

By Representative Wasserman Schultz

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, is amended to read:

11           232.246 General requirements for high school  
12   graduation.--

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

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

17           1. Each district shall adopt policies designed to  
18   assist students in meeting these requirements. These policies  
19   may include, but are not limited to: forgiveness policies,  
20   summer school attendance, special counseling, volunteer and/or  
21   peer tutors, school-sponsored help sessions, homework  
22   hotlines, and study skills classes. Beginning in the 2000-2001  
23   school year and each year thereafter, forgiveness policies  
24   shall be limited to replacing a grade of "D" or "F," or the  
25   equivalent of a grade of "D" or "F," with a grade of "C" or  
26   higher, or the equivalent of a grade of "C" or higher, earned  
27   subsequently in the same or a comparable course. Any course  
28   grade not replaced according to a district forgiveness policy  
29   shall be included in the calculation of the cumulative grade  
30   point average required for graduation.  
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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, 2000.

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22           HOUSE SUMMARY

23           Revises requirements for district grade forgiveness  
24 policies.