Tab 4	**SB 816** by **Bradley;** Identical to H 00901 Diabetes Research

Tab 3	**SB 720** by **Osgood;** Resident Status for Tuition Purposes

Tab 1	**SB 176** by **Polsky;** Identical to H 00077 Public Postsecondary Education Safety Policies and Procedures

Tab 2	**SB 372** by **Trumbull;** Identical to H 00307 Public Postsecondary Tuition and Fee Waivers for Sheriff's Office Employees

The Florida Senate

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

EDUCATION POSTSECONDARY
Senator Calatayud, Chair
Senator Simon, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, January 13, 2026
TIME: 4:00—6:00 p.m.
PLACE: 301 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Calatayud, Chair; Senator Simon, Vice Chair; Senators Berman, Harrell, Jones, and Rodriguez

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	**SB 176** Polsky (Identical H 77)	Public Postsecondary Education Safety Policies and Procedures; Requiring state universities and Florida College System institutions to adopt and implement specified policies and procedures relating to safety; providing requirements for such policies and procedures; requiring state universities and Florida College System institutions to annually review and update the policies and procedures, etc. HE 01/13/2026 Favorable AHE RC	Favorable Yeas 6 Nays 0
2	**SB 372** Trumbull (Identical H 307)	Public Postsecondary Tuition and Fee Waivers for Sheriff's Office Employees; Requiring state universities and Florida College System institutions to waive tuition and fees for sheriff's office employees; providing requirements for the waiver of tuition and fees for sheriff's office employees; providing requirements for a person to be considered a sheriff's office employee, etc. HE 01/13/2026 Favorable AHE FP	Favorable Yeas 6 Nays 0
3	**SB 720** Osgood	Resident Status for Tuition Purposes; Providing that a person may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes due to incarceration, etc. HE 01/13/2026 Favorable AHE RC	Favorable Yeas 6 Nays 0

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
4	**SB 816** Bradley (Identical H 901)	Diabetes Research; Establishing the University of Florida Diabetes Institute within the University of Florida College of Medicine; authorizing the institute to administer statewide pilot programs; requiring the institute to maintain a secure repository for deidentified data; authorizing the institute to share deidentified data under certain conditions; authorizing the institute to convene a consortium, etc. HE 01/13/2026 Favorable AHE FP	Favorable Yeas 6 Nays 0

TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
	Senate Confirmation Hearing: A public hearing will be held for consideration of the below-named executive appointment to the office indicated.		
	Board of Governors of the State University System		
5	Broxson, Douglas V. (Gulf Breeze)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 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.)

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

BILL:	SB 816
INTRODUCER:	Senator Bradley
SUBJECT:	Diabetes Research
DATE:	January 12, 2026
REVISED:	

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Jahnke	Bouck	HE	**Favorable**
2.			AHE	
3.			FP	

I. Summary:

SB 816 codifies the University of Florida Diabetes Institute within the University of Florida College of Medicine as a statewide resource for diabetes research, prevention, treatment, and education, and focuses on all forms of diabetes, including type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. The bill provides for the institute to conduct research, develop prevention and treatment strategies, provide multidisciplinary clinical care, educate and train health care professionals, and engage in community outreach.

Additionally, the bill authorizes the institute to administer statewide pilot programs, maintain and share deidentified data for research purposes, and convene a statewide diabetes research and care consortium to coordinate research, share expertise, and support collaborative initiatives.

The bill implementation is subject to an appropriation in the General Appropriations Act. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Diabetes

Diabetes is a chronic health condition that affects how the human body turns food into energy. The human body breaks down most food into sugar, known as glucose,[1] which is released into

[1] Glucose is a type of sugar that primarily comes from carbohydrates consumed through food and drinks and serves as a primary source of energy for the body. Glucose circulates in the bloodstream and is transported to the body's cells for use as energy. *See:* Cleveland Clinic, *Diabetes,* https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/7104-diabetes (last visited Jan. 8, 2026).

the bloodstream. When blood glucose levels increase, the pancreas releases insulin. Insulin allows glucose to enter the body's cells, where it is used as a source of energy.

In individuals with diabetes, the body either produces insufficient insulin or uses it inefficiently. When insulin is insufficient or cells do not respond properly to insulin, excess glucose remains in the bloodstream. Over time, elevated blood glucose levels can lead to serious health complications, including heart disease, vision loss, and kidney disease.

There is currently no cure for diabetes; however, the condition can be managed through lifestyle changes and other interventions.[2]

There are three basic types of diabetes:
- Type 1 diabetes
- Type 2 diabetes
- Gestational diabetes

Type 1 Diabetes

Type 1 diabetes is thought to be caused by an autoimmune reaction in which the body's immune system attacks and destroys the cells in the pancreas that normally produce insulin. Roughly 5 to 10 percent of people with diabetes have type 1. Symptoms of type 1 often develop quickly. It is usually diagnosed in children, teens, and young adults. Someone with type 1 diabetes must take insulin regularly to survive, usually through subcutaneous injection one or more times per day. Currently, type 1 diabetes can neither be prevented nor cured.[3]

Type 2 Diabetes

In type 2 diabetes, the body does not use insulin effectively, leading to elevated blood glucose levels. About 90 to 95 percent of people with diabetes have type 2. It develops over many years and is usually diagnosed in overweight, middle-aged adults, although it can sometimes manifest in adolescents and young adults. Type 2 diabetes can often be prevented, delayed, or even eliminated through healthy lifestyle changes, such as losing weight, eating a healthy diet, and exercising regularly.[4] Type 2 diabetes is usually treated with oral medications, but can require insulin injections in some cases.

