

By Senator Lawson

3-943-01

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 system to accept credit
5 cards, charge cards, and debit cards for
6 payment of tuition and fees without imposing a
7 convenience fee; authorizing such institutions
8 to absorb the cost of using such a card;
9 authorizing such institutions to enter into
10 contracts with financial institutions for
11 certain purposes; providing an effective date.

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

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15 Section 1. Section 240.289, Florida Statutes, is
16 amended to read:

17 240.289 Credit card, charge card, and debit card use
18 in university system; authority.--

19 (1) The several universities in the State University
20 System are authorized, pursuant to s. 215.322, to enter into
21 agreements and accept credit card, charge card, or debit card
22 payments as compensation for goods, services, tuition, and
23 fees in accordance with rules established by the Board of
24 Regents.

25 (2) In addition, the several universities are also
26 authorized to accept credit cards, charge cards, and debit
27 cards for the payment of tuition and fees without the
28 imposition of a convenience fee for such card services. The
29 costs incurred by the several universities in accepting credit
30 cards, charge cards, and debit cards may be absorbed by the
31 universities as a cost of doing business. The universities may

1 use any source of nonappropriated funds to cover the costs of
2 accepting such cards. Subject to approval by the State
3 Treasurer, universities also may negotiate credit card
4 contracts, charge card contracts, and debit card contracts
5 with financial institutions whereby a compensating balance may
6 be placed on deposit with the financial institutions to cover
7 the costs of accepting credit cards, charge cards, and debit
8 cards. The several universities may accept credit card, charge
9 card, or debit card payments at any location where
10 compensation is received for goods, services, tuition, or
11 fees, whether the payer makes payment in person or by
12 electronic means.

13 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
14 law.

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17 SENATE SUMMARY

18 Authorizes institutions in the State University System to
19 accept credit cards, charge cards, and debit cards for
20 payment of tuition and fees without charging a
21 convenience fee for a card's use. Authorizes the
22 institutions to absorb the costs of such fees and allows
23 them to enter into contracts with financial institutions
24 under which compensating balances may be placed on
25 deposit to cover the costs of accepting such cards.
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