

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the State University System;  
3           amending s. 240.289, F.S.; authorizing  
4           institutions in the State University System to  
5           accept payment of tuition and fees by credit  
6           cards, charge cards, or debit cards without  
7           imposing a convenience fee for card use;  
8           authorizing such institutions to absorb the  
9           costs of using such cards; authorizing such  
10          institutions to enter into contracts with  
11          financial institutions for certain purposes;  
12          requiring universities to provide certain  
13          education relating to credit card use and debt  
14          management; amending s. 240.235, F.S.; defining  
15          "consultation" for purposes of establishing  
16          student fees; providing requirements regarding  
17          the recommendations of fee committees; creating  
18          s. 240.236, F.S., relating to university  
19          student governments; requiring the  
20          establishment of a student government at each  
21          state university; authorizing each student  
22          government to adopt certain internal  
23          procedures; requiring the adoption of certain  
24          procedures; providing for the university  
25          president to have final approval authority for  
26          internal procedures adopted according to this  
27          section; amending s. 240.295, F.S.; defining  
28          "consultation" for purposes of approval of  
29          state university capital outlay projects;  
30          amending s. 240.531, F.S., relating to the  
31          establishment of educational research centers

1 for child development; revising terminology;  
2 repealing s. 240.136, F.S., relating to  
3 suspension and removal from office of elected  
4 student government officials; providing an  
5 effective date.

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

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9 Section 1. Section 240.289, Florida Statutes, is  
10 amended to read:

11 240.289 Credit card, charge card, and debit card use  
12 in university system; authority; education.--

13 (1) The several universities in the State University  
14 System are authorized, pursuant to s. 215.322, to enter into  
15 agreements and accept credit card, charge card, or debit card  
16 payments as compensation for goods, services, tuition, and  
17 fees in accordance with rules established by the Board of  
18 Regents.

19 (2) In addition, the several universities are also  
20 authorized to accept credit cards, charge cards, and debit  
21 cards for the payment of tuition and fees without the  
22 imposition of a convenience fee for such card services. The  
23 costs incurred by the several universities in accepting credit  
24 cards, charge cards, and debit cards may be absorbed by the  
25 universities as a cost of doing business. The universities may  
26 use any source of nonappropriated funds to cover the costs of  
27 accepting such cards. Subject to approval by the State  
28 Treasurer, universities also may negotiate credit card  
29 contracts, charge card contracts, and debit card contracts  
30 with financial institutions whereby a compensating balance may  
31 be placed on deposit with the financial institutions to cover

1 the costs of accepting credit cards, charge cards, and debit  
2 cards. The several universities may accept credit card, charge  
3 card, or debit card payments at any location where  
4 compensation is received for goods, services, tuition, or  
5 fees, whether the payor makes payment in person or by  
6 electronic means.

7 (3) Each university shall ensure that students are  
8 provided opportunities to become educated as to the proper use  
9 of credit cards, methods to avoid indebtedness, and how to  
10 manage debt responsibly. Each university shall develop  
11 internal policies to ensure that such education is made  
12 available to each student at the university, including, but  
13 not limited to, use of informational seminars held routinely  
14 on campus and a freshman life skills class or similar course  
15 designed to orient new students to the college environment and  
16 issues students typically confront while in college, including  
17 the financially responsible use of credit cards.

18 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 240.235, Florida  
19 Statutes, is amended to read:

20 240.235 Fees.--

21 (1) Each university may ~~is authorized to~~ establish  
22 separate activity and service, health, and athletic fees.  
23 When duly established, these ~~the~~ fees shall be collected as  
24 component parts of the registration and tuition fees and shall  
25 be retained by the university and paid into the separate  
26 activity and service, health, and athletic funds.

27 (a)1. Each university president shall establish a  
28 student activity and service fee on the main campus of the  
29 university. The university president may also establish a  
30 student activity and service fee on any branch campus or  
31 center. Any subsequent modifications ~~increase~~ in the activity

1 and service fee must be recommended by an activity and service  
2 fee committee, at least one-half of whom are students  
3 appointed by the student body president. The remainder of the  
4 committee shall be appointed by the university president. A  
5 chairperson, appointed jointly by the university president and  
6 the student body president, may ~~shall~~ vote only in the case of  
7 a tie. The recommendations of the committee shall take effect  
8 only after approval by the university president, after  
9 consultation with the student body president, with final  
10 approval by the Board of Regents. An increase in the activity  
11 and service fee may occur only once each fiscal year and must  
12 be implemented beginning with the fall term. The Board of  
13 Regents is responsible for adopting ~~promulgating~~ the rules and  
14 timetables necessary to implement this fee.

