

By the Committee on Colleges & Universities and  
Representatives Casey, Rojas, Diaz de la Portilla, Ritter,  
Betancourt, Rayson, Goode, Ball and Bradley

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to education; requiring the  
3           Department of Education to develop a student  
4           financial assistance database; providing a  
5           definition; requiring a report; amending s.  
6           228.502, F.S.; deleting requirement that the  
7           Education Success Incentive Council serve as  
8           the board of directors for a direct-support  
9           organization; amending s. 232.2465, F.S.,  
10          relating to the Florida Academic Scholars'  
11          Certificate Program; changing an eligibility  
12          date; amending s. 239.117, F.S.; allowing  
13          children adopted from the Department of  
14          Children and Family Services to be exempt from  
15          certain student fees; amending s. 239.217,  
16          F.S., relating to the Florida Gold Seal  
17          Vocational Endorsement Program; changing an  
18          eligibility date; amending s. 240.107, F.S.;  
19          conforming provisions; amending ss. 240.235 and  
20          240.35, F.S.; allowing children adopted from  
21          the Department of Children and Family Services  
22          to be exempt from certain student fees;  
23          amending s. 240.404, F.S., relating to general  
24          requirements for eligibility for state  
25          financial aid; deleting a requirement for  
26          participation in a testing program; deleting a  
27          requirement regarding Selective Service System  
28          registration; creating s. 240.4041, F.S.;  
29          providing eligibility requirements for state  
30          financial aid for a student with a disability;  
31          amending s. 240.4069, F.S.; transferring

1 administration of the Virgil Hawkins Fellows  
2 Assistance Program to the Board of Regents;  
3 revising program requirements; amending s.  
4 240.408, F.S.; conforming provisions; amending  
5 s. 240.412, F.S., relating to the Jose Marti  
6 Scholarship Challenge Grant Program; revising  
7 matching fund requirements; deleting a testing  
8 requirement; amending s. 240.437, F.S.,  
9 relating to a state student financial aid  
10 program; deleting a testing requirement;  
11 amending s. 240.6045, F.S., relating to a  
12 limited access competitive grant program;  
13 revising eligibility requirements; amending s.  
14 240.606, F.S., relating to the Florida Work  
15 Experience Program; changing eligibility  
16 requirements; deleting a requirement that a  
17 certain portion of funds be used for contracts  
18 with public schools; repealing ss. 240.4025,  
19 240.4045, 240.407, 240.4085, and 240.4093,  
20 F.S., relating to the Florida Graduate  
21 Scholars' Fund, compliance with Selective  
22 Service System registration requirements,  
23 general scholarship loans, the Florida Student  
24 Tuition Scholarship Grant Program, and the  
25 Vocational Student Assistance Grant Program;  
26 providing an effective date.

27  
28 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

29  
30 Section 1. (1) The Department of Education, in  
31 conjunction with the Florida Council of Student Financial Aid

1 Advisors, staff of the Executive Office of the Governor, the  
2 Legislature, the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission,  
3 the Board of Regents, the State Board of Community Colleges,  
4 and the three largest student loan lenders by volume serving  
5 Florida students as of the effective date of this act, shall  
6 design a student financial assistance database that can be  
7 used to support all aspects of the administration and delivery  
8 of state-funded student financial aid. In addition, the  
9 database must have the capability of providing policymakers  
10 with comprehensive information regarding the various financial  
11 assistance programs available to students attending Florida  
12 postsecondary education institutions.

13 (2) For purposes of this section, financial assistance  
14 includes:

15 (a) For all students, any scholarship, grant, loan,  
16 fee waiver, tuition assistance payment, or other form of  
17 compensation provided from state or federal funds.

18 (b) For students attending public institutions, any  
19 scholarship, grant, loan, fee waiver, tuition assistance  
20 payment, or other form of compensation supported by  
21 institutional funds.

22 (3) The database must include records on any student  
23 receiving any form of financial assistance as described in  
24 subsection (2). Institutions participating in any state  
25 financial assistance program shall annually submit such  
26 information to the Department of Education in a format  
27 prescribed by the department and consistent with the  
28 provisions of s. 228.093, Florida Statutes.

29 (4) By December 1, 1997, the Department of Education  
30 shall provide to the President of the Senate and the Speaker  
31 of the House of Representatives a progress report on the

1 development of the database. The progress report must identify  
2 components of the database and provide a timeframe for  
3 implementation.

