3

4 5

6 7

8

9

10 11

12 13

14

15 16

17

18

19 20

21

22

23

2425

26

27

28 29

30 31 By the Committee on Community Colleges & Career Prep and Representative Harrington

A bill to be entitled An act relating to postsecondary education institutions; amending s. 239.115, F.S.; providing performance exemptions for new workforce development education programs; amending s. 239.117, F.S., relating to workforce development postsecondary student fees; revising a limitation on the total value of fee waivers; revising the date by which the Commissioner of Education must provide a fee schedule; deleting obsolete language; requiring each school board or community college district board of trustees to determine the method for distributing certain awards; deleting a provision that limits technology fees to associate degree programs and courses; authorizing the establishment of an activity and service fee; providing requirements for the activity and service fee; amending s. 239.213, F.S., relating to vocational preparatory instruction; requiring students who enroll in certificate career education programs of 450 hours or more to complete an entry-level examination within a certain period of time; revising provisions relating to exceptional students to conform with federal requirements; amending s. 239.514, F.S., relating to the workforce development capitalization incentive grant program; authorizing the use of such funds to upgrade workforce development programs; amending s. 240.1201, F.S.;

authorizing the State Board of Education to 1 2 classify students as residents or nonresidents 3 for tuition purposes; amending ss. 240.152 and 4 240.153, F.S.; conforming provisions relating 5 to students with disabilities with federal requirements; requiring the State Board of 6 7 Education to define "physical or mental 8 impairment" by rule; amending s. 240.311, F.S.; revising the role of the State Board of 9 Community Colleges in rulemaking; providing 10 11 specific rulemaking authority; amending s. 240.321, F.S.; clarifying requirements 12 13 regarding the provision of adequate information 14 on remediation courses; amending s. 240.325, 15 F.S.; requiring the State Board of Community 16 Colleges, rather than the State Board of Education, to adopt rules; requiring the 17 adoption of rules to address accreditation, 18 student withdrawal, and grade forgiveness; 19 20 amending s. 240.3341, F.S.; authorizing 21 community colleges to lease incubator 22 facilities; deleting obsolete language; amending s. 240.35, F.S., relating to student 23 24 fees; deleting obsolete and redundant language; 25 amending s. 240.359, F.S.; prohibiting the 26 inclusion of certain hours in calculations of 27 full-time equivalent enrollments; eliminating 28 provisions relating to funding for the category 29 of lifelong learning; providing an effective date. 30

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

1 2 3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23 24

25

26

27

28

29

30

Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 239.115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

239.115 Funds for operation of adult general education and vocational education programs. --

- (9) The Department of Education, the State Board of Community Colleges, and the Jobs and Education Partnership shall provide the Legislature with recommended formulas, criteria, timeframes, and mechanisms for distributing performance funds. Such recommendations may provide performance exemptions for new or significantly expanded workforce development education programs for a period not to exceed 2 years from the implementation of the new or significantly expanded program. The commissioner shall consolidate the recommendations and develop a consensus proposal for funding. The Legislature shall adopt a formula and distribute the performance funds to the Division of Community Colleges and the Division of Workforce Development through the General Appropriations Act. These recommendations shall be based on formulas that would discourage low-performing or low-demand programs and encourage through performance-funding awards:
- (a) Programs that prepare people to enter high-wage occupations identified by the Occupational Forecasting Conference created by s. 216.136 and other programs as approved by the Jobs and Education Partnership. At a minimum, performance incentives shall be calculated for adults who reach completion points or complete programs that lead to specified high-wage employment and to their placement in that 31 employment.

- (b) Programs that successfully prepare adults who are eligible for public assistance, economically disadvantaged, disabled, not proficient in English, or dislocated workers for high-wage occupations. At a minimum, performance incentives shall be calculated at an enhanced value for the completion of adults identified in this paragraph and job placement of such adults upon completion. In addition, adjustments may be made in payments for job placements for areas of high unemployment.
- (c) Programs identified by the Jobs and Education Partnership as increasing the effectiveness and cost efficiency of education.