15         2. The student activity and service fees shall be  
16 expended for lawful purposes to benefit the student body in  
17 general. These purposes ~~This~~ shall include, but are ~~shall~~ not  
18 ~~be~~ limited to, student publications and grants to duly  
19 recognized student organizations, the membership of which is  
20 open to all students at the university without regard to race,  
21 sex, or religion. The fund may not benefit activities for  
22 which an admission fee is charged to students, except for  
23 student-government-sponsored  
24 ~~student-government-association-sponsored~~ concerts. The  
25 allocation and expenditure of the fund shall be determined by  
26 the student government ~~association~~ of the university, except  
27 that the president of the university may veto any line item or  
28 portion thereof within the budget when submitted by the  
29 student government ~~association~~ legislative body. The  
30 university president shall have 15 school days from the date  
31 of presentation of the budget to act on the allocation and

1 expenditure recommendations, which shall be deemed approved if  
2 no action is taken within the 15 school days. If any line item  
3 or portion thereof within the budget is vetoed, the student  
4 government ~~association~~ legislative body shall within 15 school  
5 days make new budget recommendations for expenditure of the  
6 vetoed portion of the fund. If the university president  
7 vetoes any line item or portion thereof within the new budget  
8 revisions, the university president may reallocate by line  
9 item that vetoed portion to bond obligations guaranteed by  
10 activity and service fees. Unexpended funds and undisbursed  
11 funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall be carried  
12 over and remain in the student activity and service fund and  
13 be available for allocation and expenditure during the next  
14 fiscal year.

15 (b) Each university president shall establish a  
16 student health fee on the main campus of the university. The  
17 university president may also establish a student health fee  
18 on any branch campus or center. Any subsequent modification  
19 ~~increase~~ in the health fee must be recommended by a health  
20 committee, at least one-half of whom are students appointed by  
21 the student body president. The remainder of the committee  
22 shall be appointed by the university president. A  
23 chairperson, appointed jointly by the university president and  
24 the student body president, may ~~shall~~ vote only in the case of  
25 a tie. The recommendations of the committee shall take effect  
26 only after approval by the university president, after  
27 consultation with the student body president, with final  
28 approval by the Board of Regents. An increase in the health  
29 fee may occur only once each fiscal year and must be  
30 implemented beginning with the fall term. The Board of Regents  
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1 is responsible for adopting ~~promulgating~~ the rules and  
2 timetables necessary to implement this fee.

3 (c) Each university president shall establish a  
4 separate athletic fee on the main campus of the university.  
5 The university president may also establish a separate  
6 athletic fee on any branch campus or center. The initial  
7 aggregate athletic fee at each university shall be equal to,  
8 but may be no greater than, the 1982-1983 per-credit-hour  
9 activity and service fee contributed to intercollegiate  
10 athletics, including women's athletics, as provided by s.  
11 240.533. Concurrently with the establishment of the athletic  
12 fee, the activity and service fee shall experience a one-time  
13 reduction equal to the initial aggregate athletic fee. Any  
14 subsequent modification ~~increase~~ in the athletic fee must be  
15 recommended by an athletic fee committee, at least one-half of  
16 whom are students appointed by the student body president.  
17 The remainder of the committee shall be appointed by the  
18 university president. A chairperson, appointed jointly by the  
19 university president and the student body president, may ~~shall~~  
20 vote only in the case of a tie. The recommendations of the  
21 committee shall take effect only after approval by the  
22 university president, after consultation with the student body  
23 president, with final approval by the Board of Regents. An  
24 increase in the athletic fee may occur only once each fiscal  
25 year and must be implemented beginning with the fall term. The  
26 Board of Regents is responsible for adopting ~~promulgating~~ the  
27 rules and timetables necessary to implement this fee.

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29 For purposes of this section, "consultation" means an ongoing  
30 and documented dialogue with the student body president  
31 following any recommendation by a fee committee, and prior to

1 approval of any proposal for modification of any fee. An  
2 attachment containing the names and affiliation of all  
3 committee members (i.e., student, faculty, or staff, etc.),  
4 any objections and alternatives to a modification of any fee  
5 as formulated by the student government, and stating that the  
6 university president and the student government have reviewed  
7 the proposal, shall accompany the recommendation of any fee  
8 committee.

