629180

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate . House

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Senator Gaetz moved the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete lines 807 - 834

and insert:

enrolled full time in a public school and is enrolled and in attendance, unless excused for illness or other good cause, in one of the following:

1. A home education program;

2. A personalized education program; or

3. A private school.

(c) The parent of a student enrolled at a private school

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may authorize the private school to satisfy the requirement in paragraph (b) on behalf of the parent by attesting that the student is enrolled in and in attendance at the private school. The private school and the organization must maintain records of the parental authorization, which must be renewed each school year and may be included as part of the parent's approval of the funds transfer authorized pursuant to subparagraph (6)(b)1. An improper attestation may be investigated as fraud pursuant to subparagraph (10)(a)6., and the private school may be liable to the state for payments made in violation of this subsection and, if found liable, must reimburse the state for funds improperly paid to the private school.

(d) The organization may not make any payment into a student's account prior to a parent's acceptance of a scholarship award, upon notification that the student is enrolled in a public school unless the organization can verify the student's eligibility, or for any period of time prior to the department's verification of the student's eligibility. An organization is liable to the state for payments made in violation of this subsection and must reimburse the state for funds that were improperly awarded which cannot be recovered.

(e) For a student who was enrolled in a public school prior to participation in the scholarship program as determined by the department, the organization must receive proof that the parent submitted the standard withdrawal form to the public school where the student was previously enrolled or, if the withdrawal occurred prior to the creation of the standard withdrawal form, another form of proof of withdrawal from the public school.