

By Representatives Wasserman Schultz, Warner, Turnbull and Ritter

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to grade forgiveness policies;
3 amending s. 232.246, F.S.; revising
4 requirements for district grade forgiveness
5 policies; providing an effective date.
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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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9 Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (5) of section
10 232.246, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to
11 read:

12 232.246 General requirements for high school
13 graduation.--

14 (5) Each district school board shall establish
15 standards for graduation from its schools, and these standards
16 must include:

17 (e) For purposes of paragraphs (c) and (d):

18 1. Each district shall adopt policies designed to
19 assist students in meeting these requirements. These policies
20 may include, but are not limited to: forgiveness policies,
21 summer school attendance, special counseling, volunteer and/or
22 peer tutors, school-sponsored help sessions, homework
23 hotlines, and study skills classes. Beginning in the 1999-2000
24 school year and each year thereafter, forgiveness policies
25 shall be limited to replacing a grade of "D" or "F," or the
26 equivalent of a grade of "D" or "F," with a grade of "C" or
27 higher, or the equivalent of a grade of "C" or higher, earned
28 subsequently in the same or a comparable course. Course grades
29 for courses required by subsection (1) not replaced according
30 to a district forgiveness policy shall be calculated as a part
31 of the cumulative grade point average required for graduation.

1 2. At the end of each semester, the parent or guardian
2 of each student in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 who has a
3 cumulative grade point average of less than 0.5 above the
4 cumulative grade point average required for graduation shall
5 be notified that the student is at risk of not meeting the
6 requirements for graduation. The notice shall contain an
7 explanation of the policies the district has in place to
8 assist the student in meeting the grade point average
9 requirement.

10 3. Special assistance to obtain a high school
11 equivalency diploma pursuant to s. 229.814 may be given only
12 when the student has completed all requirements for graduation
13 except the attainment of the required cumulative grade point
14 average.

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16 The standards required in this subsection, and any subsequent
17 modifications, shall be reprinted in the Florida
18 Administrative Code even though not defined as "rules."

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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22 HOUSE SUMMARY

23 Revises requirements for district grade forgiveness
24 policies.

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