By the Committee on Education; and Senator Atwater

581-1819-05

| 1 | A bill to be entitled |
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| 2 | An act relating to the payment of instructional |
| 3 | costs for students; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; |
| 4 | defining the term "initial undergraduate |
| 5 | enrollment" for purposes of determining a |
| 6 | postsecondary student's residential status for |
| 7 | tuition purposes; providing duties of |
| 8 | institutions of higher education; providing |
| 9 | conditions under which a nonresident |
| 10 | undergraduate may be reclassified as a resident |
| 11 | of this state; requiring that specified |
| 12 | evidence of the legal residence and dependent |
| 13 | status of an undergraduate be provided as a |
| 14 | prerequisite to classification as a resident |
| 15 | for tuition purposes; amending s. 1009.40, |
| 16 | F.S.; providing that certain students are |
| 17 | ineligible to receive more than one |
| 18 | state-funded tuition assistance grant; |
| 19 | providing an effective date. |
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| 21 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: |
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| 23 | Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section |
| 24 | 1009.21, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: |
| 25 | 1009.21 Determination of resident status for tuition |
| 26 | purposesStudents shall be classified as residents or |
| 27 | nonresidents for the purpose of assessing tuition in community |
| 28 | colleges and state universities. |
| 29 | (1) As used in this section, the term: |
| 30 | (a) The term "Dependent child" means any person, |
| 31 | whether or not living with his or her parent, who is eligible |

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

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to be claimed by his or her parent as a dependent under the federal income tax code and who receives at least 51 percent of the true cost-of-living expenses from his or her parent.

- (b) The term "Institution of higher education" means any public community college or state university.
- (c) A "legal resident" or "resident" means is a person who has maintained his or her residence in this state for the preceding year, has purchased a home which is occupied by him or her as his or her residence, or has established a domicile in this state pursuant to s. 222.17.
- (d) The term "Parent" means the natural or adoptive parent or legal guardian of a dependent child.
- (e) A "resident for tuition purposes" means is a person who qualifies as provided in subsection (2) for the in-state tuition rate; a "nonresident for tuition purposes" is a person who does not qualify for the in-state tuition rate.
- (f) "Initial undergraduate enrollment" means the first day of class at an institution of higher education.
 - (2)(a) To qualify as a resident for tuition purposes:
- 1. A person or, if that person is a dependent child, his or her parent or parents must have established legal residence in this state and must have maintained legal residence in this state for at least 12 months immediately prior to his or her <u>initial undergraduate enrollment at an institution of higher education</u> qualification.
- 2. Every applicant for admission to an institution of higher education shall be required to make a statement as to his or her length of residence in the state and, further, shall establish that his or her presence or, if the applicant is a dependent child, the presence of his or her parent or parents in the state currently is, and during the requisite

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12-month qualifying period was, for the purpose of maintaining a bona fide domicile, rather than for the purpose of maintaining a mere temporary residence or abode incident to enrollment in an institution of higher education.

- 3. Each institution of higher education must determine whether an applicant who has been granted admission to that institution is a dependent child.
- 4. Each institution of higher education must affirmatively determine that an applicant who has been granted admission to that institution as a Florida resident meets the residency requirements of this section at the time of initial undergraduate enrollment.
- (b) However, with respect to a dependent child living with an adult relative other than the child's parent, such child may qualify as a resident for tuition purposes if the adult relative is a legal resident who has maintained legal residence in this state for at least 12 months immediately prior to the child's <u>initial undergraduate enrollment at an institution of higher education qualification</u>, provided the child has resided continuously with such relative for the 5 years immediately prior to the child's <u>initial undergraduate enrollment at an institution of higher education qualification</u>, during which time the adult relative has exercised day-to-day care, supervision, and control of the child.
- (c) The legal residence of a dependent child whose parents are divorced, separated, or otherwise living apart will be deemed to be this state if either parent is a legal resident of this state, regardless of which parent is entitled to claim, and does in fact claim, the minor as a dependent pursuant to federal individual income tax provisions.