4 Section 2. Subsection (12) of section 228.502, Florida  
5 Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:

6 228.502 The Education Success Incentive Program.--

7 (12) The Commissioner of Education may establish a  
8 direct-support organization which is:

9 (a) A Florida corporation, not for profit,  
10 incorporated under the provisions of chapter 617 and approved  
11 by the Secretary of State.

12 (b) Organized and operated exclusively to receive,  
13 hold, invest, and administer property and to make expenditures  
14 to or for the benefit of the Education Success Incentive  
15 Program. The board of directors of the direct-support  
16 organization shall establish policies and procedures which  
17 enable private contributors to designate the name of the  
18 student, school, or geographic area for which contributions  
19 are being provided.

20 (c) Subject to an annual postaudit by an independent  
21 certified public accountant in accordance with rules  
22 promulgated by the board. The annual audit shall be submitted  
23 to the Department of Insurance and the Auditor General for  
24 review. The Department of Insurance and Auditor General shall  
25 have the authority to require and receive from the  
26 organization or its independent auditor any detail or  
27 supplemental data relative to the operation of the  
28 organization. The identity of a donor or prospective donor  
29 who desires to remain anonymous and all information  
30 identifying such donor or prospective donor are confidential  
31 and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a),

1 Art. I of the State Constitution. Such anonymity shall be  
2 maintained in the auditor's report.

3

4 ~~The Education Success Incentive Council shall be the board of~~  
5 ~~directors of the direct support organization.~~

6 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
7 232.2465, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

8 232.2465 Florida Academic Scholars' Certificate  
9 Program.--For the purpose of recognizing and rewarding  
10 outstanding performance and academic achievement on the part  
11 of public school students and nonpublic school students, the  
12 Commissioner of Education shall award to each high school  
13 graduate who meets the requirements specified herein, and as  
14 further specified by the State Board of Education, a special  
15 certificate recognizing and designating the graduate as a  
16 Florida Academic Scholar.

17 (1) In order to qualify as a Florida Academic Scholar,  
18 a student must:

19 (a) At the time of application or by the second half  
20 of the senior year, have been enrolled in and intend to  
21 complete a program of at least 24 credits in advanced-level  
22 studies as prescribed by the State Board of Education,  
23 including as a minimum:

24 1. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in  
25 language arts, including courses in English composition and  
26 literature;

27 2. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in  
28 science, including laboratory courses in biology, chemistry,  
29 and physics where laboratory facilities are available;

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1           3. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in  
2 mathematics, including courses in algebra and geometry and  
3 calculus or trigonometry;

4           4. Two years of sequential foreign language;

5           5. One year of instruction in art and music or in  
6 either art or music;

7           6. Three years of instruction in social studies,  
8 including courses in American history and government, world  
9 history, and comparative political and economic systems; and

10          7. One year of instruction in health and physical  
11 education to include assessment, improvement, and maintenance  
12 of personal fitness.

13           Section 4. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section  
14 239.117, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to  
15 read:

16           239.117 Postsecondary student fees.--

17           (2) The following students are exempt from any  
18 requirement for the payment of registration, matriculation,  
19 and laboratory fees for instruction:

20           (e) A student for whom the state is paying a foster  
21 care board payment pursuant to s. 409.145(3) or pursuant to  
22 parts III and V of chapter 39, for whom the permanency  
23 planning goal pursuant to part V of chapter 39 is long-term  
24 foster care or independent living, or who is adopted from the  
25 Department of Children and Family Services after December 31,  
26 1997. Such exemption includes fees associated with enrollment  
27 in college-preparatory instruction and completion of the  
28 college-level communication and computation skills testing  
29 program. Such exemption shall be available to any student  
30 adopted from the Department of Children and Family Services  
31

1 after December 31, 1997, no more than 4 years after the date  
2 of graduation from high school.

3 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
4 239.217, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

5 239.217 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Endorsement  
6 Program.--

7 (2) Each school district may award the Florida gold  
8 seal vocational endorsement to a high school student who meets  
9 the requirements of this section. To be eligible for award of  
10 the Florida gold seal vocational endorsement, a student must:

11 (a) At the time of application or by the second half  
12 of the senior year, have been enrolled in and intend to  
13 complete ~~Meet~~ all requirements for graduation as specified in  
14 s. 232.246, including number of credits, courses, grade point  
15 average, and mastery of minimum performance standards and  
16 basic skills.

