

<b>Tab 1</b>	<b>SB 800</b> by <b>Brandes</b> ; (Similar to H 1053) Private Postsecondary Education						
353390	A	S	L	RCS	HE, Gaetz	Delete L.80:	01/25 02:02 PM

<b>Tab 2</b>	<b>SB 836</b> by <b>Gaetz</b> ; Rapid Response Education and Training Program						
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<b>Tab 3</b>	<b>SB 1638</b> by <b>Lee</b> ; (Similar to CS/1ST ENG/H 1157) Postsecondary Education for Veterans						
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<b>Tab 4</b>	<b>SB 1670</b> by <b>Bean</b> ; (Identical to H 1343) Apprenticeships						
611850	A	S	L	RCS	HE, Sachs	btw L.186 - 187:	01/25 02:02 PM

**The Florida Senate**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**

**HIGHER EDUCATION**  
**Senator Stargel, Chair**  
**Senator Sachs, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Monday, January 25, 2016  
**TIME:** 1:00—3:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** *Pat Thomas Committee Room, 412 Knott Building*

**MEMBERS:** Senator Stargel, Chair; Senator Sachs, Vice Chair; Senators Benacquisto, Braynon, Gaetz, Joyner, Legg, Negron, and Simmons

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	<b>SB 800</b> Brandes (Similar H 1053)	Private Postsecondary Education; Requiring certain institutions to provide a student with a written disclosure of all fees and costs that the student will incur to complete his or her program; revising the membership of the Commission for Independent Education; revising the criteria for licensure by means of accreditation; revising the institutions included in the Student Protection Fund to include licensed institutions, etc.  HE     01/25/2016 Fav/CS AED AP	Fav/CS Yeas 6 Nays 0
2	<b>SB 836</b> Gaetz	Rapid Response Education and Training Program; Establishing the Rapid Response Education and Training Program within the Complete Florida Plus Program; requiring the Complete Florida Plus Program to work with Enterprise Florida, Inc., to offer certain education and training commitments to businesses; requiring the Division of Career and Adult Education within the Department of Education to conduct an analysis and assessment of the effectiveness of the education and training programs, etc.  HE     01/11/2016 Workshop-Discussed HE     01/25/2016 Favorable AED AP	Favorable Yeas 6 Nays 0
3	<b>SB 1638</b> Lee (Identical H 1157)	Postsecondary Education for Veterans; Directing the Department of Education to award postsecondary course credit for specified examinations and tests; providing that specified programs and test scores meet certain educator certification requirements, etc.  HE     01/25/2016 Favorable AED AP	Favorable Yeas 6 Nays 0

**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**

Higher Education

Monday, January 25, 2016, 1:00—3:30 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
4	<b>SB 1670</b> Bean (Identical H 1343, Compare H 7017, S 726, S 1060)	Apprenticeships; Creating the Florida Apprenticeship Grant Program within the Department of Education to provide grants to Florida College System institutions for the creation of new apprenticeship programs or the expansion of existing apprenticeship programs; requiring the Division of Career and Adult Education to administer the program; creating the Rapid Response Grant Program, etc.  HE 01/25/2016 Fav/CS AED AP	Fav/CS Yeas 6 Nays 0

TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
<b>Senate Confirmation Hearing:</b> A public hearing will be held for consideration of the below-named executive appointment to the office indicated.			
<b>Board of Trustees, Florida A &amp; M University</b>			
5	Washington, T. Nicole (Miami Beach)	01/06/2020	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
<b>Board of Trustees, University of Central Florida</b>			
6	Conte, Joseph D. (Winter Park)	01/06/2020	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
	Yeargin, William E. (Chuluota)	01/06/2020	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
<b>Board of Trustees, Florida International University</b>			
7	Boord, Leonard (Miami)	01/06/2020	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
	Lowell, Natasha (Coral Gables)	01/06/2020	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
<b>Board of Trustees, University of North Florida</b>			
8	Burnett, Douglas (St. Augustine)	01/06/2020	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
<b>Board of Trustees, University of West Florida</b>			
9	O'Sullivan, John Mortimer III (Pensacola)	01/06/2020	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
	Other Related Meeting Documents		

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Higher Education

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BILL: CS/SB 800

INTRODUCER: Committee on Higher Education and Senator Brandes

SUBJECT: Private Postsecondary Education

DATE: January 27, 2016      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Graf	Klebacha	HE	Fav/CS
2.	_____	_____	AED	_____
3.	_____	_____	AP	_____

**Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

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**I. Summary:**

CS/SB 800 modifies requirements related to the oversight of private postsecondary education institutions operating in the state of Florida. Specifically, the bill:

- Revises the membership of the Commission for Independent Education.
- Establishes provisional license requirements.
- Modifies licensure by means of accreditation requirements.
- Authorizes the assessment of fees toward the Student Protection Fund from all licensed institutions.
- Requires a written disclosure of all fees and costs to current and prospective students.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

**II. Present Situation:**

Private postsecondary educational institutions must be licensed to operate in Florida and meet specified fair consumer practices requirements.

**Commission for Independent Education**

The Commission for Independent Education (CIE or commission), established in the Department of Education (DOE or department), is responsible for exercising independently all powers, duties, and functions concerning independent postsecondary educational institutions in consumer

protection, program improvement, and licensure of institutions under its purview.<sup>1</sup> The commission is also responsible for authorizing the granting of diplomas and degrees by independent postsecondary educational institutions under its jurisdiction.<sup>2</sup> Independent postsecondary educational institution means “any postsecondary educational institution that operates in this state or makes application to operate in this state, and is not provided, operated, and supported by the State of Florida, its political subdivisions, or the Federal Government.”<sup>3</sup>

The membership of the commission consists of:<sup>4</sup>

- Two representatives of independent colleges or universities licensed by the commission.
- Two representatives of independent, nondegree-granting schools licensed by the commission.
- One member from a public school district or Florida College System institution who is an administrator of career education.
- One representative of a religious college that is not under the jurisdiction or purview of the commission, based on meeting specified criteria in law.<sup>5</sup>
- One lay member who is not affiliated with an independent postsecondary educational institution.

### **Licensure of Institutions**

The commission is responsible for developing minimum standards to evaluate institutions for licensure.<sup>6</sup> Current law requires that the standards must, at a minimum, include the institution’s name, financial stability, purpose, administrative organization, admissions and recruitment, educational programs and curricula, retention, completion, career placement, faculty, learning resources, student personnel services, physical plant and facilities, publications, and disclosure statements about the status of the institution related to professional certification and licensure.<sup>7</sup> A postsecondary educational institution must obtain licensure from the commission to operate in the state of Florida, unless such institution is not under the commission’s jurisdiction or purview, as specified in law.<sup>8</sup>

### **Licensure by Means of Accreditation**

A private postsecondary educational institution that meets the following criteria may apply for a license by means of accreditation from the commission:<sup>9</sup>

- The institution has operated legally in this state for at least five consecutive years.
- The institution holds institutional accreditation by an accrediting agency evaluated and approved by the commission as having standards substantially equivalent to the commission’s licensure standards.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 1005.21(1)-(2), F.S.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Section 1005.02(11), F.S.

<sup>4</sup> Section 1005.21(2), F.S.

<sup>5</sup> Section 1005.06(1)(f), F.S.

<sup>6</sup> Section 1005.31(2), F.S. “License” means a certificate signifying that an independent postsecondary educational institution meets standards prescribed in statute or rule and is permitted to operate in this state. Section 1005.02(13), F.S.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> Sections 1005.31(1)(a) and 1005.06(1), F.S.

<sup>9</sup> Section 1005.32, F.S.

- The institution has no unresolved complaints or actions in the past 12 months.
- The institution meets minimum requirements for financial responsibility as determined by the commission.
- The institution is a Florida corporation.

An institution that is granted a license by means of accreditation must comply with the standards and requirements in law.<sup>10</sup> For instance, the institution must follow the commission's requirements for orderly closing, including provisions for trainout or refunds and arranging for the proper disposition of student and institutional records.<sup>11</sup> With the exception of submitting to the commission, an annual audit report, institutions that are licensed by means of accreditation are not required to submit reports that differ from the reports that such institutions submit to their accrediting association.<sup>12</sup>

### **Student Protection Fund**

The CIE must establish and administer a statewide, fee-supported financial program, named the Student Protection Fund (Fund), to fund the completion of training a student who enrolls in a nonpublic school that terminates a program or ceases to operate before the student completes his or her program of study.<sup>13</sup> The commission is authorized to assess a fee from the schools within the CIE's jurisdiction for such purpose.<sup>14</sup> If a licensed school terminates a program before all students enrolled in that program complete their program of study, the commission must assess an additional fee from the school that is adequate to pay for the full cost of completing the training of such students.<sup>15</sup>

The Fund must be actuarially sound, periodically audited by the Auditor General, and reviewed to determine if additional fees must be charged to the schools.<sup>16</sup>

### **Fair Consumer Practices**

A private postsecondary educational institution that is under the jurisdiction of the commissioner is exempt from the jurisdiction or purview of the commission must do the following:<sup>17</sup>

- Disclose to each prospective student specified information (e.g., a statement of the purpose of the institution, its educational programs and curricula, a description of its physical facilities, its status regarding licensure, and its fee schedule and policies). The institution must make the required written disclosures at least 1 week prior to enrollment or collection of any tuition from the prospective student. Such disclosures may be made in the institution's current catalog.
- Use a reliable method to assess, before accepting a student into a program, the student's ability to successfully complete the course of study for which he or she has applied.

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<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

<sup>11</sup> Section 1005.32(3), F.S.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> Section 1005.37(1), F.S.

<sup>14</sup> Section 1005.37(2), F.S.

<sup>15</sup> Section 1005.37(3), F.S.

<sup>16</sup> Section 1005.37(7), F.S.

<sup>17</sup> Section 1005.04(1), F.S.

- Inform each student accurately about financial assistance and obligations for repayment of loans, describe any employment placement services provided and the limitations thereof, and refrain from misinforming the public about guaranteed placement, market availability, or salary amounts.
- Provide to prospective and enrolled students accurate program licensure information for practicing related occupations and professions in Florida.
- Ensure that all advertisements are accurate and not misleading.
- Publish and follow an equitable prorated refund policy for all students, and follow both the federal refund guidelines for students receiving federal financial assistance and the minimum refund guidelines established by commission rule.
- Follow state and federal requirements for annual reporting of crime statistics and physical plant safety, and make such reports available to the public.
- Publish and follow procedures for handling student complaints, disciplinary actions, and appeals.

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

CS/SB 800 modifies requirements related to the oversight of private postsecondary education institutions operating in the state of Florida. Specifically, the bill:

- Revises the membership of the Commission for Independent Education.
- Establishes provisional license requirements.
- Modifies licensure by means of accreditation requirements.
- Authorizes the assessment of fees toward the Student Protection Fund from all licensed institutions.
- Requires a written disclosure of all fees and costs to current and prospective students.

#### Commission for Independent Education

The bill revises the membership of the CIE by removing from the commission's membership, the representative of religious colleges that are not under the jurisdiction or purview of the commission, and instead adding one additional member representing public school districts or FCS institutions who is an administrator of career education. As a result, the membership of the commission, as modified, will include two members representing public educational institutions (i.e., school districts or FCS institutions) who are administrators of career education. This change in the CIE membership "could provide additional career education expertise" to the commission.<sup>18</sup> Religious colleges are exempt from licensure by the commission and do not participate in the licensing process.<sup>19</sup> As a result, having a representative of the religious colleges on the CIE is not "beneficial" to the commission.<sup>20</sup>

#### Licensure of Institutions

The bill modifies the minimum standards for evaluating institutions for licensure by specifying that the standards for retention and completion include a retention and completion management

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<sup>18</sup> Florida Department of Education, 2016 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 800 (Dec. 23, 2015), at 3.

<sup>19</sup> *Id* at 3-4.

<sup>20</sup> *Id* at 4.

plan, prescribed by the commission. The plan may assist the institutions in developing strategies to improve student retention and completion outcomes, which may benefit the students<sup>21</sup> attending such institutions complete their respective programs of study and secure employment.

### ***Provisional License***

The bill establishes requirements for the granting of provisional license to independent postsecondary educational institutions by specifying that the institutions must post and maintain a surety bond with commission. The surety bond must:

- Be executed by a surety company authorized to do business in Florida, with the applicant as the principal. The surety bond must be payable to the commission so that the commission is able to assist students with completing their program of study if the institution where such students are enrolled ceases to operate.
- Be for at least \$100,000, and may not exceed 50 percent of the amount of the first year's projected revenue.
- Remain in effect until the institution applies for and receives a first annual licensure renewal and demonstrates financial stability as determined by the commission.

The surety bond will increase the financial stability of new private postsecondary education institutions and assist with off-setting the burden on the Student Protection Fund if such institutions close improperly.<sup>22</sup> Until such time that a new institution achieves financial stability, the surety bond will also assist with providing protection to students.<sup>23</sup>

As an alternative to the surety bond, the commission may allow a cash deposit escrow account or an irrevocable letter of credit payable to the commission. The amount of the cash deposit escrow account or the irrevocable letter of credit must be of the same value as the surety bond amount.

The bill authorizes the CIE to adopt rules to implement the specified requirements for the granting of provisional license.

### ***Licensure by Means of Accreditation***

The bill changes the current licensure by means of accreditation requirements by:

- Removing the criteria that requires an independent postsecondary educational institution to be a Florida corporation. As a result, institutions that are non-Florida corporations will be able to use the licensure by means of accreditation process to operate in Florida.<sup>24</sup>
- Adding to the reporting requirements, a retention and completion management plan, prescribed by the commission, that an independent postsecondary educational institution, licensed by means of accreditation, must submit to the commission. The plan may assist the CIE assess the institutions' strategies to improve student retention and completion outcomes,

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<sup>21</sup> *Id.*

<sup>22</sup> Florida Department of Education, 2016 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 800 (Dec. 23, 2015), at 4.

<sup>23</sup> *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> This modification supports the federal court ruling, which declared that “s. 1005.32(1)(e), Florida Statutes (2007), unconstitutionally makes licensure by means of accreditation available only to a Florida corporation.” *University of Phoenix v. Nancy Bradley*, No. 08-0217 (N.D. Fla. (Dec. 23, 2008); see also Florida Department of Education, 2016 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 800 (Dec. 23, 2015), at 4.



which may benefit the students<sup>25</sup> attending such institutions complete their respective programs of study and secure employment.

### ***Application Review***

The bill requires the CIE to, within 60 days after receiving an application for licensure, review the application, notify the applicant of any error or omission, and request additional information, if necessary. The specified notification deadline may help the institutions to receive and address the commission's concerns in a timely manner.

### **Student Protection Fund**

The bill expands the authority of the CIE to assess fees, toward the Student Protection Fund (Fund), from schools that fall within the CIE's jurisdiction to all licensed institutions. Currently, the definition of a school<sup>26</sup> does not include degree-granting independent postsecondary educational institutions.<sup>27</sup> In comparison, licensed institutions include both degree and non-degree granting institutions.<sup>28</sup> Licensed institutions also include all institutions that are licensed by the commission<sup>29</sup> as well as the institutions that are licensed by means of accreditation.<sup>30</sup> As a result of this expansion, more students will be protected by the Fund.<sup>31</sup>

### **Fair Consumer Practices**

The bill modifies the fair consumer practices provisions by requiring each independent postsecondary educational institution to disclose to current and prospective students, in writing, all fees and costs that the students will incur to complete a program of study at the institution. This disclosure will assist students plan ahead for pursuing a program of study and registering for courses per term at an institution where the students are currently enrolled or are considering enrolling.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

## **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

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<sup>25</sup> Florida Department of Education, 2016 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 800 (Dec. 23, 2015), at 4.

