Senator Fort of the 39th offered the following amendment:

Amend the substitute to HB 430 (LC 33 7066S) by inserting after "definition;" on line 5 the following:

to provide for a pilot program to plan, implement, and improve sustainable community schools for traditional public schools and charter schools; to provide for grants; to provide for definitions; to provide for planning and implementation grants; to provide for applications for grants; to require community school plans; to provide for requirements for grant recipients; to delineate the purposes for which grant funds may be used;

By inserting after line 243 the following:

SECTION 4A.

Said title is further amended by revising Article 14 of Chapter 2, which is reserved, as follows:

"ARTICLE 14

20-2-640.

As used in this article, the term:

(1) 'Applicant' means a school or a local board of education proposing to work in collaboration with one or more community organizations, which is seeking a Sustainable Community School Operational Grant pursuant to this article for a covered school site.

(2) 'Community organization' means a nonprofit organization that has been in existence for three years or more and has a verifiable track record of working with the community surrounding the covered school site on education and other issues.

(3) 'Community partner' means a community stakeholder including, but not limited to, parents, parent organizations, students, student organizations, early learning programs, businesses, civic engagement organizations, local civic and community based organizations, local governmental agencies, local school employee organizations, and institutions of higher education.

(4) 'Community school plan' means a plan to implement community school programming at a school submitted pursuant to Code Section 20-2-642.

(5) 'Community school programming' means services, activities, and opportunities pursuant to Code Section 20-2-642.

(6) 'Covered school site' means any school site at which an applicant has proposed or has been funded to provide community school programming pursuant to a grant.
(7) ‘Grant’ means a Sustainable Community School Operational Grant awarded pursuant to this article.

(8) ‘Grantee’ means an applicant that has been awarded a grant.

(9) ‘Lead partner agency’ means a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization constituted to manage and lead the work of developing and sustaining the community school plan. The lead partner agency shall serve as the fiscal agent. Resolved.

20-2-641.

(a) Subject to appropriations, the Department of Education may make grants available to establish a pilot program to plan, implement, and improve sustainable community schools for traditional public schools and charter schools. Proposals may be submitted by applicants provided that each covered school site referenced in the proposal is:

(1) A Title I school in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring that is among the lowest-achieving 15 percent of Title I schools in the state;

(2) A secondary school that is eligible for, but does not receive, Title I funds and that is among the lowest-achieving 15 percent of secondary schools in the state; or

(3) A high school that has had a graduation rate as defined in 34 C.F.R. 200.19(b) that is less than 60 percent over three years.

(b)(1) Grants may be awarded to applicants that have demonstrated a need to implement community school programming but are in need of additional planning to establish or expand existing programming. Schools that are not ready to implement community school programming immediately are authorized to use up to one year of their grant funds for planning purposes. At the end of this period, the school must submit a community school plan pursuant to Code Section 20-2-642.

(2) Applicants that have demonstrated readiness to begin operation of community school programming, submitted a community school plan pursuant to Code Section 20-2-642, and made available a list of individuals participating in the implementation of the grant shall not be required to use the first year of the grant for planning purposes and shall be authorized to begin implementation immediately upon receipt of the grant award. Such grants shall supplement, not supplant, existing services and funds.

(c) The Department of Education may use a request for proposal process in awarding grants. Technical assistance, including, but not limited to, grant writing and support for the design of community school programming, may be made available to applicants.

20-2-642.

Each applicant shall demonstrate how it will transition to positive discipline practices, more engaging and relevant curriculum, and transformative parent engagement. In addition, each
applicant shall propose to provide specific community school programming at each covered school site during the grant period, which may include, but not be limited to, programming relating to early childhood, academic support, parental involvement and family literacy, community involvement, and other programming designed to meet school and community needs, as defined by the Department of Education. In addition, each applicant shall submit a community school plan as delineated by the Department of Education.

20-2-643.
(a) Upon award of a grant, a grantee shall hire a resource coordinator to coordinate services at each covered school site. If proposing to serve three or more sites, the grantee may also hire a program director to coordinate activities across covered school sites. Resource coordinators and program directors shall work collaboratively with school leadership and school leadership teams to provide the services and programs that meet school and community needs and priorities.
(b) A grantee shall submit quarterly progress reports to the Department of Education regarding implementation of community school programming to include financial status and any other items required by the department.

20-2-644.
Grant funds awarded pursuant to this article may be used to support any of the following activities:
(1) Up to a year of grant funds may be used for planning purposes to create a comprehensive community school plan;
(2) Where the grantee has received funding to provide community school programming at multiple covered school sites, selection and compensation of a program director to oversee and coordinate programming across multiple covered school sites;
(3) Selection and compensation of a resource coordinator at each covered school site;
(4) Ongoing convening and consultation of institutional partners;
(5) General coordination of programs within and between covered school sites;
(6) Ongoing monitoring of the impact of community school programming on participating children;
(7) Development of alternative funding strategies to guarantee the long-term sustainability of the community school;
(8) Ongoing operation of the school leadership team; and
(9) Other activities, both operational and programmatic, which assist in implementation of the community school plan. 