17  
18 If a student does not meet the requirements of this subsection  
19 as a result of inaccurate or incomplete information provided  
20 by a high school guidance counselor, teacher, or school  
21 district personnel, the student may, nevertheless, be eligible  
22 for the Florida gold seal vocational endorsement if the  
23 principal of the school or the district superintendent  
24 verifies that such inaccuracies or misinformation caused the  
25 deficiencies. The school district must provide a means for  
26 the student to correct deficiencies resulting from such  
27 misinformation. The student must correct the deficiencies no  
28 later than December 31 immediately following high school  
29 graduation, either by completing comparable work at the  
30 postsecondary institution or by completing a directed  
31 individualized study program that is developed and

1 administered by the school district. If the student does not  
2 complete the requirements necessary to correct the  
3 deficiencies by December 31 immediately following high school  
4 graduation, the student is ineligible to participate in the  
5 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Endorsement Program.

6 Section 6. Subsection (7) of section 240.107, Florida  
7 Statutes, is amended to read:

8 240.107 College-level communication and computation  
9 skills examination.--

10 (7) The State Board of Education, by rule, shall  
11 establish fees for the administration of the examination to  
12 private postsecondary students. ~~The examination may be~~  
13 ~~administered to students other than those receiving financial~~  
14 ~~aid as required in s. 240.404(1)(a)2., provided that the~~  
15 ~~appropriate fees are paid.~~

16 Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section  
17 240.235, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

18 240.235 Fees.--

19 (5)(a) Any student for whom the state is paying a  
20 foster care board payment pursuant to s. 409.145(3) or parts  
21 III and V of chapter 39, for whom the permanency planning goal  
22 pursuant to part V of chapter 39 is long-term foster care or  
23 independent living, or who is adopted from the Department of  
24 Children and Family Services after December 31, 1997, shall be  
25 exempt from the payment of all undergraduate fees, including  
26 fees associated with enrollment in college-preparatory  
27 instruction or completion of college-level communication and  
28 computation skills testing programs. Before a fee exemption  
29 can be given, the student shall have applied for and been  
30 denied financial aid, pursuant to s. 240.404, which would have  
31 provided, at a minimum, payment of all undergraduate fees.



1 Such exemption shall be available to any student adopted from  
2 the Department of Children and Family Services after December  
3 31, 1997, no more than 4 years after the date of graduation  
4 from high school.

5 Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
6 240.35, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:

7 240.35 Student fees.--Unless otherwise provided, the  
8 provisions of this section apply only to fees charged for  
9 college credit instruction.

10 (2)(a) Any student for whom the state is paying a  
11 foster care board payment pursuant to s. 409.145(3) or parts  
12 III and V of chapter 39, for whom the permanency planning goal  
13 pursuant to part V of chapter 39 is long-term foster care or  
14 independent living, or who is adopted from the Department of  
15 Children and Family Services after December 31, 1997, is  
16 exempt from the payment of all undergraduate fees, including  
17 fees associated with enrollment in college-preparatory  
18 instruction or completion of the college-level communication  
19 and computation skills testing program. Before a fee  
20 exemption can be given, the student shall have applied for and  
21 been denied financial aid, pursuant to s. 240.404, which would  
22 have provided, at a minimum, payment of all student fees. Such  
23 exemption shall be available to any student adopted from the  
24 Department of Children and Family Services after December 31,  
25 1997, no more than 4 years after graduation from high school.

26 Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
27 240.404, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

28 240.404 General requirements for student eligibility  
29 for state financial aid.--

30  
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1           (1)(a) The general requirements for eligibility of  
2 students for state financial aid awards consist of the  
3 following:

4           1. Acceptance at a state university or community  
5 college; a nursing diploma school approved by the Florida  
6 Board of Nursing; a Florida college, university, or community  
7 college which is accredited by a member of the Commission on  
8 Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation; any Florida  
9 institution the credits of which are acceptable for transfer  
10 to state universities; any area technical center; or any  
11 private vocational-technical institution accredited by a  
12 member of the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary  
13 Accreditation.

