

By the Committee on Education and Senator Sullivan

304-1955-99

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures
 3 Scholarship Program; amending s. 240.40202,
 4 F.S.; requiring an applicant to complete a
 5 certain form; amending s. 240.40203, F.S.;
 6 setting a time limit for the receipt of a
 7 scholarship; amending s. 240.40205, F.S.;
 8 requiring a test score and two levels of
 9 maximum annual award for a scholarship;
 10 amending s. 240.40206, F.S.; requiring a test
 11 score, to be raised in certain increments, and
 12 two levels of maximum annual award for a
 13 scholarship; amending s. 240.40207, F.S.;
 14 requiring the use of a scholarship at certain
 15 postsecondary educational institutions;
 16 amending s. 240.40208, F.S.; deleting a
 17 cross-reference; repealing s. 240.40209, F.S.;
 18 relating to awards used at nonpublic
 19 postsecondary educational institutions;
 20 providing an effective date.

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 22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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24 Section 1. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of
 25 section 240.40202, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, to read:

26 240.40202 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;
 27 student eligibility requirements for initial awards.--

28 (1) To be eligible for an initial award from any of
 29 the three types of scholarships under the Florida Bright
 30 Futures Scholarship Program, a student must:
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1 (g) Submit to the United States Department of
2 Education a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid
3 and permit release of the information to the state. The
4 privacy of the information is protected under s. 228.093,
5 Florida Statutes, and an analysis or report derived from the
6 data may not be made public if it permits individual
7 identification of an applicant.

8 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 240.40203,
9 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

10 240.40203 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;
11 student eligibility requirements for renewal awards.--

12 (2) A student who is enrolled in a program that
13 ~~requires 120 credit hours or more to complete terminates in an~~
14 ~~associate degree or a baccalaureate degree~~ may receive an
15 award for a maximum of 132 semester credit hours or the
16 equivalent ~~110 percent of the number of credit hours required~~
17 ~~to complete the program.~~ A student who is enrolled in a
18 program that terminates in an associate degree or a technical
19 certificate may receive an award for a maximum of 110 percent
20 of the credit hours or clock hours required to complete the
21 program up to 90 credit hours. A student who transfers from
22 one of these program levels to another becomes eligible for
23 the higher of the two credit hour limits.

24 Section 3. Subsections (1) and (2) of section
25 240.40205, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to
26 read:

27 240.40205 Florida Academic Scholars award.--

28 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic
29 Scholars award if the student meets the general eligibility
30 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
31 Program and the student:

1 (a) Has achieved a 3.5 weighted grade point average as
2 calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202, or its equivalent, in
3 high school courses that are adopted by the Board of Regents
4 and recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as
5 college-preparatory academic courses~~and~~

6 ~~(b)~~ has attained at least a the score of 1270
7 ~~identified by rules of the Department of Education on the~~
8 ~~combined verbal and quantitative parts of the Scholastic~~
9 ~~Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or the~~
10 ~~recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College Entrance~~
11 ~~Examination, or an equivalent score on another test identified~~
12 ~~by the department the American College Testing Program; or~~

13 (b)(c) Has completed ~~attended~~ a college-preparatory
14 curriculum through a registered home education program
15 according to s. 232.0201 ~~during grades 11 and 12~~ or has
16 completed the International Baccalaureate curriculum but
17 failed to earn the International Baccalaureate Diploma, and
18 has attained at least a the score of 1270 ~~identified by rules~~
19 ~~of the Department of Education on the combined verbal and~~
20 ~~quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the~~
21 ~~Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic~~
22 ~~Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an~~
23 ~~equivalent score on another test identified by the department~~
24 ~~the American College Testing Program; or~~

25 (c)(d) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate
26 Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office; or

27 (d)(e) Has been recognized by the merit or achievement
28 programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a
29 scholar or finalist.

