1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures 3 Scholarship Program; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; 4 conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 1009.531, 5 F.S.; requiring the Department of Education to assign 6 additional weights to grades earned in pre-Advanced 7 Placement courses for specified purposes; amending s. 8 1009.534, F.S.; revising student eligibility 9 requirements for the Florida Academic Scholars award to include earning an Advanced Placement Capstone 10 11 designation from the College Board; providing requirements for the designation; providing an 12 effective date. 13 14 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 16 17 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (18) of section 18 1009.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 1009.26 Fee waivers.-19 20 (18)21 Upon enrollment in a Program of Strategic Emphasis, the tuition and fees waived under this subsection must be 22 23 reported for state funding purposes under ss. 1009.534 and 24 1009.535 and must be disbursed to the student. The amount 25 disbursed to the student shall be equal to the award amount the

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

student has received under <u>s. 1009.534(3)</u> <u>s. 1009.534(2)</u> or s. 1009.535(2).

Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 1009.531, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.531 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program; student eligibility requirements for initial awards.—

- (3) For purposes of calculating the grade point average to be used in determining initial eligibility for a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship, the department shall assign additional weights to grades earned in the following courses:
- (a) Courses identified in the course code directory as pre-Advanced Placement, Advanced Placement, pre-International Baccalaureate, International General Certificate of Secondary Education (pre-AICE), or Advanced International Certificate of Education.

The department may assign additional weights to courses, other than those described in paragraphs (a) and (b), that are identified by the Department of Education as containing rigorous academic curriculum and performance standards. The additional weight assigned to a course pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed 0.5 per course. The weighted system shall be developed and distributed to all high schools in the state. The department may determine a student's eligibility status during the senior year before graduation and may inform the student of

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the award at that time.

Section 3. Subsections (2) through (4) of section 1009.534, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3) through (5), respectively, paragraph (c) of subsection (1) is amended, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.-

- (1) A student is eligible for a Florida Academic Scholars award if he or she meets the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program and:
- (c) Has been awarded an International Baccalaureate
 Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office, or an
 Advanced International Certificate of Education Diploma from the
 University of Cambridge International Examinations Office, or an
 Advanced Placement Capstone designation from the College Board;

The student must complete a program of volunteer service or, beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-2023 academic year and thereafter, paid work, as approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home education program students, which must include 100 hours of volunteer service or paid work. The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that interests him or her and develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the issue or

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learning about the area. The student must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her volunteer service or paid work experience. Such volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

Capstone designation shall consist of six Advanced Placement courses including Advanced Placement Seminar, Advanced Placement Research, one Advanced Placement course in mathematics or science, one Advanced Placement course in English, one Advanced Placement course in English, one Advanced Placement course in English, one Advanced Placement course in a subject of the student's choice. Receipt of the Advanced Placement Capstone designation does not satisfy the requirements for a standard high school diploma under s. 1003.4282.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.