



HB 0671

2003

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to education support for learning in the
3 public schools; creating s. 1006.055, F.S.; establishing
4 the Tutoring Grant Program to provide grants to parents of
5 students who are performing below grade level in reading
6 or mathematics; providing for determination of
7 proficiency; providing for the use of grants; providing
8 for approved tutors; requiring the Department of Education
9 to establish procedures for notification to parents of the
10 availability of grants and procedures for grant
11 application; providing for issuance and validation of
12 certificates authorizing a tutoring grant and
13 reimbursement to the grant recipient; providing for
14 funding of the program through the supplemental academic
15 instruction categorical fund; authorizing the Department
16 of Education to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

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

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20 Section 1. Section 1006.055, Florida Statutes, is created
21 to read:

22 1006.055 Tutoring Grant Program.--

23 (1) There is established the Tutoring Grant Program to
24 provide grants to parents of students in grades 3 through 10 who
25 are performing below grade level in reading or mathematics as
26 determined by the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT).
27 Tutoring grants shall be awarded for the purpose of assisting
28 students in achieving the skills and competencies necessary to
29 perform at or above grade level pursuant to s. 1008.25.



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30 (2) Each qualifying student shall be eligible for a
31 reimbursement grant of up to \$500 per year to be used for the
32 cost of tutoring in reading or mathematics. Tutoring must be
33 conducted by a Department of Education approved teacher who is
34 certified in Florida. The tutoring may be provided by a teacher
35 directly or through an agency approved by the Department of
36 Education, including a public school, a postsecondary
37 educational institution, a nonprofit organization, or a for-
38 profit organization. Tutoring must be provided to the student at
39 a time other than regularly scheduled school hours.

40 (3) The Department of Education shall establish procedures
41 for notification to parents of the availability of tutoring
42 grants and procedures for application for a tutoring grant.

43 (4) A certificate authorizing a tutoring grant of up to
44 \$500 shall be issued by the district school board to the parents
45 of an eligible student for tutoring provided pursuant to
46 subsection (2). The student's parents shall be responsible for
47 payment to the provider of the costs incurred. Upon completion
48 of the tutoring, the provider must validate the certificate,
49 specifying the cost of instruction provided to the student, and
50 return the certificate to the parents for submission to the
51 district school board for reimbursement. The district school
52 board shall make payment directly to the grant recipient for the
53 amount due. Grant recipients must send outstanding certificates
54 to the district school board for reimbursement no later than 60
55 days after receiving the validated certificate.

56 (5) The Tutoring Grant Program shall be funded through the
57 supplemental academic instruction categorical fund provided in
58 s. 1011.62. Five percent of supplemental academic instruction



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59 funds allocated to each school district shall be reserved for
60 providing tutoring grants pursuant to this section.

61 (6) The Department of Education is authorized to adopt
62 rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the
63 provisions of this section.

64 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.