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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Education (Berman) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 158 - 179

and insert:

(4) Notwithstanding s. 1008.25, Florida Statutes, a parent or guardian may request that his or her K-5 public school student be retained for the 2021-2022 school year in the grade level to which the student was assigned at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year, provided that such request is made for academic reasons.

(a) A parent or guardian who wishes for his or her student



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12 to be retained as provided by this act must submit, in writing,
13 to the school principal a retention request that specifies the
14 academic reasons for the retention. Only requests received by
15 the principal on or before June 30, 2021, must be considered. A
16 principal may consider a request received after that date at his
17 or her discretion.

18 (b)1. A principal who considers a retention request
19 submitted pursuant to this section shall inform the student's
20 teachers of the retention request and collaboratively discuss
21 with the parent or guardian any basis for agreement or
22 disagreement with the request. As part of the discussion with
23 the parent or guardian, the principal shall disclose that
24 retention may impact the student's eligibility to participate in
25 high school interscholastic or intrascholastic sports due to the
26 student's age.

27 2. In lieu of retention, the principal, teachers, and
28 parent or guardian may collaborate to develop a customized 1-
29 year education plan for the student with the intent of helping
30 the student return to grade level readiness by the end of the
31 next academic year. Such plan may include, but need not be
32 limited to, supplemental educational support, services, and
33 interventions; summer education; promotion in some, but not all,
34 courses; and midyear promotion.

35 3. The parent's or guardian's decision to promote or retain
36 his or her student after discussing the retention request with
37 the principal shall control.

38 (c) If a student retained under this section has an
39 individual education plan (IEP) in effect, the student's IEP
40 team shall convene to review and revise the student's IEP, as



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41 appropriate.

42 (d) By June 30, 2022, school districts shall report to the
43 Department of Education the number of students retained pursuant
44 to this act for all or part of the 2021-2022 school year.

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

47 And the title is amended as follows:

48 Delete lines 29 - 47

49 and insert:

50 earned during a certain school year; authorizing a
51 parent or guardian to request that his or her K-5
52 student be retained in a grade level for academic
53 reasons for a specified school year; requiring that
54 such a request be submitted in a specified manner;
55 requiring school principals to consider such requests
56 if they are timely received; authorizing school
57 principals to consider requests that are not timely
58 received; requiring a school principal who considers a
59 request for retention to inform the student's teachers
60 of the request and collaboratively discuss with the
61 parent or guardian any basis for agreement or
62 disagreement with the request; requiring such
63 discussion to disclose that retention may impact the
64 student's eligibility to participate in high school
65 interscholastic or intrascholastic sports; authorizing
66 the principal, teachers, and parent or guardian to
67 collaborate to develop a customized 1-year education
68 plan for the student in lieu of retaining the student;
69 requiring a parent's or guardian's decision regarding



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70 retention to control; requiring the individual
71 education plan (IEP) team for a retained student to
72 review and revise the student's IEP, as appropriate;
73 requiring school districts to report certain data to
74 the Department of Education by a specified date;