

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Senator Harrell, Chair
Senator Bradley, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, February 25, 2026
TIME: 1:30—4:30 p.m.
PLACE: *Toni Jennings Committee Room*, 110 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Harrell, Chair; Senator Bradley, Vice Chair; Senators Bracy Davis, Burgess, Calatayud, Davis, and Leek

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 1570 Gaetz (Identical H 1405)	Statewide Project for Missing Persons with Special Needs; Amending a provision relating to the missing persons with special needs statewide project; providing that the project is created through the centers for autism and related disabilities; requiring that participants for the project be selected based on certain criteria, etc. HE 01/28/2026 Favorable AHE 02/25/2026 Favorable FP	Favorable Yeas 5 Nays 0
2	CS/SB 1376 Education Postsecondary / Burgess (Similar CS/H 1115)	Grants for Genetic Counseling Education; Creating the Genetic Counseling Education Enhancement Grant Program within the State University System; requiring the Board of Governors, subject to legislative appropriation, to award grant funds to state universities for specified purposes; requiring the program to reward excellence among genetic counseling programs based on specified criteria; prohibiting such funds from being used for specified purposes, etc. HE 01/28/2026 Fav/CS AHE 02/25/2026 Favorable FP	Favorable Yeas 5 Nays 0

OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
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Senate Confirmation Hearing: A public hearing will be held for consideration of the below-named executive appointment to the office indicated.

Board of Trustees, University of West Florida

3	Bailey, Paul (Fort Walton Beach)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
4	Smith, Thomas Zachary ()	01/06/2030	Recommend Confirm Yeas 4 Nays 1
5	Mason, Kevin Gregory (Destin)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
6	Kissel, Adam (Charleston)	01/06/2030	Recommend Confirm Yeas 4 Nays 1
7	Fleming, Edward P. (Pensacola)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

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 Appropriations Committee on Higher Education
 Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 1:30—4:30 p.m.

OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
Board of Trustees of Broward College		
8 Yarbrough, Alexis M. (Fort Lauderdale)	05/31/2029	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees of Chipola College		
9 Lassmann, Thomas S. (Marianna)	05/31/2027	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees of Chipola College		
10 Young, Sherry (Bonifay)	05/31/2029	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
Board of Trustees, Florida International University		
11 Yakubov, Yaffa (Miami Beach)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees of The College of the Florida Keys		
12 Broton, Robert Michael (Key Largo)	05/31/2028	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
Board of Trustees of The College of the Florida Keys		
13 Downer, Michael J. (Key West)	05/31/2027	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
Board of Trustees of Pasco-Hernando State College		
14 Collura, Gino (Dade City)	05/31/2029	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees of Pensacola State College		
15 Holzknecht, Richard A. (Pensacola)	05/31/2027	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
16 McDonald, Audrey Michele (Pensacola)	05/31/2027	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
17 Locklin, Oscar J. (Jay)	05/31/2026	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
18 Leonard, Todd C (Pensacola)	05/31/2029	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
Board of Trustees of Polk State College		
19 Davis, Kyle Wayne ()	05/31/2029	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
20 Ross, Cynthia Hartley (Lakeland)	05/31/2029	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg College		
21 Butts, Jason (Palm Harbor)	05/31/2027	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
22 Marolf, Danielle ()	05/31/2026	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0

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23	Kidwell, Thomas (St. Petersburg)	05/31/2027	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
24	Cole, Katherine E. (Belleair)	05/31/2029	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees of Valencia College			
25	Davis, John F. (Tallahassee)	05/31/2029	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
26	Sasso, Michael Adam ()	05/31/2029	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
27	Pullum, Frederick G. (Orlando)	05/31/2027	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
28	Milligan, Sean P. (Orlando)	05/31/2026	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
Board of Trustees, Florida A & M University			
29	Figgers, Natlie G. (Coral Springs)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
30	White, Michael David II (Tallahassee)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees, Florida Atlantic University			
31	Bussani, Piero (Boca Raton)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees, University of Central Florida			
32	Condello, Jeffrey (Windermere)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
33	Miklos, John A. (Orlando)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees, Florida State University			
34	Roth, Justin (Kellogg)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
35	Gonzalez, Jorge (Inlet Beach)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
36	de las Cuevas-Diaz, Vivian (Coral Gables)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
Board of Trustees, Florida State University			
37	Alvarez, Maximo (Miami)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
Board of Trustees of Broward College		
52	Zanotti-Cavazzoni Riera, Mario Luis (Weston)	05/31/2026 Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

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Board of Trustees, Florida International University

38	Falic, Tila (Hollywood)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
39	Gonzalez, Alan (Loch Ness)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

Board of Trustees, New College of Florida

40	Bauerlein, Mark (Washington)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 4 Nays 1
41	Patterson, Donald (Sarasota)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
42	Jenks, Debra A. (Palm Beach Gardens)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

Board of Trustees, Florida Polytechnic University

43	Shapiro, Ilya (Falls Church)	06/30/2030	Recommend Confirm Yeas 3 Nays 1
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Board of Trustees, University of North Florida

44	Gol, John (Jacksonville)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
45	Skinner, Daniel E. ()	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 6 Nays 0
46	Shelton, Allison (Jacksonville)	01/06/2030	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
47	Lazzara, Christopher (Jacksonville)	01/06/2030	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

Board of Trustees, University of South Florida

48	Carrere, Michael L. (Tampa)	01/06/2031	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
49	Weatherford, William (Tampa)	01/06/2030	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0
50	Monbarren, Lauran ()	01/06/2030	Recommend Confirm Yeas 5 Nays 0

Remarks by Chair Harrell

Not Considered

Other Related Meeting Documents