

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative Berman offered the following:

2  
3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Between lines 468 and 469, insert:

5 Section 7. Section 1012.732, Florida Statutes, is created  
6 to read:

7 1012.732 The Florida Best and Brightest State Legislator  
8 Scholars Program.-

9 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to designate  
10 legislators who have achieved high academic standards during  
11 their own education as Florida's best and brightest legislative  
12 scholars.

13 (2) There is created the Florida Best and Brightest State  
14 Legislator Scholars Program to be administered by the Department

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15 of Education. The program shall provide categorical funding for  
16 bonuses to be awarded to state legislators who have demonstrated  
17 a high level of academic achievement.

18 (3) (a) To be eligible for a bonus, a state legislator must  
19 have achieved a composite score at or above the 80th percentile  
20 on either the SAT or the ACT based on the National Percentile  
21 Ranks in effect when the state legislator took the assessment.

22 (b) In order to demonstrate eligibility for an award, a  
23 state legislator must submit to the President of the Senate or  
24 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as appropriate, no  
25 later than November 1, an official record of his or her SAT or  
26 ACT score demonstrating that the state legislator scored at or  
27 above the 80th percentile based on the National Percentile Ranks  
28 in effect when the legislator took the assessment. Once a state  
29 legislator is deemed eligible by the President of the Senate or  
30 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as appropriate, the  
31 state legislator shall remain eligible as long as he or she  
32 remains a member of the Legislature.

33 (4) Annually, by December 1, the President of the Senate  
34 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall submit to  
35 the department the number of eligible state legislators who  
36 qualify for the bonus.

37 (5) Annually, by February 1, the department shall disburse  
38 bonus funds to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of  
39 the House of Representatives, respectively, for each eligible  
40 state legislator to receive a bonus as provided in the General

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41 Appropriations Act. The amount disbursed shall include a bonus  
 42 of \$1,000, from the total amount of funds appropriated, for each  
 43 eligible state legislator. If the number of eligible state  
 44 legislators exceeds the total appropriation authorized in the  
 45 General Appropriations Act, the department shall prorate the  
 46 per-legislator bonus amount.

47 (6) Annually, by April 1, the President of the Senate and  
 48 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively, shall  
 49 award the bonus to each eligible state legislator.

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52 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

53 Remove line 51 and insert:  
 54 defining the term "school district"; creating s.  
 55 1012.732, F.S.; providing legislative intent;  
 56 establishing the Florida Best and Brightest State  
 57 Legislator Scholars Program; providing eligibility  
 58 criteria; requiring the President of the Senate and  
 59 the Speaker of the House of Representatives to  
 60 annually submit the number of eligible state  
 61 legislators to the Department of Education; providing  
 62 for funding and the disbursement of funds; amending s.

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