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

10 (2) A Florida Academic Scholar who is enrolled in a
11 baccalaureate-degree-granting public postsecondary education
12 institution is eligible for a maximum award of \$2,800 ~~an award~~
13 ~~equal to the amount required to pay matriculation, fees, and~~
14 ~~\$600 for college-related expenses~~ annually. A Florida Academic
15 Scholar who is enrolled in an institution that does not award
16 baccalaureate degrees is eligible for a maximum annual award
17 of \$2,000. The maximum award amount must be prorated each
18 semester as provided in s. 240.4021(6).~~student who is~~
19 ~~enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is~~
20 ~~eligible for an award equal to the amount that would be~~
21 ~~required to pay for the average matriculation and fees of a~~
22 ~~public postsecondary education institution at the comparable~~
23 ~~level, plus the annual \$600.~~

24 Section 4. Section 240.40206, Florida Statutes, 1998
25 Supplement, is amended to read:

26 240.40206 Florida Merit Scholars award.--

27 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Merit Scholars
28 award if the student meets the general eligibility
29 requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
30 Program and also meets one of the following criteria ~~the~~
31 ~~student:~~

1 (a) The student has achieved a weighted grade point
2 average of 3.0 as calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202, or the
3 equivalent, in high school courses that are adopted by the
4 Board of Regents and recommended by the State Board of
5 Community Colleges as college-preparatory academic courses~~+~~
6 and

7 ~~(b)~~ has attained at least the applicable score listed
8 in subsection (2)~~identified by rules of the Department of~~
9 ~~Education~~ on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the
10 ~~Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or~~
11 ~~the~~ recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College
12 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on another test
13 identified by the department~~the American College Testing~~
14 ~~Program; or~~

15 ~~(b)(c)~~ The student has completed ~~attended~~ a
16 college-preparatory curriculum through a registered home
17 education program according to s. 232.0201 ~~during grades 11~~
18 ~~and 12 or has completed the International Baccalaureate~~
19 ~~curriculum but failed to earn the International Baccalaureate~~
20 ~~Diploma,~~ and has attained at least the applicable score listed
21 in subsection (2)~~identified by rules of the Department of~~
22 ~~Education~~ on the combined verbal and quantitative parts of the
23 ~~Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Scholastic Assessment Test, or~~
24 ~~the~~ recentered Scholastic Assessment Test of the College
25 Entrance Examination, or an equivalent score on another test
26 identified by the department ~~the American College Testing~~
27 ~~Program.~~ The department shall determine eligibility for a
28 home-educated student in the same way as for a public-school
29 student.

30 (c) The student has completed the International
31 Baccalaureate curriculum but failed to earn the International

1 Baccalaureate Diploma, and has attained at least the
2 applicable score listed in subsection (2) on the combined
3 verbal and quantitative parts of the recentered Scholastic
4 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an
5 equivalent score on another test identified by the department.

6 (2) The test score required for a student to earn a
7 Florida Merit Scholars award must be raised annually in the
8 following increments:

9 (a) A student who graduates from high school by the
10 end of the 2001-2002 school year must earn a score of 970 or
11 above on the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test or its
12 equivalent. A student who wishes to earn an award through a
13 home-education program but whose parents cannot document a
14 college preparatory curriculum must earn a score of 1070 or
15 above.

16 (b) A student who graduates from high school in the
17 2002-2003 school year must earn a score of 1020 or above on
18 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test or its equivalent. A
19 student who wishes to earn an award through a home-education
20 program but whose parents cannot document a college
21 preparatory curriculum must earn a score of 1120 or above.

22 (c) A student who graduates from high school in the
23 2003-2004 school year must earn a score of 1030 or above on
24 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test or its equivalent. A
25 student who wishes to earn an award through a home-education
26 program but whose parents cannot document a college
27 preparatory curriculum must earn a score of 1130 or above.

28 (d) A student who graduates from high school in the
29 2004-2005 school year must earn a score of 1040 or above on
30 the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test or its equivalent. A
31 student who wishes to earn an award through a home-education

1 program but whose parents cannot document a college
2 preparatory curriculum must earn a score of 1140 or above.

