

Bill No. CS for SB 2

Barcode 974296

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Government Efficiency Appropriations (Posey) recommended the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

On page 17, line 14, through  
page 18, line 6, delete those lines

and insert:

1.(a) Demonstrate fiscal soundness by:

a. Filing with being in operation for 1 school year or provide the Department of Education with a surety bond for the amount equal to the scholarship amount for each quarter of the school year. The purpose of the surety bond is to secure expenditures of scholarship funds if such funds are found to have been used for unlawful purposes. The surety bond must be filed at the time of the private school's initial registration and at each renewal period thereafter for a total of 3 consecutive years; or

b. Providing evidence to the Department of Education

that:

(I) The private school has been in continuous

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1 operation for the immediately preceding 3 years as a Florida  
2 private school as defined in s. 1002.01(2);

3 (II) The private school has registered for the  
4 immediately preceding 3 years with the Department of Education  
5 pursuant to s. 1002.42 and has complied with all provisions of  
6 that section;

7 (III) The private school is not subject to any civil  
8 penalties or fines for violations of any state or local laws,  
9 rules, or codes related to the health, safety, or welfare of  
10 students;

11 (IV) The private school has, for the immediately  
12 preceding year, a completed financial audit by an independent  
13 certified public accountant confirming that the private school  
14 desiring to participate is insured and the owner or owners  
15 have sufficient capital or credit to operate the school for  
16 the upcoming year serving the number of students anticipated  
17 with expected revenues from tuition and other sources that may  
18 be reasonably expected; and

19 (V) The owner has not in the immediately preceding 7  
20 years filed for personal bankruptcy or owned 20 percent or  
21 more of a corporation that filed for corporate bankruptcy in  
22 the immediately preceding 7 years.

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24 The requirements in subparagraph a. and b. do not apply to an  
25 eligible private school that participates in the program for a  
26 total of 3 consecutive years or longer and has had no action  
27 taken by the Department of Education against the private  
28 school for any violation of this section for 3 consecutive  
29 years or longer.

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31 However, any private school that was subject to an action

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1 taken by the department for any violation of this section  
 2 shall, following the date on which the action was taken  
 3 against the private school for a violation of this section,  
 4 but prior to receiving the next quarterly payment and for 1  
 5 year thereafter, file a surety bond with the department.

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

9 And the title is amended as follows:

10           On page 1, line 30, delete that line

11

12 and insert:

13           fiscal soundness; requiring a surety bond or  
 14           other evidence of fiscal soundness;

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