<sup>26</sup> Section 1005.02(16), F.S.

<sup>27</sup> Florida Department of Education, 2016 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 800 (Dec. 23, 2015), at 4.

<sup>28</sup> Telephone interview with Commission for Independent Education staff, Florida Department of Education (Jan. 12, 2016).

<sup>29</sup> Section 1005.31, F.S.

<sup>30</sup> Section 1005.32, F.S.

<sup>31</sup> Florida Department of Education, 2016 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 800 (Dec. 23, 2015), at 4.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. **Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. **Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

VII. **Related Issues:**

None.

VIII. **Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 1005.04, 1005.21, 1005.31, 1005.32, and 1005.37.

IX. **Additional Information:**

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

**CS by Higher Education on January 25, 2016:**

The committee substitute modifies the written disclosure requirement in SB 800 concerning fees and costs by clarifying that such information must be provided to current and prospective students in a format prescribed by the:

- Commission for Independent Education (commission) or
- Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida for the private colleges and universities that are exempt from the jurisdiction or purview of the commission based on criteria specified in law.

B. Amendments:

None.

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This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

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353390

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/25/2016	.	
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The Committee on Higher Education (Gaetz) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment**

Delete line 80  
and insert:  
students, in a format prescribed by the commission or by the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida for those institutions exempt from the jurisdiction or purview of the commission under s. 1005.06(1)(c), a written

By Senator Brandes

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1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to private postsecondary education;  
 3 amending s. 1005.04, F.S.; requiring certain  
 4 institutions to provide a student with a written  
 5 disclosure of all fees and costs that the student will  
 6 incur to complete his or her program; amending s.  
 7 1005.21, F.S.; revising the membership of the  
 8 Commission for Independent Education; amending s.  
 9 1005.31, F.S.; requiring the commission to include a  
 10 retention and completion management plan in the  
 11 minimum standards used to evaluate an institution for  
 12 licensure; requiring an institution applying for a  
 13 provisional license to post and maintain a surety bond  
 14 with the commission; specifying the amount of the  
 15 surety bond; specifying the amount of time the surety  
 16 bond remains in effect; authorizing the commission to  
 17 allow a cash deposit escrow account or an irrevocable  
 18 letter of credit as an alternative to the surety bond;  
 19 providing for rulemaking; requiring the commission to  
 20 review an application and request any necessary  
 21 additional information from an applicant within a  
 22 certain timeframe; amending s. 1005.32, F.S.; revising  
 23 the criteria for licensure by means of accreditation;  
 24 deleting the requirement that an applicant be a  
 25 Florida corporation; requiring an institution that  
 26 applies for licensure by means of accreditation to  
 27 file a retention and completion management plan with  
 28 the commission; amending s. 1005.37, F.S.; revising  
 29 the institutions included in the Student Protection

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**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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30 Fund to include licensed institutions; providing an  
 31 effective date.

32  
 33 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

34  
 35 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1005.04, Florida  
 36 Statutes, is amended to read:

37 1005.04 Fair consumer practices.—

38 (1) Every institution that is under the jurisdiction of the  
 39 commission or is exempt from the jurisdiction or purview of the  
 40 commission pursuant to s. 1005.06(1)(c) or (f) and that either  
 41 directly or indirectly solicits for enrollment any student  
 42 shall:

43 (a) Disclose to each prospective student a statement of the  
 44 purpose of such institution, its educational programs and  
 45 curricula, a description of its physical facilities, its status  
 46 regarding licensure, its fee schedule and policies regarding  
 47 retaining student fees if a student withdraws, and a statement  
 48 regarding the transferability of credits to and from other  
 49 institutions. The institution shall make the required  
 50 disclosures in writing at least 1 week prior to enrollment or  
 51 collection of any tuition from the prospective student. The  
 52 required disclosures may be made in the institution's current  
 53 catalog;

54 (b) Use a reliable method to assess, before accepting a  
 55 student into a program, the student's ability to complete  
 56 successfully the course of study for which he or she has  
 57 applied;

58 (c) Inform each student accurately about financial

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**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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59 assistance and obligations for repayment of loans; describe any  
60 employment placement services provided and the limitations  
61 thereof; and refrain from promising or implying guaranteed  
62 placement, market availability, or salary amounts;

63 (d) Provide to prospective and enrolled students accurate  
64 information regarding the relationship of its programs to state  
65 licensure requirements for practicing related occupations and  
66 professions in Florida;

67 (e) Ensure that all advertisements are accurate and not  
68 misleading;

69 (f) Publish and follow an equitable prorated refund policy  
70 for all students, and follow both the federal refund guidelines  
71 for students receiving federal financial assistance and the  
72 minimum refund guidelines set by commission rule;

73 (g) Follow the requirements of state and federal laws that  
74 require annual reporting with respect to crime statistics and  
75 physical plant safety and make those reports available to the  
76 public; ~~and~~

77 (h) Publish and follow procedures for handling student  
78 complaints, disciplinary actions, and appeals; ~~and-~~

79 (i) Before enrollment, provide to students and prospective  
80 students, in a format prescribed by the commission, a written  
81 disclosure of all fees and costs they will incur to complete the  
82 program.

83 Section 2. Paragraphs (c), (d), and (e) of subsection (2)  
84 of section 1005.21, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

85 1005.21 Commission for Independent Education.—

86 (2) The Commission for Independent Education shall consist  
87 of seven members who are residents of this state. The commission

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88 shall function in matters concerning independent postsecondary  
89 educational institutions in consumer protection, program  
90 improvement, and licensure for institutions under its purview.  
91 The Governor shall appoint the members of the commission who are  
92 subject to confirmation by the Senate. The membership of the  
93 commission shall consist of:

94 (c) Two members ~~One member~~ from a public school district or  
95 Florida College System institution who are administrators ~~is an~~  
96 ~~administrator~~ of career education.

97 ~~(d) One representative of a college that meets the criteria~~  
98 ~~of s. 1005.06(1)(f).~~

99 ~~(d) (e)~~ One lay member who is not affiliated with an  
100 independent postsecondary educational institution.

101 Section 3. Present subsection (2) of section 1005.31,  
102 Florida Statutes, is amended, present subsections (5) through  
103 (15) of that section are redesignated as subsections (6) through  
104 (16), respectively, a new subsection (5) is added to that  
105 section, and present subsection (6) of that section is amended,  
106 to read:

107 1005.31 Licensure of institutions.—

108 (2) The commission shall develop minimum standards ~~by which~~  
109 to evaluate institutions for licensure. These standards must  
110 include at least the institution's name; financial stability;  
111 purpose; administrative organization; admissions and  
112 recruitment; educational programs and curricula; retention  
113 and completion, including a retention and completion management  
114 plan prescribed by the commission; career placement; faculty;  
115 learning resources; student personnel services; physical plant  
116 and facilities; publications; and disclosure statements about

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117 the status of the institution with respect to professional  
 118 certification and licensure. The commission may adopt rules to  
 119 ensure that institutions licensed under this section meet these  
 120 standards in ways that are appropriate to achieve the stated  
 121 intent of this chapter, including provisions for nontraditional  
 122 or distance education programs and delivery.

123 (5) (a) An institution applying for a provisional license  
 124 shall post and maintain a surety bond with the commission in a  
 125 format prescribed by the commission. The surety bond shall be  
 126 executed by a surety company authorized to do business in this  
 127 state, with the applicant as the principal. The surety bond  
 128 shall be payable to the commission to assist the commission in  
 129 aiding a student damaged by an institution ceasing operation  
 130 before the student has completed his or her contracted program.

131 (b) The surety bond must be for at least \$100,000, and may  
 132 not exceed 50 percent of the amount of the first year's  
 133 projected revenue.

134 (c) A surety bond shall remain in effect until the  
 135 institution applies for and receives a first annual licensure  
 136 renewal and demonstrates financial stability as determined by  
 137 the commission.

138 (d) As an alternative to a surety bond, the commission may  
 139 allow an institution to establish and maintain a cash deposit  
 140 escrow account or an irrevocable letter of credit payable to the  
 141 commission. The amount of the cash deposit escrow account or the  
 142 irrevocable letter of credit shall be the same as the bond  
 143 amount would have been for the institution.

144 (e) The commission may adopt rules to implement this  
 145 subsection.

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146 ~~(7) (6)~~ The commission shall ensure through an investigative  
 147 process that applicants for licensure meet the standards as  
 148 defined in rule. Within 60 days after receipt of an application,  
 149 the commission shall examine the application, notify the  
 150 applicant of any apparent error or omission, and request any  
 151 necessary additional information. When the investigative process  
 152 is not completed within the time set out in s. 120.60(1) and the  
 153 commission has reason to believe that the applicant does not  
 154 meet licensure standards, the commission or the executive  
 155 director of the commission may issue a 90-day licensure delay,  
 156 which shall be in writing and sufficient to notify the applicant  
 157 of the reason for the delay. The provisions of this subsection  
 158 shall control over any conflicting provisions of s. 120.60(1).

159 Section 4. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsection  
 160 (3) of section 1005.32, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
 161 1005.32 Licensure by means of accreditation.—

162 (1) An independent postsecondary educational institution  
 163 that meets the following criteria may apply for a license by  
 164 means of accreditation from the commission:

165 ~~(e) The institution is a Florida corporation.~~

166 (3) The commission may not require an institution granted a  
 167 license by means of accreditation to submit reports that differ  
 168 from the reports required by its accrediting association, except  
 169 that each institution must file with the commission an annual  
 170 audit report and a retention and completion management plan as  
 171 required in s. 1005.31. The institution must also ~~and~~ follow the  
 172 commission's requirements for orderly closing, including  
 173 provisions for trainout or refunds and arranging for the proper  
 174 disposition of student and institutional records.

22-00644A-16

2016800\_\_

175 Section 5. Section 1005.37, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
176 read:

177 1005.37 Student Protection Fund.—

178 (1) The commission shall establish and administer a  
179 statewide, fee-supported financial program through which funds  
180 will be available to complete the training of a student who  
181 enrolls in a licensed institution ~~nonpublic school~~ that  
182 terminates a program or ceases operation before the student has  
183 completed his or her program of study. The financial program is  
184 named the Student Protection Fund.

185 (2) The commission is authorized to assess a fee from the  
186 licensed institutions ~~schools~~ within its jurisdiction for such  
187 purpose. The commission shall assess a licensed institution  
188 ~~school~~ an additional fee for its eligibility for the Student  
189 Protection Fund.

190 (3) If a licensed institution ~~school~~ terminates a program  
191 before all students complete it, the commission shall also  
192 assess that institution ~~school~~ a fee adequate to pay the full  
193 cost to the Student Protection Fund of completing the training  
194 of students.

195 (4) The fund shall consist entirely of fees assessed to  
196 licensed institutions ~~schools~~ and shall not be funded under any  
197 circumstances by public funds, nor shall the commission make  
198 payments or be obligated to make payments in excess of the  
199 assessments actually received from licensed institutions ~~schools~~  
200 and deposited in the Institutional Assessment Trust Fund to the  
201 credit of the Student Protection Fund.

202 (5) At each commission meeting, the commission shall  
203 consider the need for and shall make required assessments, shall

Page 7 of 8

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

22-00644A-16

2016800\_\_

204 review the collection status of unpaid assessments and take all  
205 necessary steps to collect them, and shall review all moneys in  
206 the fund and expenses incurred since the last reporting period.  
207 This review must include administrative expenses, moneys  
208 received, and payments made to students or to lending  
209 institutions.

210 (6) Staff of the commission must immediately inform the  
211 commission upon learning of the closing of a licensed  
212 institution ~~school~~ or the termination of a program that could  
213 expose the fund to liability.

214 (7) The Student Protection Fund must be actuarially sound,  
215 periodically audited by the Auditor General in connection with  
216 his or her audit of the Department of Education, and reviewed to  
217 determine if additional fees must be charged to licensed  
218 institutions ~~schools~~ eligible to participate in the fund.

219 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.



THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1-25-16

Meeting Date

800

Bill Number (if applicable)

353390

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Name BOB BOYD

Job Title GENERAL COUNSEL FOR ICUF

Address 660 E. JEFFERSON ST.

Phone 850-412-0306

Street

TALLY FL 32301

City

State

Zip

Email bboyd@ssc.lawfirm.com

Speaking: [X] For [ ] Against [ ] Information

Waive Speaking: [ ] In Support [ ] Against

(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

GARTZ AMNDMT 353390

Representing ICUF (INDEP. COLLEGS + UNIV. OF FLORIDA)

Appearing at request of Chair: [ ] Yes [X] No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: [X] Yes [ ] No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1/25/14

Meeting Date

800

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Bob Narvis

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
*(The Chair will read this information into the record.)*

Representing \_\_\_\_\_

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

*While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.*

**This form is part of the public record for this meeting.**

S-001 (10/14/14)

**THE FLORIDA SENATE**  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

01/25/2016

*Meeting Date*

SB 800

*Bill Number (if applicable)*

Topic SB0 800 – Private Postsecondary Education

*Amendment Barcode (if applicable)*

Name Tanya Cooper

Job Title Director, Governmental Relations

Address 325 W. Gaines St.

Phone 850-245-0507

*Street*

Tallahassee

Fl

32399

Email Tanya.Cooper@fldoe.org

*City*

*State*

*Zip*

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
*(The Chair will read this information into the record.)*

Representing Florida Department of Education

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

*While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.*

***This form is part of the public record for this meeting.***

S-001 (10/14/14)

## THE FLORIDA SENATE

**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1/25/2016*Meeting Date*SB 800*Bill Number (if applicable)*Topic Regulation of Private, Postsecondary Colleges*Amendment Barcode (if applicable)*Name Curtis AustinJob Title Executive DirectorAddress 150 S. Monroe Street Suite 303Phone 850-577-3139*Street*TallahasseeFlorida3233301Email Curtis@FAPSC.org*City**State**Zip*Speaking:  For  Against  InformationWaive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)Representing Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges (FAPSC)Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  NoLobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No*While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.****This form is part of the public record for this meeting.***

S-001 (10/14/14)

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Higher Education

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BILL: SB 836

INTRODUCER: Senator Gaetz

SUBJECT: Rapid Response Education and Training Program

DATE: January 22, 2016

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Scott</u>	<u>Klebacha</u>	<u>HE</u>	<u><b>Favorable</b></u>
2.	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>AED</u>	<u>                    </u>
3.	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>AP</u>	<u>                    </u>

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**I. Summary:**

SB 836 establishes a Rapid Response Education and Training Program within the Complete Florida Plus Program at the University of West Florida to award competitive grants to public or private education and training providers for the purpose of enhancing business and industry recruitment and retention efforts.

Specifically, the bill requires that the Rapid Response Education and Training Program:

- Award matching grants to public or private education and training providers.
- Ensure transparency through periodic reports from an independent forensic accountant or auditor.
- Keep administrative costs to a minimum through the use of existing organizational structures.
- Work directly with businesses to recruit individuals for education and training.
- Give a participating education and training program 30-days' notice before termination.
- Survey businesses regarding the effectiveness of the education and training programs.

