

HB 667

2010

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship
3 Program; amending s. 1009.53, F.S.; requiring a student to
4 reimburse the educational institution for award amounts
5 received for certain courses dropped by the student or
6 courses from which the student has withdrawn; requiring
7 reimbursements to be refunded to the Department of
8 Education; requiring an institution to notify the
9 department and student of the amount due within a
10 specified period; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) and subsection
15 (11) of section 1009.53, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
16 1009.53 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.—

17 (5) The department shall issue awards from the scholarship
18 program annually. Annual awards may be for up to 45 semester
19 credit hours or the equivalent. Before the registration period
20 each semester, the department shall transmit payment for each
21 award to the president or director of the postsecondary
22 education institution, or his or her representative, except that
23 the department may withhold payment if the receiving institution
24 fails to report or to make refunds to the department as required
25 in this section.

26 (a) Within 30 days after the end of regular registration
27 each semester, the educational institution shall certify to the
28 department the eligibility status of each student who receives

29 | an award. After the end of the drop and add period, an
 30 | institution is not required to reevaluate or revise a student's
 31 | eligibility status; however, a student ~~an institution~~ must, make
 32 | ~~a refund to the department~~ within 60 ~~30~~ days after the end of
 33 | the semester, reimburse or make satisfactory arrangements to
 34 | reimburse the institution for the award amount ~~of any funds~~
 35 | received for courses dropped by the ~~a~~ student or courses from
 36 | which the ~~a~~ student has withdrawn after the end of the drop and
 37 | add period, unless the student has been granted an exception by
 38 | the department pursuant to subsection (11). A reimbursement to
 39 | an institution resulting from a student's dropped course or a
 40 | course from which a student has withdrawn after the end of the
 41 | drop and add period shall be refunded to the department by the
 42 | institution.

43 | (11) Funds for any scholarship within the Florida Bright
 44 | Futures Scholarship Program may not be used to pay for courses
 45 | dropped by a student or courses from which a student has
 46 | withdrawn after the end of the drop and add period. However, a
 47 | student who receives an award under this program and
 48 | subsequently drops one or more courses or withdraws from all
 49 | courses after the end of the drop and add period due to a
 50 | verifiable illness or other documented emergency may be granted
 51 | an exception pursuant to s. 1009.40(1)(b)4., unless the
 52 | institution's policy is to refund the cost of the courses. The
 53 | department shall notify eligible recipients of the provisions of
 54 | this subsection. Each institution shall notify award recipients
 55 | of the provisions of this subsection ~~during the registration~~
 56 | process. Within 30 days after determining that a student has

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57 dropped a course or has withdrawn from a course after the end of
58 the drop and add period, in the absence of an exception granted
59 by the department under this subsection, the institution shall
60 notify the department and the student of the amount due
61 resulting from such course drop or withdrawal.

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