Gestational Diabetes

Gestational diabetes develops in pregnant women who have never had diabetes. If a woman has gestational diabetes, her baby could be at higher risk for health problems. Gestational diabetes usually goes away after the baby is born. However, it increases the mother's risk for

[2] U.S. Centers for Disease Control, *Diabetes Basics*, https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/about/index.html (last visited Jan. 7, 2026).
[3] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Type 1 Diabetes,* https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/about/about-type-1-diabetes.html (last visited Jan. 7, 2026).
[4] U.S. Centers for Disease Control, *Type 2 Diabetes*, https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/about/about-type-2-diabetes.html (last visited Jan. 7, 2026).

type 2 diabetes later in life, and the baby is more likely to have obesity as a child or teen and develop type 2 diabetes later in life.[5]

Prevalence of Diagnosed Diabetes

The National Diabetes Statistic Report provides up-to-date information on the prevalence and incidence of diabetes and prediabetes, risk factors for complications, acute and long-term complications, deaths, and costs. Highlights of reported statistics include the following:[6]

- In 2021, there were 29.7 million people of all ages, or 8.9 percent of the U.S. population, who had diagnosed diabetes.
- In 2021, there were 352,000 children and adolescents younger than age 20 who had diagnosed diabetes, including 304,000 with Type 1 diabetes.

Diabetes in Florida

In Florida, recent estimates indicate that roughly 9.6 percent to 11.6 percent of the adult population has diagnosed diabetes, representing more than 2 million adults with the condition. An estimated 117,000 Florida adults are newly diagnosed each year, reflecting the prevalence of diabetes in the state.[7]

University of Florida Diabetes Institute

The University of Florida (UF) Diabetes Institute was founded in 2015 and operates within UF and UF Health, the university's academic health center. The institute serves as an umbrella organization that coordinates diabetes-related research, treatment, and education activities across the university.

Researchers and physicians affiliated with the institute work to prevent, diagnose, and treat diabetes across a wide range of disciplines, including immunology, genetics, endocrinology, metabolism, pediatrics, and social sciences. The institute supports both basic and clinical research and participates in national and international research collaborations to understand the causes of diabetes and improve its treatment and management.[8]

The UF Diabetes Institute serves as the primary coordinating center for the Breakthrough T1D[9] Network for Pancreatic Organ Donors with Diabetes, which supports research using donated pancreatic tissue to study how diabetes develops. In this role, the institute coordinates a global

[5] U.S. Centers for Disease Control, *Diabetes Basics*, https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/about/index.html (last visited Jan. 7, 2026).
[6] U.S. Centers for Disease Control, *National Diabetes Statistical Report*, https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/php/data-research/index.html (last visited Jan. 7, 2026).
[7] American Diabetes Association, *The Burden of Diabetes in Florida (February 2025), available at*, https://diabetes.org/sites/default/files/2025-05/the-burden-of-diabetes-florida-05-08-25.pdf.
[8] University of Florida, UF Diabetes Institute, *About the UF Diabetes Institute*, https://diabetes.ufl.edu/about-us/ (last visited Jan. 7, 2026).
[9] Breakthrough T1D was formerly known as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

network of researchers and participates in international efforts to examine genetic and environmental factors associated with diabetes.[10]

Faculty affiliated with the UF Diabetes Institute have received competitive research funding from public and private sources, including the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, Breakthrough T1D, the American Diabetes Association, the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, and other funding agencies. According to the institute, current annual diabetes-related research funding exceeds $15 million, and UF faculty scholarship includes more than 1,100 papers, chapters, and books.[11]

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 816 creates s. 1004.562, F.S., to codify the University of Florida (UF) Diabetes Institute within the UF College of Medicine as a statewide resource for diabetes research, prevention, treatment, and education. The institute's purpose is to advance scientific discovery, improve prevention and clinical care, and promote education and outreach on all forms of diabetes, including type 1, type 2, gestational, and related metabolic conditions. The bill requires the institute to:

- Conduct research on the causes, mechanisms, and potential cures of diabetes, including autoimmune, genetic, and environmental factors.
- Develop advanced prevention, diagnostic, and treatment strategies to reduce the incidence and complications of diabetes.
- Provide comprehensive, multidisciplinary clinical care to individuals living with diabetes, including patient and family education, nutrition counseling, mental health support, and disease management resources.
- Train and educate health care professionals, including physicians, nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, and scientists, to expand expertise in diabetes care and research.
- Collaborate with state universities, medical centers, community organizations, patient advocacy groups, and government agencies to advance care and accelerate progress towards prevention and cures.
- Engage in community-based outreach and education programs to reduce disparities and promote healthier lifestyles.

The bill authorizes the institute to establish and administer statewide pilot programs, including, but not limited to, screening, prevention initiatives, and technology-driven management tools. The institute must maintain a secure repository of deidentified data to advance diabetes research, prevention, and care. The bill authorizes the institute to share deidentified data with research collaborators under data-sharing agreements to support ongoing and future scientific investigations.

The bill authorizes the institute to convene a statewide diabetes research and care consortium composed of clinical and academic experts, health care providers, and patient representatives to coordinate research, share expertise, and develop innovative care models. Upon convening, the

[10] University of Florida, UF Diabetes Institute, *About the UF Diabetes Institute*, https://diabetes.ufl.edu/about-us/ (last visited Jan. 7, 2026).
[11] *Id.*

consortium must be administered by the institute under the direction of the institution's executive leadership. Additionally, the bill authorizes the consortium to solicit funding from public, nonprofit, and private sources to expand programs, research initiatives, and community services.

The bill requires the institute to provide an annual report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, beginning October 15, 2027, detailing research projects and findings; clinical services provided and patient outcomes; community outreach and prevention initiatives; and recommendations for future initiatives.

The bill's implementation is contingent on an appropriation provided by the General Appropriations Act or from other available funds.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate. The implementation of the bill is contingent on the availability of funding provided in the General Appropriations Act or from other available funds.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 1004.562 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.

