurate, and factual information, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2008.