

By Senator Diaz-Balart

37-30-00

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to postsecondary education;  
authorizing a college of law at Florida  
International University and Florida  
Agricultural and Mechanical University;  
providing duties of the Board of Regents and  
others; providing authority to accept grants  
and other available funds; providing an  
effective date.

WHEREAS, this state does not provide adequate access to  
public colleges of law to meet the growing demands of its  
residents for legal education, and

WHEREAS, the residents of this state have not been  
afforded sufficient opportunities to obtain a public legal  
education and a need exists for colleges of law within the  
State University System which can serve this demand, and

WHEREAS, minorities are not represented in proper  
proportion with the practicing bar of this state, and

WHEREAS, additional public law schools, if established,  
should be administered by the public universities whose  
student enrollment best exemplifies the extent of diversity  
within the total minority community in the state, NOW,  
THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. (1) A college of law is authorized at  
Florida International University.

(2) The college of law at Florida International  
University must be operated in compliance with the standards

1 approved by nationally recognized associations for accredited  
2 colleges of law.

3 (3) The Board of Regents shall commence the planning  
4 of a college of law at Florida International University. In  
5 planning the college of law, the Board of Regents and the  
6 State Board of Education may accept grants, donations, gifts,  
7 and moneys available for this purpose, including moneys for  
8 planning and constructing the college. The Board of Regents  
9 may procure and accept any federal funds that are available  
10 for the planning, creation, and establishment of the college  
11 of law. Classes must commence by January 1, 2001.

12 Section 2. (1) A college of law is authorized at  
13 Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

14 (2) The college of law at Florida Agricultural and  
15 Mechanical University must be operated in compliance with the  
16 standards approved by nationally recognized associations for  
17 accredited colleges of law.

18 (3) The Board of Regents shall commence the planning  
19 of a college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical  
20 University. In planning the college of law, the Board of  
21 Regents and the State Board of Education may accept grants,  
22 donations, gifts, and moneys available for this purpose,  
23 including moneys for planning and constructing the college.  
24 The Board of Regents may procure and accept any federal funds  
25 that are available for the planning, creation, and  
26 establishment of the college of law. Classes must commence by  
27 January 1, 2001.

28 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
29 law.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Establishes colleges of law at Florida International University and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Requires that such colleges comply with certain standards. Authorizes the Board of Regents to plan and accept funds for such colleges. Requires that classes commence by January 1, 2001.