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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/28/2014	.	
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The Committee on Appropriations (Galvano) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Substitute for Amendment (411884) (with title**
2 **amendment)**

3
4 Between lines 524 and 525
5 insert:

6 Section 9. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection
7 (2) of section 1009.55, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
8 1009.55 Rosewood Family Scholarship Program.—

9 (1) There is created a Rosewood Family Scholarship Program
10 for the direct descendants of the Rosewood families, not to



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11 exceed 50 ~~25~~ scholarships per year.

12 (2) The Rosewood Family Scholarship Program shall be
13 administered by the Department of Education. The State Board of
14 Education shall adopt rules for administering this program which
15 shall at a minimum provide for the following:

16 (a) The annual award to a student shall be up to \$6,100
17 ~~\$4,000~~ but should not exceed an amount in excess of tuition and
18 registration fees.

19 Section 10. Section 1009.893, Florida Statutes, is created
20 to read:

21 1009.893 Florida National Merit Scholar Incentive Program.-

22 (1) As used in this section, the term:

23 (a) "Department" means the Department of Education.

24 (b) "Incentive program" means the Florida National Merit
25 Scholar Incentive Program.

26 (2) The Florida National Merit Scholar Incentive Program is
27 created to reward any Florida high school graduate who receives
28 recognition as a National Merit Scholar or National Achievement
29 Scholar and who initially enrolls in the 2014-2015 academic
30 year, or later, in a degree program, certificate program, or
31 applied technology program at an eligible Florida public or
32 independent postsecondary educational institution.

33 (3) The department shall administer the incentive program
34 according to rules and procedures established by the State Board
35 of Education. The department shall advertise the availability of
36 the incentive program and notify students, teachers, parents,
37 certified school counselors, and principals or other relevant
38 school administrators of the criteria and application
39 procedures.



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40 (4) In order to be eligible for an award under the
41 incentive program, a student must:

42 (a) Be a state resident as defined in s. 1009.40 and rules
43 of the State Board of Education.

44 (b) Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its
45 equivalent pursuant to s. 1003.428, s. 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282,
46 or s. 1003.435 unless:

47 1. The student completes a home education program according
48 to s. 1002.41; or

49 2. The student earns a high school diploma from a non-
50 Florida school while living with a parent or guardian who is on
51 military or public service assignment away from this state.

52 (c) Be accepted by and enroll in a Florida public or
53 independent postsecondary educational institution that meets the
54 eligibility requirements specified in s. 1009.533.

55 (d) Be enrolled for at least 6 semester credit hours or the
56 equivalent in quarter hours or clock hours.

57 (5) (a) An eligible student who is a National Merit Scholar
58 or National Achievement Scholar and who attends a public
59 postsecondary educational institution must receive an incentive
60 award equal to the institutional cost of attendance minus the
61 sum of the student's Florida Bright Futures Scholarship and
62 National Merit Scholarship or National Achievement Scholarship.

63 (b) An eligible student who is a National Merit Scholar or
64 National Achievement Scholar and who attends an independent
65 postsecondary educational institution must receive an incentive
66 award equal to the highest cost of attendance at a Florida
67 public university, as reported by the Board of Governors of the
68 State University System, minus the sum of the student's Florida



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69 Bright Futures Scholarship and National Merit Scholarship or
70 National Achievement Scholarship.

71 (6) (a) To be eligible for a renewal award, a student must
72 meet the renewal requirements for the Florida Bright Futures
73 Scholarship Program set forth in s. 1009.532(1)(a) and for the
74 Florida Academic Scholars award set forth in s. 1009.534(3).

75 (b) A student may receive the incentive award for a maximum
76 of 100 percent of the number of credit hours required to
77 complete an associate degree program or a baccalaureate degree
78 program or receive an award for a maximum of 100 percent of the
79 credit hours or clock hours required to complete up to 90 credit
80 hours of a program that terminates in a career certificate.

81 (7) The department shall annually issue awards from the
82 incentive program. Before the registration period each semester,
83 the department shall transmit payment for each award to the
84 president or director of the postsecondary educational
85 institution, or his or her representative, except that the
86 department may withhold payment if the receiving institution
87 fails to report or to make refunds to the department as required
88 in this section.

89 (a) Each institution shall certify to the department the
90 eligibility status of each student to receive a disbursement
91 within 30 days before the end of its regular registration
92 period, inclusive of a drop and add period. An institution is
93 not required to reevaluate the student eligibility after the end
94 of the drop and add period.

95 (b) An institution that receives funds from the incentive
96 program must certify to the department the amount of funds
97 disbursed to each student and remit to the department any



98 undisbursed advances within 60 days after the end of regular
99 registration.

100 (c) If funds appropriated are not adequate to provide the
101 maximum allowable award to each eligible student, awards must be
102 prorated using the same percentage reduction.

103 (8) Funds from any award within the incentive program may
104 not be used to pay for remedial coursework or developmental
105 education.

106 (9) A student may use an award for a summer term if funds
107 are available and appropriated by the Legislature.

108 (10) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for the
109 incentive program awards may be deposited into the State Student
110 Financial Assistance Trust Fund. Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and
111 pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the end
112 of any fiscal year which has been allocated to the incentive
113 program must remain in the incentive program and shall be
114 available for carrying out the purposes of this section. The
115 department shall allocate funds to the appropriate institutions
116 and collect and maintain data regarding the incentive program
117 within the student financial assistance database as specified in
118 s. 1009.94.

119 (11) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules
120 necessary to administer this section.

121 (12) Subsection (4) of s. 1009.40 does not apply to awards
122 issued under this section.

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

125 And the title is amended as follows:

126 Delete line 72



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127 and insert:
128 at state universities; amending s. 1009.55, F.S.;
129 increasing the annual maximum number of scholarships
130 that may be awarded in the Rosewood Family Scholarship
131 Program; increasing the annual maximum award amount
132 per student; creating s. 1009.893, F.S.; creating the
133 Florida National Merit Scholar Incentive Program;
134 defining terms; providing the purpose of the incentive
135 program; requiring the Department of Education to
136 administer the incentive program, advertise the
137 availability of the incentive program, and notify
138 students, teachers, parents, and school administrators
139 about the incentive program's criteria and application
140 procedures; providing eligibility requirements for the
141 incentive program; requiring certain students who are
142 National Merit Scholars or National Achievement
143 Scholars to receive certain incentive awards;
144 providing eligibility requirements to renew an award;
145 authorizing a student to receive an incentive award
146 for certain maximum percentage amounts of the number
147 of credit hours required to complete an associate
148 degree, a baccalaureate degree, or a career
149 certificate; requiring the department to issue awards
150 from the incentive program and to transmit payment for
151 each award; authorizing the department to withhold
152 payment under certain circumstances; requiring
153 institutions to certify to the department the
154 eligibility status of each student to receive a
155 disbursement of an award during a specified time;



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156 requiring the institution to certify to the department
157 the disbursement amounts to each student and remit to
158 the department undisbursed funds; providing for
159 proration of funds; prohibiting use of funds for
160 remedial coursework or developmental education;
161 authorizing a student to use funds during the summer
162 term under certain circumstances; authorizing
163 incentive program funds appropriated by the
164 Legislature to be deposited in the State Student
165 Financial Assistance Trust Fund; providing for use of
166 any remaining balance of appropriated funds in the
167 trust fund; requiring the department to allocate funds
168 to appropriate institutions and collect and maintain
169 certain data regarding the incentive program;
170 requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules;
171 providing for retroactive