Additionally, the bill requires the Division of Career and Adult Education within the Department of Education to analyze and assess the effectiveness of the programs offered through the Rapid Response Education and Training Program in addressing labor market and occupational trends and needs.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2016.

**II. Present Situation:**

The Florida Legislature has established mechanisms to facilitate coordination between public and private postsecondary education institutions and employment agencies to assist students in completing degree programs to meet the state's workforce needs.

In 2012, the Florida Legislature created the Complete Florida Plus Program<sup>1</sup> at the University of West Florida (UWF) for the purpose of:<sup>2</sup>

- Facilitating degree completion for the state’s adult learners through the Complete Florida Degree Initiative.
- Providing information relating to and access to distance learning courses and degree programs offered by public postsecondary education institutions.
- Coordinating with the Florida College System (FCS) and the State University System (SUS) to identify and provide online academic support services and resources when the multi-institutional provision of such services and resources is more cost effective or operationally effective.
- Administering the Florida Academic Library Services Cooperative<sup>3</sup> (Cooperative) and consulting with the chancellors of the FCS and the SUS regarding the Cooperative.

The UWF must submit annual reports to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives relating to the implementation and operation of the components of the Complete Florida Plus Program and the Cooperative.<sup>4</sup>

In 2014, the Florida Legislature established the Complete Florida Degree Initiative (Initiative) within the Complete Florida Plus Program for the purpose of recruiting, recovering, and retaining the state’s adult learners<sup>5</sup> and assisting them in completing an associate degree or a baccalaureate degree aligned to the state’s high-wage, high-skill workforce needs.<sup>6</sup> The Initiative coordinates with FCS institutions, state universities, and private postsecondary institutions and partners with public and private job recruitment and placement agencies to identify associate, applied baccalaureate, and baccalaureate degree programs that meet the state’s workforce needs.<sup>7</sup>

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 836 establishes a Rapid Response Education and Training Program within the Complete Florida Plus Program at the University of West Florida to award competitive grants to public or private education and training providers for the purpose of enhancing business and industry recruitment and retention efforts.

The Complete Florida Plus Program currently assists in recruiting, recovering, and retaining individuals to meet the state’s high-wage, high-skill workforce needs. The bill requires the Complete Florida Plus Program to work directly with Enterprise Florida, Inc., in project-specific industry recruitment and retention efforts to offer credible education and training commitments to businesses. In effect, the bill expands and further serves the purpose of the Complete Florida

<sup>1</sup> The program was formerly established as the Degree Completion Pilot Project pursuant to s. 15, ch. 2012-34, L.O.F.

<sup>2</sup> Section 1006.735(1), F.S.

<sup>3</sup> Section 1006.73, F.S. The Cooperative provides a single library automation system and associated resources and services for public postsecondary institutions to use to support learning, teaching, and research needs. *Id.* at (1).

<sup>4</sup> Sections 1006.73(4) and 1006.735(5), F.S.

<sup>5</sup> Section 1006.735(2), F.S. Adult learners who are veterans or active duty members of the United States Armed Forces are given priority. *Id.* An “adult learner” is defined as “a student who has successfully completed college-level coursework in multiple semesters but has left an institution in good standing before completing his or her degree.” *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* See also, s. 16, ch. 2014-56, L.O.F.

<sup>7</sup> Section 1006.735(2)(a), F.S.

Plus Program to include targeted education and training programs to meet the workforce needs of industries and businesses in the state.

Specifically, the bill requires that the Rapid Response Education and Training Program:

- Award matching grants to public or private education and training providers.
- Ensure transparency by submitting to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives periodic reports from an independent forensic accountant or auditor.
- Keep administrative costs to a minimum through the use of existing organizational structures.
- Work directly with businesses to recruit individuals for education and training.
- Give a participating education and training program 30-days' notice before termination.
- Survey businesses regarding the effectiveness of the programs after their completion.

Additionally, the bill requires the Division of Career and Adult Education (Division) within the Department of Education to analyze and assess the effectiveness of the programs offered through the Rapid Response Education and Training Program in addressing labor market and occupational trends and needs. The Division's analysis may enhance and ensure the effectiveness of the Rapid Response Education and Training Program in delivering its objectives to meet the state's workforce needs.

The award of matching grants to public and private education and training providers and partnerships with businesses may assist individuals in securing and retaining employment.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2016.

#### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

#### **V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends section 1006.735 of the Florida Statutes.

**IX. Additional Information:**

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.



By Senator Gaetz

1-00385-16

2016836\_\_

1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to a Rapid Response Education and  
 3 Training Program; amending s. 1006.735, F.S.;  
 4 establishing the Rapid Response Education and Training  
 5 Program within the Complete Florida Plus Program;  
 6 requiring the Complete Florida Plus Program to work  
 7 with Enterprise Florida, Inc., to offer certain  
 8 education and training commitments to businesses;  
 9 specifying the duties of the program; requiring  
 10 reports to the Legislature; requiring the Division of  
 11 Career and Adult Education within the Department of  
 12 Education to conduct an analysis and assessment of the  
 13 effectiveness of the education and training programs;  
 14 providing an effective date.  
 15  
 16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
 17  
 18 Section 1. Present subsections (5) and (6) of section  
 19 1006.735, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6)  
 20 and (7), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to that  
 21 section, to read:  
 22 1006.735 Complete Florida Plus Program.—The Complete  
 23 Florida Plus Program is created at the University of West  
 24 Florida.  
 25 (5) RAPID RESPONSE EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM.—The  
 26 Rapid Response Education and Training Program is established  
 27 within the Complete Florida Plus Program. Under this education  
 28 and training program, the Complete Florida Plus Program shall  
 29 work directly with Enterprise Florida, Inc., in project-specific

Page 1 of 2

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1-00385-16

2016836\_\_

30 industry recruitment and retention efforts to offer credible  
 31 education and training commitments to businesses.  
 32 (a) The Rapid Response Education and Training Program must:  
 33 1. Issue challenge grants through requests for proposals  
 34 that are open to all education and training providers, public or  
 35 private. These grants match state dollars with education and  
 36 training provider dollars to implement particular education and  
 37 training programs.  
 38 2. Request periodic reports from an independent forensic  
 39 accountant or auditor to ensure transparency of the program.  
 40 These periodic reports must be submitted to the President of the  
 41 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.  
 42 3. Keep administrative costs to a minimum through the use  
 43 of existing organizational structures.  
 44 4. Work directly with businesses to recruit individuals for  
 45 education and training.  
 46 5. Be able to terminate an education and training program  
 47 by giving the program 30 days' notice.  
 48 6. Survey employers after completion of an education and  
 49 training program to ascertain the effectiveness of the program.  
 50 (b) The Division of Career and Adult Education within the  
 51 Department of Education shall conduct an analysis and assessment  
 52 of the effectiveness of the education and training programs  
 53 under this section in addressing labor market and occupational  
 54 trends and needs.  
 55 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

Page 2 of 2

**CODING:** Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Higher Education

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BILL: SB 1638

INTRODUCER: Senator Lee

SUBJECT: Postsecondary Education for Veterans

DATE: January 22, 2016

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Graf	Klebacha	HE	<b>Favorable</b>
2.	_____	_____	AED	_____
3.	_____	_____	AP	_____

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**I. Summary:**

SB 1638 expands education and certification opportunities for members of the United States military. Specifically, the bill:

- Requires the Department of Education to, for specified tests, annually identify and publish minimum scores, maximum credit, and course or courses for which college credit must be awarded.
- Modifies the residency requirements for recipients of a Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence to qualify for a waiver from tuition for undergraduate college credit programs and career certificate programs.
- Adds new methods for demonstrating mastery of subject area knowledge, for educator certification purposes.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

**II. Present Situation:**

The Florida Legislature has enacted laws to provide members of the Armed Forces access to public postsecondary education in the state.

**College Credit for Military Training and Education Courses**

The Board of Governors for the State University System of Florida (BOG) and the State Board of Education (SBE or state board) must adopt rules that enable eligible members of the United States Armed Forces to earn academic college credit at public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level training and education acquired in the military.<sup>1</sup> Such rules must include procedures for credential evaluation and the award of academic college credit, including

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<sup>1</sup> Section 1004.096, F.S.

but not limited to, equivalency and alignment of military coursework with appropriate college courses, course descriptions, type and amount of college credit that may be awarded, and transfer of credit.<sup>2</sup>

Pursuant to law,<sup>3</sup> the BOG and the state board have adopted in regulation and rule, respectively, policies for granting college credit for military training and coursework.<sup>4</sup> For instance, state university and Florida College System (FCS) institution boards of trustees must grant college credit to students who have received military training or coursework that is recognized by the American Council on Education (ACE) and specify if such training or coursework fulfills general education, major, or degree requirements at the receiving institution.<sup>5</sup>

### **Fee Waivers**

The term “tuition” is defined as “the basic fee charged to a student for instruction provided by a public postsecondary educational institution in this state.”<sup>6</sup> An “out-of-state fee” is the additional fee for instruction provided by a public postsecondary educational institution charged to a student who does not qualify for the in-state tuition rate.”<sup>7</sup>

A student who is classified as a “resident for tuition purposes” is a student who qualifies for the in-state tuition rate.<sup>8</sup> A “non-resident for tuition purposes” is defined as a “person who does not qualify for the in-state tuition rate,”<sup>9</sup> and pays the out-of-state fee in addition to tuition.

Florida law affords exemptions<sup>10</sup> and waivers<sup>11</sup> from fees for students who meet specified criteria.

### ***Waivers for Purple Heart or Other Combat Decoration***

In accordance with the law, a state university, an FCS institution, a career center operated by a school district, or a charter technical career center must waive tuition for undergraduate college credit programs and career certificate programs for each recipient of a Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence.<sup>12</sup> To qualify for this fee waiver, the recipient of such combat decoration must:<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> Board of Governors Regulation 6.013 and Rule 6A-14.0302, F.A.C.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> Section 1009.01(1), F.S. Additionally, the definition states that “[a] charge for any other purpose shall not be included within this fee.” *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> Section 1009.01(2), F.S. Adding that “[a] charge for any other purpose shall not be included within this fee.” *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> Section 1009.21(1)(g), F.S.

<sup>9</sup> Section 1009.21(1)(e), F.S.

<sup>10</sup> Section 1009.25, F.S.

<sup>11</sup> Section 1009.26, F.S.

<sup>12</sup> Section 1009.26(8), F.S. “The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs indicates that the Purple Heart is ranked immediately behind the bronze star in order of precedence. The Department of Florida, Military Order of the Purple Heart of the United States of America notes that there are over 2,700 members in Florida.” Board of Governors, 2016 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 1638 (Jan. 20, 2016), at 2.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*

- Be enrolled as a full-time, part-time, or summer-school student in a program that terminates in an associate or baccalaureate degree, a college credit certificate, or a career certificate;
- Be currently, and was at the time of the military action that resulted in the awarding of the Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence, a resident of this state; and
- Submit to the university, college, or career center the DD-214 form issued at the time of separation from service as documentation that the student has received the Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence. If the DD-214 is not available, other documentation may be acceptable if recognized by the United States Department of Defense or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as documenting the award.

The fee waiver for a Purple Heart recipient or recipient of other combat decoration superior in precedence is applicable for 110 percent of the number of required credit hours of the degree or certificate program for which the student is enrolled.<sup>14</sup>

In 2014-2015, 100 students at FCS institutions received a fee waiver as the result of receiving a Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence.<sup>15</sup> At state universities, 39 students received fee waivers as the result of receiving a Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence.<sup>16</sup>

### **Educator Certification Requirements**

Current law provides for eligibility criteria, mastery of general and subject area knowledge, mastery of professional preparation and education competence, the types and terms of certification, as well as examinations.<sup>17</sup>

Specifically, for subject area knowledge, the law specifies the following acceptable means of demonstrating mastery:<sup>18</sup>

- For a subject requiring only a baccalaureate degree for which a Florida subject area examination has been developed, achievement of a passing score on the Florida-developed subject area examination specified in state board rule;
- For a subject for which a Florida subject area examination has not been developed, achievement of a passing score on a standardized examination specified in state board rule, including, but not limited to, passing scores on both the oral proficiency and written proficiency examinations administered by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages;
- For a subject for which a Florida subject area examination has not been developed or a standardized examination has not been specified in state board rule, completion of the subject area specialization requirements specified in state board rule and verification of the attainment of the essential subject matter competencies by the district school superintendent of the employing school district or chief administrative officer of the employing state-supported or private school;

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<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

<sup>15</sup> Email, Florida Department of Education (Jan. 20, 2016), on file with the Committee on Higher Education.

<sup>16</sup> Email, Florida Board of Governors (Jan. 21, 2016), on file with the Committee on Higher Education.

<sup>17</sup> Section 1012.56, F.S.

<sup>18</sup> Section 1012.56(5), F.S.

- For a subject requiring a master's or higher degree, completion of the subject area specialization requirements specified in state board rule and achievement of a passing score on the Florida-developed subject area examination or a standardized examination specified in state board rule;
- Documentation of a valid professional standard teaching certificate issued by another state; or
- Documentation of a valid certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a national educator credentialing board approved by the State Board of Education.

School districts are encouraged to provide mechanisms for middle grades teachers holding only a K-6 teaching certificate to obtain a subject area coverage for middle grades through postsecondary coursework or district add-on certification.<sup>19</sup>

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 1638 expands education and certification opportunities for members of the United States military. Specifically, the bill:

- Requires the Department of Education to, for specified tests, annually identify and publish minimum scores, maximum credit, and course or courses for which college credit must be awarded.
- Modifies the residency requirements for recipients of a Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence to qualify for a waiver from tuition for undergraduate college credit programs and career certificate programs.
- Adds new methods for demonstrating mastery of subject area knowledge, for educator certification purposes.

#### College Credit for Military Training and Education Courses

The bill expands the mechanism through which eligible members of the United States Armed Forces can earn college credit for military experience. Specifically, the bill identifies the following three types of subject tests that members of Armed Forces can take to generate college credit:

- Excelsior College subject examination.
- DANTES subject standardized test.<sup>20</sup>
- DLPT.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> *Id.*

<sup>20</sup> Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) is a division of the Department of Defense that provides educational support to military members. In 2004, the exams were acquired and are now owned and administered by Prometric. Prometric owns and administers DSST exams. DSST, *What is DSST?* [http://getcollegecredit.com/what\\_is\\_dsst/](http://getcollegecredit.com/what_is_dsst/) (last visited Jan. 20, 2016); *see also* DANTES, DANTES, <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/#sthash.nYKTxyfV.dpbs> (last visited Jan. 20, 2016). DSST offers a suite of more than 30 exams in college subject areas such as social sciences, math, applied technology, business, physical sciences, and humanities. DSST, *About DSST*, <http://getcollegecredit.com/about> (last visited Jan. 20, 2016).

<sup>21</sup> The Language Proficiency Assessment Directorate of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center designs, develops, validates, implements, and monitors Defense Language, Proficiency Tests (DLPTs) to measure proficiency in listening and reading comprehension. Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, *Language Proficiency Assessment Directorate*, <http://dliflc.edu/academics/evaluation-standardization/> (last visited Jan. 20, 2016).

