

Amendment No.8

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	_____	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	_____	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	_____	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	_____	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	_____	(Y/N)
OTHER		

1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Education & Employment
 2 Committee

3 Representative Williams offered the following:

4

5 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

6 Remove lines 630-723 and insert:

7 (a)1. Scholarships for students determined eligible
 8 pursuant to paragraph (3) (a) may be funded once all scholarships
 9 have been funded in accordance with s. 1002.395 (6) (k) 2.

10 Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter, any
 11 increase in the number of scholarships provided under the
 12 program may not be funded through the Florida Education Finance
 13 Program. are established for up to 18,000 students annually
 14 ~~beginning in the 2019-2020 school year. Beginning in the 2020-~~
 15 ~~2021 school year, the maximum number of students participating~~
 16 ~~in the scholarship program under this section shall annually~~

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17 ~~increase by 1.0 percent of the state's total full-time~~
18 ~~equivalent student membership. An eligible student who meets any~~
19 ~~of the following requirements shall be excluded from the maximum~~
20 ~~number of students if the student:~~

21 ~~a. Is a dependent child of a law enforcement officer or a~~
22 ~~member of the United States Armed Forces, a foster child, or an~~
23 ~~adopted child; or~~

24 ~~b. Is determined eligible pursuant to subparagraph~~
25 ~~(3)(a)1. or subparagraph (3)(a)2. and either spent the prior~~
26 ~~school year in attendance at a Florida public school; or,~~
27 ~~beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, is eligible to enroll in~~
28 ~~kindergarten. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "prior~~
29 ~~school year in attendance" means that the student was enrolled~~
30 ~~and reported by a school district for funding during either the~~
31 ~~preceding October or February full-time equivalent student~~
32 ~~membership surveys in kindergarten through grade 12, which~~
33 ~~includes time spent in a Department of Juvenile Justice~~
34 ~~commitment program if funded under the Florida Education Finance~~
35 ~~Program.~~

36 ~~2. The scholarship amount provided to a student for any~~
37 ~~single school year shall be for tuition and fees for an eligible~~
38 ~~private school, not to exceed annual limits, which shall be~~
39 ~~determined in accordance with this subparagraph. The calculated~~
40 ~~scholarship amount for a participating student determined~~
41 ~~eligible pursuant to paragraph (3)(a) shall be based upon the~~

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42 grade level and school district in which the student was
43 assigned as 100 percent of the funds per unweighted full-time
44 equivalent in the Florida Education Finance Program for a
45 student in the basic program established pursuant to s.
46 1011.62(1)(c)1., plus a per-full-time equivalent share of funds
47 for all categorical programs, except for the exceptional student
48 education guaranteed allocation established pursuant to s.
49 1011.62(1)(e).

50 ~~3. The amount of the scholarship shall be the calculated~~
51 ~~amount or the amount of the private school's tuition and fees,~~
52 ~~whichever is less. The amount of any assessment fee required by~~
53 ~~the participating private school and any costs to provide a~~
54 ~~digital device, including Internet access, if necessary, to the~~
55 ~~student may be paid from the total amount of the scholarship.~~

56 2.4. A scholarship of \$750 or an amount equal to the
57 school district expenditure per student riding a school bus, as
58 determined by the department, whichever is greater, may be
59 awarded to an eligible a student who is ~~determined eligible~~
60 ~~pursuant to subparagraph (3)(a)1. or subparagraph (3)(a)2. and~~
61 enrolled in a Florida public school that is different from the
62 school to which the student was assigned or in a lab school as
63 defined in s. 1002.32 if the school district does not provide
64 the student with transportation to the school.

65 3.5. The organization must provide the department with the
66 documentation necessary to verify the student's participation.

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67 Upon receiving the documentation, the department shall transfer,
68 from state funds only, the amount calculated pursuant to
69 subparagraph 2. to the organization for quarterly disbursement
70 to parents of participating students each school year in which
71 the scholarship is in force. For a student exiting a Department
72 of Juvenile Justice commitment program who chooses to
73 participate in the scholarship program, the amount of the Family
74 Empowerment Scholarship calculated pursuant to subparagraph 2.
75 must be transferred from the school district in which the
76 student last attended a public school before commitment to the
77 Department of Juvenile Justice. When a student enters the
78 scholarship program, the organization must receive all
79 documentation required for the student's participation,
80 including the private school's and the student's fee schedules,
81 at least 30 days before the first quarterly scholarship payment
82 is made for the student.

83 ~~4.6.~~ The initial payment shall be made after the
84 organization's verification of admission acceptance, and
85 subsequent payments shall be made upon verification of continued
86 enrollment and attendance at the private school. Payment must be
87 ~~by individual warrant made payable to the student's parent or by~~
88 funds transfer or any other means of payment that the department
89 deems to be commercially viable or cost-effective. ~~If the~~
90 ~~payment is made by warrant, the warrant must be delivered by the~~
91 ~~organization to the private school of the parent's choice, and~~

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92 ~~the parent shall restrictively endorse the warrant to the~~
93 ~~private school. An organization shall ensure that the parent to~~
94 ~~whom the warrant is made has restrictively endorsed the warrant~~
95 ~~to the private school for deposit into the account of the~~
96 ~~private school or that the parent has approved a funds transfer~~
97 before any scholarship funds are deposited.

98 5. An organization may not transfer any funds to an
99 account of a student determined eligible pursuant to paragraph
100 (3) (a) which has a balance in excess of \$24,000.

101 (b)1. Scholarships for students determined eligible
102 pursuant to paragraph (3) (b) are established for up to 26,500
103 students annually beginning in the 2022-2023 school year.
104 Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter, any
105 increase in the number of scholarships provided under the
106 program may not be funded through the Florida Education Finance
107 Program.

109 -----
110 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

111 Remove line 24 and insert:
112 certain students; providing requirements for the funding of
113 certain scholarships; prohibiting the transfer of funds to