

By Representative Brutus

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the State University System;  
3           amending s. 240.289, F.S.; prohibiting certain  
4           rules relating to credit cards, charge cards,  
5           and debit cards; authorizing universities to  
6           absorb certain costs relating to the use of  
7           such cards; authorizing universities to accept  
8           payment by such cards at various locations or  
9           by electronic means; authorizing certain  
10          contracts relating to the acceptance of such  
11          cards; 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. Such rules shall not prohibit a university from  
25 accepting such cards without the imposition of a convenience  
26 fee for the use of such cards. If a convenience fee is not  
27 charged, the cost to the university of accepting such cards  
28 may be absorbed as a cost of doing business and the university  
29 may use any source of nonappropriated funds for the purpose of  
30 paying such costs.

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1       (2) A university may accept credit card, charge card,  
2 or debit card payments at any location where compensation is  
3 received for goods, services, tuition, or fees, whether the  
4 payor makes payment in person or by electronic means.

5       (3) Subject to approval by the State Treasurer, a  
6 university may negotiate credit card contracts, charge card  
7 contracts, and debit card contracts with a financial  
8 institution whereby a compensating balance may be placed on  
9 deposit with the financial institution to cover the costs of  
10 accepting credit cards, charge cards, or debit cards.

11             Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
12 law.

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15                                     HOUSE SUMMARY

16             Permits universities to absorb the costs associated with  
17             the use of credit cards, charge cards, and debit cards  
18             and to enter into contracts with financial institutions  
19             relating to the acceptance of such cards.