

By the Committee on Education and Senator Miller

304-1536A-01

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to public school instruction;  
3           amending s. 232.246, F.S., relating to high  
4           school graduation; providing requirements for  
5           African-American history; providing an  
6           effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10           Section 1. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) of section  
11 232.246, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (l) is  
12 added to that subsection, to read:

13           232.246 General requirements for high school  
14 graduation.--

15           (1) Graduation requires successful completion of  
16 either a minimum of 24 academic credits in grades 9 through 12  
17 or an International Baccalaureate curriculum. The 24 credits  
18 shall be distributed as follows:

19           (k) Eight and one-half elective credits, effective for  
20 students entering the 9th grade in the 2001-2002 school year  
21 and thereafter.

22           (l) One-half credit in the history of African  
23 Americans, as provided in s. 233.061, effective for students  
24 entering the 9th grade in the 2001-2002 school year and  
25 thereafter.

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27 School boards may award a maximum of one-half credit in social  
28 studies and one-half elective credit for student completion of  
29 nonpaid voluntary community or school service work. Students  
30 choosing this option must complete a minimum of 75 hours of  
31 service in order to earn the one-half credit in either

1 category of instruction. Credit may not be earned for service  
2 provided as a result of court action. School boards that  
3 approve the award of credit for student volunteer service  
4 shall develop guidelines regarding the award of the credit,  
5 and school principals are responsible for approving specific  
6 volunteer activities. A course designated in the Course Code  
7 Directory as grade 9 through grade 12 which is taken below the  
8 9th grade may be used to satisfy high school graduation  
9 requirements or Florida Academic Scholars award requirements  
10 as specified in a district's pupil progression plan. A student  
11 shall be granted credit toward meeting the requirements of  
12 this subsection for equivalent courses, as identified pursuant  
13 to s. 229.551(1)(f)6., taken through dual enrollment.

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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16 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
17 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
18 SB 370

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19 The committee substitute amends s. 232.246, F.S., to revise  
20 the high school graduation requirements and require the  
21 completion of an African American history course for one-half  
22 credit, effective for students entering the 9th grade in the  
23 2001-2002 school year and thereafter. The committee substitute  
24 reduces the number of electives from 8 and one-half credits to  
25 8 credits to implement the new requirements.

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