



740600

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/23/2015	.	
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The Committee on Higher Education (Gaetz) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Between lines 329 and 330

insert:

Section 10. Section 1012.731, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1012.731 The Florida Best and Brightest Teacher Scholarship Program.—

(1) The Legislature recognizes that, second only to parents, teachers play the most critical role in preparing



740600

11 students to achieve a high level of academic performance. The  
12 Legislature further recognizes that research has linked student  
13 outcomes to a teacher's own academic achievement. Therefore, it  
14 is the intent of the Legislature to designate teachers who have  
15 achieved high academic standards during their own education as  
16 Florida's best and brightest teacher scholars.

17 (2) There is created the Florida Best and Brightest Teacher  
18 Scholarship Program to be administered by the Department of  
19 Education. Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, categorical  
20 funds may be appropriated, as provided in the General  
21 Appropriations Act, to award scholarships to teachers who have  
22 demonstrated a high level of academic achievement.

23 (3) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to  
24 implement the program, which must include, but are not limited  
25 to:

- 26 (a) Timeframes and requirements for submitting reports.
- 27 (b) Eligibility criteria for receiving the scholarship.
- 28 (c) Requirements for distributing scholarship funds.

30 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

31 And the title is amended as follows:

32 Between lines 26 and 27

33 insert:

34 creating s. 1012.731, F.S.; providing legislative  
35 intent; establishing the Florida Best and Brightest  
36 Teacher Scholarship Program; authorizing funding;  
37 requiring that the State Board of Education adopt  
38 rules;