

Bill No. CS/HB 1631

Amendment No.     

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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11	Senator Sullivan moved the following amendment:		
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13	<b>Senate Amendment (with title amendment)</b>		
14	On page 31, between lines 17 and 18,		
15			
16	insert:		
17	Section 25. Subsection (8) of section 240.498, Florida		
18	Statutes, is amended to read:		
19	240.498 Florida Education Fund.--		
20	(8) There is created a legal education component of		
21	the Florida Education Fund to provide the opportunity for		
22	minorities to attain representation within the legal		
23	profession proportionate to their representation within the		
24	general population. The legal education component of the		
25	Florida Education Fund includes a law school program and a		
26	pre-law program.		
27	(a) The law school scholarship program of the Florida		
28	Education Fund is to be administered by the Board of Directors		
29	of the Florida Education Fund for the purpose of increasing by		
30	200 the number of minority students enrolled in law schools in		
31	this state. Implementation of this program is to be phased in		

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1 over a 3-year period.

2 1. The board of directors shall provide financial,  
3 academic, and other support to students selected for  
4 participation in this program from funds appropriated by the  
5 Legislature. Support services shall include, at a minimum: a  
6 beginning law scholars' orientation, first-year student campus  
7 meetings, a law scholars' annual meeting, a resume directory,  
8 bar examination passage support, and supplemental bar  
9 examination preparation clinics.

10 2. Student selection must be made in accordance with  
11 rules adopted by the board of directors for that purpose and  
12 must be based, at least in part, on an assessment of potential  
13 for success, merit, and financial need.

14 3. Awards may be made available to part-time students.  
15 To be eligible to participate in the program, a student must  
16 take the minimum number of credit hours required by the board  
17 of directors. The board of directors shall provide for a  
18 scholarship awarded to a part-time student to be in an amount  
19 in proportion to the award for full-time students. All program  
20 requirements, including academic performance standards and  
21 postgraduation restrictions, shall apply to both part-time and  
22 full-time students who are award recipients.

23 4. Each accredited law school in Florida shall be  
24 guaranteed three law school scholarship recipients per year.  
25 Law schools experiencing a decrease in the number of enrolled  
26 African-American or Hispanic students during 3 consecutive  
27 years will lose their guaranteed law scholarship recipients.

28 ~~5.3-~~ Support must be made available to students who  
29 enroll in private, as well as public, law schools in this  
30 state which are accredited by the American Bar Association.

31 ~~6.4-~~ Scholarships must be paid directly to the

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1 participating students.

2 ~~7.5.~~ Students who participate in this program must  
3 agree in writing to sit for The Florida Bar examination and,  
4 upon successful admission to The Florida Bar, to either  
5 practice law in the state for a period of time equal to the  
6 amount of time for which the student received aid, up to 3  
7 years, or repay the amount of aid received. A student who  
8 practices law for 2 years as an employee of a state attorney,  
9 a public defender, or the Office of the Attorney General has  
10 satisfied the repayment provision of the law scholarship  
11 program.

12 ~~8.6.~~ Annually the board of directors shall compile a  
13 report that includes a description of the selection process,  
14 an analysis of the academic progress of all scholarship  
15 recipients, and an analysis of expenditures. This report must  
16 be submitted to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of  
17 the House of Representatives, and the Governor.

18 (b) The minority pre-law scholarship loan program of  
19 the Florida Education Fund is to be administered by the Board  
20 of Directors of the Florida Education Fund for the purpose of  
21 increasing the opportunity of minority students to prepare for  
22 law school.

23 1. From funds appropriated by the Legislature, the  
24 board of directors shall provide for student fees, Law School  
25 Admission Test preparation course tuition, and a pre-law  
26 summer program to be held at one American Bar Association  
27 accredited law school in Florida annually ~~room, board, books,~~  
28 ~~supplies, and academic and other support~~ to selected minority  
29 undergraduate students matriculating at eligible public and  
30 independent colleges and universities in Florida.

31 2. Student selection must be made in accordance with

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1 rules adopted by the board of directors for that purpose and  
2 must be based, at least in part, on an assessment of potential  
3 for success, merit, and financial need.

4 3. To be eligible, a student must make a written  
5 agreement to enter or be accepted to enter a law school in  
6 this state within 2 years after graduation or repay the  
7 scholarship loan amount plus interest at the prevailing rate.

8 4. Recipients who fail to gain admission to a law  
9 school within the specified period of time, may, upon  
10 admission to law school, be eligible to have their loans  
11 canceled.

12 5. Minority pre-law scholarship loans shall be  
13 provided to 34 minority students per year for up to 4 years  
14 each, for a total of 136 scholarship loans. To continue  
15 receipt of scholarship loans, recipients must maintain a 2.75  
16 grade point average for the freshman year and a 3.25 grade  
17 point average thereafter. Participants must also take  
18 specialized courses to enhance competencies in English and  
19 logic.

20 6. The board of directors shall maintain records on  
21 all scholarship loan recipients. Participating institutions  
22 shall submit academic progress reports to the board of  
23 directors following each academic term. Annually, the board of  
24 directors shall compile a report that includes a description  
25 of the selection process, an analysis of the academic progress  
26 of all scholarship loan recipients, and an analysis of  
27 expenditures. This report must be submitted to the President  
28 of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
29 and the Governor.

30 (c) The allowable administrative costs for the legal  
31 education component of the Florida Education Fund shall not

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1 exceed 10 percent of the total funds appropriated by the  
2 Legislature for the legal education component of the Florida  
3 Education Fund.

4  
5 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

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8 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

9 And the title is amended as follows:

10 On page 5, line 16, after the semicolon,

11  
12 insert:

13 amending s. 240.498, F.S.; providing minimum  
14 requirements for support services provided  
15 through the law school scholarship program;  
16 authorizing the provision of awards to  
17 part-time students; providing for establishment  
18 of the amount of an award for a part-time  
19 student; providing a guarantee of enrollment of  
20 a certain number of award recipients, provided  
21 certain requirements are met; revising services  
22 provided as part of the minority pre-law  
23 scholarship loan program; limiting  
24 administrative costs of the legal education  
25 component of the Florida Education Fund;

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