By Senator Deutch

30-02765A-08 20082510

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Florida Prepaid College Program; amending s. 1009.98, F.S.; providing for the powers and rights of purchasers and co-purchasers of advance payment contracts; differentiating between contracts purchased before February 1, 2009, and those purchases after that date; providing for the rights of a purchaser to apply to the co-purchaser for contracts purchased after that date or following a one time election by the purchaser; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Present subsections (5), (6), (7), (8), and (9) of section 1009.98, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6), (7), (8), (9), and (10), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

1009.98 Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid College Program.--

- (5) CONTRACT PURCHASERS.--
- (a) An individual, corporation, or organization may purchase an advance payment contract for a qualified beneficiary.
- 1. Co-purchasers are allowed, but not required. If a co-purchaser is designated on an advance payment contract, the purchaser and co-purchaser shall each enjoy a right of survivorship.
- 2. If an individual is named as the purchaser or copurchaser, the individual must be at least 18 years of age and must be a United States citizen or a resident alien.

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(b) For advance payment contracts purchased before February
1, 2009:

- 1. The purchaser may execute all contract modifications, conversions, transfers, terminations, and refund requests without the consent or authorization of the co-purchaser if there is a co-purchaser. A co-purchaser is entitled only to a right of survivorship as provided in paragraph (a).
- 2. Any requests to change the purchaser designated on the advance payment contract must be signed by the purchaser and notarized.
- 3. If a purchaser authorized to terminate the contract requests termination, a co-purchaser must be notified in writing by the board at least 7 days before processing the request if the co-purchaser's address is different from that of the purchaser.
 - 4. Refunds are payable only to the purchaser.
- (c) For advance payment contracts purchased on or after February 1, 2009:
- 1. All requests for contract modifications, conversions, transfers, terminations, and refund requests must be signed by the purchaser and the co-purchaser and both signatures must be notarized.
- 2. Refunds are jointly payable to the purchaser and the copurchaser.
- (d) If an advance payment contract was purchased before February 1, 2009, the purchaser may elect to make the rights of the co-purchaser the same as those for a contract purchased on or after February 1, 2009, by submitting a written request to the board. The request must be signed by the purchaser and the co-purchaser and both signatures must be notarized. If changed, the

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58 change is irrevocable, the provisions of subparagraph (b) no

10 longer apply, and the contract is subject to paragraph (c).

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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