

Bill No. CS for SB 2448

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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Senator Sullivan moved the following amendment to amendment (712228):

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

On page 30, between lines 21 and 22,

insert:

Section 19. Subsection (8) of section 240.498, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

240.498 Florida Education Fund.--

(8) There is created a legal education component of the Florida Education Fund to provide the opportunity for minorities to attain representation within the legal profession proportionate to their representation within the general population. The legal education component of the Florida Education Fund includes a law school program and a pre-law program.

(a) The law school scholarship program of the Florida Education Fund is to be administered by the Board of Directors of the Florida Education Fund for the purpose of increasing by 200 the number of minority students enrolled in law schools in

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1 this state. Implementation of this program is to be phased in  
2 over a 3-year period.

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

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

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

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

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

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1           ~~6.4.~~ Scholarships must be paid directly to the  
2 participating students.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31           (c) The allowable administrative costs for the legal

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1 education component of the Florida Education Fund shall not  
2 exceed 10 percent of the total funds appropriated by the  
3 Legislature for the legal education component of the Florida  
4 Education Fund.

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6 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

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

10 And the title is amended as follows:

11 On page 33, line 15, after the semicolon,

12  
13 insert:

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

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