

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Education Council recommends the following:

2
3 **Council/Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to student financial assistance; creating
7 s. 1009.701, F.S.; creating the First Generation Matching
8 Grant Program to provide financial aid to undergraduate
9 students with financial need whose parents have not earned
10 a baccalaureate degree; providing for appropriation,
11 allocation, and distribution of funds; providing student
12 eligibility requirements; providing the basis for the
13 amount of awards; providing duties of institutions
14 participating in the program; creating s. 1009.255, F.S.;
15 providing an out-of-state fee exemption; providing
16 eligibility criteria; providing for distribution of the
17 exemption; limiting participation in the program;
18 requiring the Department of Education to administer the
19 exemption program; prohibiting use of the exemption for
20 certain purposes; providing an effective date.

21
22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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24 Section 1. Section 1009.701, Florida Statutes, is created
25 to read:

26 1009.701 First Generation Matching Grant Program.--

27 (1) The First Generation Matching Grant Program is created
28 to enable each state university and community college to provide
29 donors with a matching grant incentive for contributions that
30 will create grant-based student financial aid for undergraduate
31 students who demonstrate financial need and whose parents, as
32 defined in s. 1009.21(1), have not earned a baccalaureate
33 degree.

34 (2) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for the program
35 shall be allocated by the Office of Student Financial Assistance
36 to match private contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis.
37 Contributions made to a state university or community college
38 and pledged for the purposes of this section are eligible for
39 state matching funds appropriated for this program and are not
40 eligible for any other state matching grant program. Pledged
41 contributions are not eligible for matching prior to the actual
42 collection of the total funds. The Office of Student Financial
43 Assistance shall reserve 50 percent of the total appropriated
44 funds for state universities and the remaining 50 percent for
45 community colleges. Within each 50-percent portion, the Office
46 of Student Financial Assistance shall reserve a proportionate
47 allocation for each state university and community college on
48 the basis of full-time equivalent enrollments. Funds that remain
49 unmatched as of December 1 shall be reallocated to state
50 universities and community colleges that have remaining

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51 unmatched private contributions for the program on the basis of
52 full-time equivalent enrollments.

53 (3) Payment of the state matching grant shall be
54 transmitted to the president of each participating institution
55 or his or her representative in advance of the student
56 registration period.

57 (4) Each participating state university and community
58 college shall establish an application process, determine
59 student eligibility for initial and renewal awards in
60 conformance with subsection (5), identify the amount awarded to
61 each recipient, and notify recipients of the amount of their
62 awards.

63 (5) In order to be eligible to receive a grant pursuant to
64 this section, an applicant shall:

65 (a) Be a resident for tuition purposes pursuant to s.
66 1009.21.

67 (b) Be a first generation college student. For the
68 purposes of this section, a student is considered "first
69 generation" if neither of the student's parents, as defined in
70 s. 1009.21(1), earned a college degree at the baccalaureate
71 level or higher.

72 (c) Be accepted at a state university or community
73 college.

74 (d) Be enrolled for a minimum of 6 credit hours per term
75 as a degree-seeking undergraduate student.

76 (e) Have demonstrated financial need by completing the
77 Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

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78 (6) The award amount shall be based on the student's need
79 assessment after any scholarship or grant aid, including, but
80 not limited to, a Pell Grant or a Florida Bright Futures
81 Scholarship Program award, has been applied. No award may exceed
82 the institution's estimated annual cost of attendance for
83 comparable undergraduate students attending the institution.

84 (7) Each participating institution shall report to the
85 Office of Student Financial Assistance, by the date established
86 by the office, the eligible students to whom grant moneys are
87 disbursed each academic term. Institutions shall certify to the
88 Office of Student Financial Assistance the amount of funds
89 disbursed to each student and shall remit to the office any
90 undisbursed advances by June 1 of each year.

91 (8) No later than July 1 of each year, each participating
92 institution shall report to the Executive Office of the
93 Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
94 President of the Senate, each community college shall report to
95 the State Board of Education, and each state university shall
96 report to the Board of Governors regarding eligibility
97 requirements for recipients, the aggregate demographics of
98 recipients, retention and graduation rates of recipients, and a
99 delineation of funds awarded to recipients.

100 (9) This section shall be implemented only as specifically
101 funded.

102 Section 2. Section 1009.255, Florida Statutes, is created
103 to read:

104 1009.255 Out-of-state fee exemption.--

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105 (1) A student who meets all of the following requirements
106 may be eligible for an exemption from paying out-of-state fees
107 assessed pursuant to s. 1009.22, s. 1009.23, or s. 1009.24:

108 (a) The student resided in Florida with a parent for at
109 least 3 consecutive years immediately preceding the date the
110 student received a high school diploma, or its equivalent, and
111 attended a Florida public high school for at least 3 consecutive
112 school years during such time.

113 (b) The student is accepted by and enrolls in a community
114 college or state university within 12 months after receiving a
115 high school diploma or its equivalent.

116 (c) The student submits an application for the exemption
117 to the Department of Education in the manner prescribed by the
118 department and by the deadline established by the department.

119 (2) (a) For the 2006-2007 academic year, the Department of
120 Education shall distribute the exemptions in the following
121 manner:

122 1. To the first 1,500 students currently enrolled in a
123 community college or state university who have a cumulative
124 grade point average of at least 2.0 and who submit an
125 application to the department and meet the criteria in
126 subsection (1).

127 2. To the top 500 students in academic performance in
128 Florida public high schools who submit an application to the
129 department and meet the criteria in subsection (1).

130 (b) Beginning with the 2007-2008 academic year, the
131 Department of Education shall issue no more than 500 new
132 exemptions per year to the top 500 students in academic

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133 performance in Florida public high schools who submit an
134 application to the department and meet the criteria in
135 subsection (1).

136 (c) In order to retain the exemption, a student must have
137 completed at least 12 semester credit hours or the equivalent in
138 the previous academic year and maintain at least a 2.0
139 cumulative grade point average.

140 (3) (a) The Department of Education shall administer the
141 exemption program, develop an application form, and establish
142 deadlines and guidelines for student participation.

143 (b) The department shall issue the exemptions by August 31
144 of each year and shall notify the student and the community
145 college or state university in which the student is enrolled.

146 (4) The exemption may not be used for remedial courses,
147 graduate-level courses, or professional-level courses.

148 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.