

1                                    A bill to be entitled  
 2            An act relating to the Florida Medical School  
 3            Scholarship and Grant Program; amending s. 1009.70,  
 4            F.S.; revising the authorized use of funds from the  
 5            Florida Education Fund; revising the responsibilities  
 6            of the Board of Directors of the Florida Education  
 7            Fund; establishing the Florida Medical School  
 8            Scholarship and Grant Program within the fund for  
 9            specified purposes; requiring the fund to award  
 10            scholarships to certain minority students enrolled in  
 11            specified schools or programs; providing requirements  
 12            for such scholarships; authorizing the fund to provide  
 13            grants to certain postsecondary educational  
 14            institutions or nonprofit organizations to create and  
 15            implement nontraditional mentoring services or support  
 16            programs for specified purposes; providing an  
 17            appropriation; providing an effective date.  
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19    Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 21            Section 1. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 1009.70,  
 22            Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (7) and (8),  
 23            respectively, paragraph (b) of subsection (2), paragraph (c) of  
 24            subsection (3), and subsection (5) are amended, and a new  
 25            subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

26           1009.70 Florida Education Fund.—  
 27           (2)  
 28           (b) The Legislature may appropriate funds to the Florida  
 29 Education Fund to be used for scholarships and grants under  
 30 subsections ~~subsection~~ (5) and (6). Funds appropriated to the  
 31 Florida Education Fund shall be matched on a dollar-for-dollar  
 32 basis by funds contributed from private sources, including, but  
 33 not limited to, income earned from investment returns on the  
 34 Florida Education Fund Endowment, the value of monetary and in-  
 35 kind contributions to the McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Program,  
 36 the value of services provided by McKnight Doctoral Fellows to  
 37 Florida not-for-profit corporations and public and nonpublic  
 38 colleges and universities, and the value of tuition and fees  
 39 paid on behalf of McKnight Doctoral Fellows from funds not  
 40 appropriated to the Florida Education Fund. The Florida  
 41 Education Fund shall certify to the Department of Education's  
 42 Office of Student Financial Assistance the estimated value of  
 43 such matching amounts before ~~prior to~~ the disbursement of the  
 44 appropriation and shall certify to the Legislature the actual  
 45 value of such matching amounts as of June 30 each year. Only new  
 46 donations above the certified prior year base shall be  
 47 calculated for state matching funds. The department shall  
 48 provide the format for which the Florida Education Fund shall  
 49 comply with the reporting requirements of this paragraph.  
 50           (3) The Florida Education Fund shall use the income of the

51 fund to provide for programs which seek to:

52 (c) Increase the representation of minorities in faculty  
53 and administrative positions in higher education and medical  
54 fields in this state and to provide more highly educated  
55 minority leadership in business and professional enterprises in  
56 this state.

57 (5) The Board of Directors of the Florida Education Fund  
58 shall review and evaluate initial programs created by the  
59 McKnight Foundation and continue funding the McKnight Doctoral  
60 Fellowship Program and the McKnight Junior Faculty Fellowship  
61 Program if the evaluations are positive, shall fund the Florida  
62 Medical School Scholarship and Grant Program under subsection  
63 (6), and ~~the board~~ shall identify, initiate, and fund new and  
64 creative programs and monitor, review, and evaluate those  
65 programs. The purpose of this commitment is to broaden the  
66 participation and funding potential for further significant  
67 support of higher education in this state. In addition, the  
68 board shall:

69 (a) Hold such meetings as are necessary to implement this  
70 section.

71 (b) Select a chairperson annually.

72 (c) Adopt and use an official seal in the authentication  
73 of its acts.

74 (d) Make rules for its own government.

75 (e) Administer this section, including creating a budget

76 for the administration of the Florida Medical School Scholarship  
 77 and Grant Program.

78 (f) Appoint an executive director to serve at its pleasure  
 79 and perform all duties assigned by the board. The executive  
 80 director shall be the chief administrative officer and agent of  
 81 the board.

82 (g) Maintain a record of its proceedings.

83 (h) Delegate to the chairperson of the board the  
 84 responsibility for signing final orders.

85 (i) Utilize existing higher education organizations,  
 86 associations, and agencies to carry out its educational programs  
 87 and purposes with minimal staff employment.

88 (j) Be empowered to enter into contracts with the Federal  
 89 Government, state agencies, or individuals.

90 (k) Receive bequests, gifts, grants, donations, and other  
 91 valued goods and services. Such bequests and gifts shall be used  
 92 only for the purpose or purposes stated by the donor.

93 (6) (a) There is established the Florida Medical School  
 94 Scholarship and Grant Program to be administered by the Florida  
 95 Education Fund to provide scholarships to black and Hispanic  
 96 students enrolled in an accredited medical school or an approved  
 97 physician assistant program in the state and to create  
 98 nontraditional mentoring services or support programs for such  
 99 students.

100 (b) The Florida Education Fund shall award scholarships to

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101 black and Hispanic students who are United States citizens and  
102 are currently enrolled in an accredited medical school or an  
103 approved physician assistant program in the state that will lead  
104 to licensure under chapter 458 or chapter 459. The scholarship  
105 amount shall be determined by the fund. Priority shall be given  
106 to students who are enrolled in an accredited medical school in  
107 the state and who graduated from a high school in the state in  
108 the last 10 years or graduated from a public or private  
109 postsecondary educational institution in the state in the last 5  
110 years. The fund may establish additional eligibility criteria.

111 (c) The Florida Education Fund may award grants to public  
112 or private postsecondary educational institutions or nonprofit  
113 organizations under s. 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal  
114 Revenue Code to create and implement nontraditional mentoring  
115 services or support programs to assist minority students and  
116 students of underrepresented racial and ethnic groups who are  
117 interested in pursuing careers that require a professional  
118 degree.

119 Section 2. For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, and each fiscal  
120 year thereafter, the sum of \$500,000 in recurring funds is  
121 appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Florida  
122 Education Fund for the purpose of implementing the Florida  
123 Medical School Scholarship and Grant Program.

124 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.