

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 675 w/CS Children of Military Personnel

SPONSOR(S): Gibson

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 1980

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Subcommittee on Education Innovation	6 Y, 0 N	Porter	Bohannon
2) Education K-20	28 Y, 0 N w/CS	Porter	Bohannon
3) Subcommittee on Education Appropriations			
4) Appropriations			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

HB 675 provides a benefit for military families by:

- Allowing children of military personnel transferred to Florida after a school year has begun to enroll in:
 - A school or program included in the public school choice options listed in s. 1002.20(6)(a), F.S., K-12 student and parent rights, including the Opportunity Scholarship and McKay Scholarship programs.
 - A public school that provides exceptional student education
 - A public school exceptional student program

HB 675 provides that a school's enrollment deadline shall not prevent such student from such enrollment.

HB 675 provides that, if space limitations preclude such enrollment, the student shall be "listed" for enrollment for the upcoming school term or school year.

HB 675 does not appear to have a fiscal impact since most costs will be absorbed by the districts.

The bill provides for an effective date of July 1, 2004.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives.

STORAGE NAME: h0675b.edk.doc

DATE: March 24, 2004

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. DOES THE BILL:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Reduce government? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Lower taxes? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Expand individual freedom? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Increase personal responsibility? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Empower families? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a “no” above, please explain:

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Parents of public school students may seek applicable public school choice options consistent with s. 1002.20(6)(a), F.S. These options may include:

- controlled open enrollment
- lab schools
- charter schools
- charter technical career centers
- magnet schools
- alternative schools
- special programs
- advanced placement
- dual enrollment
- International Baccalaureate
- early admissions
- credit by examination or demonstration of competency
- the New World School of the Arts
- the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind
- the Florida Virtual School.
- Opportunity Scholarships.
- John M. McKay Scholarships for Disabled Students.

According to Senate Interim Project Report 2004-153, there are approximately 33,000 school-age dependent children of military families in Florida. These families relocate every 2.9 years. Therefore, approximately 11,000 of these children will relocate each year. According to Federal Impact Aid reports, there are approximately 2,700 military dependent students with disabilities in the state.

The bill:

- Allows children of military personnel transferred to Florida after a school year has begun, if they were enrolled in such a school or program in the state from which transferred, to enroll in
 - A school or program included in the public school choice options listed in s. 1002.20(6)(a), F.S., K-12 student and parent rights, except the Opportunity Scholarship and McKay Scholarship programs.
 - A public school that provides exceptional student education
 - A public school exceptional student program
- Provides that a school’s enrollment deadline shall not prevent such student from such enrollment.

- Provides that, if space limitations preclude such enrollment, the student shall be “listed” for enrollment for the upcoming school term or school year.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 – amends s. 1003.05, F.S., relating to assisting transitioning students from military families.

Section 2 – provides an effective date.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

The bill does not fiscally impact state government.

2. Expenditures:

The bill does not fiscally impact state government.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

The bill does not fiscally impact local government.

2. Expenditures:

The bill does not fiscally impact local government.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill does not economically impact the private sector.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

Additional funding would be generated through the FEFP for students with parents who were military and were transferred to Florida. It is assumed by the Department of Education that any additional costs of placing students in accordance with the proposed legislation would be absorbed through district operation of choice programs that currently exist.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The bill does not require a city or county to spend funds or to take any action requiring the expenditure of funds.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

The bill does not create any rulemaking authority.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

Public school choice options include the Opportunity Scholarship Program and the McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Programs. The Opportunity Scholarship is for students in attendance the prior school year in a failing public school, and the McKay Scholarship is for the student with disabilities in attendance in public school the prior school year enrolled and reported for funding during the preceding October and February Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) surveys whose parent is dissatisfied with the student's progress. The proposed legislation does not specifically waive these prerequisites for children of military personnel transferred into the state during the school year, although it could be interpreted to waive the prerequisites for public school choice options. However, it could not be interpreted to do so for private school choice.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

The bill was amended on March 22, 2004 in the Education Innovation Subcommittee to remove the term "priority" from the bill relating to the listing of a student for a space limited program. The bill as amended will require districts to place eligible military transfer students on a waiting list when space is not available in the program, but will not give them priority consideration when space becomes available in the desired program.

The Education K-20 Committee adopted the amendment approved by the Education Innovation Subcommittee to remove the word "priority" on March 24, 2004.