

Bill No. SB 2

Barcode 335194

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Education (Wise) recommended the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

On page 25, line 22, through
page 26, line 12, delete those lines

and insert:

(6) SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING AND PAYMENT.--

(a)1. The maximum scholarship granted for an eligible student with disabilities shall be a calculated amount equivalent to the base student allocation in the Florida Education Finance Program multiplied by the appropriate cost factor for the educational program that would have been provided for the student in the district school to which he or she was assigned, multiplied by the district cost differential.

2. In addition, a share of the guaranteed allocation for exceptional students shall be determined and added to the calculated amount. The calculation shall be based on the methodology and the data used to calculate the guaranteed

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1 allocation for exceptional students for each district in
 2 chapter 2000-166, Laws of Florida. Except as provided in
 3 subparagraph 3., the calculation shall be based on the
 4 student's grade, matrix level of services, and the difference
 5 between the 2000-2001 basic program and the appropriate level
 6 of services cost factor, multiplied by the 2000-2001 base
 7 student allocation and the 2000-2001 district cost
 8 differential for the sending district. Also, the calculated
 9 amount shall include the per-student share of supplemental
 10 academic instruction funds, instructional materials funds,
 11 technology funds, and other categorical funds as provided for
 12 such purposes in the General Appropriations Act.

13 3. The calculated scholarship amount for a student who
 14 has spent the prior school year in attendance at the Florida
 15 School for the Deaf and the Blind shall be calculated as
 16 provided in subparagraphs 1. and 2. However, the calculation
 17 shall be based on the school district in which the parent
 18 resides at the time that the intent is filed by the parent.

19 ~~4.3.~~ Until the school district completes the matrix
 20 required by paragraph (3)(b), the calculation shall be based
 21 on the matrix that assigns the student to support level I of
 22 service as it existed prior to the 2000-2001 school year.
 23 When the school district completes the matrix, the amount of
 24 the payment shall be adjusted as needed.

25 (d)1. The school district shall report to the
 26 Department of Education all students who are attending a
 27 private school under this program. The students with
 28 disabilities attending private schools on John M. McKay
 29 Scholarships shall be reported separately from other students
 30 reported for purposes of the Florida Education Finance
 31 Program.

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1 2. For program participants who are eligible under
 2 sub-subparagraph (2)(a)1.b., the school district, which is
 3 used as the basis for the calculation of the scholarship
 4 amount as provided in subparagraph (6)(a)3., shall:

5 a. Report to the Department of Education all such
 6 students who are attending a private school under this
 7 program; and

8 b. Be held harmless for such students from the
 9 weighted enrollment ceiling for group 2 programs in s.
 10 1011.62(1)(d)3.a. during the first school year in which the
 11 students are reported.

12 (e) Following notification on July 1, September 1,
 13 December 1, or February 1 of the number of program
 14 participants, the Department of Education shall transfer, from
 15 General Revenue funds only, the amount calculated under
 16 paragraph (b) from the school district's total funding
 17 entitlement under the Florida Education Finance Program and
 18 from authorized categorical accounts to a separate account for
 19 the scholarship program for quarterly disbursement to the
 20 parents of participating students. Funds may not be
 21 transferred from any funding provided to the Florida School
 22 for the Deaf and the Blind for program participants who are
 23 eligible under sub-subparagraph (2)(a)1.b. When a student
 24 enters the scholarship program, the Department of Education
 25 must receive all documentation required for the student's
 26 participation, including, but not limited to, the private
 27 school's and student's fee schedules, at least 30 days before
 28 the first quarterly scholarship payment is made for the
 29 student. The Department of Education may not make any
 30 retroactive payments.

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1 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

2 And the title is amended as follows:

3 On page 1, line 7, after the semicolon,

4

5 insert:

6 revising requirements for scholarship funding
7 and payments; providing reporting requirements
8 for school districts; holding a school-district
9 harmless from a specified student enrollment
10 ceiling; prohibiting the transfer of funds to
11 the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind
12 under certain circumstances;

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