

Amendment No. ____ (for drafter's use only)

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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ORIGINAL STAMP BELOW

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Representative(s) Wise offered the following:

Amendment to Amendment (374995) (with title amendment)

On page 16, between lines 7 and 8,

insert:

Section 11. Section 239.515, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

239.515 College Fast Start Program.--

(1) There is established a College Fast Start Program to increase the number of students with disabilities in grades 6 through 12 who are admitted to and successfully complete an associate in arts degree or an associate in science degree or a workforce development program. The goal of the program is the completion of a degree or occupational completion points by, and placement into competitive employment of, students who were identified as having a disability, in accordance with the requirements of chapter 6A-6, Florida Administrative Code, prior to their senior year in high school and who otherwise would be unlikely to seek admission to a community college, state university, or independent postsecondary vocational

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1 institution without special support and recruitment efforts.
2 As part of the College Fast Start Program, the Florida
3 Governor's Alliance for the Employment of Disabled Citizens,
4 in cooperation with community colleges, independent
5 postsecondary institutions, high schools, businesses, and
6 agencies serving youth with disabilities, shall sponsor
7 programs to develop leadership skills, career counseling, and
8 motivation and shall provide grants for internships to further
9 prepare students with disabilities for postsecondary education
10 and employment opportunities.

11 (2) As used in this section:

12 (a) "The alliance" means the Florida Governor's
13 Alliance for the Employment of Disabled Citizens.

14 (b) "Program participant" means a community college,
15 public university, independent postsecondary institution, high
16 school, agency serving youth with disabilities, or a
17 consortium of the above.

18 (3) To apply to participate in the College Fast Start
19 Program, a potential program participant must submit a
20 proposal to the Florida Governor's Alliance for the Employment
21 of Disabled Citizens. Each proposal must contain the following
22 information:

23 (a) A statement of purpose, which includes a
24 description of the need for, and the results expected from,
25 the proposed program.

26 (b) An identification of the service area which names
27 the schools to be served and provides community and school
28 demographics on the number and types of students with
29 disabilities and the number of high school graduates within
30 the area with a disability.

31 (c) An identification of existing programs for

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1 providing employment training for persons with disabilities.

2 (d) A description of the proposed training and
3 modifications needed to accommodate students who would
4 participate in the program. At least 40 percent of the
5 students participating in any one year must be in grades 6
6 through 9.

7 (e) A description of the program activities, which
8 must support the following goals:

9 1. To motivate students to pursue a postsecondary
10 education.

11 2. To develop students' basic learning and leadership
12 skills.

13 3. To develop collaboration with the STARS program.

14 (f) An evaluation component that provides for the
15 collection, maintenance, retrieval, and analysis of the data
16 required by this section.

17 (4) The alliance shall consider proposals to determine
18 which proposals to implement as programs that will strengthen
19 the educational motivation and preparation of students with
20 disabilities to seek postsecondary education or job training.
21 In selecting proposals for approval, the alliance shall give
22 preference to:

23 (a) Proposals submitted by a postsecondary institution
24 and a business partner that include innovative approaches,
25 provide a great variety of activities, and interact with
26 business and industry in the development of the learning
27 experience.

28 (b) A program that will use institutional, federal, or
29 private resources to supplement state appropriations.

30 (c) Proposals that demonstrate commitment to the
31 program by proposing to match the grant funds equally in cash

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1 or services, with cash being the preferred contribution.

2 (d) Proposals that demonstrate an interest in cultural
3 diversity and that address the unmet regional employment needs
4 of varying communities.

5 (e) A program that identifies potential student
6 participants from among students who are not already enrolled
7 in similar programs that assist students with disabilities.

8 (f) A program that includes a parental involvement
9 component.

10 (5) Program applicants that are approved to
11 participate in the program must implement procedures which
12 provide consistent contact with students from the point at
13 which the student is selected to participate in the program
14 until he or she enrolls in a postsecondary education
15 institution. These procedures must assist students in
16 selecting courses required for graduation from high school and
17 must include occupational forecasting for future job
18 availability and requirements for those positions.
19 Institutions that participate must provide on-campus academic
20 or job training activities, job profiling and career
21 counseling activities during summer vacation, and
22 opportunities for interacting with business leaders and
23 employers, mentors, tutors, or role models. Each program
24 participant is encouraged to use its resources to meet program
25 objectives. Each program participant must establish an
26 advisory committee composed of high school and middle school
27 personnel and business leaders to provide advice and
28 assistance in implementing the program.

29 (6) An advisory council shall review each proposal and
30 recommend to the alliance an order of priority for funding the
31 proposals. The advisory council shall consist of the following

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1 10 members and shall designate a meeting facilitator from
2 among the members:

3 (a) Three persons with disabilities, appointed by the
4 Governor.

5 (b) Two representatives of private or community-based
6 organizations, one each appointed by the President of the
7 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

8 (c) One representative of the State University System,
9 appointed by the chair of the Board of Regents.

10 (d) One representative of the Community College
11 System, appointed by the chair of the State Board of Community
12 Colleges.

13 (e) One representative of the Independent Colleges and
14 Universities of Florida, appointed by the president of the
15 Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida.

16 (f) One representative of a public school district,
17 appointed by the Commissioner of Education.

18 (g) One representative of the Postsecondary Education
19 Planning Commission, appointed by the chair of the commission.