Section 2. Subsections (5), (8), and (18) and paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 239.117, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (19) is added to said section, to read:

239.117 Workforce development postsecondary student fees.--

(5) School districts and community colleges may waive fees for any fee-nonexempt student. The total value of fee waivers granted by the school district or community college may not exceed 8 percent of the district's or community college's postsecondary vocational certificate program enrollment hours or an the amount established annually in the General Appropriations Act. Any student whose fees are waived in excess of the authorized amount may not be reported for state funding purposes. Any school district or community college that waives fees and requests state funding for a student in violation of the provisions of this section shall be penalized at a rate equal to 2 times the value of the full-time student enrollment reported.

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

- (6)(a) The Commissioner of Education shall provide to the State Board of Education no later than January December 31 of each year a schedule of fees for workforce development education, excluding continuing workforce education, for school districts and community colleges. The fee schedule shall be based on the amount of student fees necessary to produce 25 percent of the prior year's average cost of a course of study leading to a certificate or diploma. At the discretion of a school board or a community college, this fee schedule may be implemented over a 3-year period, with full implementation in the 1999-2000 school year. In years preceding that year, if fee increases are necessary for some programs or courses, the fees shall be raised in increments designed to lessen their impact upon students already enrolled. Fees for students who are not residents for tuition purposes must offset the full cost of instruction. Fee-nonexempt students enrolled in vocational-preparatory instruction shall be charged fees equal to the fees charged for certificate career education instruction. Each community college that conducts college-preparatory and vocational-preparatory instruction in the same class section may charge a single fee for both types of instruction.
- (8) Each school board and community college board of trustees may establish a separate fee for financial aid purposes in an additional amount of up to $\underline{5}$ $\underline{10}$ percent of the student fees collected for workforce development programs funded through the Workforce Development Education Fund. All fees collected shall be deposited into a separate workforce development student financial aid fee trust fund of the district or community college to support students enrolled in workforce development programs. Any undisbursed balance

remaining in the trust fund and interest income accruing to investments from the trust fund shall increase the total funds available for distribution to workforce development education students. Awards shall be based on student financial need and distributed in accordance with a nationally recognized system of need analysis, as established by each school board or community college district board of trustees approved by the State Board for Career Education. Fees collected pursuant to this subsection shall be allocated in an expeditious manner.

- (18) Each district school board and community college district board of trustees is authorized to establish a separate fee for technology, not to exceed \$1.80 per credit hour or credit-hour equivalent for resident students and not more than \$5.40 per credit hour or credit-hour equivalent for nonresident students, or the equivalent, to be expended in accordance with technology improvement plans. The technology fee may apply only to associate degree programs and courses. Fifty percent of technology fee revenues may be pledged by a community college board of trustees as a dedicated revenue source for the repayment of debt, including lease-purchase agreements, not to exceed the useful life of the asset being financed. Revenues generated from the technology fee may not be bonded.
- district board of trustees may establish a separate activity and service fee not to exceed 10 percent of the matriculation fee, according to rules of the State Board of Education. The student activity and service fee shall be collected as a component part of the registration and tuition fees. The student activity and service fees shall be paid into a student activity and service fees shall be paid into a student activity and service fund at the school district or community

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15 16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24 25

26

27

28

29

30

college and shall be expended for lawful purposes to directly benefit the student body of the institution in general. These purposes include, but are not limited to, student publications and grants to duly recognized student organizations, the membership of which is open to all students at the school or community college without regard to race, gender, or religious affiliation.

Section 3. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 239.213, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

239.213 Vocational-preparatory instruction. --

- (2) Students who enroll in a certificate career education program of 450 hours or more shall complete an entry-level examination within the first 6 weeks of admission into the program. The state board shall designate examinations that are currently in existence, the results of which are comparable across institutions, to assess student mastery of basic skills. Any student deemed to lack a minimal level of basic skills for such program shall be referred to vocational-preparatory instruction or adult basic education for a structured program of basic skills instruction. Such instruction may include English for speakers of other languages. A student may not receive a certificate of vocational program completion prior to demonstrating the basic skills required in the state curriculum frameworks for the vocational program.
- (3) Any student with disabilities who meets the criteria established in s. 240.152 or s. 240.153 Exceptional students, as defined in s. 228.041, may be exempted from the provisions of this section. A student who possesses an associate in arts, baccalaureate, or graduate-level degree, 31 who has completed the college-level communication and

computation skills examination pursuant to s. 240.107, or who is exempt from the college entry-level examination pursuant to s. 240.107 may be exempted from the provisions of this section. Pursuant to 29 C.F.R. part 30, students in registered apprenticeship programs may also be exempted from the provisions of this section.