3 (e) A student who graduates from high school in the
4 2005-2006 school year or thereafter must earn a score of 1050
5 or above on the recentered Scholastic Assessment Test or its
6 equivalent. A student who wishes to earn an award through a
7 home-education program but whose parents cannot document a
8 college preparatory curriculum must earn a score of 1150 or
9 above.

10 (3)(2) A Florida Merit Scholar who is enrolled in a
11 baccalaureate-degree-granting postsecondary education
12 institution is eligible for a maximum ~~an~~ award of \$1,700
13 annually. A Florida Merit Scholar who is enrolled in an
14 institution that does not award baccalaureate degrees is
15 eligible for a maximum annual award of \$1,100. The maximum
16 award must be prorated each semester as provided in s.
17 240.40201(6).~~equal to the amount required to pay 75 percent~~
18 ~~of matriculation and fees, if the student is enrolled in a~~
19 ~~public postsecondary education institution. A student who is~~
20 ~~enrolled in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is~~
21 ~~eligible for an award equal to the amount that would be~~
22 ~~required to pay 75 percent of the matriculation and fees of a~~
23 ~~public postsecondary education institution at the comparable~~
24 ~~level.~~

25 (4)(3) To be eligible for a renewal award as a Florida
26 Merit Scholar, a student must maintain the equivalent of a
27 grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale for all
28 postsecondary education work attempted, with an opportunity
29 for reinstatement one time as provided in this act.

30 Section 5. Section 240.40207, Florida Statutes, is
31 amended to read:

1 240.40207 Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars
2 award.--The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award is
3 created within the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
4 to recognize and reward academic achievement and vocational
5 preparation by high school students who wish to continue their
6 education. Beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, a student
7 may not use a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award to
8 enroll in a baccalaureate-degree-granting institution, except
9 that a student may renew an initial award issued before the
10 2001-2002 school year.

11 (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Gold Seal
12 Vocational Scholars award if the student meets the general
13 eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures
14 Scholarship Program and the student:

15 (a) Completes the secondary school portion of a
16 sequential program of studies that requires at least three
17 secondary school vocational credits taken over at least 2
18 academic years, and is continued in a planned, related
19 postsecondary education program. If the student's school does
20 not offer such a two-plus-two or tech-prep program, the
21 student must complete a job-preparatory career education
22 program selected by the Occupational Forecasting Conference or
23 the Workforce Development Board of Enterprise Florida for its
24 ability to provide high-wage employment in an occupation with
25 high potential for employment opportunities. On-the-job
26 training may not be substituted for any of the three required
27 vocational credits.

28 (b) Demonstrates readiness for postsecondary education
29 by earning a passing score on the Florida College Entry Level
30 Placement Test or its equivalent as identified by the
31 Department of Education.

1 (c) Earns a minimum cumulative weighted grade point
2 average of 3.0, as calculated pursuant to s. 240.40202, on all
3 subjects required for a standard high school diploma,
4 excluding elective courses.

5 (d) Earns a minimum unweighted grade point average of
6 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for secondary vocational courses comprising
7 the vocational program.

8 (e) Completes the requirements of a vocational-ready
9 diploma program, as defined by rules of the State Board of
10 Education.

11 (2) A Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholar is eligible
12 for a maximum annual award of \$1,100. The maximum award amount
13 must be prorated each semester as provided in s. 240.40201(6)
14 ~~an award equal to the amount required to pay 75 percent of~~
15 ~~matriculation and fees, if the student is enrolled in a public~~
16 ~~postsecondary education institution. A student who is enrolled~~
17 ~~in a nonpublic postsecondary education institution is eligible~~
18 ~~for an award equal to the amount that would be required to pay~~
19 ~~75 percent of the matriculation and mandatory fees of a public~~
20 ~~postsecondary education institution at the comparable level.~~

21 (3) To be eligible for a renewal award as a Florida
22 Gold Seal Vocational Scholar, a student must maintain the
23 equivalent of a grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale for
24 all postsecondary education work attempted, with an
25 opportunity for reinstatement one time as provided in this
26 act.