The bill requires the department to annually identify and publish minimum scores, maximum credit, and course or courses for which credit must be awarded for each of the specified examinations. The department must identify such courses in the general education core<sup>22</sup> curriculum of each state university and FCS institution. In effect, the bill codifies Excelsior College subject examination, DANTES, and DLPT, as authorized tests that students can take to earn college credit by demonstrating subject area competency on such tests.

Current law requires the department to annually identify and publish the minimum scores, maximum credit, and course or courses for which credit must be awarded for each:<sup>23</sup>

- College Level Examination Program (CLEP) subject examination,
- College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Program examination,
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) examination, and the
- International Baccalaureate (IB) examination.

The law does not specify such requirements for Excelsior College subject examination, DANTES, and DLPT. However, the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC)<sup>24</sup> has established passing scores and course and credit equivalents for the tests that are currently specified in law as well as for DANTES and Excelsior College exam.<sup>25</sup> The credit-by-exam equivalencies have been adopted in rule by the State Board of Education (SBE or state board).<sup>26</sup> If a student attains a passing score on the AP, AICE, IB, or CLEP exam, state universities and FCS institutions must award the minimum credit for the course or courses specified on the credit-by-exam equivalencies list, even if such institutions do not offer the course or courses.<sup>27</sup> The credit-by-exam equivalencies will need to be updated to include DLPT.

Additionally, the bill modifies current law to apply the existing mechanisms for generating college credit (based on military training and coursework) to eligible servicemembers and honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces. As a result, such members and veterans of the United States Armed Forces will also be able to earn college credit at public postsecondary educational institutions through the specified mechanisms.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> General education core course options consist of a maximum of five courses within each of the subject areas of communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences. The course options are identified by faculty committees that are jointly appointed by the chair of the State Board of Education and the chair of the Board of Governors. Section 1007.25(3), F.S.; *see also* Rule 6A-14.0303, F.A.C. and Board of Governors Regulation 8.005.

<sup>23</sup> Section 1007.27(2), F.S.

<sup>24</sup> The Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) is established by the Commissioner of Education in consultation with the Chancellor of the State University System, to make recommendations related to statewide articulation policies regarding access, quality, and data reporting. The ACC serves as an advisory body to the Higher Education Coordinating Council, the State Board of Education, and the Board of Governors. Section 1007.01(3), F.S.

<sup>25</sup> Florida Department of Education, *Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit-By-Exam Equivalencies* (Initially adopted Nov. 14, 2001), available at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5421/urlt/0078391-acc-cbe.pdf>.

<sup>26</sup> Rule 6A-10.024, F.A.C.

<sup>27</sup> Florida Department of Education, *Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit-By-Exam Equivalencies* (Initially adopted Nov. 14, 2001), available at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5421/urlt/0078391-acc-cbe.pdf>, at 1.

<sup>28</sup> Board of Governors, 2016 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 1638 (Jan. 20, 2016), at 3.

### **Fee Waivers**

The bill modifies the residency requirements for recipients of Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence to qualify for the fee waiver.<sup>29</sup>

Current eligibility requirements for the fee waiver specify that a student must be a resident of Florida currently, and must have been a Florida resident at the time of the military action that resulted in the awarding of the Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence. The bill changes this residency requirement to allow students to qualify for the fee waiver by physically residing in Florida while enrolled in a state university, FCS institution, or career center. As a result, additional students will be able to receive the fee waiver to access public postsecondary education in Florida.

### **Educator Certification Requirements**

The bill modifies educator certification requirements by adding new methods for demonstrating mastery of subject area knowledge. Specifically, the bill allows individuals to demonstrate subject area competency through documentation of:

- Successful completion of a United States Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center program,<sup>30</sup> or
- A passing score on the DLPT.

The bill recognizes military training and coursework and specifies that the United States Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center program and the DLPT are acceptable means to demonstrate mastery of subject area knowledge. As a result, individuals will have additional means to demonstrate such competency.<sup>31</sup>

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

## **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

---

<sup>29</sup> The waiver amounts to a waiver from tuition for undergraduate college credit programs and career certificate programs for each recipient of a Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence. Section 1009.26(8), F.S.

<sup>30</sup> The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center offers courses in many languages for various duration (e.g., 26-weeks long course in French and 64-weeks long course in Arabic – Egyptian). Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, *Languages Taught at DLIFLC and Duration of Courses*, <http://dliflc.edu/about/languages-at-dliflc/> (last visited Jan. 20, 2016).

<sup>31</sup> Board of Governors, 2016 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis for SB 1638 (Jan. 20, 2016), at 5.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 1004.096, 1009.26, and 1012.56.

**IX. Additional Information:**

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.



By Senator Lee

24-01476A-16

20161638\_\_

1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to postsecondary education for  
 3 veterans; amending s. 1004.096, F.S.; directing the  
 4 Department of Education to award postsecondary course  
 5 credit for specified examinations and tests; amending  
 6 s. 1009.26, F.S.; revising the residency requirement  
 7 for certain tuition waivers for recipients of  
 8 specified military decorations; conforming provisions;  
 9 amending s. 1012.56, F.S.; providing that specified  
 10 programs and test scores meet certain educator  
 11 certification requirements; providing an effective  
 12 date.

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

16 Section 1. Section 1004.096, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 17 to read:

18 1004.096 College credit for military training, and  
 19 education courses, and subject examinations.-

20 (1) The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations and the  
 21 State Board of Education shall adopt rules that enable eligible  
 22 servicemembers or honorably discharged veterans members of the  
 23 United States Armed Forces to earn academic college credit at  
 24 public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level  
 25 training and education acquired in the military. The regulations  
 26 and rules shall include procedures for credential evaluation and  
 27 the award of academic college credit, including, but not limited  
 28 to, equivalency and alignment of military coursework with  
 29 appropriate college courses, course descriptions, type and  
 30 amount of college credit that may be awarded, and transfer of  
 31 credit.

32 (2) The department shall annually identify and publish the

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33 minimum scores, maximum credit, and course or courses for which  
 34 credit is to be awarded for each Excelsior College subject  
 35 examination, Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education  
 36 Support (DANTES) subject standardized test, and Defense Language  
 37 Proficiency Test (DLPT). The department shall identify such  
 38 courses in the general education core curriculum of each state  
 39 university and Florida College System institution.

40 Section 2. Subsection (8) of section 1009.26, Florida  
 41 Statutes, is amended to read:

42 1009.26 Fee waivers.-

43 (8) A state university, a Florida College System  
 44 institution, a career center operated by a school district under  
 45 s. 1001.44, or a charter technical career center shall waive  
 46 tuition for undergraduate college credit programs and career  
 47 certificate programs for each recipient of a Purple Heart or  
 48 another combat decoration superior in precedence who:

49 (a) Is enrolled as a full-time, part-time, or summer-school  
 50 student in a program that terminates in an associate or a  
 51 baccalaureate degree, a college credit certificate, or a career  
 52 certificate;

53 (b) Physically resides in ~~Is currently, and was at the time~~  
 54 ~~of the military action that resulted in the awarding of the~~  
 55 ~~Purple Heart or other combat decoration superior in precedence,~~  
 56 ~~a resident of this state while enrolled in the university,~~  
 57 institution, or center; and

58 (c) Submits to the ~~state university, the Florida College~~  
 59 ~~System institution, or the career center operated by a school~~  
 60 ~~district under s. 1001.44, or the charter technical career~~  
 61 ~~center~~ the DD-214 form issued at the time of separation from

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62 service as documentation that the student has received a Purple  
63 Heart or another combat decoration superior in precedence. If  
64 the DD-214 is not available, other documentation may be  
65 acceptable if recognized by the United States Department of  
66 Defense or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as  
67 documenting the award.

68  
69 Such a waiver for a Purple Heart recipient or recipient of  
70 another combat decoration superior in precedence shall be  
71 applicable for 110 percent of the number of required credit  
72 hours of the degree or certificate program for which the student  
73 is enrolled.

74 Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 1012.56, Florida  
75 Statutes, is amended to read:

76 1012.56 Educator certification requirements.—

77 (5) MASTERY OF SUBJECT AREA KNOWLEDGE.—Acceptable means of  
78 demonstrating mastery of subject area knowledge are:

79 (a) For a subject requiring only a baccalaureate degree for  
80 which a Florida subject area examination has been developed,  
81 achievement of a passing score on the Florida-developed subject  
82 area examination specified in state board rule;

83 (b) For a subject for which a Florida subject area  
84 examination has not been developed, achievement of a passing  
85 score on a standardized examination specified in state board  
86 rule, including, but not limited to, passing scores on both the  
87 oral proficiency and written proficiency examinations  
88 administered by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign  
89 Languages;

90 (c) For a subject for which a Florida subject area

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91 examination has not been developed or a standardized examination  
92 has not been specified in state board rule, completion of the  
93 subject area specialization requirements specified in state  
94 board rule and verification of the attainment of the essential  
95 subject matter competencies by the district school  
96 superintendent of the employing school district or chief  
97 administrative officer of the employing state-supported or  
98 private school;

99 (d) For a subject requiring a master's or higher degree,  
100 completion of the subject area specialization requirements  
101 specified in state board rule and achievement of a passing score  
102 on the Florida-developed subject area examination or a  
103 standardized examination specified in state board rule;

104 (e) Documentation of a valid professional standard teaching  
105 certificate issued by another state; ~~or~~

106 (f) Documentation of a valid certificate issued by the  
107 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or a national  
108 educator credentialing board approved by the State Board of  
109 Education;

110 (g) Documentation of successful completion of a United  
111 States Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center  
112 program; or

113 (h) Documentation of a passing score on the Defense  
114 Language Proficiency Test (DLPT).

115  
116 School districts are encouraged to provide mechanisms for middle  
117 grades teachers holding only a K-6 teaching certificate to  
118 obtain a subject area coverage for middle grades through  
119 postsecondary coursework or district add-on certification.

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120

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**COMMITTEES:**  
Appropriations, *Chair*  
Appropriations Subcommittee on General  
Government  
Banking and Insurance  
Reapportionment  
Rules

**JOINT COMMITTEE:**  
Joint Legislative Budget Commission,  
*Alternating Chair*

**SENATOR TOM LEE**

24th District

January 25, 2015

The Honorable Kelli Stargel  
Senate Committee on Higher Education, Chair  
324 Senate Office Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Chair Stargel,

I respectfully request that my legislative assistant, Doug Roberts, present SB 1638 related Postsecondary Education for Veterans, in the Senate Committee on Higher Education meeting on Monday, January 25, 2016.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Lee".

Tom Lee  
Senator, District 24

Cc: Theresa Klebacha, Staff Director

REPLY TO:

- 915 Oakfield Drive, Suite D, Brandon, Florida 33511 (813) 653-7061
- 418 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5024

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**ANDY GARDINER**  
President of the Senate

**GARRETT RICHTER**  
President Pro Tempore

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Higher Education

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BILL: CS/SB 1670

INTRODUCER: Higher Education Committee and Senator Bean

SUBJECT: Apprenticeships

DATE: January 27, 2016

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Scott	Klebacha	HE	<b>Fav/CS</b>
2.			AED	
3.			AP	

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**Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

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**I. Summary:**

CS/SB 1670 updates terminology, modifies requirements, and creates training grant opportunities relating to apprenticeship and postsecondary career programs. Specifically, the bill:

- Updates terminology and expands instructional methods associated with apprenticeship programs.
- Requires Florida College System (FCS) institutions to jointly develop and implement apprenticeship program articulation agreements with registered apprenticeship programs which must:
  - Provide for at least two general education courses offered by the FCS institution to be included in the apprenticeship program;
  - Award college credit to apprenticeship program students upon completion of the general education courses, as defined by the FCS institution;
  - Provide for enrollment of apprenticeship program students into a degree program at the FCS institution upon completion of the apprenticeship program; and
  - Ensure the current tuition and fee exemptions for students enrolled in registered apprenticeship programs are applied to courses those students may take pursuant to the articulation agreement associated with his or her apprenticeship program.
- Allows a high school student participating in an apprenticeship associated with a certified trade association to use credits earned upon completion of the apprenticeship to satisfy the high school graduation requirements for courses in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts; physical education; or electives.

- Creates the Florida Apprenticeship Grant (FLAG) Program to award competitive grants to FCS institutions for the purpose of establishing new or expanding existing apprenticeship programs.
- Creates the Rapid Response Grant Program to award competitive grants to FCS institutions for the purpose of expanding or implementing high-demand postsecondary programs.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2016.

## II. Present Situation:

### Apprenticeship Programs

#### *Federal Program Requirements*

The United States Congress enacted the National Apprenticeship Act (also known as the Fitzgerald Act in honor of its author, Congressman William J. Fitzgerald)<sup>1</sup> in 1937.<sup>2</sup> Following the passage of the Fitzgerald Act, Registered Apprenticeship (RA) programs consisted mainly of manufacturing, construction, and utilities industries.<sup>3</sup> In 2008, revised regulations were issued by the U.S. Department of Labor which increase program flexibility to better serve the needs of today's apprentices and program sponsors.<sup>4</sup>

For apprentices and program sponsors, the regulations:<sup>5</sup>

- Incorporate technology-based learning;
- Provide additional pathways to certification;
- Introduce interim credentials;
- Improve registration and review process;
- Update the reciprocal registration provision; and
- Introduce provisional registration.

For State Apprenticeship Agencies (SAAs), the regulations:<sup>6</sup>

- Increase linkages with the workforce investment system;
- Redefine the roles and responsibilities of SAAs and State Apprenticeship Councils;
- Establish a process for continued recognition; and
- Increase flexibility for location of an SAA.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, *Workforce System Results* (Sep. 30, 2012), at 2, available at <http://www.doleta.gov/Farmworker/pdf/workforceSystemResultsSept2012.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, *History and Fitzgerald Act*, <http://www.doleta.gov/oa/history.cfm> (last visited January 14, 2016). See 29 U.S.C. s. 50 (1937), as amended.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* Since 1937, RA programs have grown to 24,000 programs providing education and training to approximately 400,000 apprentices in emerging and high-growth sectors such as energy conservation, health care, and information technology, in addition to traditional industries such as manufacturing and construction. *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* "These revised regulations published, on October 29, 2008, update Title 29 CFR, part 29 and provide a framework that supports an enhanced, modernized apprenticeship system." U.S. Department of Labor, *Regulations*, <http://www.doleta.gov/oa/regulations.cfm> (last visited January 14, 2016).

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, *Apprenticeship Final Rule Fact Sheet*, at 1-2, available at [http://www.doleta.gov/oa/pdf/Apprenticeship\\_Final\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.doleta.gov/oa/pdf/Apprenticeship_Final_Fact_Sheet.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, *Apprenticeship Final Rule Fact Sheet*, at 2-3, available at [http://www.doleta.gov/oa/pdf/Apprenticeship\\_Final\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.doleta.gov/oa/pdf/Apprenticeship_Final_Fact_Sheet.pdf).

For the U.S. Department of Labor, the regulations:<sup>7</sup>

- Enhance program accountability; and
- Ensure national conformity with federal apprenticeship legislation and regulations.