Section 4. Section 239.514, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

239.514 Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Program. -- The Legislature recognizes that the need for school districts and community colleges to be able to respond to emerging local or statewide economic development needs is critical to the workforce development system. The Workforce Development Capitalization Incentive Grant Program is created to provide grants to school districts and community colleges on a competitive basis to fund some or all of the costs associated with the creation or expansion of workforce development programs that serve specific employment workforce needs. Funds may also be used to upgrade workforce development programs to established industry standards in accordance with program updates conducted by the Division of Community Colleges and the Division of Workforce Development.

(1) Funds awarded for a workforce development capitalization incentive grant may be used for instructional equipment, laboratory equipment, supplies, personnel, student services, or other expenses associated with the creation, upgrade, or expansion of a workforce development program. Expansion of a program may include either the expansion of enrollments in a program or expansion into new areas of specialization within a program. No grant funds may be used

for recurring instructional costs or for institutions' indirect costs.

- shall accept applications from school districts or community colleges for workforce development capitalization incentive grants. Applications from school districts or community colleges shall contain projected enrollments and projected costs for the new or expanded workforce development program. The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, in consultation with the Jobs and Education Partnership, the Department of Education, and the State Board of Community Colleges, shall review and rank each application for a grant according to subsection (3) and shall submit to the Legislature a list in priority order of applications recommended for a grant award.
- programs that train people to enter high-skill, high-wage occupations identified by the occupational forecasting conference and other programs approved by the Jobs and Education Partnership; programs that train people to enter occupations on the WAGES list; or programs that train for the workforce adults who are eligible for public assistance, economically disadvantaged, disabled, not proficient in English, or dislocated workers. The commission shall consider the statewide geographic dispersion of grant funds in ranking the applications and shall give priority to applications from education agencies that are making maximum use of their workforce development funding by offering high-performing, high-demand programs.

Section 5. Subsection (11) is added to section 240.1201, Florida Statutes, to read:

2 3

4 5

6

7

8

9 10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23 24

25

26

27

28

29

30

240.1201 Determination of resident status for tuition purposes. -- Students shall be classified as residents or nonresidents for the purpose of assessing tuition fees in public community colleges and universities.

(11) The State Board of Education is authorized to adopt rules regarding the classification of students as residents or nonresidents for tuition purposes to implement the provisions of this section.

Section 6. Section 240.152, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

240.152 Individuals who have disabilities Impaired and learning disabled persons; admission to postsecondary institutions; substitute requirements; rules. -- Any person who is hearing impaired, visually impaired, speech impaired, or otherwise physically impaired, or dyslexic, or who has a specific learning disability, or who has a physical or mental impairment as defined in State Board of Education rule, shall be eligible for reasonable substitution for any requirement for admission to a state university, community college, or other postsecondary degree career education institution where documentation can be provided that the person's failure to meet the admission requirement is related to the disability. The State Board of Education, the Board of Regents, and the State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt rules to implement this section and shall develop substitute admission requirements where appropriate.

Section 7. Section 240.153, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

240.153 Individuals who have disabilities Impaired and learning disabled persons; graduation, study program 31 admission, and upper-division entry; substitute requirements;

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19 20

21

22

23

24

25

26 27

28

29

30

rules. -- Any student in a state university, community college, or other postsecondary degree career education institution who is hearing impaired, visually impaired, speech impaired, or otherwise physically impaired, or dyslexic, or who has a specific learning disability, or who has a physical or mental impairment as defined in State Board of Education rule, shall be eligible for reasonable substitution for any requirement for graduation, for admission into a program of study, or for entry into upper division where documentation can be provided that the person's failure to meet the requirement is related to the disability and where the failure to meet the graduation requirement or program admission requirement does not constitute a fundamental alteration in the nature of the program. The State Board of Education, the Board of Regents, and the State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt rules to implement this section and shall develop substitute requirements where appropriate.