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

By Senator Bradley

6-01133-26 2026816__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to diabetes research; creating s. 1004.562, F.S.; establishing the University of Florida Diabetes Institute within the University of Florida College of Medicine; providing the purpose of the institute; providing requirements for the institute; authorizing the institute to administer statewide pilot programs; requiring the institute to maintain a secure repository for deidentified data; authorizing the institute to share deidentified data under certain conditions; authorizing the institute to convene a consortium; providing requirements for the consortium; authorizing the consortium to solicit funding from certain sources for certain purposes; requiring the institute to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature beginning on a specified date and annually thereafter; providing requirements for the report; providing construction; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 1004.562, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1004.562 University of Florida Diabetes Institute.—

(1) The University of Florida Diabetes Institute is established within the University of Florida College of Medicine as a resource for diabetes research, screening, prevention, treatment, and education. The purpose of the institute is to advance scientific discovery, improve prevention and clinical

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

Florida Senate - 2026 **SB 816**

6-01133-26 2026816__

care, and promote education and outreach related to all forms of diabetes, including type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes, gestational diabetes, and related metabolic conditions.

(2) The institute shall do all of the following:

(a) Conduct research to understand the causes, mechanisms, and potential cures for diabetes, including autoimmune, genetic, and environmental factors.

(b) Develop advanced prevention, diagnostic, and treatment strategies to reduce the incidence and complications of diabetes in children and adults.

(c) Provide comprehensive, multidisciplinary clinical care to individuals living with diabetes, including patient and family education, nutrition counseling, mental health support, and disease management resources.

(d) Train and educate health care professionals, including physicians, nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, and scientists, to expand expertise in diabetes care and research.

(e) Establish collaborations with state universities, medical centers, patient advocacy groups, community organizations, and government agencies to enhance care and accelerate progress toward diabetes prevention and cures.

(f) Engage in community-based outreach and education programs to increase awareness, reduce disparities in diabetes outcomes, and promote healthier lifestyles.

(3)(a) The institute may establish and administer statewide pilot programs, including, but not limited to, population-based diabetes screening, prevention initiatives, and technology-driven management tools.

(b) The institute shall maintain a secure data repository

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to collect, store, and analyze deidentified data for the purpose of advancing diabetes research, prevention, and care.

(c) The institute may provide deidentified data, pursuant to data-sharing agreements, to research collaborators to support ongoing and future scientific investigations.

(4)(a) The institute may convene a statewide diabetes research and care consortium composed of clinical and academic experts, health care providers, and patient representatives to coordinate research, share expertise, and develop innovative care models.

(b) The consortium shall, upon being convened, be administered at the institute under the direction of the institute's executive leadership.

(c) The consortium may solicit funding from public, nonprofit, and private sources to expand programs, research initiatives, and community services.

(5) Beginning October 15, 2027, and annually thereafter, the institute shall provide a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which includes all of the following:

(a) Research projects and findings.

(b) Clinical services provided and patient outcomes.

(c) Community outreach and prevention initiatives.

(d) Recommendations for future initiatives.

(6) This section shall be implemented to the extent of appropriations provided in the annual General Appropriations Act or from other available funds.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Meeting Date	Bill Number or Topic
1/13/26	SB 816
Committee	**Amendment Barcode (if applicable)**
Education Postsecondar	

Name Monica Rodriguez Phone 850 766-6287

Address 201 N Park Ave #5 Email monica@ballardpartners.com

Street

Tallahassee, Fl

City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☑ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

☑ I am a registered lobbyist, representing: UF Health

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022JointRules.pdf (flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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1/13/26
Meeting Date

Education Post-Secondary
Committee

816
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Chris Nuland

Phone 904-233-3051

Address 4427 Herschel St
Street

Email nulandlaw@aol.com

Jacksonville FL 32210
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☑ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

☑ I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

Florida Chapter, American College of Physicians

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022JointRules.pdf (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

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.)

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

BILL:	SB 720
INTRODUCER:	Senator Osgood
SUBJECT:	Resident Status for Tuition Purposes
DATE:	January 12, 2026
REVISED:	

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Bouck	Bouck	HE	**Favorable**
2.			AHE	
3.			RC	

I. Summary:

SB 720 provides that an individual may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes due to incarceration in a state or federal correctional facility in this state.

This bill does not have appear to have a fiscal impact. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

The bill is effective July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Residency Status for Tuition Purposes

Students must be classified as residents or nonresidents for the purpose of assessing tuition in postsecondary educational programs offered by charter technical career centers, career centers operated by school districts, Florida College System (FCS) institutions, and state universities. Students pay differing tuition rates based on their status as a resident or nonresident of Florida.[1] A "resident for tuition purposes" means an admitted or currently enrolled student who meets the residency requirements in statute and rule or regulation, and is therefore eligible to pay the resident tuition and fee rate.[2]

Specifically, to qualify as a resident for tuition purposes:

- A person, or if that person is a dependent child, his or her parent or parents must have established legal residence in Florida and must have maintained legal residence for at least 12 consecutive months immediately prior to his or her initial enrollment in an institution of higher education.

[1] Section 1009.21. F.S.
[2] Rule 6A-10.044, F.A.C. and Board of Governors Regulation 7.005.

- Every applicant for admission to an institution of higher education must make a statement as to his or her length of residence and establish that his or her presence or, if the applicant is a dependent child, the presence of his or her parent or parents in Florida currently is, and during the requisite 12-month qualifying period was, for the purpose of maintaining a bona fide domicile.[3]

A person must show certain proof that he or she should be classified as a resident for tuition purposes and may not receive the in-state tuition rate until clear and convincing evidence related to legal residence and its duration has been provided. Each institution of higher education must make a residency determination that is documented by the submission of written or electronic verification that includes two or more specified documents that:

- Must include at least one of the following ("Tier 1"):
  - A Florida voter's registration card.
  - A Florida driver license.
  - A State of Florida identification card.
  - A Florida vehicle registration.
  - Proof of a permanent home in Florida which is occupied as a primary residence by the individual or by the individual's parent if the individual is a dependent child.
  - Proof of a homestead exemption in Florida.
  - Transcripts from a Florida high school for multiple years if the Florida high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma was earned within the last 12 months.
  - Proof of permanent full-time employment in Florida for at least 30 hours per week for a 12-month period.
- May include one or more of the following ("Tier 2"):
  - A declaration of domicile in Florida.
  - A Florida professional or occupational license.
  - Florida incorporation.
  - A document evidencing family ties in Florida.
  - Proof of membership in a Florida-based charitable or professional organization.
  - Any other documentation that supports the student's request for resident status, including, but not limited to, utility bills and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments; a lease agreement and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments; or an official state, federal, or court document evidencing legal ties to Florida.[4]