Registered apprenticeship program sponsors (*i.e.*, employers, employer associations, and labor management organizations)<sup>8</sup> identify the minimum qualifications to apply to their apprenticeship programs.<sup>9</sup>

### ***State Law Regarding Apprenticeship Programs***

While the Federal government works in cooperation with states to oversee the nation's apprenticeship programs, the states have the authority to register apprenticeship programs through federally recognized SAAs.<sup>10</sup> In Florida, the Department of Education (DOE) serves as the registering entity to ensure compliance with federal and state apprenticeship standards, provide technical assistance, and conduct quality assurance assessments.<sup>11</sup>

Florida law provides education and training opportunities, in the form of apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs, to prepare individuals in the state for trades, occupations, and professions suited to their abilities.<sup>12</sup>

An apprenticeship program means “an organized course of instruction, registered and approved by the department, which course shall contain all terms and conditions for the qualifications, recruitment, selection, employment, and training of apprentices<sup>13</sup> including such matters as the

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, *Apprenticeship Final Rule Fact Sheet*, at 3, available at [http://www.doleta.gov/oa/pdf/Apprenticeship\\_Final\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.doleta.gov/oa/pdf/Apprenticeship_Final_Fact_Sheet.pdf).

<sup>8</sup> Registered Apprenticeship program sponsors vary from small, privately owned businesses to national employer and industry associations. There are nearly 29,000 sponsors representing more than 250,000 employers, such as UPS, the United States Military Apprenticeship Program, Werner Enterprises, and CVS/pharmacy. U.S. Department of Labor, *Apprentices*, <http://www.doleta.gov/oa/apprentices.cfm> (last visited January 14, 2016).

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, *Apprentices*, <http://www.doleta.gov/oa/apprentices.cfm> (last visited January 14, 2016). An individual must be at least 16 years of age to be an apprentice. *Id.* In hazardous occupations, individuals must usually be 18 years of age. *Id.* Program sponsors may also identify additional minimum qualifications and credentials to apply (*e.g.*, education, ability to physically perform the essential functions of the occupation, and proof of age). *Id.* All applicants are required to meet the minimum qualifications. *Id.* Based on the selection method utilized by the sponsor, additional qualification standards, such as fair aptitude tests and interviews, school grades, and previous work experience may be identified. *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> 29 C.F.R. ss. 29.1 and 29.13 (2008).

<sup>11</sup> 29 C.F.R. s. 29.2 (2008).

<sup>12</sup> Section 446.011(1), F.S.

<sup>13</sup> An “apprentice” means “a person at least 16 years of age who is engaged in learning a recognized skilled trade through actual work experience under the supervision of journeyman craftsmen, which training should be combined with properly coordinated studies of technical and supplementary subjects, and who has entered into a written agreement, which may be cited as an apprentice agreement, with a registered apprenticeship sponsor who may be either an employer, an association of employers, or a local joint apprenticeship committee.” Section 446.021(2), F.S. A “journeyman means” “a person working in an apprenticeable occupation who has successfully completed a registered apprenticeship program or who has worked the number of years required by established industry practices for the particular trade or occupation.” Section 446.021(4), F.S. An apprenticeable occupation is a skilled trade which possesses all of the characteristics that are specified in law (*e.g.*, customarily learned in a practical way through a structured, systemic program of on-the-job, supervised training and involves manual, mechanical, or technical skills and knowledge which require a minimum of 2,000 hours of work and training, which hours are excluded from the time spent at related instruction). Section 446.092, F.S.

requirements for a written apprenticeship agreement.”<sup>14</sup> A preapprenticeship program means “an organized course of instruction in the public school system or elsewhere, which course is designed to prepare a person 16 years of age or older to become an apprentice and which course is approved by and registered with the department [DOE] and sponsored by a registered apprenticeship program.”<sup>15</sup>

The DOE is responsible for administering, facilitating, and supervising registered apprenticeship programs, including, but not limited to:<sup>16</sup>

- Developing and encouraging apprenticeship programs.
- Cooperating with and assisting apprenticeship sponsors to develop apprenticeship standards and training requirements.
- Monitoring RA programs.
- Investigating complaints regarding failure to meet the standards<sup>17</sup> established by the DOE.
- Canceling registration of programs that fail to comply with DOE standards and policies.

Additionally, the DOE, district school boards, and Florida College System (FCS) institution district boards of trustees must work together with existing apprenticeship programs so that individuals completing preapprenticeship programs may be able to receive credit towards completing registered apprenticeship programs.<sup>18</sup>

The State Apprenticeship Advisory Council (Council) advises the DOE on matters related to apprenticeship.<sup>19</sup> The Council is comprised of 10 voting members appointed by the Governor and two ex officio nonvoting members.<sup>20</sup> The Commissioner of Education (Commissioner) or the Commissioner’s designee must serve ex officio as chair of the Council, but may not vote.<sup>21</sup> Two public members who are knowledgeable about registered apprenticeship and apprenticeable occupations are appointed by the Governor to the Council.<sup>22</sup> One of the public members must be recommended by joint organizations and one must be recommended by nonjoint organizations.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> Section 446.021(6), F.S. An apprenticeship agreement may not operate to invalidate any apprenticeship provision in a collective agreement between employers and employees which establishes higher apprenticeship standards. Section 446.081(1), F.S.

<sup>15</sup> Section 446.021(5), F.S.

<sup>16</sup> Section 446.041, F.S.

<sup>17</sup> The DOE is responsible for developing apprenticeship and preapprenticeship uniform minimum standards for the apprenticeable trades and assisting district school boards and FCS institution boards of trustees in developing preapprenticeship programs. Sections 446.011(2), 446.032, and 446.052, F.S.; Rule 6A-23.004, F.A.C. “Uniform minimum preapprenticeship standards” means “the minimum requirements established uniformly for each craft under which a preapprenticeship program is administered and includes standards for admission, training goals, training objectives, curriculum outlines, objective standards to measure successful completion of the preapprenticeship program, and the percentage of credit which may be given to preapprenticeship graduates upon acceptance into the apprenticeship program.” Section 446.021(8), F.S.

<sup>18</sup> Section 446.052(3), F.S.

<sup>19</sup> Section 446.045(2)(a), F.S.

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*

<sup>21</sup> Section 446.045(2)(b), F.S.

<sup>22</sup> *Id.*

<sup>23</sup> *Id.* A “joint organization” means an apprenticeship sponsor who participates in a collective bargaining agreement. Section 446.045(1)(a), F.S. A “nonjoint organization” means an apprenticeship sponsor who does not participate in a collective bargaining agreement. *Id.* at (1)(b).



### ***Apprenticeship Program Tuition and Fees***

Fee exemptions and waivers are types of financial assistance authorized in statutory law that provide opportunities for many students to attend college at reduced tuition and fee cost or even free.<sup>24</sup> Florida law provides exemptions from the payment of tuition and fees, including lab fees, for several categories of students enrolled at a school district that provides workforce education programs, an FCS institution, or a state university, including students enrolled in approved apprenticeship programs.<sup>25</sup> According to the DOE, there are approximately 225 active registered apprenticeship programs throughout the state.<sup>26</sup>

### **Articulation Agreements**

#### ***Statewide Articulation Agreement***

The intent of the Legislature has been “to facilitate articulation and seamless integration of the K-20 education system by building, sustaining, and strengthening relationships among K-20 public organizations, between public and private organizations, and between the education system as a whole and Florida’s communities.”<sup>27</sup> The State Board of Education (State Board) and the Board of Governors (BOG) collaborate to establish and adopt articulation<sup>28</sup> policies and make recommendations to the Legislature.<sup>29</sup>

Each FCS institution must comply with the statewide articulation agreement relating to 2-year and 4-year public degree-granting institutions as adopted by the State Board.<sup>30</sup> The statewide articulation agreement governs general education requirements and statewide course numbers.<sup>31</sup> The agreement must guarantee the statewide articulation of appropriate workforce development programs and courses between school districts and FCS institutions.<sup>32</sup>

Courses that have the same academic content and are taught by faculty with comparable credentials are given the same prefix and number, and are considered equivalent courses.<sup>33</sup> Equivalent courses are guaranteed to transfer to any other institution participating in the

---

<sup>24</sup> The Florida College System, *Exemptions and Waivers in the Florida College System* (March 2012), available at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7724/urlt/0072361-fyi2012-02exemptions.pdf>.

<sup>25</sup> Section 1009.25(1)(b), F.S.

<sup>26</sup> Florida Department of Education, Division of Career and Adult Education, *What Is Apprenticeship?*, <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/apprenticeship-programs/what-is-apprenticeship.stml> (last visited January 21, 2016).

<sup>27</sup> Section 1007.01(1), F.S.

<sup>28</sup> “Articulation” is defined as “the systematic coordination that provides the means by which students proceed toward their educational objectives in as rapid and student-friendly manner as their circumstances permit, from grade level to grade level, from elementary to middle to high school, to and through postsecondary education, and when transferring from one educational institutional or program to another.” Section 1000.21(1), F.S.

<sup>29</sup> *Id.* at (2).

<sup>30</sup> Sections 1001.60(2)(b) and 1007.23, F.S.

<sup>31</sup> Section 1007.23(1)(f), F.S. The DOE, in conjunction with the BOG, is responsible for developing, coordinating, and maintaining a statewide course numbering system for postsecondary and dual enrollment education in school districts, public postsecondary educational institutions, and participating nonpublic postsecondary educational institutions. Section 1007.24(1), F.S.

<sup>32</sup> *Id.* at (4).

<sup>33</sup> Florida Department of Education, Office of Articulation, *Statewide Articulation Manual* (Revised Sept. 2014), at 3-4, available at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5423/urlt/statewide-postsecondary-articulation-manual.pdf>.

statewide course numbering system.<sup>34</sup> However, courses relating to internships, apprenticeships, clinical experiences, and study abroad are not automatically transferable.<sup>35</sup> The transferability of such courses is at the discretion of the receiving institution.<sup>36</sup>

### ***General Education***

Each state university and FCS institution must establish a general education curriculum requiring 36 semester hours of communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences for students working toward an associate in arts or baccalaureate degree.<sup>37</sup>

Faculty committees appointed by the chairs of the State Board and the BOG identify statewide general education core course options.<sup>38</sup> General education core course options consist of a maximum of five courses within the subject areas of communications, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.<sup>39</sup> The core courses may be revised, or the five-course maximum within each subject area may be exceeded, if approved by the State Board or the BOG.<sup>40</sup>

Each general education core course must contain high-level academic and critical thinking skills and common competencies that students must demonstrate to successfully complete the course.<sup>41</sup> Each student must complete at least one identified core course in each subject area as part of the general education course requirements.<sup>42</sup> The general education core course options are adopted in rule by the State Board and in regulation by the BOG.<sup>43</sup>

### **Powers and Duties of FCS Boards of Trustees**

Each FCS institution board of trustees is responsible for:<sup>44</sup>

- Ensuring students have access to general education courses;
- Requiring no more than 60 semester hours of degree program coursework, including 36 semester hours of general education course work, for an associate in arts degree;
- Notifying students that earned hours in excess of 60 semester hours may not be accepted by state universities;
- Notifying students of unique program prerequisites; and
- Ensuring that degree program coursework beyond general education coursework is consistent with degree program prerequisite requirements.

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<sup>34</sup> *Id.*

<sup>35</sup> *Id.*

<sup>36</sup> *Id.*

<sup>37</sup> Rule 6A-10.024, F.A.C.

<sup>38</sup> Section 1007.25(3), F.S. See Florida Department of Education, *General Education Core Course Options*, <http://www.fldoe.org/policy/articulation/general-edu-core-course-options.stml> (last visited January 21, 2016).

<sup>39</sup> Section 1007.25(3), F.S.

<sup>40</sup> *Id.*

<sup>41</sup> *Id.*

<sup>42</sup> *Id.*

<sup>43</sup> Rule 6A-14.0303, F.A.C.; Regulation 6.017.

<sup>44</sup> Section 1001.64(7), F.S.

An FCS institution board of trustees governs admission of students and may establish additional admissions criteria to ensure student readiness for postsecondary instruction.<sup>45</sup> Each FCS institution board of trustees must adopt rules establishing student performance standards for the award of degrees and certificates and may establish intrainstitutional and interinstitutional programs to maximize articulation.<sup>46</sup>

### **High School Graduation Requirements**

In order to graduate from high school with a Florida standard high school diploma, a student must meet certain assessment and course credit requirements.

#### ***Credit Requirements to Earn a Standard High School Diploma***

A student must successfully complete 24 credits in the following subject areas:<sup>47</sup>

- Four credits in English Language Arts (ELA) I, II, III, and IV.
- Four credits in mathematics including one credit each in Algebra I and Geometry. Industry certifications earned by students may substitute for up to two mathematics credits, except for Algebra I and Geometry.
- Three credits in science including one credit in Biology I and two credits in equally rigorous courses.<sup>48</sup> Industry certifications earned by students may substitute for one science credit, except for Biology I.
- Three credits in social studies including one credit each in United States History and World History; one-half credit in economics, which must include financial literacy; and one-half credit in United States Government.
- One credit in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts.
- One credit in physical education.
- Eight credits in electives.

#### ***Career Education Course Credit***

Florida law allows students to earn credit in both career education courses and courses required for high school graduation.<sup>49</sup> Career education courses are approved by the State Board if the courses meet the criteria and requirements for career-themed<sup>50</sup> courses which include, but are not limited to:<sup>51</sup>

- Increasing student academic achievement and graduation rates through integrated academic and career curricula.
- Promoting learning by doing through application and adaptation.
- Including partnerships with postsecondary institutions, businesses, industry, or employers.
- Leading to industry certification or college credit.

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<sup>45</sup> *Id.* at (8)(a).

<sup>46</sup> *Id.* at (8)(b) and (c).

<sup>47</sup> Section 1003.4282(1)(a) and (3), F.S.

<sup>48</sup> Two of the three science credits must have a laboratory component. Section 1003.4282(3)(c), F.S.

<sup>49</sup> Section 1003.4282(8)(a), F.S.

<sup>50</sup> A “career-themed course” is defined in s. 1003.493(1)(b), F.S.

<sup>51</sup> Section 1003.4282(8)(a), F.S. Career education courses for purposes of earning high school credit must meet the requirements and criteria set forth in s. 1003.493(2), (4), and (5), F.S., for career and professional academy and career-themed courses.

Career education courses must include workforce and digital literacy skills and the integration of required course content with practical applications and designated rigorous coursework resulting in one or more industry certifications or clearly articulated credit or advanced standing in a 2-year or 4-year certified or degree program, which may include work-related internships or apprenticeships.<sup>52</sup> The instructional methodologies used in these courses must be comprised of authentic projects, problems, and activities for contextually learning the academics.<sup>53</sup>

Each school district is encouraged to partner with local workforce boards, business and industry leaders, and postsecondary institutions to create career education courses.<sup>54</sup> School districts or regional consortium service organizations must submit their recommended career education courses to the DOE for State Board approval.<sup>55</sup> The State Board must determine if sufficient academic standards are covered to warrant the award of academic credit.<sup>56</sup>

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

CS/SB 1670 updates terminology, modifies requirements, and creates training grant opportunities relating to apprenticeship and postsecondary career programs. Specifically, the bill:

- Updates terminology and expands instructional methods associated with apprenticeship programs.
- Requires Florida College System (FCS) institutions to jointly develop and implement apprenticeship program articulation agreements with registered apprenticeship programs which must:
  - Provide for at least two general education courses offered by the FCS institution to be included in the apprenticeship program;
  - Award college credit to apprenticeship program students upon completion of the general education courses, as defined by the FCS institution;
  - Provide for enrollment of apprenticeship program students into a degree program at the FCS institution upon completion of the apprenticeship program; and
  - Ensure the current tuition and fee exemptions for students enrolled in registered apprenticeship programs are applied to courses those students may take pursuant to the articulation agreement associated with his or her apprenticeship program.
- Allows a high school student participating in an apprenticeship associated with a certified trade association to use credits earned upon completion of the apprenticeship to satisfy the high school graduation requirements for courses in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts; physical education; or electives.
- Creates the Florida Apprenticeship Grant (FLAG) Program to award competitive grants to FCS institutions for the purpose of establishing new or expanding existing apprenticeship programs.
- Creates the Rapid Response Grant Program to award competitive grants to FCS institutions for the purpose of expanding or implementing high-demand postsecondary programs.