Section 8. Paragraphs (g) and (j) of subsection (3), paragraph (c) of subsection (5), and paragraph (d) of subsection (8) of section 240.311, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

240.311 State Board of Community Colleges; powers and duties.--

- The State Board of Community Colleges shall: (3)
- Specify, by rule, Recommend to the State Board of $\underline{\textbf{Education}}$ minimum standards for the operation of each community college as required in s. 240.325, which standards may include, but are not limited to, general qualifications of personnel, budgeting, accounting and financial procedures, educational programs, student admissions and services, and 31 community services.

- (j) Establish, by rule, criteria for making recommendations relative to modifying district boundary lines and for making recommendations upon all proposals for the establishment of additional centers, instructional sites, special purpose centers, or campuses for community colleges.
- (5) The State Board of Community Colleges is responsible for reviewing and administering the state program of support for the Florida Community College System and, subject to existing law, shall:
- (c) Provide for and coordinate implementation of the community college program fund in accordance with provisions of ss. 240.359 and 240.323 and in accordance with rules of the State Board of Community Colleges Education.

(8)

(d) By December 31, 1999, and annually thereafter, the State Board of Community Colleges shall report on the implementation of this section to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate.

Section 9. Section 240.321, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 240.321 Community college district board of trustees; rules for admissions of students.—The board of trustees shall make rules governing admissions of students. These rules shall include the following:
- (1) Admissions counseling shall be provided to all students entering college credit programs, which counseling shall utilize tests to measure achievement of college-level communication and computation competencies by all students entering college credit programs.

- (2) Admission to associate degree programs is subject to minimum standards adopted by the State Board of Education and shall require:
- (a) A standard high school diploma, a high school equivalency diploma as prescribed in s. 229.814, previously demonstrated competency in college credit postsecondary coursework, or, in the case of a student who is home educated, a signed affidavit submitted by the student's parent or legal guardian attesting that the student has completed a home education program pursuant to the requirements of s. 232.0201. Students who are enrolled in a dual enrollment or early admission program pursuant to s. 240.116 and secondary students enrolled in college-level instruction creditable toward the associate degree, but not toward the high school diploma, shall be exempt from this requirement.
- (b) A demonstrated level of achievement of college-level communication and computation skills. Students entering a postsecondary education program within 2 years of graduation from high school with an earned college-ready diploma issued pursuant to s. 232.2466 shall be exempt from this testing requirement.
- (c) Any other requirements established by the board of trustees.
- (3) Admission to other programs within the community college shall include education requirements as established by the board of trustees.

Each board of trustees shall include in the college catalog notification that private providers for remediation may be available to the student. Each board of trustees shall establish policies that notify students about, and place

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10 11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

2425

26

27

28

29

30

students into, adult basic education, adult secondary education, or other instructional programs that provide students with alternatives to traditional college-preparatory instruction, including private provider instruction. Such notification shall include a written listing or a prominent display of information on alternative remedial options that must be available to each student who scores below college level in any area on the common placement test. The list or display shall include, but is not limited to, options provided by the community college, adult education programs, and programs provided by private sector providers. The college shall not endorse, recommend, evaluate, or rank any of the providers. The list of providers or the display materials shall include all those providers that request to be included. The written list must provide students with specific contact information and disclose the full costs of the course tuition, laboratory fees, and instructional materials of each option listed. A student who elects a private provider for remedial instruction is entitled to enroll in up to 12 credits of college-level courses in skill areas other than those for which the student is being remediated. A student is prohibited from enrolling in additional college-level courses until the student scores above the cut-score on all sections of the common placement test. Section 10. Section 240.325, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 240.325 Minimum standards, definitions, and guidelines for community colleges. -- Subject to the provisions of s. 240.311(2), the State Board of Community Colleges Education shall prescribe, by $\operatorname{rul}_{\underline{e},\underline{m}}$ inimum standards, definitions, and

guidelines for community colleges and the Division of

Community Colleges which will assure the quality of education, systemwide coordination, and efficient progress toward attainment of the community college mission. The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt rules addressing At a minimum, these rules must address:

- (1) Personnel.
- (2) Contracting.
- (3) Program offerings and classification including college-level communication and computation skills associated with successful performance in college, with tests and other assessment procedures which measure student achievement of those skills. The performance measures shall provide that students moving from one level of education to the next acquire the necessary competencies for that level.
- (4) Provisions for curriculum development, graduation requirements, <u>accreditation</u>, college calendars, and program service areas. These provisions shall include rules that:
- (a) Provide for the award of an associate in arts degree to a student who successfully completes 60 semester credit hours at the community college.
- (b) Require all of the credits accepted for the associate in arts degree to be in the common course numbering and designation system as credits toward a baccalaureate degree offered by a university in the State University System.
- (c) Require no more than 36 semester credit hours in general education courses in the subject areas of communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.

