

By Senators King, McKay, Childers, Clary, Horne, Thomas,  
Geller, Campbell, Mitchell, Holzendorf and Saunders

8-1212-00

See HB 1121

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the Florida State University  
3           College of Medicine; establishing a 4-year  
4           allopathic medical school within the Florida  
5           State University; providing legislative intent;  
6           providing purpose; providing for transition,  
7           organizational structure, and admissions  
8           process; providing for partner organizations  
9           for clinical instruction in a community-based  
10          medical education program; specifying targeted  
11          communities and hospitals; providing for  
12          development of a plan for graduate medical  
13          education in the state; providing for  
14          accreditation; providing curricula; providing  
15          for clinical rotation sites in local  
16          communities; providing for training to meet the  
17          medical needs of the elderly; providing for  
18          training to address the medical needs of the  
19          state's rural and underserved populations;  
20          providing for increased participation of  
21          underrepresented groups and socially and  
22          economically disadvantaged youth; providing for  
23          technology-rich learning environments;  
24          providing for administration and faculty;  
25          providing for collaboration with other  
26          professionals for integration of modern health  
27          care delivery concepts; authorizing the Florida  
28          State University to negotiate and purchase  
29          certain liability insurance; providing an  
30          effective date.  
31

1           WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and  
2 Human Services has identified 67 regions in Florida, including  
3 13 entire counties, most of them in rural North Florida, as  
4 Health Professional Shortage Areas; and 40 percent of the  
5 state's 67 counties have fewer than 100 doctors per 100,000  
6 population, compared to the national average of 221 doctors  
7 per 100,000 population, and

8           WHEREAS, in Florida, more than 3.2 million residents  
9 are over the age of 60, more than 80 percent of patients who  
10 visit a primary care physician are elder persons, and between  
11 60 percent and 70 percent of persons seeking medical care are  
12 age 60 and over; and Florida's continuing population growth,  
13 especially among its older residents, is contributing to an  
14 increasing shortage of physicians in the state, and

15           WHEREAS, Florida has large areas of medically  
16 underserved minority populations, and

17           WHEREAS, there are hundreds of highly qualified  
18 university students in Florida who seek, but cannot gain,  
19 admission to medical school, and

20           WHEREAS, Florida currently imports a substantial number  
21 of its doctors from other states or countries, and ranks third  
22 highest, nationally, in the percentage of its total allopathic  
23 physician workforce who are international medical graduates,  
24 and

25           WHEREAS, Florida's existing medical education system  
26 has an extremely limited capacity to serve the state's rapidly  
27 growing population, which leaves the state vulnerable to  
28 physician shortages at the national level, while at the same  
29 time limiting opportunities for Florida's best students to  
30 enter the medical field and serve their communities, and

31

1           WHEREAS, a medical school is not required to have its  
2 own teaching hospital in order to have a high-quality,  
3 accredited medical education program, and

4           WHEREAS, community-based medical education programs are  
5 significantly less expensive than teaching-hospital-based  
6 medical education programs, do not involve the financial risks  
7 associated with the operation of a hospital, and enable the  
8 state to work with local hospitals, and

9           WHEREAS, a community-based medical education program  
10 relies on clinical resources available in each community and  
11 requires support by hospitals, private and public health  
12 clinics, and other health care organizations willing to enter  
13 into affiliation agreements to provide clinical education as  
14 part of a medical education program, and

15           WHEREAS, a number of hospitals, private and public  
16 health clinics, and other health care organizations in the  
17 state have expressed an interest in affiliating with a Florida  
18 State University community-based medical education program,  
19 and

20           WHEREAS, the Florida State University's Tallahassee  
21 location is near the center of the region of the state with  
22 the greatest current shortage of physicians, and

23           WHEREAS, the Florida State University has, since 1971,  
24 successfully operated a first-year medical school program in  
25 concert with the University of Florida College of Medicine and  
26 is noted for its success in attracting students who eventually  
27 become primary care physicians, and

28           WHEREAS, the Florida State University has strong  
29 research programs in the applied biomedical and behavioral  
30 sciences, autism, cancer, chronic diseases, and geriatrics,  
31 and

1           WHEREAS, there has been no new medical school  
2 established in the United States in two decades despite the  
3 large growth in the nation's population, particularly the  
4 elderly population, and

5           WHEREAS, there is now an unusual opportunity to design  
6 and operate an innovative medical education program in our  
7 state, which takes advantage of the advances in medical and  
8 communication technology, NOW, THEREFORE,

9  
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11  
12           Section 1. Florida State University College of  
13 Medicine.--

14           (1) CREATION.--There is hereby established a 4-year  
15 allopathic medical school within the Florida State University,  
16 to be known as the Florida State University College of  
17 Medicine, with a principal focus on recruiting and training  
18 medical professionals to meet the primary health care needs of  
19 the state, especially the needs of the state's elderly, rural,  
20 minority, and other underserved citizens.

