



Bill No. CS for SB 986

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1 state. It is therefore the intent of the Legislature to  
2 further expand access to baccalaureate degree programs through  
3 the use of community colleges ~~apply this concept in the~~  
4 ~~creation and funding of a program that supports local economic~~  
5 ~~development and responds to public demand for increased access~~  
6 ~~to baccalaureate degrees in areas of the state that are~~  
7 ~~underserved by 4-year institutions.~~

8 (2) A community college may be authorized by the State  
9 Board of Education to offer a limited number of baccalaureate  
10 degrees designed to meet local workforce needs through one of  
11 the following processes:

12 (a) A community college may enter into a formal  
13 agreement with the state university in its service area for  
14 the community college to deliver specified baccalaureate  
15 degree programs. The agreement must be submitted to the State  
16 Board of Education for approval. The college's proposal must  
17 include the following information:

18 1. Demand for the baccalaureate degree program is  
19 identified by the workforce development board, local  
20 businesses and industry, local chambers of commerce, and  
21 potential students.

22 2. Unmet need for graduates of the proposed degree  
23 program is substantiated.

24 3. The community college has the facilities and  
25 academic resources to deliver the program.

26  
27 The proposal must be submitted to the Postsecondary Education  
28 Planning Commission for review and comment. Upon approval of  
29 the State Board of Education for the specific degree program  
30 or programs, the college shall pursue regional accreditation  
31 by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of

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1 Colleges and Schools. Any additional baccalaureate degree  
2 programs the college wishes to offer must be approved by the  
3 State Board of Education.

4 (b) A community college may develop a proposal to  
5 deliver specified baccalaureate degree programs in its  
6 district. The proposal must be submitted to the State Board of  
7 Education for approval. The college's proposal must include  
8 the following information:

9 1. Demand for the baccalaureate degree program is  
10 identified by the workforce development board, local  
11 businesses and industry, local chambers of commerce, and  
12 potential students.

13 2. Unmet need for graduates of the proposed degree  
14 program is substantiated.

15 3. The community college has the facilities and  
16 academic resources to deliver the program.

17  
18 The proposal must be submitted to the Postsecondary Education  
19 Planning Commission for review and comment. Upon approval of  
20 the State Board of Education for the specific degree program  
21 or programs, the college shall pursue regional accreditation  
22 by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of  
23 Colleges and Schools. Any additional baccalaureate degree  
24 programs the college wishes to offer must be approved by the  
25 State Board of Education.

26 (3) A community college may not terminate its  
27 Associate-in-Arts or Associate-in-Science degree programs as a  
28 result of the authorization provided in subsection (2). The  
29 Legislature intends that the primary mission of a community  
30 college, including a college that offers baccalaureate-degree  
31 programs, continues to be the provision of associate degrees

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1 that provide access to a university.

2 ~~(2) Categorical funding is authorized for the~~  
3 ~~site-determined baccalaureate degree access program created by~~  
4 ~~this section. Funds may not be used to support the~~  
5 ~~construction, renovation, or remodeling of facilities. This~~  
6 ~~program is voluntary and does not preclude other mutually~~  
7 ~~agreed upon arrangements between community colleges and 4-year~~  
8 ~~institutions for the delivery of baccalaureate degrees on~~  
9 ~~community college sites.~~

10 ~~(3) Each community college wishing to participate in~~  
11 ~~the site-determined baccalaureate degree access program must:~~

12 ~~(a) Identify baccalaureate degree programs that are~~  
13 ~~not currently offered at the community college but are~~  
14 ~~proposed for delivery at the college to meet the academic and~~  
15 ~~economic development needs of one or more communities within~~  
16 ~~the college's service area. When assessing local needs, the~~  
17 ~~college should seek input from the appropriate chamber of~~  
18 ~~commerce, workforce development council, and other civic and~~  
19 ~~business groups. As used in this section, the term "economic~~  
20 ~~development" means entrepreneurial efforts, the attraction of~~  
21 ~~new business and industry to the area, and the expansion of~~  
22 ~~existing business and industry.~~

23 ~~(b) Determine the number of students interested in~~  
24 ~~pursuing each proposed baccalaureate degree program and~~  
25 ~~identify the enrollment patterns, any special characteristics~~  
26 ~~of those students, and any unique combination or modification~~  
27 ~~of course offerings that may be necessary to meet student~~  
28 ~~enrollment needs.~~

29 ~~(c) Submit a proposal to the Postsecondary Education~~  
30 ~~Planning Commission requesting validation of the need for the~~  
31 ~~proposed baccalaureate degree program and tentative approval~~