14           ~~2. Participation in the college-level communication~~  
15 ~~and computation skills testing program. This requirement is~~  
16 ~~limited to students seeking associate's or bachelor's degrees.~~

17           2.3. Residency in this state for no less than 1 year  
18 preceding the award of aid for a program established pursuant  
19 to s. 240.402, s. 240.4021, ~~s. 240.4085~~, s. 240.409, ~~s.~~  
20 ~~240.4093~~, s. 240.4095, s. 240.4097, s. 240.412, s. 240.4125,  
21 s. 240.413, s. 240.4987, s. 240.605, or s. 240.606. Residency  
22 in this state must be for purposes other than to obtain an  
23 education. Resident status for purposes of receiving state  
24 financial aid awards shall be determined in the same manner as  
25 resident status for tuition purposes pursuant to s. 240.1201  
26 and rules of the State Board of Education.

27           ~~4. Compliance with Selective Service System~~  
28 ~~registration requirements pursuant to s. 240.4045.~~

29           3.5. Submission of certification attesting to the  
30 accuracy, completeness, and correctness of information  
31 provided to demonstrate a student's eligibility to receive

1 state financial aid awards. Falsification of such information  
2 shall result in the denial of any pending application and  
3 revocation of any award currently held to the extent that no  
4 further payments shall be made. Additionally, students who  
5 knowingly make false statements in order to receive state  
6 financial aid awards shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the  
7 second degree subject to the provisions of s. 837.06 and shall  
8 be required to return all state financial aid awards  
9 wrongfully obtained.

10 Section 10. Section 240.4041, Florida Statutes, is  
11 created to read:

12 240.4041 State financial aid; students with a  
13 disability.--Notwithstanding the provisions of s.  
14 240.404(1)(b)1.b. regarding the number of credits earned per  
15 term, a student with a disability, as defined by the Americans  
16 with Disabilities Act, is eligible for state financial aid  
17 while attending an eligible postsecondary institution on a  
18 part-time basis upon certification of the student's disability  
19 by a licensed physician in this state or by the Division of  
20 Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Labor and  
21 Employment Security. The State Board of Education shall adopt  
22 rules necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

23 Section 11. Section 240.4069, Florida Statutes, is  
24 amended to read:

25 240.4069 Virgil Hawkins Fellows Assistance Program  
26 Scholarships.--

27 (1) The Virgil Hawkins Fellows Assistance Program  
28 Scholarships, established by the General Appropriations Act,  
29 shall provide financial assistance be provided for study in  
30 law to ~~each of 10~~ minority first-year students in law at the  
31 Florida State University College of Law and ~~to each of 10~~

1 minority ~~first-year~~ students ~~in law~~ at the University of  
2 Florida College of Law. For the purposes of this section a  
3 minority student qualified to receive assistance from the a  
4 Virgil Hawkins Fellows Assistance Program shall be identified  
5 pursuant to policies adopted by the Board of Regents  
6 ~~Scholarship is a person who is a member of an ethnic group~~  
7 ~~that was by law and custom previously denied access to a law~~  
8 ~~school at a predominantly white institution in Florida.~~  
9       ~~(2)~~ The balance of any funds remaining after the 10  
10 ~~scholarships for each law school have been allocated shall be~~  
11 ~~used to provide state matching of grants from private sources~~  
12 ~~that raise money for additional fellowships to be awarded to~~  
13 ~~minority students. Matching funds shall be generated through~~  
14 ~~contributions made after July 1, 1993, and pledged for the~~  
15 ~~purposes of this section. Pledged contributions shall be for~~  
16 ~~a minimum of 2 years and shall not be eligible for matching~~  
17 ~~prior to the actual collection of the total funds.~~  
18       ~~(2)~~(3) Each student who is awarded a fellowship ~~Virgil~~  
19 ~~Hawkins Fellows Scholarship~~ shall be entitled to receive an  
20 award a scholarship under this act for each academic term year  
21 that the student is in good standing as approved by the Board  
22 of Regents' Office for Equal Opportunity Programs and the dean  
23 ~~and continues studies toward completion of the Juris Doctor~~  
24 ~~degree at the Florida State University College of Law or at~~  
25 ~~the University of Florida College of Law.~~  
26       ~~(3)~~(4) If a fellowship scholarship vacancy occurs, and  
27 ~~has not been assigned or utilized by second-year or third-year~~  
28 ~~law students, permission will be granted for the Dean of the~~  
29 ~~College of Law to identify and assign that scholarship slot~~  
30 shall be reassigned and funded ~~fund it~~ as a continuing  
31

1 fellowship ~~scholarship~~ for the remainder of the period for  
2 which the award ~~scholarship~~ was originally designated.