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<sup>52</sup> Section 1003.4282(8)(a)2., F.S.

<sup>53</sup> *Id.*

<sup>54</sup> *Id.* at (8)(b).

<sup>55</sup> *Id.* at (8)(b) and (c).

<sup>56</sup> *Id.* at (8)(a)2.

### **Apprenticeship Terminology and Criteria**

The bill changes the term “journeyman” to “journeyworker.” Also, the bill clarifies and expands the definition of the term journeyworker to include a mentor, technician, specialist, or other skilled worker. The revised definition aligns the statutory definition with federal law and recognizes the importance of formal apprenticeships or practical on-the-job experience and formal training as a means of demonstrating occupational skills and knowledge.

The bill redefines “apprenticeship program” to include an organized course of instruction that enables learning through online courses and remote platforms for distributing training content, and awards credit for existing skills and knowledge demonstrated by prior assessments. The bill expands the definition to broaden the types of courses and options available for receiving instruction for such courses, which may benefit apprentices who would not otherwise have the opportunity to receive the instruction in a traditional classroom setting.

Furthermore, the bill removes provisions excluding specified types of occupations from being characterized as an apprenticeable occupation. Specifically, the bill removes the following:

- Selling, retailing, or similar occupations in the distributive field.
- Managerial occupations.
- Professional and scientific vocations for which entrance requirements customarily require an academic degree.

Removing the specified categories of occupations aligns statutory law to federal regulations and guidelines and may expand the criteria of an apprenticeable occupation to allow for occupations previously excluded.

### **Apprenticeship Articulation Agreement**

The bill requires each FCS institution president to develop and implement jointly with apprenticeship programs, registered and approved by the Department of Education (DOE), an articulation agreement for the governance of students enrolled in the respective apprenticeship programs. Furthermore, the bill requires the agreement to include two general education courses offered by the FCS institution as part of the apprenticeship program for college credit upon satisfactory course completion, and the student’s enrollment into a degree program at the FCS institution upon completion of the apprenticeship program.

Current law does not require postsecondary education institutions to develop and implement articulation agreements to govern the articulation of students enrolled in apprenticeship programs. In effect, requiring articulation agreements between FCS institutions and registered apprenticeship programs may ensure that students enrolled in such programs are guaranteed transferable college credit that will result in enrollment into a degree program and assist the students in securing future employment.

The bill is unclear as to whether each FCS institution must enter into articulation agreements with the registered apprenticeship programs in the FCS institution’s respective service area or may enter into an agreement with any registered apprenticeship program in the state.

### **Tuition and Fees for Apprenticeship Students**

The bill exempts an apprenticeship program student from paying tuition and fees, including lab fees, associated with a course taken at an FCS institution pursuant to an articulation agreement with the apprenticeship program in which the student is enrolled. Although current law exempts students enrolled in apprenticeship programs from paying tuition and fees, including lab fees, the bill ensures that students enrolled in apprenticeship programs governed by articulation agreements with FCS institutions are also exempt from paying such tuition and fees, including lab fees.

### **High School Credit Earned through Apprenticeship**

The bill allows a high school student participating in an apprenticeship with a certified trade association that is registered with the DOE to use credits earned upon completion of the apprenticeship to satisfy the high school credit requirements for courses in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts; physical education; or electives, and earn a standard high school diploma. Although current law allows students to earn credit in both general high school courses and career education courses, including through apprenticeships, it does not specify which high school course credit requirements may be satisfied by earning credit in a career education course. In effect, the bill expressly allows for the use of credits earned through an apprenticeship to satisfy specified high school credit requirements if the student is participating in an apprenticeship with a certified trade association.

### **Florida Apprenticeship Grant (FLAG) Program**

The bill creates the FLAG Program to provide competitive grants, in an amount provided in the General Appropriations Act (GAA), to FCS institutions for the purpose of establishing new apprenticeship programs and expanding existing apprenticeship programs. The award of grant funds may assist the FCS institutions in enhancing their existing apprenticeship programs and establishing new programs to meet student and workforce needs.

Additionally, the Division of Career and Adult Education within the DOE is responsible for administering the FLAG Program. An FCS institution must submit its application for the grant which must include projected enrollment and projected costs for the new or expanded apprenticeship programs. The DOE must give priority to apprenticeship programs in the areas of information technology, health, and machining and manufacturing.

Also, the bill prohibits the use of grant funds for recurring instructional costs or for an FCS institution's indirect costs. Grant recipients must submit quarterly reports to the DOE, which may ensure program accountability.

### **Rapid Response Grant Program**

The bill creates the Rapid Response Grant Program to award competitive grants, in an amount provided in the GAA, through the DOE to FCS institutions for the purpose of expanding or implementing their high-demand postsecondary programs.

To participate, the bill requires an FCS institution to submit its application to the DOE, which must include details regarding program expansion or development, projected enrollment, and projected costs. An FCS institution that is awarded a grant through the Rapid Response Grant Program must submit quarterly reports to the DOE. The use of grant funds is limited to expanding enrollment in existing postsecondary programs or developing new postsecondary programs. The bill prohibits grant recipients from using funds to supplant current funds.

The DOE must conduct an annual analysis and assessment of the effectiveness of the postsecondary programs' effectiveness in meeting labor market demand. The DOE analysis and assessment of the postsecondary programs may ensure program accountability and may further assist FCS institutions in meeting the state's workforce needs.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2016.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 446.021, 446.032, 446.091, 446.092, 1001.65, 1003.4282, and 1009.25.

Also, the bill creates the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 1011.802 and 1011.803.

**IX. Additional Information:**

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**  
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

**CS by Higher Education on January 25, 2016:**

The committee substitute includes the following substantial additions:

- Allows a student participating in an apprenticeship with a certified trade association that is registered with the Department of Education to earn credits towards a standard high school diploma.
- Authorizes the use of credits awarded upon completion of such apprenticeship to satisfy the high school credit requirements for courses in fine or performing arts, speech and debate, or practical arts; physical education; or electives.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.





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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/25/2016	.	
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The Committee on Higher Education (Sachs) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Between lines 186 and 187  
insert:

Section 6. Present paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 1003.4282, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (d), and a new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, to read:

1003.4282 Requirements for a standard high school diploma.—  
(6) AWARD OF A STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.—



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11           (c) A student who participates in an apprenticeship with a  
12 certified trade association that is registered with the  
13 department in accordance with chapter 446 shall be awarded  
14 credits towards a standard high school diploma if the student  
15 meets the requirements of this section. The credits awarded upon  
16 completion of the apprenticeship may be used to satisfy the  
17 requirements of paragraphs (3) (e), (f), and (g).

18  
19 ===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====

20 And the title is amended as follows:

21           Between lines 12 and 13

22 insert:

23           amending s. 1003.4282, F.S.; providing that a student  
24           who completes a certain apprenticeship may be awarded  
25           specified credits toward a standard high school  
26           diploma under certain circumstances;

By Senator Bean

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1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to apprenticeships; amending s.  
 3 446.021, F.S.; revising definitions; amending ss.  
 4 446.032 and 446.091, F.S.; conforming provisions to  
 5 changes made by the act; amending s. 446.092, F.S.;  
 6 revising the characteristics of apprenticeable  
 7 occupations; deleting provisions that limit  
 8 apprenticeable occupations; amending s. 1001.65, F.S.;  
 9 requiring Florida College System institution  
 10 presidents to develop and implement articulation  
 11 agreements with certain apprenticeship programs;  
 12 providing articulation agreement requirements;  
 13 amending s. 1009.25, F.S.; providing that students  
 14 enrolled in certain apprenticeship programs are exempt  
 15 from tuition and fees associated with certain courses;  
 16 creating s. 1011.802, F.S.; creating the Florida  
 17 Apprenticeship Grant Program within the Department of  
 18 Education to provide grants to Florida College System  
 19 institutions for the creation of new apprenticeship  
 20 programs or the expansion of existing apprenticeship  
 21 programs; requiring the Division of Career and Adult  
 22 Education to administer the program; providing  
 23 requirements related to applications, program  
 24 priority, use of grant funds, and quarterly reports;  
 25 creating s. 1011.803, F.S.; creating the Rapid  
 26 Response Grant Program; providing for the purpose and  
 27 application requirements of the program; requiring  
 28 Florida College System institutions that receive  
 29 grants to provide quarterly reports to the department;  
 30 providing uses for grant funds; requiring the  
 31 department to administer and conduct an annual  
 32 analysis of the program; providing an effective date.

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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33  
 34 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
 35  
 36 Section 1. Section 446.021, Florida Statutes, is reordered  
 37 and amended to read:  
 38 446.021 Definitions of terms used in ss. 446.011-446.092.—  
 39 As used in ss. 446.011-446.092, the term:  
 40 ~~(8)(1)~~ "Preapprentice" means any person 16 years of age or  
 41 over engaged in any course of instruction in the public school  
 42 system or elsewhere, which course is registered as a  
 43 preapprenticeship program with the department.  
 44 ~~(1)(2)~~ "Apprentice" means a person at least 16 years of age  
 45 who is engaged in learning a recognized skilled trade through  
 46 actual work experience under the supervision of journeyworker  
 47 ~~journeymen~~ craftsmen, which training should be combined with  
 48 properly coordinated studies of related technical and  
 49 supplementary subjects, and who has entered into a written  
 50 agreement, which may be cited as an apprentice agreement, with a  
 51 registered apprenticeship sponsor who may be either an employer,  
 52 an association of employers, or a local joint apprenticeship  
 53 committee.  
 54 ~~(11)(3)~~ "Trainee" means a person at least 16 years of age  
 55 who is engaged in learning a specific skill, trade, or  
 56 occupation within a formalized, on-the-job training program.  
 57 ~~(5)(4)~~ "Journeyworker ~~Journeyman~~" means a person working in  
 58 an apprenticeable occupation who has successfully completed a  
 59 registered apprenticeship program or who has worked the number  
 60 of years required by established industry practices for the  
 61 particular trade or occupation. The term includes a mentor,

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62 technician, specialist, or other skilled worker who has  
 63 documented sufficient skills and knowledge of an occupation,  
 64 either through formal apprenticeship or through practical on-  
 65 the-job experience and formal training.

66 ~~(9)(5)~~ "Preapprenticeship program" means an organized  
 67 course of instruction in the public school system or elsewhere,  
 68 which course is designed to prepare a person 16 years of age or  
 69 older to become an apprentice and which course is approved by  
 70 and registered with the department and sponsored by a registered  
 71 apprenticeship program.

72 ~~(2)(6)~~ "Apprenticeship program" means an organized course  
 73 of instruction, registered and approved by the department, which  
 74 course shall:

75 (a) Contain all terms and conditions for the  
 76 qualifications, recruitment, selection, employment, and training  
 77 of apprentices including such matters as the requirements for a  
 78 written apprenticeship agreement.

79 (b) Enable learning that may include online courses and  
 80 remote platforms for distributing training content.

81 (c) Award credit for existing skills and knowledge  
 82 demonstrated by prior learning assessments, as determined by  
 83 institution policy on credit for prior learning pursuant to s.  
 84 1001.64.

85 (7) "On-the-job training program" means a formalized system  
 86 of job processes which may be augmented by related instruction  
 87 that provides the experience and knowledge necessary to meet the  
 88 training objective of learning a specific skill, trade, or  
 89 occupation. The training program must be at least 6 months and  
 90 not more than 2 years in duration and must be registered with

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91 the department.

92 ~~(12)(8)~~ "Uniform minimum preapprenticeship standards" means  
 93 the minimum requirements established uniformly for each craft  
 94 under which a preapprenticeship program is administered and  
 95 includes standards of admission, training goals, training  
 96 objectives, curriculum outlines, objective standards to measure  
 97 successful completion of the preapprenticeship program, and the  
 98 percentage of credit which may be given to preapprenticeship  
 99 graduates upon acceptance into the apprenticeship program.

100 ~~(10)(9)~~ "Related instruction" means an organized and  
 101 systematic form of instruction designed to provide the  
 102 apprentice with knowledge of the theoretical subjects related to  
 103 a specific trade or occupation.

104 ~~(3)(10)~~ "Cancellation" means the deregistration of an  
 105 apprenticeship program or the termination of an apprenticeship  
 106 agreement.

107 ~~(6)(11)~~ "Jurisdiction" means the specific geographical area  
 108 for which a particular program is registered.

109 ~~(4)(12)~~ "Department" means the Department of Education.

110 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 446.032, Florida  
 111 Statutes, is amended to read:

112 446.032 General duties of the department for apprenticeship  
 113 training.—The department shall:

114 (1) Establish uniform minimum standards and policies  
 115 governing apprentice programs and agreements. The standards and  
 116 policies shall govern the terms and conditions of the  
 117 apprentice's employment and training, including the quality  
 118 training of the apprentice for, but not limited to, such matters  
 119 as ratios of apprentices to journeyworkers ~~journeymen~~, safety,

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120 related instruction, and on-the-job training; but these  
 121 standards and policies may not include rules, standards, or  
 122 guidelines that require the use of apprentices and job trainees  
 123 on state, county, or municipal contracts. The department may  
 124 adopt rules necessary to administer the standards and policies.

125 Section 3. Section 446.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
 126 read:

127 446.091 On-the-job training program.—All provisions of ss.  
 128 446.011-446.092 relating to apprenticeship and  
 129 preapprenticeship, including, but not limited to, programs,  
 130 agreements, standards, administration, procedures, definitions,  
 131 expenditures, local committees, powers and duties, limitations,  
 132 grievances, and ratios of apprentices and job trainees to  
 133 journeyworkers journeymen on state, county, and municipal  
 134 contracts, shall be appropriately adapted and made applicable to  
 135 a program of on-the-job training authorized under those  
 136 provisions for persons other than apprentices.

137 Section 4. Section 446.092, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
 138 read:

139 446.092 Criteria for apprenticeship occupations.—An  
 140 apprenticeable occupation is a skilled trade which possesses all  
 141 of the following characteristics:

142 (1) It is customarily learned ~~in a practical way~~ through a  
 143 structured, systematic program of on-the-job, supervised  
 144 training.

145 (2) It is commonly recognized throughout the industry or  
 146 recognized with a positive view towards emerging and evolving  
 147 ~~changing~~ technology.

148 (3) It typically involves manual, mechanical, or technical

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149 skills and knowledge which require a minimum of 2,000 hours of  
 150 work and training, which hours are excluded from the time spent  
 151 at related instruction.

152 (4) It requires related instruction to supplement on-the-  
 153 job training and online training. Such instruction may be given  
 154 in a classroom or through correspondence courses.