20
21 Each member shall be appointed for a 3-year, staggered term of
22 office. Members may serve no more than two consecutive terms.
23 A vacancy must be filled with a person of the same status as
24 the original appointee who shall serve for the remainder of
25 the term. Members are entitled to per diem and travel expenses
26 as provided in s. 112.061 while performing council duties.

27 (7) Funding for the College Fast Start Program shall
28 be provided annually in the General Appropriations Act. From
29 these funds, an annual allocation shall be provided to the
30 alliance to conduct the program. Approved programs must be
31 funded competitively according to the following methodology:

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1 (a) Eighty percent of funds appropriated annually to
2 the College Fast Start Program must be distributed as grants
3 to projects that include, at the minimum:

4 1. A summer business internship program.

5 2. A minimum number of hours of academic instructional
6 and developmental activities, career counseling, and personal
7 counseling.

8 (b) The remaining 20 percent of funds appropriated
9 annually may be used by the Florida Governor's Alliance for
10 the Employment of Disabled Citizens for college preparatory
11 leadership training programs.

12 (c) Subject to legislative appropriations, funds for
13 the continuation of projects that satisfy the minimum
14 requirements shall be increased each year by the same
15 percentage as the rate of inflation. Projects funded for 3
16 consecutive years must have a cumulative institutional cash
17 match of not less than 50 percent of the total cost of the
18 project over the 3-year period. Any College Fast Start Program
19 operating for 3 years which does not provide the minimum 50
20 percent institutional cash match shall not be considered for
21 continued funding.

22 (8) On or before February 15 of each year, each
23 participant or consortium of participants shall submit to the
24 alliance an interim report of program expenditures and
25 participant information as requested by the alliance.

26 (9) On or before October 15 of each year, each program
27 participant shall submit to the alliance an end-of-the-year
28 report on the effectiveness of its participation in the
29 program during the preceding fiscal year. The end-of-the-year
30 report must include, without limitation:

31 (a) An itemization of program expenditures by funding

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1 category, including: state grant funds, institutional
2 matching contributions disaggregated by cash and in-kind
3 services, and outside funding sources disaggregated by cash
4 and in-kind services.

5 (b) The number of students participating by grade
6 level, gender, race, and disability.

7 (c) The student identification number and social
8 security number, if available, the name of the public school
9 attended, and the gender, ethnicity, grade level, and grade
10 point average of each student participant at the time of entry
11 into the program.

12 (d) The grade point average, grade, and promotion
13 status of each student participant at the end of the academic
14 year and notification of suspension or expulsion of a
15 participant, if applicable.

16 (e) The number and percentage of high school
17 participants who satisfactorily complete 2 sequential years of
18 a foreign language and Levels 2 and 3 mathematics and science
19 courses.

20 (f) The number and percentage of participants eligible
21 for high school graduation who receive a standard high school
22 diploma or a high school equivalency diploma pursuant to s.
23 229.814.

24 (g) The number and percentage of 12th grade
25 participants who are accepted for enrollment and who enroll in
26 a postsecondary institution and the program of study in which
27 they are enrolled.

28 (h) The number of participants who receive
29 scholarships, grant aid, and work-study awards.

30 (i) The number and percentage of participants who
31 enroll in a public postsecondary institution and who fail to

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1 achieve a passing score, as defined in State Board of
2 Education rule, on college placement tests pursuant to s.
3 240.117.

4 (j) The number and percentage of participants who
5 enroll in a postsecondary institution and have a minimum
6 cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, or its
7 equivalent, by the end of the second semester.

8 (k) A statement of how the program addresses the three
9 program goals identified in paragraph (3)(e).

10 (l) A brief description and analysis of program
11 characteristics and activities critical to program success.

12 (m) A description of the cooperation received from
13 other units, organizations, businesses, or agencies.

14 (n) An explanation of the program's outcomes,
15 including data related to student performance on the measures
16 provided for in paragraph (3)(f).

17
18 The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, in
19 consultation with the alliance and the Department of
20 Education, shall develop specifications and procedures for the
21 collection and transmission of the data.

22 (10) By February 15 of each year, the alliance shall
23 submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the
24 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Commissioner
25 of Education a report that evaluates the effectiveness of the
26 College Fast Start Program. The report must be based upon
27 information provided by program participants, the Board of
28 Regents, the State Board of Community Colleges, and the
29 Division of Workforce Development pursuant to subsections (1)
30 and (7). To the extent feasible, the performance of College
31 Fast Start Program participants must be compared to the

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1 performance of comparable cohorts of students in public school
2 and postsecondary education.

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

6 And the title is amended as follows:

7 On page 18, of the amendment

8

9 after "appropriation;" insert:

10 creating s. 239.515, F.S.; establishing the
11 College Fast Start Program; providing
12 legislative intent; defining terms; providing
13 procedures for application to participate in
14 the program; providing guidelines for program
15 approval; providing requirements for approved
16 programs; requiring an advisory council to
17 review proposals and recommend an order of
18 priority for funding; providing membership of
19 the advisory council; providing for funding of
20 the program; providing methodology for
21 competitive funding of approved programs;
22 providing requirements for the continuation of
23 funding for programs; requiring an interim
24 report to the Florida Governor's Alliance for
25 the Employment of Disabled Citizens; requiring
26 an annual end-of-the-year report to the
27 alliance; requiring the alliance and the
28 Postsecondary Education Planning Commission to
29 develop specifications and procedures for the
30 transmission of such data; requiring the
31 alliance to report to the Governor, the

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Legislature, and the Commissioner of Education
annually on the effectiveness of the program;