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**Summary of**  
**Creation of New School District Amendments**  
**(2007FL-0133)**

Sponsored by Senator Carlene Walker

Prepared by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel  
for the Political Subdivisions Interim Committee meeting

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- allows a city that straddles a county boundary to participate in the creation of a new school district
- allows a city to participate in the creation of a new school district as to some but not all of the area within the city if the area to be included in the school district is not part of a "city" school district and would be isolated by the creation of a new school district
- if a city decides not to participate in the creation of a new school district as to an isolated area, that area becomes part of the "city" school district if a new school district is created that isolates that area
- establishes a process for allocating an existing school district's property between the remaining district and the new district
  - two transition teams will be appointed, one by the old school district board, one by the municipality or interlocal agreement participants that are creating the new school district
  - purpose of transition teams is to allocate the old district's property between the remaining district and the new district "in a way that is fair and equitable"
  - transition teams must decide upon the property allocation by July 1 of the year following voter approval of the new school district
  - transition teams may allow for sharing of property
  - disputes between transition teams resolved by binding arbitration
  - transition team/arbitration panel decisions are final and binding on school district boards
- in June of the year following voter approval of a new school district, the board for the new district will be elected (board members take office in July)
- the old district continues to provide educational services to the new district and remaining district until July of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year after voter approval of the new district, at which time the new district begins providing educational services
- the remaining district's board is elected at the June election in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year after voter approval of the new district (board members take office in July)
- the old district, rather than the new district, is required to levy a tax on property in the new district to pay for bonds issued by the old district before the creation of the new district
- after the new school district is created, the remaining district is limited from issuing bonds that were approved before the creation, if the bonds require a tax on property in the new district
- transition team costs and expenses are to be paid by the entity or entities that appointed the transition team