Amendment No. $\qquad$ (for drafter's use only)

Senate
CHAMBER ACTION


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such system shall include a certification of acceptability by
the state university or community college of the applicant's
choice and the use of a nationally recognized system of need
analysis. Priority in the distribution of grant moneys shall
be given to students with the lowest total family resources,
taking into consideration the receipt of Pell Grants and
student contributions to educational costs.
(3) The Department of Education shall administer the Bright Futures Scholarship Program according to rules and procedures established by the Commissioner of Education. A single application must be sufficient for a student to apply for any of the three types of awards. The department must advertise the availability of the scholarship program and must notify students, teachers, parents, guidance counselors, and principals or other relevant school administrators of the criteria and application procedures. The department must begin this process of notification no later than January 1 of each year. Principals are responsible for ensuring that guidance counselors or other relevant school administrators adequately advise students regarding the options available to the student through the Bright Futures Scholarship Program.
(5) (a) Following the drop/add period each semester, an education institution shall certify to the department the award amount necessary for each student eligible to receive an award. Upon receipt of the certifications, the department shall transmit payment for the awards to the president or the director of the institution or the designee of the president or the director. The department shall issue awards from the scholarship program annually. Annual awards may be for up to 45 semester credit hours or the equivalent. Before the registration period each semester, the department shall

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transmit payment for each award to the president or director
of the postsecondary education institution, or his or her
representative, except that the department may withhold
payment if the receiving institution fails to report or to
make refunds to the department as required in this act.
    (a) Within 30 days after the end of regular
registration each semester, the educational institution shall
certify to the department the eligibility status of each
student who receives an award. After the end of the drop and
add period,An institution is not required to reevaluate or
revise a student's eligibility status, but must make a refund
to the department if a student who receives an award
disbursement terminates enrollment for any reason during an
academic term and a refund is permitted by the institution's
refund policy.
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(b) An institution that receives funds from the program shall certify to the department the amount of funds disbursed to each student and shall remit to the department any undisbursed advances within 60 days after the end of regular registration.
(c) Each institution that receives moneys through this program shall prepare an annual report that includes an independent external audit or an audit prepared by the Office of the Auditor General. The report shall include an audit of the institution's administration of the program and a complete accounting of the moneys for the program. This report must be submitted to the department annually by March 1. The department may conduct its own annual audit of an institution's administration of the program. The department may request a refund of any moneys overpaid to the institution for the program. The department may suspend or revoke an

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institution's eligibility to receive future moneys for the
program if the department finds that an institution has not
complied with this section. The institution must remit within
6 0 \text { days any refund requested in accordance with this}
subsection.
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Section 2. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of section 240.40202 , Florida Statutes, to read:
240.40202 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program; student eligibility requirements for initial awards.--
(1) To be eligible for an initial award from any of the three types of scholarships under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, a student must:
(g) Submit to the United States Department of Education a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid and permit release of the information to the state.

Section 3. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 240.40205, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 97-379, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:
240.40205 Florida Academic Scholars award.--
(1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars award if the student meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and the student:
(a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202, or its equivalent, in high school courses that are adopted by the Board of Regents and recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as college-preparatory academic courses;and
(b) has attained at least a the score of 1270 identified by rules of the Department of Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the seholastic

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Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the
recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance
Examination, or an equivalent score on the American College
Testing Program, or an equivalent score on an equivalent test
as determined by the Department of Education; or
(b) (c) Has attended a home education program according to s. 232.02(4) during grades 11 and 12 or has completed the International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate Diploma, and has attained at least a the score of 1270 identified by rules of the Department of Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, of an equivalent score on the American College Testing Program, or an equivalent score on an equivalent test as determined by the Department of Education;
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(c) (d) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office; or
(d) (e) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a scholar or finalist.