The rules should encourage community colleges to enter into agreements with universities which allow community college students to complete upper-division-level courses at a community college. An agreement may provide for concurrent enrollment at the community college and the university, authority for the community college to offer an upper-division-level course, or distance learning.

- (5) Student admissions, conduct and discipline, nonclassroom activities, and fees.
 - (6) Budgeting.

1 2

- (7) Business and financial matters.
- (8) Student services.
- (9) Reports, surveys, and information systems, including forms and dates of submission.

Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 240.3341, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

240.3341 Incubator facilities for small business concerns.--

(3)(a) The incubator facility and any improvements to the facility shall be owned or leased by the community college. The community college may charge residents of the facility all or part of the cost for facilities, utilities, and support personnel and equipment. No small business concern shall reside in the incubator facility for more than 5 calendar years. The state shall not be liable for any act or failure to act of any small business concern residing in an incubator facility pursuant to this section or of any such concern benefiting from the incubator facilities program.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of paragraph (a) to the contrary, and for the 1999-2000 fiscal year only, the

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18 19

20

2122

2324

25

26

27

28

29

30

incubator facility may be leased by the community college. This paragraph is repealed on July 1, 2000.

Section 12. Subsections (7) and (10) of section 240.35, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

240.35 Student fees.--Unless otherwise provided, the provisions of this section apply only to fees charged for college credit instruction leading to an associate in arts degree, an associate in applied science degree, or an associate in science degree and noncollege credit college-preparatory courses defined in s. 239.105.

(7) Each community college board of trustees shall establish matriculation and tuition fees, which may vary no more than 10 percent below and 15 percent above the fee schedule adopted by the State Board of Community Colleges.7 provided that Any amount from 10 to 15 percent above the fee schedule must be expended solely is used only to support additional safety and security purposes and shall not supplant funding expended in the prior year's budget for safety and security purposes. In order to assess an additional amount for safety and security purposes, a community college board of trustees must provide written justification to the State Board of Community Colleges based on criteria approved by the local board of trustees, including but not limited to criteria such as local crime data and information, and strategies for the implementation of local safety plans. For 1999-2000, each community college is authorized to increase the sum of the matriculation fee and technology fee by not more than 5 percent of the sum of the matriculation and local safety and security fees in 1998-1999. However, no fee in 1999-2000 shall exceed the prescribed statutory limit. Should a college decide to increase the matriculation fee, the funds raised by

increasing the matriculation fee must be expended solely for additional safety and security purposes and shall not supplant funding expended in the 1998-1999 budget for safety and security purposes.

may establish a separate activity and service fee not to exceed 10 percent of the matriculation fee, according to rules of the State Board of Education. The student activity and service fee shall be collected as a component part of the registration and tuition fees. The student activity and service fees shall be paid into a student activity and service fund at the community college and shall be expended for lawful purposes to directly benefit the student body in general. These purposes include, but are not limited to, student publications and grants to duly recognized student organizations, the membership of which is open to all students at the community college without regard to race, sex, or religion.

Section 13. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 240.359, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

240.359 Procedure for determining state financial support and annual apportionment of state funds to each community college district.—The procedure for determining state financial support and the annual apportionment to each community college district authorized to operate a community college under the provisions of s. 240.313 shall be as follows:

(1) DETERMINING THE AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAM FUND FOR THE CURRENT OPERATING PROGRAM.--

(c) If a student enrolls in any course that he or she has previously taken, unless it is a credit course in which the student earned a grade of D or F, the hours shall not be used in the calculation of full-time equivalent enrollments for state funding purposes. The category of lifelong learning is for students enrolled pursuant to s. 239.301. A student shall also be reported as a lifelong learning student for his or her enrollment in any course that he or she has previously taken, unless it is a credit course in which the student earned a grade of D or F. Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.