9 Section 3. Section 240.236, Florida Statutes, is  
10 created to read:

11 240.236 University student governments.--

12 (1) There is created at each state university a  
13 student government that shall be organized and maintained by  
14 students as the official representatives of the student body.  
15 Each student government shall be composed of at least a  
16 student body president and a student legislative body, who are  
17 both to be elected by the student body. Interim vacancies may  
18 be filled in a manner other than election as prescribed by the  
19 student government. Each student government may adopt  
20 internal procedures governing:

21 (a) The operation and administration of the student  
22 government.

23 (b) The election, appointment, and discipline of  
24 officers of the student government.

25 (c) The execution of all other duties as delegated to  
26 the student government by law.

27 (2) Any elected officer of the student government of a  
28 state university may be removed from office by the majority  
29 vote of students participating in a referendum held pursuant  
30 to the provisions of this section. The student government  
31 shall develop a procedure for students to petition for a

1 referendum to remove an elected officer of the student  
2 government from office. The grounds for removal of a student  
3 government officer by petition are limited to the following,  
4 and must be expressly stated in the petition: malfeasance,  
5 misfeasance, neglect of duty, incompetence, permanent  
6 inability to perform official duties, and conviction of a  
7 felony. The referendum must be held no more than 60 days  
8 after filing of the petition.

9 (3) The student government shall develop procedures  
10 providing for the suspension and removal of an elected officer  
11 following the conviction of that officer for a felony.

12 (4) The internal procedures adopted by the student  
13 government under this section are subject to final approval by  
14 the university president.

15 Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 240.295, Florida  
16 Statutes, is amended to read:

17 240.295 State University System; authorization for  
18 fixed capital outlay projects.--

19 (3) Other than those projects currently authorized, no  
20 project proposed by a university which is to be funded from  
21 Capital Improvement Trust Fund fees or building fees may ~~shall~~  
22 be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval without  
23 prior consultation with the student government ~~association~~ of  
24 that university. For the purposes of this subsection,  
25 "consultation" is defined as an ongoing and documented  
26 dialogue with the student body president regarding each  
27 proposed project, which shall begin prior to developing the  
28 university proposal. An attachment containing any objections  
29 and alternatives formulated by the student government, and  
30 stating that the university president and the student  
31 government have reviewed the project or projects proposed,



1 shall be included in the proposal.The Board of Regents shall  
2 adopt ~~promulgate~~ rules which are consistent with this  
3 requirement.

4 Section 5. Subsections (1), (2), and (4) of section  
5 240.531, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

6 240.531 Establishment of educational research centers  
7 for child development.--

8 (1) Upon approval of the university president, the  
9 student government ~~association~~ of any university within the  
10 State University System may establish an educational research  
11 center for child development in accordance with the provisions  
12 of this section. Each such center shall be a child day care  
13 center established to provide care for the children of  
14 students, both graduate and undergraduate, faculty, and other  
15 staff and employees of the university and to provide an  
16 opportunity for interested schools or departments of the  
17 university to conduct educational research programs and  
18 establish internship programs within such centers. Whenever  
19 possible, such center shall be located on the campus of the  
20 university. There shall be a director of each center,  
21 selected by the board of directors of the center.

22 (2) There shall be a board of directors for each  
23 educational research center for child development, consisting  
24 of the president of the university or his or her designee, the  
25 student body ~~government~~ president or his or her designee, the  
26 chair of each department participating in the center or his or  
27 her designee, and one parent for each 50 children enrolled in  
28 the center, elected by the parents of children enrolled in the  
29 center. The director of the center shall be an ex officio,  
30 nonvoting member of the board. The board shall establish  
31

1 local policies and perform local oversight and operational  
2 guidance for the center.

3 (4) The Board of Regents shall adopt ~~is authorized and~~  
4 ~~directed to promulgate~~ rules governing for the establishment,  
5 operation, and supervision of educational research centers for  
6 child development. These ~~Such~~ rules shall include, but are  
7 ~~need not be~~ limited to: a defined method of establishment of  
8 and participation in the operation of centers by the  
9 appropriate student governments ~~government associations~~;  
10 guidelines for the establishment of an intern program in each  
11 center; and guidelines for the receipt and monitoring of funds  
12 from grants and other sources of funds consistent with  
13 existing laws.

14 Section 6. Section 240.136, Florida Statutes, is  
15 repealed.

16 Section 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
17 law.