Effective with the 1998-1999 school year, a student must complete a program of community service work, as approved by the district school board or the administrators of a nonpublic school, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service work and require the student to identify a social problem that interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her

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experience.
(2) A Florida Academic Scholar who is enrolled in a public postsecondary education institution is eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay registration matriculation,fees,and \(\$ 600\) for college-related expenses annually. A student who is enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is eligible for an award equal to the amount that would be required to pay for the average registration matriculation and fees of a public postsecondary education institution at the comparable level, plus the annual \(\$ 600\). For purposes of this award, registration fees at a public postsecondary education institution include the following fees if authorized by the Legislature and assessed by the institution: matriculation fee, financial aid fee, building fee, capital improvement fee, health fee, athletic fee, activity and service fee, and technology fee.

Section 4. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 240.40206, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 97-379, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:
240.40206 Florida Merit Scholars award.--
(1) A student is eligible for a Florida Merit Scholars award if the student meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and the student:
(a) Has achieved a weighted grade point average of 3.0 as calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202 , or the equivalent, in high school courses that are adopted by the Board of Regents and recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as college-preparatory academic courses;and
(b) has attained at least athe score of 970
identified by iules of the Department of Education on the
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combined verbal and quantitative parts of the scholastic
Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the
recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance
Examination, or an equivalent score on the American College
Testing Program, or an equivalent score on an equivalent test
as determined by the Department of Education; or
(b) (c) Has attended a home education program according to s. 232.02(4) during grades 11 and 12 or Has completed the International Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate Diploma,and has attained at least athe score of 970identified loy rules of the Department of Education on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the American College Testing Program, or an equivalent score on an equivalent test as determined by the Department of Education; or

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(c) Has completed a college-preparatory curriculum through a registered home education program and has attained a score of 970 on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the American College Testing Program. Eligibility shall be determined in the same manner as for public school students. For students whose parents do not document a college-preparatory curriculum, a score of 1070 on the combined verbal and quantitative part of the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the American College Testing Program, shall be required for award eligibility.

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(2) A Florida Merit Scholar is eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay 75 percent of registration matriculation and fees, if the student is enrolled in a public postsecondary education institution. A student who is enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is eligible for an award equal to the amount that would be required to pay 75 percent of the registration matriculation and fees of a public postsecondary education institution at the comparable level. For purposes of this award, registration fees at a public postsecondary education institution include the following fees if authorized by the Legislature and assessed by the institution: matriculation fee, financial aid fee, building fee, capital improvement fee, health fee, athletic fee, activity and service fee, and technology fee.

Section 5. Section 240.40207, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 97-379, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:
240.40207 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award.--The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award is created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program to recognize and reward academic achievement and vocational preparation by high school students who wish to continue their education. Effective fall 1999, a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award may not be used at a baccalaureate degree-granting institution unless the award is a renewal of an initial award issued prior to fall 1999.
(1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award if the student meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and the student:
(a) Completes the secondary school portion of a 8

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sequential program of studies that requires at least three secondary school vocational credits taken over at least 2 academic years, and is continued in a planned, related postsecondary education program. If the student's school does not offer such a two-plus-two or tech-prep program, the student must complete a job-preparatory career education program selected by the Occupational Forecasting Conference or the Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida for its ability to provide high-wage employment in an occupation with high potential for employment opportunities. On-the-job training may not be substituted for any of the three required vocational credits.
(b) Demonstrates readiness for postsecondary education by earning a passing score on the Florida College Entry Level Placement Test or its equivalent as identified by the Department of Education.
(c) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average of 3.0 , as calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202 , on all subjects required for a standard high school diploma, excluding elective courses.
(d) Earns a minimum unweighted grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for secondary vocational courses comprising the vocational program.
(e) Completes the requirements of a vocational-ready diploma program, as defined by rules of the state Board of Education.
(2) A Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholar is eligible for an award equal to the amount required to pay 75 percent of registration matriculation and fees, if the student is enrolled in a public postsecondary education institution. A student who is enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education