Florida Residency for Incarcerated Individuals

Each FCS institution and state university must develop regulations, policies, and procedures for determining each admitted student's Florida residency status for tuition purposes.[5] Therefore, each institution of higher education's must establish policies regarding incarcerated individuals. For example, Tallahassee State College and St. Petersburg College both require an incarcerated individual to provide documentation that he or she lived in Florida for 12 months before incarceration and requires Tier 1 and Tier 2 documentation to prove his or her physical presence

[3] Section 1009.21(2)(a), F.S.
[4] Section 1009.21(3), F.S.
[5] Rule 6A-10.044(3), F.A.C. and Board of Governors Regulation 7.005(5).

in Florida for 12 months before being incarcerated. If the individual has been released for a year or longer, he or she must provide documentation for the most recent 12 months.[6]

Tuition and Out-of-State Fees

Florida law defines "tuition" as the basic fee charged to a student for instruction provided by a public postsecondary educational institution in the state. A student who is classified as a "resident for tuition purposes" qualifies for the in-state tuition rate. An "out-of-state fee" is the additional fee for instruction provided by a public postsecondary education institution in the state, and is charged to a student who does not qualify for the in-state tuition rate.[7]

Residents for tuition purposes are charged in-state rates for tuition while non-residents pay out-of-state fees in addition to tuition, unless these costs are exempted or waived.[8] The resident undergraduate tuition rate for the State University System (SUS) is currently set in statute at $105.07 per credit hour.[9] The SUS average cost of resident and nonresident tuition and fees per credit hour is shown below:[10]

State University System Tuition & Fees				
Undergraduate Baccalaureate	**Standard Tuition (Per Credit Hour)**	**Average Tuition & Fees (Per Credit Hour)**	**Standard Tuition (Per 30 Credit Hours)**	**Average Tuition & Fees (Per 30 Credit Hours)**
Resident	$105.07	$200.08	$3,152.10	$6,002.41
Non-Resident	$105.07	$690.99	$3,152.10	$20,729.69
Difference	-	$490.91	-	$14,727.28

Within the FCS, for college credit courses in advanced and professional, postsecondary vocational, developmental education, and educator preparation institute programs, the standard tuition is $71.98 per credit hour for residents and nonresidents, and the out-of-state fee is $215.94 per credit hour. Baccalaureate degree program tuition is $91.79 per credit hour for students who are residents for tuition purposes. The sum of the tuition and the out-of-state fee per credit hour for students who are nonresidents for tuition purposes can be no more than 85 percent of the sum of the tuition and the out-of-state fee at the state university nearest the FCS institution.[11]

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This bill modifies s. 1009.21, F.S., by providing that an individual who has met the requirements to be classified as a resident for tuition purposes may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes solely because of incarceration in a state or federal correctional facility in Florida.

[6] Tallahassee Community College, Residency FAQs, https://www.tsc.fl.edu/media/divisions/admissions-and-recruiting/forms/Residency-FAQs.pdf and St. Petersburg College, Residency FAQs, https://www.spcollege.edu/future-students/admissions/residency/residency-faqs (last visited Jan. 10, 2026).
[7] Section. 1009.01, F.S.
[8] Section. 1009.24(2), F.S.
[9] Section. 1009.24(4)(a), F.S.
[10] Florida Board of Governors, State University System of Florida, *Tuition and Required Fees, 2025-2026*, *available at,* https://www.flbog.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2025-2026-SUS-Tuition-and-Fees-Report.pdf (last visited Jan. 10, 2026).
[11] Section 1009.23(3), F.S.

The bill is effective July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 1009.21 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.

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

By Senator Osgood

32-00638-26 2026720__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to resident status for tuition purposes; amending s. 1009.21, F.S.; providing that a person may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes due to incarceration; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Present subsections (4) through (13) of section 1009.21, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5) through (14), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

1009.21 Determination of resident status for tuition purposes.—Students shall be classified as residents or nonresidents for the purpose of assessing tuition in postsecondary educational programs offered by charter technical career centers or career centers operated by school districts, in Florida College System institutions, and in state universities.

(4) An individual may not lose his or her resident status for tuition purposes solely by reason of incarceration in a state or federal correctional facility in this state.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
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1/13/26
Meeting Date

Education Postsecondary
Committee

720
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Greg Black

Phone 8505098022

Address 215 S. Monroe Street Suite 130
Street

Email Greg@BlackConsultingLLC.com

Tallahassee FL 32301
City *State* *Zip*

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☑ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

☑ I am a registered lobbyist, representing:
Florida Chamber of Commerce

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022JointRules.pdf (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

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01/13/26
Meeting Date

Education Post Secondary
Committee

720
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Florida PTA Chairman Postal

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Street

Email education.committee@floridapta.org

Orlando FL 32809
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

☐ I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate

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1/13/26
Meeting Date

Education Post Second
Committee

SB 720
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

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City State Zip

Email advocatephilipsen@gmail.com

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

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1/13/26
Meeting Date

Post 2ndary Education
Committee

SB 720
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Denise Rock

Phone 561.855.0833

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Street

Email denise@FloridaCares Charities.org

PO 211174 WPB FL 33421
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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1/13/26
Meeting Date

Education Post Sec
Committee

SB 720
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

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City State Zip

Email balmommy@hotmail.com

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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☐ I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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1/13/2026
Meeting Date

Education Postsecondary
Committee

SB 720 Resident Status for Tuition Purposes
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Eddie Fordham

Phone (850) 698-1852

Address 603 N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Street

Email eddie4dm@gmail.com

Tallahassee | FL | 32301
City | *State* | *Zip*

Speaking: ☑ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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☐ I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

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.)

