

## HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

BILL: SB 990, 1st Eng.

[S0990.HMS]

SPONSOR: Education Committee

SUBJECT: Students/High School Grading

PREPARED BY: Senate Committee on Education

DATE: May 4, 2000

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### I. Amendments Contained in Message

**House Amendment 1 -- 115551** (body with title)

### II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message

**House Amendment 1** deletes the following provisions from the bill:

- ▶ A requirement that the school board must include in its annual report to the public standardized test scores and an analysis of high school grade distributions.
- ▶ A requirement that principals must inform students of the difference between the ways grades are calculated by the school and by the Department of Education for the Bright Futures Scholarship program.
- ▶ A requirement that student report cards must include separate grade point averages for purposes of class ranking and the award of Bright Futures Scholarships.
- ▶ The repeal of s. 240.1163(4), F.S., which requires grades to be weighed the same for academic dual enrollment courses, Advanced Placement courses, and honors courses. That law will continue to require the same weights and to prohibit grade weights that “discriminate” against dual enrollment courses.

The amendment retains the provisions in the bill that require academic achievement grades to be separated from grades for other matters such as academic improvement or conduct, that attendance may not be used in whole or in part to exempt a student from an academic requirement, and that percentage grades depend upon the difficulty of the material tested and should not be arbitrarily assigned a letter grade equivalent. A grade scale is suggested only if letter grades are not supplied by a teacher: as in other states, “A” = 90-100 percent, “B” = 80-89 percent, etc.