

By Representatives Farkas and Alexander

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the State University System;
3 amending s. 240.2011, F.S.; creating a fiscally
4 autonomous campus of the University of South
5 Florida; amending s. 240.527, F.S.; requiring a
6 Campus Board of the University of South Florida
7 St. Petersburg; requiring separate
8 accreditation; providing powers and duties of
9 the Campus Board and the Campus Executive
10 Officer; providing a procedure for preparing a
11 budget request; providing for central support
12 services contracts and a letter of agreement;
13 excluding certain entities from certain
14 provisions; providing an effective date.

15
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17
18 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 240.2011, Florida
19 Statutes, is amended to read:

20 240.2011 State University System defined.--The State
21 University System shall consist of the following:

22 (5) The University of South Florida, with a main
23 campus located in Hillsborough County and a fiscally
24 autonomous campus in Pinellas County, known as the University
25 of South Florida St. Petersburg.

26 Section 2. Section 240.527, Florida Statutes, is
27 amended to read:

28 (Substantial rewording of section. See
29 s. 240.527, F.S., for present text.)

30 240.527 The University of South Florida St.
31 Petersburg--.

1 (1) The St. Petersburg campus of the University of
2 South Florida is established and shall be known as the
3 University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

4 (a) The Legislature intends that the University of
5 South Florida St. Petersburg be operated and maintained as a
6 separate organizational and budget entity of the University of
7 South Florida, and that all legislative appropriations for the
8 University of South Florida St. Petersburg be set forth as
9 separate line items in the annual General Appropriations Act.

10 (b) The University of South Florida St. Petersburg
11 shall have a campus board and a campus executive officer.

12 (c) As soon as practicable, but no later than the
13 effective date of this act, the President of the University of
14 South Florida shall begin the process of application to the
15 Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges
16 and Schools for separate accreditation of the University of
17 South Florida St. Petersburg. If the application is not
18 approved or is provisionally approved, the University of South
19 Florida shall correct any identified deficiencies and shall
20 continue to work for accreditation.

21 (2) The Board of Trustees of the University of South
22 Florida shall appoint to the campus board, from
23 recommendations of the President of the University of South
24 Florida, five residents of Pinellas County. If a resident of
25 Pinellas County is appointed to the board of trustees of the
26 University of South Florida, the board shall appoint that
27 member to serve jointly as a member of the campus board. If
28 more than one Pinellas County resident is appointed to the
29 board of trustees, the board shall select one joint member.
30 The board of trustees may reappoint a member to the campus
31

1 board for one additional term. The campus board has the powers
2 and duties provided by law, which include the authority to:
3 (a) Review and approve an annual legislative budget
4 request to be submitted to the Commissioner of Education. The
5 campus executive officer shall prepare the legislative budget
6 request in accordance with guidelines established by the
7 Florida Board of Education. This request must include items
8 for campus operations and fixed capital outlay.
9 (b) Approve and submit an annual operating plan and
10 budget for review and consultation by the Board of Trustees of
11 the University of South Florida. The campus operating budget
12 must reflect the actual funding available to that campus from
13 separate line-item appropriations contained in each annual
14 General Appropriations Act, which line-item appropriations
15 must initially reflect the funds reported to the Legislature
16 for the University of South Florida St. Petersburg Campus for
17 fiscal year 2000-2001 and any additional funds provided in the
18 fiscal year 2001-2002 legislative appropriation.
19 (c) Enter into central support services contracts with
20 the Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida for
21 any services that the St. Petersburg campus cannot provide
22 more economically, including payroll processing, accounting,
23 technology, construction administration, and other desired
24 services. However, all legal services for the campus must be
25 provided by a central services contract with the university.
26 The Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida and
27 the campus board shall determine in a letter of agreement any
28 allocation or sharing of student fee revenue between the
29 University of South Florida's main campus and the St.
30 Petersburg campus.
31

1 The Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida may
2 lawfully delegate other powers and duties to the campus board
3 for the efficient operation and improvement of the campus and
4 for the purpose of vesting in the campus the attributes
5 necessary to meet the requirements for separate accreditation
6 by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
7 (3) The University of South Florida St. Petersburg
8 shall be administered by a campus executive officer who shall
9 be appointed by, report directly to, and serve at the pleasure
10 of the President of the University of South Florida. The
11 President shall consult with the campus board before hiring or
12 terminating the campus executive officer. The campus executive
13 officer has authority and responsibility as provided in law,
14 including the authority to:
15 (a) Administer campus operations within the annual
16 operating budget as approved by the campus board.
17 (b) Recommend to the campus board an annual
18 legislative budget request that includes funding for campus
19 operations and fixed capital outlay.
20 (c) Recommend to the campus board an annual campus
21 operating budget.
22 (d) Recommend to the campus board appropriate services
23 and terms and conditions to be included in annual central
24 support services contracts.
25 (e) Carry out any additional responsibilities assigned
26 or delegated by the President of the University of South
27 Florida for the efficient operation and improvement of the
28 campus, especially any authority necessary for the purpose of
29 vesting in the campus attributes necessary to meet the
30 requirements for separate accreditation.
31

1 (4) Students enrolled at the University of South
2 Florida, including those enrolled at a branch campus, have the
3 same rights and obligations as provided by law, policy, or
4 rule adopted by the University of South Florida, the Florida
5 Department of Education, or other lawful entity. The
6 University of South Florida shall provide a comprehensive and
7 coordinated system of student registration so that a student
8 enrolled at any campus of the University of South Florida has
9 the ability to register for courses at any other campus of the
10 University of South Florida.

11 (5) The following entities are not affected by this
12 section and remain under the administrative control of the
13 University of South Florida:

14 (a) The University of South Florida College of Marine
15 Science, which is a component college of the main campus.

16 (b) The Florida Institute of Oceanography, which is a
17 Type One Institute.

18 (c) The University of South Florida Pediatric Research
19 Center.

20 (d) The University of South Florida/USGS joint
21 facility.

22 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

23
24 *****

25 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

26 Creates the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, a
27 fiscally autonomous campus of the University of South
28 Florida. Provides for a campus board and a campus
29 executive officer and for the powers and duties of each.
30 Requires separate accreditation. Provides a procedure for
31 preparing a budget request. Provides for central support
 services contracts and a letter of agreement. Provides a
 list of entities that remain under the administrative
 control of the University of South Florida.