155 (5) It involves the development of skill sufficiently broad  
 156 to be applicable in like occupations throughout an industry,  
 157 rather than of restricted application to the products or  
 158 services of any one company.

159 ~~(6) It does not fall into any of the following categories:~~

160 ~~(a) Selling, retailing, or similar occupations in the~~  
 161 ~~distributive field.~~

162 ~~(b) Managerial occupations.~~

163 ~~(c) Professional and scientific vocations for which~~  
 164 ~~entrance requirements customarily require an academic degree.~~

165 Section 5. Subsections (22) through (25) of section  
 166 1001.65, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (23)  
 167 through (26), respectively, and a new subsection (22) is added  
 168 to that section, to read:

169 1001.65 Florida College System institution presidents;  
 170 powers and duties.—The president is the chief executive officer  
 171 of the Florida College System institution, shall be corporate  
 172 secretary of the Florida College System institution board of  
 173 trustees, and is responsible for the operation and  
 174 administration of the Florida College System institution. Each  
 175 Florida College System institution president shall:

176 (22) Develop and implement jointly with apprenticeship  
 177 programs registered with the Department of Education in

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178 accordance with chapter 446 an articulation agreement for the  
 179 students enrolled in the respective apprenticeship programs.  
 180 Such articulation agreement must provide for at least two  
 181 general education courses offered by the institution to be  
 182 included in the apprenticeship program, for the award of college  
 183 credit upon satisfactory completion of the courses as defined by  
 184 the institution pursuant to s. 1001.64, and for enrollment into  
 185 a degree program at the institution upon completion of the  
 186 apprenticeship program.

187 Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
 188 1009.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

189 1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

190 (1) The following students are exempt from the payment of  
 191 tuition and fees, including lab fees, at a school district that  
 192 provides workforce education programs, Florida College System  
 193 institution, or state university:

194 (b) A student enrolled in an approved apprenticeship  
 195 program, as defined in s. 446.021, including tuition and fees,  
 196 including lab fees, associated with a course taken at a Florida  
 197 College System institution through an articulation agreement  
 198 with the student's apprenticeship program.

199 Section 7. Section 1011.802, Florida Statutes, is created  
 200 to read:

201 1011.802 Florida Apprenticeship Grant (FLAG) Program.—

202 (1) The Florida Apprenticeship Grant Program is created to  
 203 provide grants, in an amount provided in the General  
 204 Appropriations Act, to Florida College System institutions on a  
 205 competitive basis to establish new apprenticeship programs and  
 206 expand existing apprenticeship programs. The Division of Career

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207 and Adult Education within the Department of Education shall  
 208 administer the grant program.

209 (2) Applications from Florida College System institutions  
 210 must contain projected enrollment and projected costs for the  
 211 new or expanded apprenticeship programs.

212 (3) The department shall give priority to apprenticeship  
 213 programs in the areas of information technology, health, and  
 214 machining and manufacturing. Grant funds may be used for  
 215 instructional equipment, supplies, personnel, student services,  
 216 and other expenses associated with the creation or expansion of  
 217 an apprenticeship program. Grant funds may not be used for  
 218 recurring instructional costs or for an institution's indirect  
 219 costs. Grant recipients must submit quarterly reports in a  
 220 format prescribed by the department.

221 Section 8. Section 1011.803, Florida Statutes, is created  
 222 to read:

223 1011.803 Rapid Response Grant Program.—

224 (1) The Rapid Response Grant Program is established to  
 225 award grants on a competitive basis, in an amount provided in  
 226 the General Appropriations Act, for the expansion or  
 227 implementation of high-demand postsecondary programs at Florida  
 228 College System institutions, as defined in s. 1000.21.

229 (2) Each Florida College System institution applying for a  
 230 grant must submit an application to the Department of Education  
 231 in the format prescribed by the department. The application must  
 232 include, but is not limited to, program expansion or development  
 233 details, projected enrollment, and projected costs.

234 (3) Each Florida College System institution that is awarded  
 235 a grant under this section shall submit quarterly reports to the

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236 department in the format prescribed by the department. Grant  
237 funds may not be used to replace current funds and must be used  
238 to expand enrollment in existing postsecondary programs or  
239 develop new postsecondary programs.

240 (4) The Department of Education shall administer the  
241 program and shall conduct an annual analysis and assessment of  
242 the effectiveness of the postsecondary programs funded under  
243 this section in meeting labor market demand.

244 Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1-25-16  
Meeting Date

1670  
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Apprenticeships

611850  
Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name FELY CURVA

Job Title Partner, Curva & Associates LLC

Address 1212 Piedmont Dr.  
Street

Phone 850-508-2256

Tallahassee FL 32312  
City State Zip

Email curva@mindspring.com

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Society of Health & Physical Educators Florida

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.



THE FLORIDA SENATE  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1/25/16  
Meeting Date

1670  
Bill Number (if applicable)

611850  
Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic Apprenticeships

Name Vern Pickup - Crawford

Job Title Legislative Liaison

Address 571 Kingsbury Terrace

Phone 561-~~252~~644-2439

Street

Wellington FL 33414

City

State

Zip

Email vcrawford@msn.com

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Palm Beach School District

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE  
**APPEARANCE RECORD**

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1/25/16  
Meeting Date

1670  
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Apprenticeship

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Jennifer Silva

Job Title Dir. Government

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street

Phone 904-575-0447

Jacksonville FL  
City State Zip

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Speaking:  For  Against  Information

Waive Speaking:  In Support  Against  
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Seal FSCJ

Appearing at request of Chair:  Yes  No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:  Yes  No

*While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.*

**This form is part of the public record for this meeting.**

**PEREZ.MICHELLE**

---

**From:** KLEBACHA.THERESA  
**Sent:** Monday, January 25, 2016 2:02 PM  
**To:** PEREZ.MICHELLE  
**Subject:** FW: SB 1670/Apprenticeships

**From:** ALEXANDER.DEE  
**Sent:** Monday, January 25, 2016 1:08 PM  
**To:** KLEBACHA.THERESA <KLEBACHA.THERESA@flsenate.gov>  
**Subject:** SB 1670/Apprenticeships

TK—  
I will be presenting this bill on behalf of Senator Bean.  
Please accept this email as notification.  
Thanks.

*Dee Alexander | Sr. Chief Legislative Aide*  
**Senator Aaron Bean | Florida Senate 4<sup>th</sup> District**  
1919 Atlantic Boulevard | Jacksonville FL 32207  
Main 904.346.5039 | Fax 1-888.263.1578  
302-SOB | 404 S. Monroe St. | Tallahassee FL 32399-1100  
Main 850.487.5004 | Fax 1-888-263-1578  
[alexander.dee@flsenate.gov](mailto:alexander.dee@flsenate.gov) | [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)





STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
SYSTEM  
of FLORIDA

RECEIVED

15 SEP -9 PM 4: 56

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

Office of the Chancellor  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1614  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
Phone 850.245.0466  
Fax 850.245.9685  
www.flbog.edu

September 9, 2015

Ms. Nicole Washington  
1504 Bay Road, Apartment 925  
Miami Beach, Florida 33139

Dear Ms. Washington:

On September 3, 2015, the Board of Governors approved the recommendation made by its Nomination and Governance Committee to appoint you as a member of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees. Please accept our congratulations.

The appointment acknowledges your record of public service and career milestones. Your achievements are sure to provide expertise to the State University System of Florida and the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University as you serve in the capacity of a trustee. The appointment, subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate and your attendance of a System orientation session conducted by the Board of Governors, is for a term that began September 3, 2015 and ends January 6, 2020.

Your role as a trustee is vital to the governance and success of our System. Members of the Board of Governors rely on all the university trustees to exercise due diligence in connection with their oversight responsibilities for our universities.

Thank you for your willingness to serve. We look forward to working with you as a member of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees.

Sincerely,

Marshall M. Criser III  
Chancellor

c: Mori Hosseini, Chair, Board of Governors,  
and Chair, Nomination and Governance Committee  
Rufus Montgomery, Chair, Florida A&M University Board of Trustees  
Elmira Mangum, President, Florida A&M University  
Linda Barge-Miles, Board of Trustees Liaison  
Vikki Shirley, Corporate Secretary

# OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED

15 NOV -2 AM 9:30

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Miami-Dade

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Board of Trustees

(Title of Office)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

[Signature]  
Signature

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26 day of October, 2015.

Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Ignacio Menejias  
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public



IGNACIO MENEJIAS  
MY COMMISSION # FF 163412  
EXPIRES: September 25, 2018  
Bonded Thru Budget Notary Services

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced Florida Driver's License

## ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address:  Home  Office

1504 Bay Road, Apt 925

Street or Post Office Box

Miami Beach, FL 33139

City, State, Zip Code

T. Nicole Washington

Print name as you desire commission issued

[Signature]  
Signature

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public of Florida, personally appeared TASHAUNDA NILOLE WASHINGTON, who, after being duly sworn, say: (1) that he/she has carefully and personally prepared or read the answers to the foregoing questions; (2) that the information contained in said answers is complete and true; and (3) that he/she will, as an appointee, fully support the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida.

[Signature]  
Signature of Applicant-Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of October, 2015.

[Signature]  
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida



(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

My commission expires: 03-06-2016

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced Florida Driver License

(seal)



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED

15 AUG 27 AM 9:49

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

August 24, 2015

Secretary Kenneth W. Detzner  
Department of State  
State of Florida  
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Detzner:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 1001.71, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Joseph D. Conte  
550 Via Lugano  
Winter Park, Florida 32789

as a member of the Board of Trustees, University of Central Florida, succeeding James Atchison, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective July 31, 2015, for a term ending January 6, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott  
Governor

RS/bj

# OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED  
2015 SEP 21 AM 9:30

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Orange

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA TRUSTEE  
(Title of Office)

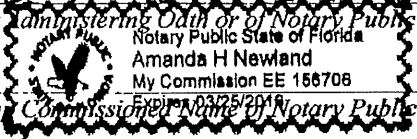
on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

Joseph D. Conte  
Signature

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16 day of September, 2015

Amanda H. Newland  
Signature of Officer



Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_

## ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address:  Home  Office

550 VIA LUGANO  
Street or Post Office Box

WINTER PARK, FL 32789  
City, State, Zip Code

JOSEPH D. CONTE  
Print name as you desire commission issued

Joseph D. Conte  
Signature



CERTIFICATION

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
2015 OCT 12 AM 10:50

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF Orange

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public of Florida, personally appeared

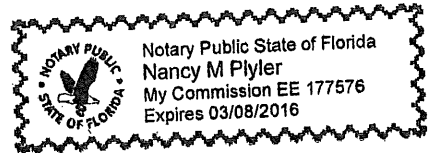
Joseph D. Conte

who, after being duly sworn, say: (1) that he/she has carefully and personally prepared or read the answers to the foregoing questions; (2) that the information contained in said answers is complete and true; and (3) that he/she will, as an appointee, fully support the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida.

Joseph D. Conte  
Signature of Applicant-Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015.

Nancy M Plyler  
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida



Nancy M. Plyler  
(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

My commission expires: 3/8/2016

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced N/A

(seal)



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED  
15 AUG 27 AM 9:49  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

August 24, 2015

Secretary Kenneth W. Detzner  
Department of State  
State of Florida  
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Detzner:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 1001.71, Florida Statutes:

Mr. William E. Yeargin  
3715 Lake Pickett Place  
Chuluota, Florida 32766

as a member of the Board of Trustees, University of Central Florida, succeeding Richard Crotty, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective July 31, 2015, for a term ending January 6, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott  
Governor

RS/bj

# OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF  
2015 OCT -9 AM 9:39

STATE OF FLORIDA

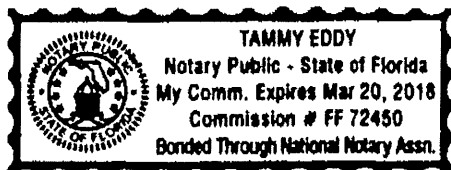
County of Orange

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Board Trustee - UCF  
(Title of Office)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]



Signature [Handwritten Signature]

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25<sup>th</sup> day of Sept., 2015.

Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public Tammy Eddy

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public Tammy Eddy

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_

## ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address:  Home  Office

2715 Lake Pickett Pl

Street or Post Office Box

Chulbota, FL, 32766

City, State, Zip Code

William E. Yeargin

Print name as you desire commission issued

Signature [Handwritten Signature]

CERTIFICATION

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
2015 OCT 14 AM 9:50  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF Orange

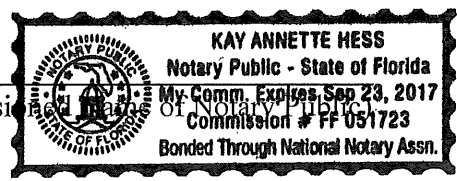
Before me, the undersigned Notary Public of Florida, personally appeared  
William E Yeargan,  
who, after being duty sworn, say: (1) that he/she has carefully and personally prepared or read  
the answers to the foregoing questions; (2) that the information contained in said answers is  
complete and true; and (3) that he/she will, as an appointee, fully support the Constitutions of the  
United States and of the State of Florida.

[Signature]  
Signature of Applicant-Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of October, 2015.

Kay Annette Hess  
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida

(Print, Type, or Stamp Commission # of Notary Public)



My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_

(seal)



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED  
15 SEP -4 AM 9:47  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

August 27, 2015

Secretary Kenneth W. Detzner  
Department of State  
State of Florida  
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Detzner:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 1001.71, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Leonard D. Boord  
7647 Southwest 54 Court  
Miami, Florida 33143

as a member of the Board of Trustees, Florida International University, succeeding Sukrit Agrawal, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective August 26, 2015, for a term ending January 6, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott  
Governor

RS/bj

# OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED  
2015 SEP 23 AM 9:58  
NOTARY PUBLIC

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Dade

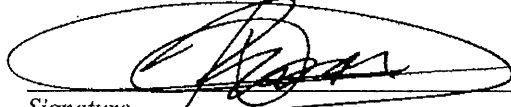
I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Trustee for Florida International University

(Title of Office)


on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]



Signature

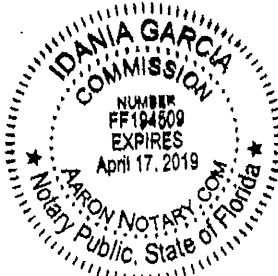
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15<sup>th</sup> day of Sept., 2015

  
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_



## ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address:  Home  Office

7647 SW 54 Ct.

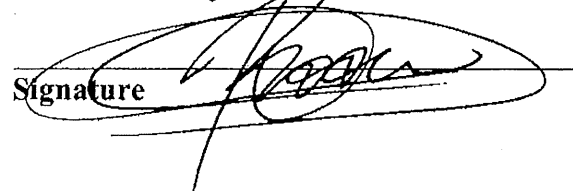
Street or Post Office Box

Miami, FL 33143

City, State, Zip Code

Leonard Boord

Print name as you desire commission issued


  
Signature

CERTIFICATION

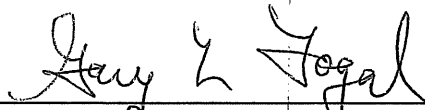
RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
2015 NOV 24 AM 9:49  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF DADE COUNTY

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public of Florida, personally appeared LEONARD BOOZ, who, after being duly sworn, say: (1) that he/she has carefully and personally prepared or read the answers to the foregoing questions; (2) that the information contained in said answers is complete and true; and (3) that he/she will, as an appointee, fully support the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida.