3 (4)(5) The Board of Regents shall adopt policies and  
4 shall administer the Virgil Hawkins Fellows Assistance Program  
5 ~~Scholarships shall be administered by the Department of~~  
6 ~~Education. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to~~  
7 ~~implement the Virgil Hawkins Fellows Scholarships.~~

8 Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 240.408, Florida  
9 Statutes, is amended to read:

10 240.408 Challenger Astronauts Memorial Undergraduate  
11 Scholarship Trust Fund.--

12 (1) There is created the Challenger Astronauts  
13 Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship Trust Fund which shall  
14 receive distributions as provided by s. 320.08058. The  
15 Comptroller shall authorize expenditures from this fund for  
16 Challenger Astronauts Memorial awards pursuant to s. 240.402,  
17 and any remaining balances may be expended ~~for graduate~~  
18 ~~fellowships in space science, space commerce, or space policy~~  
19 ~~research pursuant to s. 240.4025, and for education/business~~  
20 partnership programs which involve teacher development  
21 strategies pursuant to s. 229.602, upon receipt of vouchers  
22 approved by the Department of Education. The Comptroller  
23 shall also authorize expenditures from this fund for  
24 Challenger Astronauts Memorial Undergraduate Scholarships for  
25 students who participated in this program prior to July 1,  
26 1993, provided that such students continue to meet the renewal  
27 eligibility requirements that were in effect at the time that  
28 their original awards were made. Any balance therein at the  
29 end of any fiscal year shall remain therein and shall be  
30 available for carrying out the purposes of these programs.

31

1           Section 13. Subsection (4) and paragraph (b) of  
2 subsection (5) of section 240.412, Florida Statutes, are  
3 amended to read:

4           240.412 Jose Marti Scholarship Challenge Grant  
5 Program.--

6           (4) The amount appropriated to the trust fund for the  
7 program shall be allocated by the department on the basis of  
8 one \$5,000 challenge grant for each ~~\$2,500~~~~\$5,000~~ raised from  
9 private sources. Matching funds shall be generated through  
10 contributions made after July 1, 1986, and pledged for the  
11 purposes of this section. Pledged contributions shall not be  
12 eligible for matching prior to the actual collection of the  
13 total funds.

14           (5)

15           (b) In order to renew a scholarship awarded pursuant  
16 to this section, a student must ~~shall~~:

17           1. Earn a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0  
18 scale for the previous term, maintain at least a 3.0 average  
19 for college work, or have an average below 3.0 only for the  
20 previous term and be eligible for continued enrollment at the  
21 institution.

22           2. Maintain full-time enrollment.

23           ~~3. Participate in the college-level communication and~~  
24 ~~computation skills testing program. Graduate recipients shall~~  
25 ~~be exempt from this requirement.~~

26           Section 14. Subsection (2) of section 240.437, Florida  
27 Statutes, is amended to read:

28           240.437 Student financial aid planning and  
29 development.--

30           (2) The objective of a state program is the  
31 maintenance of a state student financial aid program to

1 supplement a basic national program which will provide equal  
2 access to postsecondary education to citizens of this state  
3 who have the ability and motivation to benefit from a  
4 postsecondary education. In the development of a state program  
5 to achieve this objective, it shall be the policy that:

6 (a) State student financial aid be provided primarily  
7 on the basis of financial need;

8 (b) Students receiving need-based financial aid be  
9 expected to contribute toward their cost of education through  
10 self-help resources such as savings, work, and loans;

11 (c) Student financial aid be available to state  
12 residents for attendance at accredited public or private  
13 institutions of higher education in this state;

14 (d) Student financial aid be provided for all levels  
15 of postsecondary education; and

16 (e) State student financial aid be administered by a  
17 central state agency.

18 ~~(f) Effective August 1, 1985, students enrolled in~~  
19 ~~associate in arts degree programs and bachelor's degree~~  
20 ~~programs in independent institutions in this state who receive~~  
21 ~~state aid pursuant to s. 240.402, s. 240.4063, s. 240.4085, s.~~  
22 ~~240.4095, s. 240.4097, s. 240.412, s. 240.605, or s. 240.606~~  
23 ~~participate in the college-level communication and computation~~  
24 ~~skills testing program provided in s. 229.551. The department~~  
25 ~~and the eligible institutions shall negotiate an agreement~~  
26 ~~that will assure that the test is available to students either~~  
27 ~~directly through the independent institutions or on a~~  
28 ~~contractual basis with a state community college or~~  
29 ~~university. Before August 1, 1985, all independent~~  
30 ~~institutions subject to this provision shall have an~~  
31 ~~opportunity to participate in preliminary testing activities~~

1 ~~similar to those afforded the public institutions before the~~  
2 ~~initiation of formal testing; and the independent sector shall~~  
3 ~~be afforded appropriate representation on all committees and~~  
4 ~~commissions charged with responsibilities for developing,~~  
5 ~~administering, and evaluating the tests.~~

6  
7 Planning and development must ~~shall~~ be in accordance with the  
8 foregoing objective and policies.