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

BILL:	SB 176
INTRODUCER:	Senator Polsky
SUBJECT:	Public Postsecondary Education Safety Policies and Procedures
DATE:	January 12, 2026 REVISED:

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Brick	Bouck	HE	**Favorable**
2.			AHE	
3.			RC	

I. Summary:

SB 176 requires each state university and Florida College System (FCS) institution to adopt and implement written safety policies and procedures intended to protect the physical safety of students, faculty, staff, and visitors in campus facilities, classrooms, and other institutional settings. The required policies and procedures must address both physical threats and other conduct or language that would cause a reasonable person to believe his or her physical safety is at risk. The bill requires each state university and FCS institution's policies and procedures to include certain provisions specified in the bill.

The bill requires each state university and FCS institution to annually review and update its policies and procedures to incorporate best practices in threat assessment, campus security, and safety.

The bill authorizes the Board of Governors to adopt regulations, and the State Board of Education to adopt rules, to administer the provisions of the bill.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Governance and Institutional Authority for Campus Safety Policy

The Board of Governors (BOG) has constitutional authority to regulate the State University System (SUS), and each local constituent university is administered by a 13-member board of trustees.[1] The BOG may adopt a regulation development procedure for the BOG and university boards of trustees to use in implementing their constitutional duties and responsibilities.[2]

[1] Art. IX, s. 7(c), Fla. Const.
[2] Art. IX, s. 7(d), Fla. Const.; s. 1001.706(2)(a), F.S.

Florida College System (FCS) institution boards of trustees have statutory authority to provide for risk management, safety, security, and law enforcement operations at the institution, including emergency response.[3]

Campus Emergency Response Information; Public Records and Open Meetings Exemptions

Current law defines "campus emergency response" to include plans and training for responding to an act of terrorism or other public safety crisis or emergency, and it specifies categories of included information.[4] Campus emergency response information includes, in part:[5]

- Threat assessments conducted by any agency or private entity.
- Threat response plans.
- Emergency evacuation plans.
- Manuals for security personnel, emergency equipment, or security training.
- Security systems or plans.
- Identification of staff involved in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery activities.
- Individual identification of affected or at-risk students, faculty, and staff and related record-transfer and family-inquiry response methods.

Any portion of a campus emergency response held by a public postsecondary educational institution is exempt from the public records requirement.[6]

Any portion of a campus emergency response held by specified governmental entities, including the BOG, the Department of Education, and state or local law enforcement and emergency management agencies, is also exempt from the public records requirement.[7]

That portion of a public meeting that would reveal information related to a campus emergency response is exempt from open meetings requirements.[8]

State University System Emergency Management Planning

BOG regulation requires each SUS university to develop and maintain a comprehensive emergency management program and maintain a comprehensive emergency management plan and continuity of operations plan.[9]

The regulation also references state emergency management law that applies to state agencies and specified facilities, including requirements related to emergency coordination and disaster preparedness planning.[10]

[3] Section 1001.64(23), F.S.
[4] Section 1004.0962(1), F.S.
[5] Section 1004.0962(1), F.S.
[6] Section 1004.0962(2)(a), F.S.
[7] Section 1004.0962(2)(b), F.S.
[8] Section 1004.0962(4), F.S.
[9] Florida Board of Governors Regulation 3.001.
[10] Section 252.365, F.S.; see also Fla. Bd. of Governors Reg. 3.001 (referencing s. 252.365, F.S.).

Federal Campus Security Disclosure Requirements

The U.S. Department of Education describes the federal campus security framework as advancing goals of keeping students, parents, and employees informed about campus security, and it states that ensuring institutional compliance and enforcement is a departmental priority.[11]

Federal regulations implementing the Clery Act framework require participating institutions to prepare and distribute an annual security report and to comply with related policy statement and campus crime statistics disclosure requirements.[12]

Federal regulations also address timely warnings and require institutions to include emergency response and evacuation procedures in the annual security report.[13]

State University System Campus Safety Summit

A Florida Board of Governors report titled "SUS Safety Summit" states that, on October 8, 2025, the SUS hosted a safety summit for university leadership and FCS leaders and discussed key safety issues, including building hardening, threat assessment, and communications.[14]

The report describes facility lock review efforts following April 17, 2025, events at Florida State University and discusses facility and physical security measures such as reinforced access points, electronic door control systems, and modernized locking technologies.[15]

The report discusses threat assessment as a proactive measure and describes multidisciplinary threat assessment teams drawing on expertise such as law enforcement, counseling, student affairs, and human resources.[16]

The report discusses emergency communications practices such as establishing communication hierarchies and distributing verified updates through multiple channels.[17]

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 176 creates s. 1004.0983, F.S., to require each state university and Florida College System (FCS) institution to adopt and implement written safety policies and procedures intended to protect the physical safety of students, faculty, staff, and visitors in campus facilities, classrooms, and other institutional settings. The required policies and procedures must address both physical threats and other conduct or language that would cause a reasonable person to believe his or her physical safety is at risk.

---

[11] U.S. Department of Educ., Campus Security, https://www.ed.gov/teaching-and-administration/safe-learning-environments/school-safety-and-security/campus-security, last visited Jan. 6, 2025.
[12] 34 C.F.R. s. 668.46(a)-(b) (annual security report requirement).
[13] 34 C.F.R. s. 668.46(e) (timely warning); 34 C.F.R. s. 668.46(j) (emergency response and evacuation procedures).
[14] Florida Board of Governors, SUS Safety Summit (Nov. 2025) at 2, *available at* https://www.flbog.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Safety-Summit-Report-DRAFT.pdf.
[15] *Id.*
[16] *Id.*
[17] Florida Board of Governors, SUS Safety Summit (Nov. 2025) at 3, *available at* https://www.flbog.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Safety-Summit-Report-DRAFT.pdf.

The bill requires each state university and FCS institution's policies and procedures to include, at a minimum, provisions that:

- Identify a responsible person who coordinates the institution's response to covered threats or conduct and implements the policies and procedures, including all safety measures.
- Establish clear internal and external reporting protocols, including notification of campus security or a local law enforcement agency when appropriate.
- Outline protective measures available to affected persons, which may include work or class relocation, security escorts, and restricting access to certain areas by a person engaged in covered conduct.
- Provide timely updates to an affected person regarding the status of an incident and any action taken.
- Ensure the policies and procedures are prominently posted on the institution's website and available to students, faculty, staff, and visitors upon request.

