

By Senator Hill

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to district school board policies and
3 procedures; amending s. 1001.43, F.S.; providing
4 legislative intent to recognize student academic
5 achievement; encouraging each district school board to
6 adopt policies and procedures that provide for an
7 annual "Academic Scholarship Signing Day"; providing
8 an effective date.

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. Subsection (14) is added to section 1001.43,
13 Florida Statutes, to read:

14 1001.43 Supplemental powers and duties of district school
15 board.—The district school board may exercise the following
16 supplemental powers and duties as authorized by this code or
17 State Board of Education rule.

18 (14) RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT.—

19 (a) The Legislature recognizes the importance of promoting
20 student academic achievement, motivating students to attain
21 academic achievement, and providing positive acknowledgment for
22 that achievement. It is the intent of the Legislature that
23 school districts bestow the same level of recognition to the
24 state's academic scholars as to its athletic scholars.

25 (b) The district school board is encouraged to adopt
26 policies and procedures to provide for a student "Academic
27 Scholarship Signing Day" by declaring the third Tuesday in April
28 each year as "Academic Scholarship Signing Day." The "Academic
29 Scholarship Signing Day" shall recognize the outstanding

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30 academic achievement of high school seniors who sign a letter of
31 intent to accept an academic scholarship offered to the student
32 by a postsecondary educational institution. District school
33 board policies and procedures may include, but need not be
34 limited to, conducting assemblies or other appropriate public
35 events in which students offered academic scholarships assemble
36 and sign actual or ceremonial documents accepting those
37 scholarships. The district school board may encourage holding
38 such events in an assembly or gathering of high school freshmen
39 or sophomores as a means of making academic success and
40 recognition visible to these students.

41 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.