21           (2) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.--It is the intent of the  
22 Legislature that the Florida State University College of  
23 Medicine represent a new model for the training of allopathic  
24 physician healers for the citizens of the state. In accordance  
25 with this intent, the governing philosophy of the College of  
26 Medicine should include the training of students, in a humane  
27 environment, in the scientific, clinical, and behavioral  
28 practices required to deliver patient-centered health care in  
29 the 21st century. Key components of the College of Medicine,  
30 which would build on the foundation of the 30-year-old Florida  
31 State University Program in Medical Sciences (PIMS), would

1 include: admission of diverse types of students who possess  
2 good communication skills and are compassionate individuals,  
3 representative of the population of the state; basic science  
4 training utilizing medical problem-based teaching; and  
5 clinical training at several dispersed sites throughout the  
6 state in existing community hospitals, clinics, and doctors'  
7 offices. The Legislature further intends that study of the  
8 aging human be a continuing focus throughout the 4-year  
9 curriculum and that use of information technology be a key  
10 component of all parts of the educational program.

11 (3) PURPOSE.--The College of Medicine shall be  
12 dedicated to: preparing physicians to practice primary care,  
13 geriatric, and rural medicine, to make appropriate use of  
14 emerging technologies, and to function successfully in a  
15 rapidly changing health care environment; advancing knowledge  
16 in the applied biomedical and behavioral sciences, geriatric  
17 research, autism, cancer, and chronic diseases; training  
18 future scientists to assume leadership in health care delivery  
19 and academic medicine; and providing access to medical  
20 education for groups which are underrepresented in the medical  
21 profession.

22 (4) TRANSITION; ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE; ADMISSIONS  
23 PROCESS.--The General Appropriations Act for fiscal year  
24 1999-2000 included initial funding for facilities and  
25 operations to provide a transition from the Program in Medical  
26 Sciences (PIMS) to a College of Medicine at the Florida State  
27 University. For transitional purposes, the Program in Medical  
28 Sciences (PIMS) in the College of Arts and Sciences at the  
29 Florida State University shall be reorganized and  
30 restructured, as soon as practicable, as the Institute of  
31 Human Medical Sciences. At such time as the 4-year educational

1 program development is underway and a sufficient number of  
2 basic science and clinical faculty are recruited, the  
3 Institute of Human Medical Sciences shall evolve into the  
4 Florida State University College of Medicine, with appropriate  
5 departments. The current admissions procedure utilized by the  
6 Program in Medical Sciences (PIMS) shall provide the basis for  
7 the design of an admissions process for the College of  
8 Medicine, with selection criteria that focus on identifying  
9 future primary care physicians who have demonstrated interest  
10 in serving underserved areas. Enrollment levels at the College  
11 of Medicine are planned to not exceed 120 students per class,  
12 and shall be phased in from 30 students in the Program in  
13 Medical Sciences (PIMS), to 40 students admitted to the  
14 College of Medicine as the charter class in Fall 2001, and 20  
15 additional students admitted to the College of Medicine in  
16 each class thereafter until the maximum class size is reached.

17 (5) PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS FOR CLINICAL INSTRUCTION;  
18 GRADUATE PROGRAMS.--To provide broad-based clinical  
19 instruction in both rural and urban settings for students in  
20 the community-based medical education program, the College of  
21 Medicine shall seek affiliation agreements with health care  
22 systems and organizations, local hospitals, and military  
23 health care facilities in the following targeted communities:  
24 Pensacola, Tallahassee, Orlando, Sarasota, Jacksonville, and  
25 the rural areas of the state. Selected hospitals in the target  
26 communities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 27 (a) Baptist Health Care in Pensacola.  
28 (b) Sacred Heart Health System in Pensacola.  
29 (c) West Florida Regional Medical Center in Pensacola.  
30 (d) Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare in Tallahassee.  
31 (e) Florida Hospital Health System in Orlando.

1           (f) Sarasota Memorial Health Care System in Sarasota.

2           (g) Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville.

3           (h) Rural hospitals in the state.

