

1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to district school board policies and  
 3           procedures; amending s. 1001.43, F.S.; providing  
 4           legislative intent to recognize student academic  
 5           achievement; encouraging each district school board to  
 6           adopt policies and procedures that provide for an annual  
 7           "Academic Scholarship Signing Day"; providing an effective  
 8           date.

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

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 12           Section 1. Subsection (14) is added to section 1001.43,  
 13   Florida Statutes, to read:

14           1001.43 Supplemental powers and duties of district school  
 15   board.--The district school board may exercise the following  
 16   supplemental powers and duties as authorized by this code or  
 17   State Board of Education rule.

18           (14) RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT.--

19           (a) The Legislature recognizes the importance of promoting  
 20   student academic achievement, motivating students to attain  
 21   academic achievement, and providing positive acknowledgment for  
 22   that achievement. It is the intent of the Legislature that  
 23   school districts bestow the same level of recognition to the  
 24   state's academic scholars as to its athletic scholars.

25           (b) The district school board is encouraged to adopt  
 26   policies and procedures to provide for a student "Academic  
 27   Scholarship Signing Day" by declaring the third Tuesday in April  
 28   each year as "Academic Scholarship Signing Day." The "Academic

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29 Scholarship Signing Day" shall recognize the outstanding  
30 academic achievement of high school seniors who sign a letter of  
31 intent to accept an academic scholarship offered to the student  
32 by a postsecondary educational institution. District school  
33 board policies and procedures may include, but not be limited  
34 to, conducting assemblies or other appropriate public events in  
35 which students offered academic scholarships assemble and sign  
36 actual or ceremonial documents accepting those scholarships. The  
37 district school board may encourage holding such events in an  
38 assembly or gathering of high school freshmen or sophomores as a  
39 means of making academic success and recognition visible to  
40 these students.

41 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.