By the Committee on Education; and Senator Atwater

581-2289-05

A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Opportunity Scholarship Program; amending s. 1002.38, F.S.; changing 3 the deadline by which a parent must notify the 4 5 Department of Education of the student's 6 acceptance into an eligible private school from 7 July 1 to August 1 of the first year in which 8 the student intends to use the Opportunity Scholarship Program; providing an effective 9 10 date. 11 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 13 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 14 1002.38, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 15 1002.38 Opportunity Scholarship Program. --16 17 (2) OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY. -- A public 18 school student's parent may request and receive from the state an opportunity scholarship for the student to enroll in and 19 attend a private school in accordance with the provisions of 20 21 this section if: 22 (b) The parent has obtained acceptance for admission 23 of the student to a private school eligible for the program pursuant to subsection (4), and has notified the Department of 2.4 Education and the school district of the request for an 25 opportunity scholarship no later than August 1 July 1 of the 26 27 first year in which the student intends to use the 28 scholarship. 29 The provisions of this section shall not apply to a student 30 who is enrolled in a school operating for the purpose of

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1	providing educational services to youth in Department of
2	Juvenile Justice commitment programs. For purposes of
3	continuity of educational choice, the opportunity scholarship
4	shall remain in force until the student returns to a public
5	school or, if the student chooses to attend a private school
6	the highest grade of which is grade 8, until the student
7	matriculates to high school and the public high school to
8	which the student is assigned is an accredited school with a
9	performance grade category designation of "C" or better.
10	However, at any time upon reasonable notice to the Department
11	of Education and the school district, the student's parent may
12	remove the student from the private school and place the
13	student in a public school, as provided in subparagraph
14	(3)(a)2.
15	Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
16	law.
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18	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
19	COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR <u>Senate Bill 2120</u>
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21	The committee substitute changes the date that parents must
22	file an intent to participate in the Opportunity Scholarship Program from July 1st to August 1st.
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