4

5 The College of Medicine shall also explore all alternatives  
6 for cooperation with established graduate medical education  
7 programs in the state to develop a plan to retain its  
8 graduates in residency programs in Florida. To this end, the  
9 Florida State University is directed to submit to the  
10 Legislature, no later than November 30, 2001, a plan to  
11 increase opportunities for Florida medical school graduates to  
12 enter graduate medical education programs, including  
13 residencies, in the state.

14           (6) ACCREDITATION.--The College of Medicine shall  
15 develop a program which conforms to the accreditation  
16 standards of the Liaison Committee on Medical Education  
17 (LCME).

18           (7) CURRICULA; CLINICAL ROTATION TRAINING SITES.--

19           (a) The initial 2-year curriculum shall draw on the  
20 Florida State University's Program in Medical Sciences (PIMS)  
21 experience and national trends in basic science instruction,  
22 including use of technology for distributed and distance  
23 learning. First-year instruction shall include a lecture mode  
24 and problem-based learning. In the second year, a small-group,  
25 problem-based learning approach shall provide more advanced  
26 treatment of each academic subject in a patient-centered  
27 context. Various short-term clinical exposures shall be  
28 programmed throughout the first 2 years, including rural,  
29 geriatric, and minority health, and contemporary practice  
30 patterns in these areas.

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1           (b) During the third and fourth years, the curriculum  
2 shall follow a distributed, community-based model with a  
3 special focus on rural health. Subgroups of students shall be  
4 assigned to clinical rotation training sites in local  
5 communities in roughly equal numbers, as follows:

6           1. Group 1 - Tallahassee.

7           2. Group 2 - Pensacola.

8           3. Group 3 - Orlando.

9           4. Group 4 - Sarasota.

10          5. Group 5 - Jacksonville.

11          6. Group 6 - To be determined prior to 2005, based on  
12 emerging state needs.

13          7. Group 7 - Rural Physician Associate Program (RPAP).

14          (8) MEDICAL NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY.--The College of  
15 Medicine shall develop a comprehensive program to ensure  
16 training in the medical needs of the elderly and incorporate  
17 principles embodied in the curriculum guidelines of the  
18 American Geriatric Society. The College of Medicine shall  
19 have as one of its primary missions the improvement of medical  
20 education for physicians who will treat elder citizens. To  
21 accomplish this mission, the College of Medicine shall  
22 establish an academic leadership position in geriatrics,  
23 create an external elder care advisory committee, and  
24 implement an extensive faculty development plan. For student  
25 recruitment purposes, the current Program in Medical Sciences  
26 (PIMS) selection criteria shall be expanded to include  
27 consideration of students who have expressed an interest in  
28 elder care and who have demonstrated, through life choices, a  
29 commitment to serve older persons.

30          (9) MEDICAL NEEDS OF UNDERSERVED AREAS.--To address  
31 the medical needs of the state's rural and underserved



1 populations, the College of Medicine shall develop a  
2 Department of Family Medicine with a significant rural  
3 training track that provides students with early and frequent  
4 clinical experiences in community-based settings to train and  
5 produce highly skilled primary care physicians. The College  
6 of Medicine shall consider developing new, rural-based family  
7 practice clinical training programs and shall establish a  
8 partnership with the West Florida Area Health Education Center  
9 to assist in developing partnerships and programs to provide  
10 incentives and support for physicians to practice in primary  
11 care, geriatric, and rural medicine in underserved areas of  
12 the state.

13 (10) INCREASING PARTICIPATION OF UNDERREPRESENTED  
14 GROUPS.--To increase the participation of underrepresented  
15 groups and socially and economically disadvantaged youth in  
16 science and medical programs, the College of Medicine shall  
17 continue the outreach efforts of the Program in Medical  
18 Sciences (PIMS) to middle and high school minority students,  
19 including the Science Students Together Reaching Instructional  
20 Diversity and Excellence (SSTRIDE), and shall build an  
21 endowment income to support recruitment programs and  
22 scholarship and financial aid packages for these students. To  
23 develop a base of qualified potential medical school  
24 candidates from underrepresented groups, the College of  
25 Medicine shall coordinate with the undergraduate premedical  
26 and science programs currently offered at the Florida State  
27 University, develop relationships with potential feeder  
28 institutions, including 4-year institutions and community  
29 colleges, and pursue grant funds to support programs, as well  
30 as support scholarship and financial aid packages. The College  
31 of Medicine shall develop plans for a postbaccalaureate,

1 1-year academic program that provides a second chance to a  
2 limited number of students per year who have been declined  
3 medical school admission, who are state residents, and who  
4 meet established criteria as socially and economically  
5 disadvantaged. The College of Medicine shall make every  
6 effort, through recruitment and retention, to employ a faculty  
7 and support staff that reflect the heterogeneous nature of the  
8 state's general population.