The bill requires each state university and FCS institution to annually review and update its policies and procedures to incorporate best practices in threat assessment, campus security, and safety.

The bill authorizes the Board of Governors to adopt regulations, and the State Board of Education to adopt rules, to administer the provisions of the bill.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

The bill requires each state university and Florida College System institution's safety policies and procedures to address physical threats and "other conduct or language that would cause a reasonable person to believe his or her physical safety is at risk."

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution and s. 4, Art. I of the Florida Constitution protect freedom of speech and press.[18]

The United States Supreme Court has stated that First Amendment protections apply on a state university campus and that the dissemination of ideas may not be restricted because the ideas are offensive.[19] When a public university regulates access to campus platforms or resources, restrictions generally must be reasonable and viewpoint neutral.[20] For example, the Court has held that a public university may not deny access to student activity fee funding for a student publication based on the publication's religious viewpoint.[21]

The Court has also recognized that laws and policies regulating speech may raise concerns if they are vague or overbroad, including because unclear standards may chill protected expression or invite arbitrary enforcement.[22] In *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, the Supreme Court upheld an anti-noise ordinance as not unconstitutionally vague where, in the school context, the prohibited disturbance was measured by whether normal school activity had been or was about to be disrupted. The ordinance gave fair notice because prohibited disturbances were easily measured by their impact on normal school activities.[23]

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

State universities and Florida College System institutions may incur costs to develop, implement, post, and annually update required safety policies and procedures.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

[18] U.S. Const. amend. I; art. I, s. 4, Fla. Const.
[19] *Healy v. James*, 408 U.S. 169, 180 (1972); *Papish v. Bd. of Curators of Univ. of Mo.*, 410 U.S. 667, 670 (1973).
[20] *Widmar v. Vincent*, 454 U.S. 263, 267-277 (1981); *Rosenberger v. Rector & Visitors of Univ. of Va.*, 515 U.S. 819 (1995); *Christian Legal Soc. Chapter of Univ. of Cal., Hastings Coll. of the Law v. Martinez*, 561 U.S. 661 (2010).
[21] *Rosenberger v. Rector & Visitors of Univ. of Va.*, 515 U.S. 819, 829-31 (1995).
[22] *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104, 108-09 (1972).
[23] *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104, 112 (1972).

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 1004.0983 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.

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

By Senator Polsky

30-00576-26 2026176__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public postsecondary education safety policies and procedures; creating s. 1004.0983, F.S.; requiring state universities and Florida College System institutions to adopt and implement specified policies and procedures relating to safety; providing requirements for such policies and procedures; requiring state universities and Florida College System institutions to annually review and update the policies and procedures; authorizing the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to adopt regulations and rules, respectively; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 1004.0983, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1004.0983 Public postsecondary safety policies and procedures.—

(1) Each state university and Florida College System institution shall adopt and implement written policies and procedures to protect the physical safety of its students, faculty, staff, and visitors in campus facilities, classrooms, and other institutional settings from:

(a) Physical threats.

(b) Other conduct or language that would cause a reasonable person to believe his or her physical safety is at risk.

(2) The policies and procedures must:

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

30-00576-26 2026176__

(a) Identify a person responsible for:

1. Coordinating the state university or Florida College System institution's response to actions listed in paragraphs (1)(a) and (b).

2. Implementing such policies and procedures, including all safety measures.

(b) Establish clear internal and external reporting protocols, including notification of campus security or a local law enforcement agency when appropriate.

(c) Outline the protective measures available to affected persons, which may include work or class relocation, security escorts, and restricting access to certain areas by a person engaged in an activity listed in paragraph (1)(a) or paragraph (1)(b).

(d) Provide timely updates to an affected person regarding the status of an incident and any action taken.

(e) Ensure the policies and procedures are prominently posted on the state university's or Florida College System institution's website and available to students, faculty, staff, and visitors upon request.

(3) Each state university and Florida College System institution shall annually review and update the policies and procedures to incorporate the best practices in threat assessment, campus security, and safety.

(4) The Board of Governors may adopt regulations and the State Board of Education may adopt rules to administer this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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The Florida Senate

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1/13/24
Meeting Date

176
Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Yale Olenick United Faculty of FL

Phone

Address
Street

Email

City *State* *Zip*

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** **Waive Speaking:** ☑ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

☑ I am a registered lobbyist, representing: UFF

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1/13/2026
Meeting Date

Education Post-Secondary
Committee

SB 176
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

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Sebring FL 33872
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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The Florida Senate

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01/13/26
Meeting Date

Education Post Secondary
Committee

176
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Florida PTA Karen Mazzola

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Street

Email vp.leadership@floridapta.org

Orlando FL 32809
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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☐ I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

☒ I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by: Florida PTA

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The Florida Senate

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1-13-26
Meeting Date

Edu Postsecondary
Committee

SB 0176
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Christian Moriarty

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Email moriarty.christian@gmail.com

Kenneth City FL 33709
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:
Appropriations on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations on Criminal and Civil Justice
Environment and Natural Resources
Ethics and Elections
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Judiciary

SELECT COMMITTEE:
Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining

SENATOR TINA SCOTT POLSKY
30th District

November 13, 2025

Chairwoman Alexis Calatayud
Committee on Education Postsecondary
415 Knott Building
404 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Chairwoman Calatayud,

I respectfully request that you place SB 176, relating to Public Postsecondary Education Safety Policies and Procedures on the agenda of the Committee on Education Postsecondary, at your earliest convenience.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or my office. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Kindest Regards,

Senator Tina S. Polsky
Florida Senate, District 30

cc: Matthew Bouck, Staff Director
Secret Williams, Administrative Assistant

REPLY TO:
- **5301 North Federal Highway, Suite 135, Boca Raton, Florida 33487 (561) 443-8170**
- **220 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5030**

Senate's Website: *www.flsenate.gov*

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
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.)

