

Keeping Student's Futures Bright

Students, as you may be aware, there is a legislative bill (Senate Bill 86) addressing Bright Futures Scholarship funding that moved through assigned Senate Committees and has passed the full Senate by a 22-18 vote.

There currently is no "identical" bill on the House side, which will be needed for the bill to be sent to the Governor to sign into law.

Senate Bill 86 has put your Bright Futures funding in jeopardy. The bill, which has been amended many times throughout its committee stumps, now reads the promised value of the Bright Futures Scholarships (100 percent of tuition and fees for Florida Academic Scholar recipients and 75 percent for tuition and fees for Florida Medallion Scholar recipients) will be determined annually through an appropriations process.

Simply stated, the Appropriations Committee could decide to fund recipients 100% in good years, or say, 50% tuition when budgets are tight.

Students have worked tirelessly to earn grades required for these merit-based scholarships. For many, Bright Futures Scholarships are the only resource families have for their children to continue their higher-level education. The legislature should not look to cut off their futures by reducing funding for their efforts.

Please share this Alert with your students (possibly through your Student Government Association) and encourage them to contact their Senators and House Representatives to express their concerns and opposition to an unsecure bright future.

Thank you....

Miami-Dade County Council PTA/PTSA Legislative Commission