9 (11) TECHNOLOGY.--To create technology-rich learning  
10 environments, the College of Medicine shall build on the  
11 considerable infrastructure that already supports the many  
12 technology resources of the Florida State University and shall  
13 expand the infrastructure to conduct an effective medical  
14 education program, including connectivity between the main  
15 campus, community-based training locations, and rural clinic  
16 locations. Additional technology programs shall include  
17 extensive professional development opportunities for faculty,  
18 an on-line library of academic and medical resources for  
19 students, faculty, and community preceptors, and  
20 technology-sharing agreements with other medical schools to  
21 allow for the exchange of technology applications among  
22 medical school faculty for the purpose of enhancing medical  
23 education. The College of Medicine shall explore the  
24 opportunities afforded by Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville through  
25 clerkships, visiting professors or lectures through the  
26 existing telecommunications systems, and collaboration in  
27 research activities at the Mayo Clinic's Jacksonville campus.

28 (12) ADMINISTRATION; FACULTY.--Each of the major  
29 community-based clinical rotation training sites described in  
30 subsection (7) shall have a community dean and a student  
31 affairs/administrative officer. Teaching faculty for the

1 community-based clinical training component shall be community  
2 physicians serving part-time appointments. Sixty faculty  
3 members shall be recruited to serve in the basic and  
4 behavioral sciences department. The College of Medicine shall  
5 have a small core staff of on-campus, full-time faculty and  
6 administrators at the Florida State University, including a  
7 dean, a senior associate dean for educational programs, an  
8 associate dean for clinical education, a chief  
9 financial/administrative officer, an admissions/student  
10 affairs officer, an instructional resources coordinator, a  
11 coordinator for graduate and continuing medical education, and  
12 several mission focus coordinators.

13 (13) COLLABORATION WITH OTHER PROFESSIONALS.--To  
14 provide students with the skills, knowledge, and values needed  
15 to practice medicine in the evolving national system of health  
16 care delivery, the College of Medicine shall fully integrate  
17 modern health care delivery concepts into its curriculum. For  
18 this purpose, the College of Medicine shall develop a  
19 partnership with one or more health care organizations in the  
20 state and shall recruit faculty with strong health care  
21 delivery competencies. Faculty from other disciplines at the  
22 Florida State University shall be utilized to develop  
23 team-based approaches to core competencies in the delivery of  
24 health care.

25 (14) INDEMNIFICATION FROM LIABILITY.--This section  
26 shall be construed to authorize the Florida State University,  
27 for and on behalf of the Board of Regents, to negotiate and  
28 purchase policies of insurance to indemnify from any liability  
29 those individuals or entities providing sponsorship or  
30 training to the students of the medical school, professionals  
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1 employed by the medical school, and students of the medical  
2 school.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
4 law.

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7 HOUSE SUMMARY

8  
9 Establishes a 4-year allopathic medical school within the  
10 Florida State University. Provides legislative intent and  
11 purpose. Provides for transition from the university's  
12 Program in Medical Sciences (PIMS). Provides for  
13 evolution of an organizational structure and for an  
14 admissions process. Provides for partner organizations  
15 for clinical instruction in a community-based medical  
16 education program through affiliation agreements with  
17 health care systems and organizations, local hospitals,  
18 and military health care facilities in specified target  
19 communities. Provides for development of a plan for  
20 graduate medical education in the state, to be submitted  
21 to the Legislature by November 30, 2001. Provides for  
22 accreditation. Provides for certain curricula. Provides  
23 for clinical rotation sites in local communities.  
24 Provides for training to meet the medical needs of the  
25 elderly. Provides for training to address the medical  
26 needs of the state's rural and underserved populations.  
27 Provides for programs and efforts to increase  
28 participation of underrepresented groups and socially and  
29 economically disadvantaged youth. Provides for  
30 technology-rich learning environments and programs.  
31 Provides for administration and faculty at the Florida  
State University and major community-based clinical  
rotation sites. Provides for collaboration with other  
professionals for integration of modern health care  
delivery concepts. Authorizes the Florida State  
University to purchase certain liability insurance.