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

BILL:	SB 372
INTRODUCER:	Senator Trumbull
SUBJECT:	Public Postsecondary Tuition and Fee Waivers for Sheriff's Office Employees
DATE:	January 12, 2026
REVISED:	

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Jahnke	Bouck	HE	**Favorable**
2.			AHE	
3.			FP	

I. Summary:

SB 372 expands eligibility for the state employee tuition and fee waiver to also include sheriff's office employees, including full-time sworn law enforcement officers, correctional officers, and civilian employees of a sheriff's office.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Public Postsecondary Tuition and Fees

Florida law defines "tuition" as the basic fee charged to a student for instruction provided by a public postsecondary educational institution.[1] In addition to tuition, institutions charge a variety of required fees, such as student activity, technology, financial aid, and capital improvement fees, which together make up the total per-credit-hour cost.[2]

For the 2025-2026 academic year, the resident undergraduate tuition rate for the State University System (SUS) is currently set in statute at $105.07 per credit hour.[3] When combined with required fees, the SUS average undergraduate tuition and fees total is $200.08 per credit hour.[4]

Within the Florida College System (FCS), standard tuition for college credit courses is $71.98 per credit hour, with additional required fees set by each institution. Tuition for the baccalaureate

[1] Section 1009.01(1), F.S.
[2] Sections 1009.23 and 1009.24, F.S.
[3] Section 1009.24(4)(a), F.S.
[4] Florida Board of Governors, *State University System of Florida, Tuition and Required Fees, 2025-2026, available at*, https://www.flbog.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2025-2026-SUS-Tuition-and-Fees-Report.pdf (last visited Jan. 5, 2026).

degree program is $91.79 per credit hour for students classified as residents for tuition purposes, plus required fees.[5]

Florida law extends fee waivers to students who meet specified conditions.[6] Some fee waivers are mandatory,[7] while others are permissive.[8]

State Employee Tuition and Fee Waiver

Each SUS and FCS institution must waive tuition and fees for state employees for up to 6 credit hours per academic term, on a space-available basis. Participation is subject to approval by the employee's agency head. The waiver applies to tuition and required fees charged per credit hour.[9] Institutions may continue to charge non-waivable fees, such as laboratory or materials fees, as authorized elsewhere in statute.[10]

For purposes of this waiver, employees of the state include individuals employed by the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government, but exclude employees of state universities. The Chief Financial Officer, in cooperation with SUS and FCS institutions, must identify and implement measures to reduce administrative burdens associated with the waiver program, including streamlining the methods institutions use to verify state employment.

Eligible employees may be required to wait until after priority registration periods to enroll in courses. Participation in the waiver does not guarantee placement in a specific course or section and is dependent on institutional capacity.

SUS and FCS institutions are reimbursed for administrative costs associated with the waiver program from funds specifically appropriated for that purpose, and the Auditor General reviews the related cost assessment data as part of his or her regular audit responsibilities.[11]

Sheriff's Offices and Employees

Florida has 67 sheriff's offices, one in each county, each headed by an elected sheriff who serves as a constitutional officer.[12] Sheriff's offices are responsible for county law enforcement and related public safety duties, including operating county detention facilities and executing court processes.[13]

---

[5] Section 1009.23(3), F.S.
[6] Section 1009.26, F.S.
[7] Section 1009.26 (5), (7)-(8), (12)-(14), (17)-(20) F.S. Mandatory fee waivers include, but are not limited to, waivers for graduate students in state-approved school psychology internship programs, spouses of deceased state employees, recipients of a Purple Heart or other qualifying combat decoration, and active duty members of the Armed Forces.
[8] Section 1009.26 (1)-(4), (6), (9)-(11), (15)-(16), and (21), F.S. Permissive fee waivers include, but are not limited to, waivers for full-time university employees, Florida residents 60 years of age or older on a space-available basis, purposes that support and enhance the mission of the university, and intercollegiate student athletes receiving an athletic scholarship.
[9] Section 1009.265(1), F.S.
[10] Sections 1009.23(12) and 1009.24(14), F.S.
[11] Section 1009.265, F.S.
[12] FLA. CONST. art. VIII, s. 1 (1968)
[13] Sections 30.15, F.S. and 951.061, F.S.

Statewide, sheriff's offices employ approximately 35,677 certified law enforcement and correctional officers, as well as civilian employees.[14] Civilian employees may include administrative staff, communications and dispatch personnel, detention support staff, analysts, and other professional or technical personnel necessary to support law enforcement and correctional operations.

Sheriff's office employees are not eligible for the state employee tuition and fee waiver.[15] As a result, sheriff's office employees who enroll in courses at SUS or FCS institutions are subject to standard tuition and required fees unless they qualify for another form of financial assistance.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 372 amends s. 1009.265, F.S., to require state universities and Florida College System institutions to waive tuition and fees for sheriff's office employees under the existing state employee tuition and fee waiver program. The bill extends eligibility for the waiver to employees of each sheriff's office in the state, subject to approval by the sheriff and enrollment on a space-available basis.

The bill defines "employees of a sheriff's office" to include any full-time sworn law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or civilian employee of the sheriff's office and revises the program title to reflect the inclusion of sheriff's office employees.

Although the bill expands the class of individuals eligible for the tuition and fee waiver, participation remains subject to space availability. Institutions are not required to increase course capacity, and the increase in eligibility may not result in a proportional increase in the number of individuals who receive the waiver.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

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[14] Section 943.10(1)-(2), F.S.; Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice Agency Profile (CJAP), *SO Index Officer Population,* https://www.fdle.state.fl.us/CJSTC/Publications/CJAP/CJAP-2024/SO-Index (last visited Jan. 5, 2026). Officer population data reflects full-time sworn officers with law enforcement, correctional, or concurrent certification.
[15] Section 1009.265(5), F.S.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

This bill has no fiscal impact on state revenue or expenditures. The bill could have a negative fiscal impact on the institutions granting the tuition and fee waivers.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 1009.265 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 Trumbull

2-00790-26 2026372__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public postsecondary tuition and fee waivers for sheriff's office employees; amending s. 1009.265, F.S.; requiring state universities and Florida College System institutions to waive tuition and fees for sheriff's office employees; providing requirements for the waiver of tuition and fees for sheriff's office employees; providing requirements for a person to be considered a sheriff's office employee; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), and (5) of section 1009.265, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1009.265 State employee and sheriff's office employee fee waivers.—

(1) As a benefit to the employer and employees of the state and each sheriff's office in the state, subject to approval by an employee's agency head or sheriff, or the equivalent, each state university and Florida College System institution shall waive tuition and fees for state employees and sheriff's office employees to enroll for up to 6 credit hours of courses per term on a space-available basis.

