

By the Committee on Judiciary; and Senator Wise

590-1075-06

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the school grading system;
3 amending s. 1008.34, F.S.; adding feeder
4 pattern schools to the list of schools that
5 receive a school grade; prescribing
6 circumstances in which a feeder pattern exists;
7 amending s. 1002.38, F.S.; authorizing students
8 served by feeder pattern schools to participate
9 in the Opportunity Scholarship Program;
10 amending s. 1008.36, F.S.; authorizing feeder
11 pattern schools to participate in the Florida
12 School Recognition Program; providing an
13 effective date.

14
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 1008.34, Florida
18 Statutes, is amended to read:

19 1008.34 School grading system; district performance
20 grade.--

21 (3) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE GRADE
22 CATEGORIES.--A school that serves any combination of students
23 in kindergarten through grade 3 which does not receive a
24 school grade because its students are not tested and included
25 in the school grading system shall receive the school grade
26 designation of a feeder pattern school identified by the
27 Department of Education and verified by the school district. A
28 school feeder pattern exists if at least 60 percent of the
29 students in the school serving a combination of students in
30 kindergarten through grade 3 are scheduled to be assigned to
31 the graded school. School performance grade category

1 designations itemized in subsection (2) shall be based on the
2 following:

3 (a) Timeframes.--

4 1. School performance grade category designations
5 shall be based on the school's current year performance and
6 the school's annual learning gains.

7 2. A school's performance grade category designation
8 shall be based on a combination of student achievement scores,
9 student learning gains as measured by annual FCAT assessments
10 in grades 3 through 10, and improvement of the lowest 25th
11 percentile of students in the school in reading, math, or
12 writing on the FCAT, unless these students are performing
13 above satisfactory performance.

14 (b) Student assessment data.--Student assessment data
15 used in determining school performance grade categories shall
16 include:

17 1. The aggregate scores of all eligible students
18 enrolled in the school who have been assessed on the FCAT.

19 2. The aggregate scores of all eligible students
20 enrolled in the school who have been assessed on the FCAT,
21 including Florida Writes, and who have scored at or in the
22 lowest 25th percentile of students in the school in reading,
23 math, or writing, unless these students are performing above
24 satisfactory performance.

25

26 The Department of Education shall study the effects of
27 mobility on the performance of highly mobile students and
28 recommend programs to improve the performance of such
29 students. The State Board of Education shall adopt appropriate
30 criteria for each school performance grade category. The
31 criteria must also give added weight to student achievement in

1 reading. Schools designated as performance grade category "C,"
2 making satisfactory progress, shall be required to demonstrate
3 that adequate progress has been made by students in the school
4 who are in the lowest 25th percentile in reading, math, or
5 writing on the FCAT, including Florida Writes, unless these
6 students are performing above satisfactory performance.

7 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
8 1002.38, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

9 1002.38 Opportunity Scholarship Program.--

10 (2) OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY.--A public
11 school student's parent may request and receive from the state
12 an opportunity scholarship for the student to enroll in and
13 attend a private school in accordance with the provisions of
14 this section if:

15 (a)1. By assigned school attendance area or by special
16 assignment, the student has spent the prior school year in
17 attendance at a public school, including a feeder pattern
18 school, which ~~that~~ has been designated pursuant to s. 1008.34
19 as performance grade category "F," failing to make adequate
20 progress, and that has had 2 school years in a 4-year period
21 of such low performance, and the student's attendance occurred
22 during a school year in which such designation was in effect;

23 2. The student has been in attendance elsewhere in the
24 public school system and has been assigned to such school for
25 the next school year; or

26 3. The student is entering kindergarten or first grade
27 and has been notified that the student has been assigned to
28 such school for the next school year.

29
30 The provisions of this section shall not apply to a student
31 who is enrolled in a school operating for the purpose of

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 3. Subsection (3) of section 1008.36, Florida
16 Statutes, is amended to read:

17 1008.36 Florida School Recognition Program.--

18 (3) All public schools, including charter schools and
19 feeder pattern schools, which ~~that~~ receive a school grade
20 pursuant to s. 1008.34 are eligible to participate in the
21 program.

22 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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24 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
25 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
26 SB 500

27 This committee substitute makes the following changes to the
28 underlying bill:

- 29 -- Rewrites and reorganizes the bill by opening up different
30 sections of statute but makes no substantive changes; and
31 -- clarifies what is meant by "feeder pattern schools."