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institution is eligible for an award equal to the amount that would be required to pay 75 percent of the registration matriculation and mandatory fees of a public postsecondary education institution at the comparable level. For purposes of this award, registration fees at a public postsecondary education institution include the following fees if authorized by the Legislature and assessed by the institution: matriculation fee, financial aid fee, building fee, capital improvement fee, health fee, athletic fee, activity and service fee, and technology fee.
(3) To be eligible for a renewal award as a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholar, a student must maintain the equivalent of a grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale for all postsecondary education work attempted, with an opportunity for reinstatement one time as provided in this act.
(4) A student may earn a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship for 110 percent of the number of credit hours required to complete the program, up to 90 credit hours or the equivalent. A Florida Gold Seal Scholar who has a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 in all postsecondary education work attempted may apply for a Florida Merit Scholars award at any renewal period. All other provisions of that Program apply, and the credit-hour limitation must be calculated by subtracting from the student's total eligibility the number of eredit hours the student attempted while earning the Gold seal Vocational Scholarship.
(5) Upon successful completion of a postsecondary education program pursuant to paragraph (1)(a), an award recipient who meets the renewal criteria in subsection (3) and enrolls in an associate or baccalaureate degree program at an

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eligible postsecondary education institution is eligible to transfer to the Florida Merit Scholars award component of the Bright Futures Scholarship Program. All other provisions of that component of the program apply.

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 240.40208, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 97-379, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:
240.40208 Eligibility for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program; transition.--
(1) A student who graduates from high school in 1997 or earlier and who is eligible for the Florida Undergraduate Scholar's Program pursuant to s. 240.402 is eligible for the Florida Academic Scholars award as provided in this act. A student who graduates from high school in 1998 or 1999 is eligible for the Florida Academic Scholars award if the student meets the criteria in s. 240.40205 . However, in lieu of satisfying the requirements set forth in s. 240.40205 (1)(a) and ( \(\mathrm{JO}_{\mathrm{o}}\), a student may meet the following criteria:
(a) Complete a program of at least 24 credits in advanced-level studies as prescribed by the State Board of Education, including as a minimum:
1. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in language arts, including courses in English composition and literature.
2. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in science, including laboratory courses in biology, chemistry, and physics where laboratory facilities are available.
3. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in mathematics, including courses in algebra, geometry, and calculus or trigonometry.
4. Two years of sequential foreign language.

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5. One year of instruction in art and music or in either art or music.
6. Three years of instruction in social studies, including courses in American history and government, world history, and comparative political and economic systems.
7. One year of instruction in health and physical education to include assessment, improvement, and maintenance of personal fitness.
(b) Obtain at least the equivalent of an unweighted grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for all courses taken for which high school credit may be granted.
(c) Achieve a score of 1180 on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on the American College Testing Program or an equivalent program.
(d) Complete a program of community service work, as approved by the district school board or the administrators of a nonpublic school, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service work and require the student to identify a social problem that interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.

Students who graduate from high school after 1999 must meet the eligibility criteria pursuant to s. 240.40205.

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1 of the year in which enacted.

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\(=================\mathrm{T}\) T L E A M E N D M E N T ================ \(=\) And the title is amended as follows:

On page 1, lines 1 through 22,
remove from the title of the bill: all of said lines
and insert in lieu thereof:
A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program; amending s. 240.40201, F.S.; providing for criteria for need based scholarships; providing responsibilities of school principals; revising provisions relating to payment for awards; amending s. 240.40202, F.S.; providing additional student eligibility requirements for an initial award; amending s. 240.40205, F.S.; revising student eligibility requirements for receipt of a Florida Academic Scholars award; specifying fees for which payment may be made; amending s. 240.40206, F.S.; revising student eligibility requirements for receipt of a Florida Merit Scholars award; specifying fees for which payment may be made; amending s. 240.40207 , F.S.; restricting the use of a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award; specifying fees for which payment may be made; revising provisions relating to transfer of awards and providing requirements; amending s. 240.40208, F.S., to conform; providing an effective date.

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