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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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Floor: WD/2R

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04/27/2009 02:54 PM

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Senators Deutch, Wilson, and Rich moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with directory and title amendments)

Between lines 234 and 235

insert:

(7) PARENT AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROGRAM
PARTICIPATION.—

(e) The parent shall ensure that the student participating
in the scholarship program takes the assessment as required in
this paragraph.

1. A student who is participating in the program must take
the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) in reading,
writing, science, mathematics, and other content areas, as



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13 directed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to s.
14 1008.22, if 33 percent or more of the students enrolled in the
15 private school are receiving a scholarship under this section
16 during the school year or the total scholarship funds received
17 by the private school during the school year exceeds \$125,000,
18 whichever is less. The parent is responsible for transporting
19 the student to the assessment site designated by the school
20 district.

21 2. A student who does not take the FCAT as required in
22 subparagraph 1. must take the norm-referenced assessment offered
23 by the private school. The parent may also choose to have the
24 student participate in the statewide assessments pursuant to s.
25 1008.22. If the parent requests that the student participating
26 in the scholarship program take statewide assessments pursuant
27 to s. 1008.22, the parent is responsible for transporting the
28 student to the assessment site designated by the school
29 district.

30 (8) PRIVATE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY AND OBLIGATIONS.—An eligible
31 private school may be sectarian or nonsectarian and must:

32 (a) Comply with all requirements for private schools
33 participating in state school choice scholarship programs
34 pursuant to s. 1002.421.

35 (b) Provide to the eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding
36 organization, upon request, all documentation required for the
37 student's participation, including the private school's and
38 student's fee schedules.

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

41 1. At a minimum, annually providing to the parent a written



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42 explanation of the student's progress.

43 2. Annually administering or making provision for students
44 participating in the scholarship program to take the FCAT or one
45 of the nationally norm-referenced tests identified by the
46 Department of Education. Students having ~~with~~ disabilities for
47 whom standardized testing is not appropriate are exempt from
48 this requirement. A participating private school must report a
49 student's scores to the parent and to the independent research
50 organization selected by the Department of Education as
51 described in paragraph (9)(j).

52 3. Cooperating with the scholarship student whose parent
53 chooses to have the student participate in the statewide
54 assessments pursuant to s. 1008.22.

55 (d) Employ or contract with teachers who have regular and
56 direct contact with each student receiving a scholarship under
57 this section at the school's physical location.

58 (e) Receive a school grade pursuant to s. 1008.34 if the
59 school has students who are required to take the FCAT under
60 subparagraph (7)(e)1.

61
62 The inability of a private school to meet the requirements of
63 this subsection shall constitute a basis for the ineligibility
64 of the private school to participate in the scholarship program
65 as determined by the Department of Education.

66
67 ===== D I R E C T O R Y C L A U S E A M E N D M E N T =====

68 And the directory clause is amended as follows:

69 Delete lines 45 - 46

70 and insert:



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71 subsection (5), paragraphs (b) and (i) of subsection (6),
72 paragraph (e) of subsection (7), subsection (8), and paragraphs
73 (a), (b), (l), and (n) of subsection (9) of section

74

75 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

76 And the title is amended as follows:

77 Delete line 15

78 and insert:

79 against the corporate income tax; revising provisions
80 relating to the parents' and students'
81 responsibilities for participating in the program;
82 requiring that a participating student who is enrolled
83 in a private school take the Florida Comprehensive
84 Assessment Test under certain circumstances; requiring
85 that a student take the norm-referenced assessment
86 offered by the private school if the student does not
87 take the FCAT; requiring that an eligible private
88 school receive a school grade if the school has
89 students who are required to take the FCAT; imposing
90 an