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| (d) An undergraduate who is classified as a |
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| nonresident for tuition purposes may become eligible for |
| reclassification as a resident for tuition purposes only if |
| that individual, or his or her parent if that individual is a |
| dependent child, supports permanent residency in this state by |
| presenting documentation of nontemporary, full-time employment |
| in this state and domicile in this state for 12 months while |
| not enrolled at an institution of higher education. |
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(3) An individual may shall not be classified as a resident for tuition purposes and, thus, is ineliqible shall not be eligible to receive the in-state tuition rate until he or she has provided such evidence related to legal residence and its duration or, if that individual is a dependent child, documentation of his or her parent's legal residence and its duration, as well as documentation confirming his or her status as a dependent child, as may be required by law and by officials of the institution of higher education from which he or she seeks the in-state tuition rate.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 1009.40, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

1009.40 General requirements for student eligibility for state financial aid.--

(1)(a) The general requirements for eligibility of students for state financial aid awards consist of the following:

1. Achievement of the academic requirements of and acceptance at a state university or community college; a nursing diploma school approved by the Florida Board of Nursing; a Florida college, university, or community college which is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the

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State Board of Education; any Florida institution the credits of which are acceptable for transfer to state universities; any career center; or any private career institution accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of Education.

- preceding the award of aid for a program established pursuant to s. 1009.50, s. 1009.51, s. 1009.52, s. 1009.53, s. 1009.54, s. 1009.56, s. 1009.57, s. 1009.60, s. 1009.62, s. 1009.63, s. 1009.68, s. 1009.72, s. 1009.73, s. 1009.76, s. 1009.77, or s. 1009.89, or s. 1009.891. Residency in this state must be for purposes other than to obtain an education. Resident status for purposes of receiving state financial aid awards or tuition assistance grants shall be determined in the same manner as resident status for tuition purposes pursuant to s. 1009.21 and rules of the State Board of Education implementing s. 1009.21.
- 3. Submission of certification attesting to the accuracy, completeness, and correctness of information provided to demonstrate a student's eligibility to receive state financial aid awards. Falsification of such information shall result in the denial of any pending application and revocation of any award currently held to the extent that no further payments shall be made. Additionally, students who knowingly make false statements in order to receive state financial aid awards shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree subject to the provisions of s. 837.06 and shall be required to return all state financial aid awards wrongfully obtained.
- (b)1. Eligibility for the renewal of undergraduate financial aid awards shall be evaluated at the end of the

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second semester or third quarter of each academic year. As a condition for renewal, a student shall:

- a. Have earned a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale; and
- b. Have earned, for full-time study, 12 credits per term or the equivalent for the number of terms for which aid was received.
- 2. A student who earns the minimum number of credits required for renewal, but who fails to meet the minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average, may be granted a probationary award for up to the equivalent of 1 academic year and shall be required to earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale by the end of the probationary period to be eligible for subsequent renewal. A student who receives a probationary award and who fails to meet the conditions for renewal by the end of his or her probationary period shall be ineligible to receive additional awards for the equivalent of 1 academic year following his or her probationary period. Each such student may, however, reapply for assistance during a subsequent application period and may be eligible for an award if he or she has earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- 3. A student who fails to earn the minimum number of credits required for renewal shall lose his or her eligibility for renewal for a period equivalent to 1 academic year. However, the student may reapply during a subsequent application period and may be eligible for an award if he or she has earned a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- 4. Students who receive state student aid and subsequently fail to meet state academic progress requirements

| 1 | due to verifiable illness or other emergencies may be granted |
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| 2 | an exception from the academic requirements. Such students |
| 3 | shall make a written appeal to the institution. The appeal |
| 4 | shall include a description and verification of the |
| 5 | circumstances. Verification of illness or other emergencies |
| 6 | may include but not be limited to a physician's statement or |
| 7 | written statement of a parent or college official. The |
| 8 | institution shall recommend exceptions with necessary |
| 9 | documentation to the department. The department may accept or |
| 10 | deny such recommendations for exception from the institution. |
| 11 | (5) A student who is attending a nonpublic for-profit |
| 12 | or nonprofit institution is ineligible to receive more than |
| 13 | one state award that is a tuition assistance grant. |
| 14 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005. |
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| 16 | STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN |
| 17 | COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR <u>Senate Bill 2264</u> |
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| 19 | The committee substitute eliminates provisions relating to the |
| 20 | cost of exceptional student education for nonresident students as these provisions are the subject of another bill. |
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