27 (4) A student may earn a Florida Gold Seal Vocational
28 Scholarship for 110 percent of the number of credit hours
29 required to complete the program, up to 90 credit hours or the
30 equivalent. ~~A Florida Gold Seal Scholar who has a cumulative~~
31 ~~grade point average of 2.75 in all postsecondary education~~

1 ~~work attempted may apply for a Florida Merit Scholars award at~~
2 ~~any renewal period. All other provisions of that program~~
3 ~~apply, and the credit-hour limitation must be calculated by~~
4 ~~subtracting from the student's total eligibility the number of~~
5 ~~credit hours the student attempted while earning the Gold Seal~~
6 ~~Vocational Scholarship.~~

7 (5) If an award recipient successfully completes the
8 postsecondary education component of the education program
9 described in paragraph (1)(a) and wishes to continue in
10 postsecondary education, the student may transfer to the
11 Florida Merit Scholars award component of the Bright Futures
12 Scholarship Program. To transfer the scholarship, the student
13 must meet all requirements to renew a Merit Scholarship.

14 Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 240.40208,
15 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

16 240.40208 Eligibility for the Florida Bright Futures
17 Scholarship Program; transition.--

18 (1) A student who graduates from high school in 1997
19 or earlier and who is eligible for the Florida Undergraduate
20 Scholar's Program pursuant to s. ~~240.402~~ is eligible for the
21 Florida Academic Scholars award as provided in this act. A
22 student who graduates from high school in 1998 or 1999 is
23 eligible for the Florida Academic Scholars award if the
24 student meets the criteria in s. 240.40205. However, in lieu
25 of satisfying the requirements set forth in s. 240.40205(1)(a)
26 ~~and (b)~~, a student may meet the following criteria:

27 (a) Complete a program of at least 24 credits in
28 advanced-level studies as prescribed by the State Board of
29 Education, including as a minimum:

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- 1 1. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in
2 language arts, including courses in English composition and
3 literature.
- 4 2. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in
5 science, including laboratory courses in biology, chemistry,
6 and physics where laboratory facilities are available.
- 7 3. Four years of progressively advanced instruction in
8 mathematics, including courses in algebra, geometry, and
9 calculus or trigonometry.
- 10 4. Two years of sequential foreign language.
- 11 5. One year of instruction in art and music or in
12 either art or music.
- 13 6. Three years of instruction in social studies,
14 including courses in American history and government, world
15 history, and comparative political and economic systems.
- 16 7. One year of instruction in health and physical
17 education to include assessment, improvement, and maintenance
18 of personal fitness.
- 19 (b) Obtain at least the equivalent of an unweighted
20 grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for all courses
21 taken for which high school credit may be granted.
- 22 (c) Achieve a score of 1180 on the combined verbal and
23 quantitative parts of the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the
24 Scholastic Assessment Test, or the recentered Scholastic
25 Assessment Test of the College Entrance Examination, or an
26 equivalent score on the American College Testing Program or an
27 equivalent program.
- 28 (d) Complete a program of community service work, as
29 approved by the district school board or the administrators of
30 a nonpublic school, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours
31 of service work and require the student to identify a social

1 problem that interests him or her, develop a plan for his or
2 her personal involvement in addressing the problem, and,
3 through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect
4 upon his or her experience.

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

8 Section 7. Section 240.40209, Florida Statutes, as
9 created by section 6 of chapter 97-379, Laws of Florida, is
10 repealed.

11 Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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13 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
14 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
15 SB 1380

16 The Committee Substitute differs from SB 1380 in that it will:

17 Require an applicant for a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
18 to apply to the United States Department of Education for
19 financial aid and to permit release of the information to the
20 state;

21 Delay until the 2001-2002 school year the provision that a
22 Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship may not be used at an
23 educational institution that confers baccalaureate degrees;

24 Limit a scholarship to 132 semester credit hours for a student
25 in a program of 120 credit hours or more.
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