

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative Traviesa offered the following:

2
3 **Amendment to Senate Amendment (973310) (with directory and**
4 **title amendments)**

5 Remove lines 88-223 and insert:

6 (6) OBLIGATIONS OF ELIGIBLE NONPROFIT SCHOLARSHIP-FUNDING
7 ORGANIZATIONS.--An eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding
8 organization:

9 (d) Must provide scholarships, from eligible
10 contributions, to eligible students for the cost of:

11 1. Tuition and fees ~~or textbook expenses for, or~~
12 ~~transportation to,~~ an eligible private school. ~~At least 75~~
13 ~~percent of the scholarship funding must be used to pay tuition~~
14 ~~expenses; or~~

161591
5/2/2008 1:46 PM

Amendment No.

15 2. Transportation ~~expenses~~ to a Florida public school that
16 is located outside the district in which the student resides or
17 to a lab school as defined in s. 1002.32.

18 (i) 1. May use up to 3 percent of eligible contributions
19 received during the state fiscal year in which such
20 contributions are collected for administrative expenses if the
21 organization has operated under this section for at least 3
22 state fiscal years and did not have any negative financial
23 findings in its most recent audit under paragraph (1). Such
24 administrative expenses must be reasonable and necessary for the
25 organization's management and distribution of eligible
26 contributions under this section. No more than one-third of the
27 funds authorized for administrative expenses under this
28 subparagraph may be used for expenses related to the recruitment
29 of contributions from corporate taxpayers.

30 2. Must expend for annual or partial-year scholarships an
31 amount equal to or greater than 75 percent of the net eligible
32 contributions remaining after administrative expenses during the
33 state fiscal year in which such contributions are collected. No
34 more than 25 percent of such net eligible contributions may be
35 carried forward to the following state fiscal year. Any amounts
36 carried forward shall be expended for ~~Must obligate, in the same~~
37 ~~fiscal year in which the contribution was received, 100 percent~~
38 ~~of the eligible contribution to provide annual or partial-year~~
39 ~~scholarships, however, up to 25 percent of the total~~
40 ~~contribution may be carried forward for expenditure in the~~
41 ~~following state fiscal year. Net eligible contributions~~
42 ~~remaining on June 30 of each year that are in excess of the 25~~

161591

5/2/2008 1:46 PM

Amendment No.

43 percent that may be carried forward shall be returned to the
44 State Treasury for deposit in the General Revenue Fund.

45 3. A scholarship-funding organization Must, before
46 granting a scholarship for an academic year, document each
47 scholarship student's eligibility for that academic year. A
48 scholarship-funding organization may not grant multiyear
49 scholarships in one approval process. ~~No portion of eligible~~
50 ~~contributions may be used for administrative expenses. All~~
51 ~~interest accrued from contributions must be used for~~
52 ~~scholarships.~~

53
54 Any and all information and documentation provided to the
55 Department of Education and the Auditor General relating to the
56 identity of a taxpayer that provides an eligible contribution
57 under this section shall remain confidential at all times in
58 accordance with s. 213.053.

59 (8) PRIVATE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY AND OBLIGATIONS.--An
60 eligible private school may be sectarian or nonsectarian and
61 must:

62 (c) Be academically accountable to the parent for meeting
63 the educational needs of the student by:

64 1. At a minimum, annually providing to the parent a
65 written explanation of the student's progress.

66 2. Annually administering or making provision for students
67 participating in the scholarship program to take one of the
68 nationally norm-referenced tests identified by the Department of
69 Education. Students with disabilities for whom standardized
70 testing is not appropriate are exempt from this requirement. A

161591

5/2/2008 1:46 PM

Amendment No.

71 participating private school must report a student's scores to
72 the parent and to the independent research organization selected
73 by the Department of Education as described in paragraph (9)(j).

74 3. Cooperating with the scholarship student whose parent
75 chooses to have the student participate in the statewide
76 assessments pursuant to s. 1008.22 ~~1008.32~~.

77
78 The inability of a private school to meet the requirements of
79 this subsection shall constitute a basis for the ineligibility
80 of the private school to participate in the scholarship program
81 as determined by the Department of Education.

82 (11) SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT AND PAYMENT.--

83 (a) The amount of a scholarship provided to any student
84 for any single school year by an eligible nonprofit scholarship-
85 funding organization from eligible contributions shall be for
86 total costs authorized under paragraph (6)(d), not to exceed the
87 following annual limits:

88 1. Three thousand nine hundred fifty dollars ~~Three~~
89 ~~thousand seven hundred fifty dollars~~ for a scholarship awarded
90 to a student enrolled in an eligible private school for the
91 2008-2009 state fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter.

92 2. Five hundred dollars for a scholarship awarded to a
93 student enrolled in a Florida public school that is located
94 outside the district in which the student resides or in a lab
95 school as defined in s. 1002.32.

96 (b) Payment of the scholarship by the eligible
97
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161591

5/2/2008 1:46 PM

Amendment No.

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100 **D I R E C T O R Y A M E N D M E N T**

101 Remove lines 7-12 and insert:

102 subsection (5), paragraphs (d) and (i) of subsection (6),
103 paragraph (c) of subsection (8), and subsection (11) of section
104 220.187, Florida Statutes, are amended, and

105 -----

107 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

108 Remove lines 305-318 and insert:

109 of scholarship funds; revising provisions relating to
110 expenditure of contributions received by a scholarship-funding
111 organization during a state fiscal year; authorizing expenditure
112 of contributions for specified administrative expenses by
113 certain scholarship-funding organizations; providing for the
114 annual return of specified eligible contributions to the State
115 Treasury; correcting a cross-reference; revising scholarship
116 amounts; revising