

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship  
 3           Program; amending s. 1002.395, F.S.; requiring a  
 4           private school participating in the program to report  
 5           to the Department of Education the assessment scores  
 6           of any students who are administered certain  
 7           assessments; requiring the department to publish the  
 8           scores on its website; providing an effective date.

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

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12           Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section  
 13 1002.395, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14           1002.395 Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program.—

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

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

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

22           2. Annually administering or making provision for students  
 23 participating in the scholarship program in grades 3 through 10  
 24 to take one of the nationally norm-referenced tests identified  
 25 by the Department of Education or the statewide assessments  
 26 pursuant to s. 1008.22. Students with disabilities for whom  
 27 standardized testing is not appropriate are exempt from this  
 28 requirement. A participating private school must report a

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29 student's scores to the parent. A participating private school  
30 must annually report by August 15 the scores of all  
31 participating students to the independent research organization  
32 described in paragraph (9)(j).

33 3. Cooperating with the scholarship student whose parent  
34 chooses to have the student participate in the statewide  
35 assessments pursuant to s. 1008.22 or, if a private school  
36 chooses to offer the statewide assessments, administering the  
37 assessments at the school.

38 a. A participating private school may choose to offer and  
39 administer the statewide assessments to all students who attend  
40 the private school in grades 3 through 10. A participating  
41 private school shall report to the Department of Education the  
42 scores of any students who are administered the statewide  
43 assessments or any nationally norm-referenced tests. The  
44 department shall publish the scores on its website so that a  
45 parent is able to compare the assessment scores of participating  
46 private schools to determine the best school for his or her  
47 child.

48 b. A participating private school must submit a request in  
49 writing to the Department of Education by March 1 of each year  
50 in order to administer the statewide assessments in the  
51 subsequent school year.

52  
53 The inability of a private school to meet the requirements of  
54 this subsection shall constitute a basis for the ineligibility  
55 of the private school to participate in the scholarship program  
56 as determined by the Department of Education.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.