

Committee on Education Pre-k - 12

CS/HB 1329 — McKay Scholarships/Students With Disabilities

by K-20 Innovation Subcommittee, Rep. Bileca, and others (CS/SB 1656 by Education Pre-K – 12 Committee and Senator Wise)

The bill allows a student with a disability to be eligible for a John M. McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities if he or she has an accommodation plan under section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504 accommodation plan). However, the student would be ineligible if his or her plan was for six months or less.

The bill requires school districts to notify the parent of a student with a 504 accommodation plan about available school choice options by April 1 of each year and within ten days after a 504 accommodation plan is issued.

The bill allows parents of a student with a 504 accommodation plan to enroll their children in a public school in an adjacent school district which has available space, if the school has a program with the services agreed to in the 504 accommodation plan. Parents would be responsible for transportation.

The scholarship amount for the student would be based on the current student program cost factor generated by the student under the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP).

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2011.

Vote: Senate 28-9; House 98-17