

By Senator Lynn

7-1586-05

See HB

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the John M. McKay
3 Scholarships for Students with Disabilities
4 Program; amending s. 1002.39, F.S.; authorizing
5 a John M. McKay Scholarship to fund a
6 home-based early intervention program for a
7 child with an Autism Spectrum Disorder;
8 providing program requirements; specifying uses
9 for scholarship funds; authorizing a John M.
10 McKay Scholarship to fund certain
11 community-based services for a public school
12 student with an Autism Spectrum Disorder;
13 providing an exemption from an attendance
14 requirement; providing an effective date.

16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

18 Section 1. Subsection (8) of section 1002.39, Florida
19 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (9) and a new subsection
20 (8) is added to that section to read:

21 1002.39 The John M. McKay Scholarships for Students
22 with Disabilities Program.--There is established a program
23 that is separate and distinct from the Opportunity Scholarship
24 Program and is named the John M. McKay Scholarships for
25 Students with Disabilities Program, pursuant to this section.

26 (8)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section,
27 the parent of a child with an Autism Spectrum Disorder may
28 receive a John M. McKay Scholarship to fund a home-based Early
29 Intensive Behavioral Intervention (EIBI) Program for the
30 child.

31 (b) The EIBI Program must be:

1 1. Recommended by a physician or the Early Steps
2 Family Support Team for EIBI as the most effective treatment
3 option for the child.

4 2. Planned and regularly supervised by a person who
5 is, at minimum, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).

6 3. Provided in the family home with a weekly schedule
7 of educational activities.

8 (c) A John M. McKay Scholarship may be used to pay for
9 or reimburse the following:

10 1. Assessment, program planning, staff and parent
11 training, and supervision by the BCBA.

12 2. Direct intervention with the child by the BCBA.

13 3. Services of a person who possesses an associate
14 degree or higher and who has completed 15 hours of training in
15 the EIBI Program.

16 4. Training manuals and books and teaching and
17 learning materials essential for establishing and maintaining
18 the EIBI Program.

19 (d) A student with an Autism Spectrum Disorder who is
20 at least 14 but not more than 22 years of age and in the
21 public school system is eligible for a John M. McKay
22 Scholarship to pay for services provided by a community-based
23 organization for or related to career or life skills
24 preparation. Such student shall not be required to have spent
25 the prior school year in attendance at a Florida public school
26 for receipt of a scholarship.

27 (e) The term "Autism Spectrum Disorder" means one of
28 the five specific diagnoses enumerated in the DSM-IV for
29 Pervasive Developmental Disorders which are: Autistic
30 Disorder; Asperger's Disorder; Pervasive Developmental
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1 Disorder Not Otherwise Specified (PDDNOS); Childhood
2 Disintegrative Disorder; and Rett's Disorder.
3 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.
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