9 Section 15. Subsections (1), (2), (3), and (4) of  
10 section 240.6045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

11 240.6045 Limited access competitive grant program.--

12 (1) There is established a limited access competitive  
13 grant program which shall be administered by the Department of  
14 Education. The purpose of the program shall be to provide  
15 enrollment opportunities for qualified applicants in ~~unable to~~  
16 ~~obtain admission to selected state university~~ limited access  
17 programs or equivalent academic tracks.

18 (2) The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission  
19 shall annually identify for the State Board of Education  
20 selected high priority employment fields that are designated,  
21 ~~commonly referred to as limited access programs,~~ which require  
22 a baccalaureate degree and for which one or more state  
23 universities have insufficient capacity to serve all qualified  
24 applicants.

25 (3) Program applicants shall be Florida residents,  
26 either community college graduates or state university  
27 students, who are qualified for admission to a selected  
28 independent college or university ~~because of lack of space are~~  
29 ~~denied admission to a state university~~ program directly  
30 related to a high priority employment field identified by the  
31 State Board of Education.



1           (4) A limited access competitive grant may be awarded  
2 ~~in a competitive grant~~ which equals 50 percent of the cost to  
3 the state per academic year of funding an undergraduate  
4 student in public postsecondary education if the recipient  
5 chooses to enroll in a comparable program provided by an  
6 eligible independent college or university in Florida.  
7 Eligible independent institutions shall be designated by the  
8 Department of Education and shall be selected from among  
9 institutions accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the  
10 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Priority shall  
11 be given to state residents who graduate from a Florida high  
12 school or community college.

13           Section 16. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and  
14 subsection (3) of section 240.606, Florida Statutes, are  
15 amended to read:

16           240.606 Florida Work Experience Program.--

17           (1) There is established the Florida Work Experience  
18 Program to be administered by the Department of Education. The  
19 purpose of the program is to introduce eligible students to  
20 work experience that will complement and reinforce their  
21 educational program and career goals and provide a self-help  
22 student aid program. Such program shall be available to:

23           (b) Any student attending a nonprofit Florida  
24 postsecondary education institution that is eligible to  
25 participate in either of the student assistance grant programs  
26 established in ss. 240.4095 and 240.4097. ~~college or~~  
27 ~~university which: is accredited by a member of the Commission~~  
28 ~~on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation, the credits of~~  
29 ~~which are acceptable, without qualification, for transfer to a~~  
30 ~~state university; grants baccalaureate or associate degrees;~~

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1 ~~is not a pervasively sectarian institution; and is located in~~  
2 ~~and chartered by the state.~~

3 (3) Each participating institution is authorized to  
4 enter into contractual agreements with private or public  
5 employers for the purpose of establishing a Florida work  
6 experience program. ~~A minimum of 25 percent of the funds for~~  
7 ~~the Florida Work Experience Program shall be used to contract~~  
8 ~~with public schools for student work experience opportunities.~~

9 Section 17. Sections 240.4025, 240.4045, 240.407,  
10 240.4085, and 240.4093, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

11 Section 18. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
12 law.

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14 \*\*\*\*\*

15 HOUSE SUMMARY

16 Requires the Department of Education to develop a student  
17 financial assistance database. Deletes the requirement  
18 that the Education Success Incentive Council serve as the  
19 board of directors to a direct-support organization.  
20 Changes eligibility dates for certain awards. Allows  
21 children adopted from the Department of Children and  
22 Family Services to be exempt from certain student fees.  
23 Deletes a testing requirement for eligibility for state  
24 financial aid. Provides eligibility requirements for  
25 state financial aid for a student with a disability.  
26 Transfers administration of the Virgil Hawkins Fellows  
27 Assistance Program to the Board of Regents. Revises  
28 provisions relating to a limited access competitive grant  
29 program and the Florida Work Experience Program. Repeals  
30 certain provisions relating to financial assistance.  
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