  
Signature of Applicant-Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of NOVEMBER, 2015.

  
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida

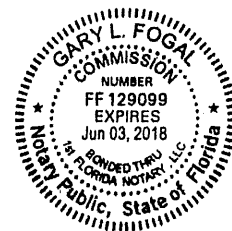
Gary L Fogal  
(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

My commission expires: June 3, 2018

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced FLORIDA DRIVERS LICENSE

(seal)





STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
SYSTEM  
of FLORIDA  
Board of Governors

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF  
2015 APR -2 AM 10:09  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Office of the Chancellor  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1614  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
Phone 850.245.0466  
Fax 850.245.9685  
www.flbog.edu

March 25, 2015

Ms. Natasha Lowell  
185 West Sunrise Avenue  
Coral Gables, Florida 33133

Dear Ms. Lowell:

On Thursday, March 19, 2015, the Florida Board of Governors approved the recommendation made by its Nomination and Governance Committee to appoint you as a member of the Florida International University Board of Trustees. Please accept our congratulations.

The appointment acknowledges your record of public service and numerous career milestones. Your achievements are sure to provide expertise to the State University System of Florida and Florida International University as you serve in the capacity of a trustee. The appointment, subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate, and your attendance of a System orientation session conducted by the Board of Governors, is for a term that began March 19, 2015 and ends on January 6, 2020.

Your role as a trustee is vital to the governance and success of our System. Members of the Board of Governors rely on all the university trustees to exercise due diligence in connection with their oversight responsibilities for our universities.

Thank you for your willingness to serve. We look forward to working with you as a member of the Florida International University Board of Trustees.

Sincerely,

Marshall Criser III  
Chancellor

c: Mori Hosseini, Chair, Board of Governors,  
and Chair, Nomination and Governance Committee  
Albert Maury, Chair, Board of Trustees  
Mark Rosenberg, President, Florida International University  
Milly Bello, Board of Trustees Liaison  
Vikki Shirley, Corporate Secretary



**OATH OF OFFICE**  
(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF  
2015 JUN 15 AM 10:07  
DIVISION OF CLERKING

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Miami-Dade

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Board of Trustees, Florida International University

(Title of Office)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

*Natasha Lowell*  
Signature

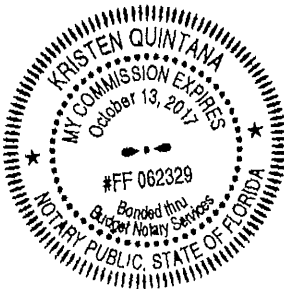
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11 day of June, 2015

*Kristen Quintana*  
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Kristen Quintana  
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced



**ACCEPTANCE**

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address:  Home  Office

185 W Sunrise Avenue

Street or Post Office Box

Coral Gables, FL 33133

City, State, Zip Code

Natasha Lowell

Print name as you desire commission issued

*Natasha Lowell*  
Signature

113584

CERTIFICATION

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
2015 OCT -6 AM 9:56  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
TALLAHASSEE, FL

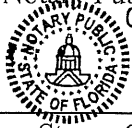
STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF MIAMI - DADE

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public of Florida, personally appeared NATASHA LOWELL, who, after being duly sworn, say: (1) that he/she has carefully and personally prepared or read the answers to the foregoing questions; (2) that the information contained in said answers is complete and true; and (3) that he/she will, as an appointee, fully support the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida.

*Natasha Lowell*  
Signature of Applicant-Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2015.

*Grace Vanessa Valdivia*  
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida



Grace Vanessa Valdivia  
COMMISSION # FF125479  
EXPIRES: MAY 21, 2018  
BONDED THRU

1st FLORIDA NOTARY, LLC  
(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

My commission expires: MAY 21, 2018

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_

(seal)



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
2015 AUG 18 AM 9:55  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
TALLAHASSEE, FL

July 15, 2015

Secretary Kenneth W. Detzner  
Department of State  
State of Florida  
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Detzner:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 1001.71, Florida Statutes:

Major General (Ret.) Douglas Burnett  
291 Sophia Terrace  
St. Augustine, Florida 32095

as a member of the Board of Trustees, University of North Florida, succeeding Bruce Taylor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective July 2, 2015, for a term ending January 6, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott  
Governor

RS/bj

**OATH OF OFFICE**  
(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED  
2015 SEP 30 AM 9:57

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of St. Johns

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Board of Trustees University of North Florida

(Title of Office)

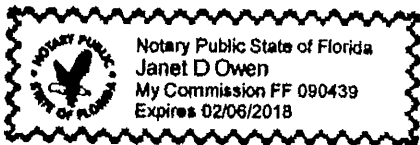
on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

[Signature]  
Signature

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2015.

[Signature]  
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public



Janet D. Owen  
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCEPTANCE**

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address:  Home  Office

291 Sophia Terrace  
Street or Post Office Box  
St. Augustine, FL 32095-8833  
City, State, Zip Code

Major General (R) Douglas Burnett  
Print name as you desire commission issued  
[Signature]  
Signature

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF   Duval  

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public of Florida, personally appeared

  DOUGLAS BURNETT  ,

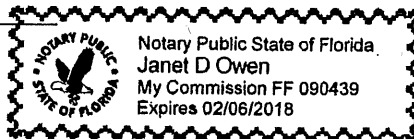
who, after being duty sworn, say: (1) that he/she has carefully and personally prepared or read the answers to the foregoing questions; (2) that the information contained in said answers is complete and true; and (3) that he/she will, as an appointee, fully support the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida.

  Douglas Burnett  

Signature of Applicant-Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this   15th   day of   October  , 20  15  .

  Janet D. Owen    
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida



  JANET D. OWEN    
(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_

(seal)



STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
SYSTEM  
of FLORIDA  
Board of Governors

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
2015 APR -2 AM 10:10  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

Office of the Chancellor  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1614  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
Phone 850.245.0466  
Fax 850.245.9685  
www.flbog.edu

March 25, 2015

Mr. Mort O'Sullivan  
407 Bayshore Drive  
Pensacola, Florida 32507

Dear Mr. O'Sullivan:

On Thursday, March 19, 2015, the Florida Board of Governors approved the recommendation made by its Nomination and Governance Committee to reappoint you as a member of the University of West Florida Board of Trustees. Please accept our congratulations.

The reappointment acknowledges your record of public service and numerous career milestones. Your achievements are sure to provide expertise to the State University System of Florida and the University of West Florida as you continue to serve in the capacity of a trustee. The reappointment, subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate, and your attendance of a System orientation session conducted by the Board of Governors, is for a term that began March 19, 2015 and ends on January 6, 2020.

Your role as a trustee is vital to the governance and success of our System. Members of the Board of Governors rely on all the university trustees to exercise due diligence in connection with their oversight responsibilities for our universities.

Thank you for your willingness to serve. We look forward to continuing to work with you as a member of the University of West Florida Board of Trustees.

Sincerely,

Marshall Criser III  
Chancellor

c: Mori Hosseini, Chair, Board of Governors,  
and Chair, Nomination and Governance Committee  
Lewis Bear, Jr., Chair, Board of Trustees  
Judy Bense, President, University of West Florida  
Andrew Romer, Board of Trustees Liaison  
Vikki Shirley, Corporate Secretary

STATE UNIVERSITY  
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

# OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

15 JUN 15 PM 12:42

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Escambia

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Board of Trustee for the University of West Florida

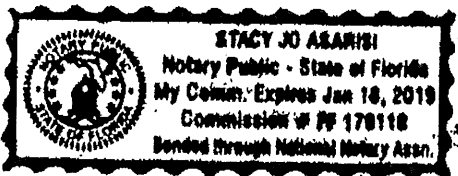
(Title of Office)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

J. Mort O'Sullivan, III  
Signature

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9 day of June, 2015



Stacy Jo Asarisi  
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Stacy Jo Asarisi  
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_

## ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address:  Home  Office

316 S. Baylen Street Ste. 300  
Street or Post Office Box  
Pensacola, FL 32502  
City, State, Zip Code

J. Mort O'Sullivan, III  
Print name as you desire commission issued  
J. Mort O'Sullivan, III  
Signature

15 JUN 29 AM 11:00  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

CERTIFICATION

15 JUN 29 AM 11:00

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF Escambia

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
SECRETARY OF STATE

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public of Florida, personally appeared  
John Mortimer O'Sullivan, III

who, after being duty sworn, say: (1) that he/she has carefully and personally prepared or read the answers to the foregoing questions; (2) that the information contained in said answers is complete and true; and (3) that he/she will, as an appointee, fully support the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida.

*J Mortimer O'Sullivan III*  
Signature of Applicant-Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9 day of June, 2015.

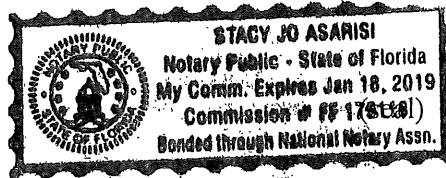
*Stacy Jo Asarisi*  
Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida

Stacy Jo Asarisi  
(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

My commission expires: Jan 18, 2019

Personally Known  OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced \_\_\_\_\_





# CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: KN 412  
Caption: Senate Higher Ed Committee

Case No.:  
Judge:

Type:

Started: 1/25/2016 1:02:16 PM

Ends: 1/25/2016 1:30:39 PM

Length: 00:28:24

1:02:14 PM Meeting called to order - Roll Call  
1:02:23 PM Quorum present  
1:02:41 PM Chair  
1:02:44 PM Sen. Legg is excused  
1:02:48 PM Tab 1 - SB 800 by Sen. Brandes  
1:03:10 PM Sen. Brandes  
1:03:34 PM Courtesy - Late filed Amendment # 353390 by Sen. Gaetz - Sen. Brandes to present  
1:04:08 PM Bob Boyd, Gen. Counsel, Independent Colleges & Univ. of Florida (ICUF), waives in support  
1:04:32 PM Amendment # 353390 is adopted  
1:04:51 PM Curtis Austin, ED, Fla. Association of Postsecondary Schools & Colleges (FAPSC)  
1:05:23 PM Tanya Cooper, Director, Gov. Relations, DOE, waives in support  
1:05:37 PM Bob Harris, Attorney, City College and DeVry University, Speaking in support of bill  
1:06:53 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:07:44 PM Bob Harris in response  
1:08:27 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:09:02 PM Chair  
1:09:08 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:09:29 PM Sen. Brandes  
1:09:31 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:09:39 PM Sen. Brandes  
1:09:46 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:10:13 PM Sen. Brandes  
1:10:56 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:11:32 PM Sen. Brandes  
1:11:49 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:11:56 PM Sen. Brandes  
1:12:02 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:12:08 PM Sen. Brandes  
1:12:16 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:12:38 PM Sen. Brandes  
1:12:54 PM Sen. Joyner  
1:13:05 PM Chair  
1:13:35 PM Sen. Brandes waives to close  
1:13:42 PM Roll Call on CS/SB 800 -  
1:13:55 PM CS/SB 800 - favorable  
1:14:09 PM Tab 3 - SB 1638, by Sen. Lee, presented by Doug Roberts, Leg. Assistant to Sen. Lee  
1:15:01 PM Chair  
1:15:19 PM Sen. Lee waives to close  
1:15:26 PM Roll Call on SB 1638  
1:15:33 PM SB 1638 - favorable  
1:15:57 PM Tab 4 - SB 1670 by Sen. Bean, presented by Dee Alexander, Leg. Assistant to Sen. Bean  
1:18:11 PM Chair  
1:18:17 PM Amendment # 611850 by Sen. Sachs  
1:18:32 PM Chair  
1:18:41 PM Late failed amendment presented without objection  
1:19:03 PM Fely Curva, Society of Health and Physical Educ. Florida, the support the bill but wish to speak against  
the amend  
1:19:42 PM Vern Pickup Crawford, Legislative Liaison, Palm Beach School District, waive in support of bill  
1:20:09 PM Amendment is adopted  
1:20:32 PM Jennifer Silva, FSU Jacksonville, Director of Government, speaking for the bill  
1:21:23 PM Chair  
1:21:35 PM Sen. Bean waives to close

**1:21:39 PM** Roll call on CS/SB 1670  
**1:21:51 PM** CS/SB 1670 - favorable  
**1:22:11 PM** Chair  
**1:22:13 PM** Tab 5 -9 Appointments, Nicole T. Washington; Joseph D. Conte; William E. Yeargin; Leonard Boord; Natash Lowell; Douglas Burnett; John Mortimer O'Sullivan  
**1:22:31 PM** Sen. Negron moves to recommend confirmation on all appointees  
**1:22:48 PM** Roll call for appointments - confirmations - approved  
**1:23:05 PM** Recording Paused  
**1:27:36 PM** Recording Resumed  
**1:28:00 PM** Tab 2 - SB 836 By Sen. Gaetz  
**1:29:23 PM** Chair  
**1:29:38 PM** Sen. Gaetz waives to close  
**1:29:44 PM** Roll Call on SB 836  
**1:29:52 PM** SB 836 - favorable  
**1:30:03 PM** Sen. Gaetz wishes to show a favorable vote on Senate Bills 800, 1638 and 1670  
**1:30:08 PM** Chair, without objection show that done  
**1:30:18 PM** Chair without objection we will adjourn



# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

## COMMITTEES:

Education Pre-K - 12, Chair  
Ethics and Elections, Vice Chair  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Education  
Fiscal Policy  
Government Oversight and Accountability  
Higher Education

**SENATOR JOHN LEGG**

17th District

Legg.John.web@FLSenate.gov

January 25, 2016

The Honorable Kelli Stargel  
Committee on Higher Education, Chair  
415 Knott Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**RE: Excused Absence**

Dear Chair Stargel:

I am unable to attend the Committee on Higher Education on Monday, January 25, 2016, and I respectfully request that this absence be excused. My mother has suffered a critical health incident, and my presence is needed at home. Your leadership and consideration are appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Legg", written over a horizontal line.

John Legg  
State Senator, District 17

cc: Theresa Klebacha, Staff Director  
Michelle Perez, Administrative Assistant

REPLY TO:

- 262 Crystal Grove Boulevard, Lutz, Florida 33548 (813) 909-9919
- 316 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5017

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**ANDY GARDINER**  
President of the Senate

**GARRETT RICHTER**  
President Pro Tempore



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

### COMMITTEES:

Appropriations, *Vice Chair*  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Education  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health  
and Human Services  
Banking and Insurance  
Education  
Ethics and Elections  
Gaming  
Governmental Oversight and Accountability  
Rules

### SENATOR LIZBETH BENACQUISTO

*Majority Leader*  
30th District

January 25, 2016

The Honorable Kelli Stargel, Chair  
Senate Higher Education Committee  
324 Senate Office Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Chairwoman Stargel,

Please excuse me from attending the Senate Committee on Higher Education today, January 25th. I unfortunately must miss committee. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lizbeth Benacquisto".

Lizbeth Benacquisto  
Senate District 30

#### REPLY TO:

- 1926 Victoria Ave, 2nd Floor, Fort Myers, Florida 33901 (239) 338-2570
- 330 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5030

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**DON GAETZ**  
President of the Senate

**GARRETT RICHTER**  
President Pro Tempore