(2) The Chief Financial Officer, in cooperation with the Florida College System institutions and state universities, shall identify and implement ways to ease the administrative burden to Florida College System institutions and state universities, including, but not limited to, providing easier

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

2-00790-26 2026372__

access to verify state or sheriff's office employment.

(5) For purposes of this section:~~,~~

(a) Employees of the state include employees of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government, except for persons employed by a state university.

(b) Employees of a sheriff's office include any full-time sworn law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or civilian employee of the sheriff's office.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1/13/26	SB 372
Meeting Date	Bill Number or Topic
Education Postsecondary	
Committee	Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Allie McNair

Phone 8508772165

Address 2167 Mahan Drive
Street

Email amcnair@flsheriffs.org

Tallahassee FL 32308
City *State* *Zip*

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** **Waive Speaking:** ☑ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

☑ I am a registered lobbyist, representing:
Florida Sheriffs Association

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022JointRules.pdf (flsenate.gov)

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

A black and white copy of this document is not official

960

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Division of Elections

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Douglas V. Broxson

is duly appointed a member of the

Board of Governors of the State University System

for a term beginning on the Twenty-Seventh day of October, A.D., 2025, until the Sixth day of January, A.D., 2031 and is subject to be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of the Legislature.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this the Tenth day of December, A.D., 2025

Secretary of State

DSDE 99 (3/03)

If photocopied or chemically altered, the word "VOID" will appear.
"State of Florida" appears in small letters across the face of this 8½ x 11" document.
The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.

RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 OCT 28 AM 11:10
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

October 27, 2025

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

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 1001.70, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Doug Broxson
4181 Madura Road
Gulf Breeze, Florida 32563

as a member of the Board of Governors of the State University System, succeeding Patricia Frost, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective October 27, 2025, for a term ending January 6, 2031.

Sincerely,

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399 • (850) 717-9249

RECEIVED

2025 DEC -3 PM 12:57

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

2025 DEC -2 PM 5:04

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II. § 5(b), Fla. Const.; § 92.50, Florida Statutes)

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Santa Rosa

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

the Board of Governors of the State University System

(Full Name of Office – Abbreviations Not Accepted)

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 by means of physical presence ☒ *OR online notarization* ☐
this 28th *day of* November, 2025.

_____

Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

(To be completed only by judges administering oath– see § 92.50, Florida Statutes.)

_____
Print Name

_____
Title

_____
Court

(To be completed by officer administering oath, other than judges – see § 92.50, Florida Statutes.)

Affix Seal Below

JONATHON MILLER WHISENHUNT
MY COMMISSION # HH 530418
EXPIRES: May 23, 2028

Personally Known ☐ *OR Produced Identification* ☒
Type of Identification Produced FL DL

ACCEPTANCE

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

Mailing Address: Home ☐ Office ☑

4181 Madura Rd
Street or Post Office Box

Golf Breeze, FL 32563
City, State, Zip Code

Douglas V. Beaxson
Print Name

_____
Signature

DS-DE 56 (Rev. 07/25)

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 301 **Case No.:** **Type:**
Caption: Senate Education Postsecondary Committee **Judge:**

Started: 1/13/2026 3:59:56 PM
Ends: 1/13/2026 4:22:03 PM **Length: 00:22:07**

4:00:30 PM Chair Calatayud calls meeting to order
4:00:40 PM Roll call
4:01:00 PM Chair Calatayud
4:01:12 PM Tab 3: SB 720
4:01:22 PM Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Osgood to explain the bill
4:01:25 PM Sen Osgood
4:03:00 PM Chair Calatayud
4:03:02 PM Appearance Cards:
4:03:11 PM Eddie Fordham
4:07:35 PM Chair Calatayud acknowledges waives speaking
4:08:05 PM Debate:
4:08:06 PM Sen Jones
4:09:42 PM Sen Rodriguez
4:10:12 PM Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Osgood to close on the bill
4:10:14 PM Sen Osgood
4:10:56 PM Roll call
4:11:08 PM Chair Calatayud reports on SB 720
4:11:17 PM Tab 2: SB 372
4:11:28 PM Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Trumbull to explain the bill
4:11:34 PM Sen Trumbull
4:12:17 PM Chair Calatayud acknowledges waives speaking
4:12:30 PM Roll call
4:12:43 PM Chair Calatayud reports on SB 372
4:12:51 PM Tab 1: SB 176
4:13:04 PM Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Berman to explain the bill
4:13:08 PM Sen Berman
4:14:55 PM Chair Calatayud acknowledges waives speaking
4:15:25 PM Roll call
4:15:39 PM Chair Calatayud reports on SB 176
4:16:09 PM Tab 5: Senate Confirmation Hearing
4:16:10 PM Chair Calatayud
4:16:54 PM Roll call
4:17:08 PM Chair Calatayud reports on Tab 5
4:17:14 PM Tab 4: SB 816
4:17:19 PM Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Bradley to explain the bill
4:17:22 PM Sen Bradley
4:18:29 PM Chair Calatayud acknowledges waives speaking
4:18:40 PM Debate:
4:18:43 PM Sen Harrell
4:19:47 PM Sen Simon
4:19:58 PM Sen Jones
4:20:12 PM Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Bradley to close on the bill
4:20:15 PM Sen Bradley
4:21:19 PM Roll call
4:21:29 PM Chair Calatayud reports on SB 816
4:21:35 PM Chair Calatayud
4:21:52 PM Adjournment