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- 1 ~~for program funding. The proposal must include:~~
- 2       1. ~~A description of each proposed baccalaureate degree~~
- 3 ~~program identifying the junior-level and senior-level courses~~
- 4 ~~to be offered and designating whether the program should be~~
- 5 ~~offered for a cohort group or as an ongoing degree program.~~
- 6       2. ~~Evidence that local occupational forecasts support~~
- 7 ~~the existence of jobs for graduates of the proposed~~
- 8 ~~baccalaureate degree programs.~~
- 9       3. ~~An estimated number of students to be served by~~
- 10 ~~each proposed degree program.~~
- 11       4. ~~An assurance that the community college's existing~~
- 12 ~~facilities are sufficient to meet the additional demands for~~
- 13 ~~classroom and laboratory space for the proposed degree~~
- 14 ~~programs.~~
- 15       5. ~~Evidence that the college has requested the~~
- 16 ~~participation of no fewer than three regionally accredited~~
- 17 ~~4-year postsecondary institutions, including at least one~~
- 18 ~~member of the State University System. Any member of the~~
- 19 ~~State University System and any independent, regionally~~
- 20 ~~accredited, 4-year institution that is chartered in, and has~~
- 21 ~~its primary campus located in, Florida may be a partner in a~~
- 22 ~~site-determined baccalaureate degree access program at any~~
- 23 ~~community college.~~
- 24       6. ~~A tentative agreement between the community college~~
- 25 ~~and the 4-year postsecondary institution selected to offer the~~
- 26 ~~upper-level courses leading to the proposed degree or degrees.~~
- 27       7. ~~Any additional provisions that the Postsecondary~~
- 28 ~~Education Planning Commission considers pertinent to the~~
- 29 ~~proposal.~~
- 30       (4) ~~The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission,~~
- 31 ~~after soliciting comments from the Board of Regents and the~~

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1 ~~State Board of Community Colleges, shall validate the need for~~  
2 ~~each baccalaureate degree program proposed for delivery~~  
3 ~~according to this section and shall notify the community~~  
4 ~~college that its proposal has been approved or rejected. The~~  
5 ~~commission shall establish procedures for the timely~~  
6 ~~submission, review, and approval of the proposals and~~  
7 ~~agreements required by this section. These procedures must be~~  
8 ~~designed to allow the initiation of approved baccalaureate~~  
9 ~~degree programs at least 3 times each fiscal year.~~

10 ~~(5) Once the Postsecondary Education Planning~~  
11 ~~Commission validates the need for the proposed baccalaureate~~  
12 ~~degree program and notifies the community college that its~~  
13 ~~proposal has been approved, the community college shall~~  
14 ~~finalize an agreement with the regionally accredited, public~~  
15 ~~or nonpublic, 4-year postsecondary institution selected to~~  
16 ~~provide the upper-level instructional services in the approved~~  
17 ~~baccalaureate degree program. The commission shall identify~~  
18 ~~the common aspects that each agreement must address,~~  
19 ~~including, but not limited to:~~

20 ~~(a) A course delivery pattern based on the student~~  
21 ~~enrollment patterns and characteristics included in the~~  
22 ~~approved proposal.~~

23 ~~(b) An articulation provision that guarantees~~  
24 ~~acceptance of students who hold an associate in arts or~~  
25 ~~associate in science degree and satisfy any other~~  
26 ~~prerequisites for admission to the specific baccalaureate~~  
27 ~~degree program.~~

28 ~~(c) The provision of library services and student~~  
29 ~~support services.~~

30 ~~(d) An agreement that the participating 4-year~~  
31 ~~postsecondary institution will continue offering instructional~~

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1 ~~services at least until all qualified members of the initial~~  
2 ~~group of students have had an opportunity to complete the~~  
3 ~~degree program.~~

4 ~~(e) The specific and measurable performance criteria~~  
5 ~~that the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission may use~~  
6 ~~to evaluate the outcomes and outputs of the baccalaureate~~  
7 ~~degree program within an identified timeframe.~~

8 ~~(f) An agreement that in-state student tuition for the~~  
9 ~~degree program will not exceed the matriculation fee for the~~  
10 ~~State University System unless the proposal approved by the~~  
11 ~~Postsecondary Education Planning Commission allows the~~  
12 ~~participating institutions to charge differentiated tuition~~  
13 ~~and fees to encourage student attendance and participation.~~  
14 ~~Out-of-state students shall pay full costs. Notwithstanding~~  
15 ~~s. 240.605, students participating in a site-determined~~  
16 ~~baccalaureate degree program may not receive a Florida~~  
17 ~~Resident Access Grant.~~

18 ~~(6) Each participating community college must submit~~  
19 ~~the agreement required by this section to the Postsecondary~~  
20 ~~Education Planning Commission for review and final approval~~  
21 ~~before initiating an approved site-determined baccalaureate~~  
22 ~~degree access program. Subject to the availability of~~  
23 ~~legislative appropriations specifically provided for this~~  
24 ~~purpose, the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission must~~  
25 ~~recommend to the Commissioner of Education the total funds to~~  
26 ~~be released to each participating community college for the~~  
27 ~~initiation of the approved site-determined baccalaureate~~  
28 ~~degree access program. The community college shall distribute~~  
29 ~~funds to the participating 4-year postsecondary institution at~~  
30 ~~the rate specified in the approved agreement. The~~  
31 ~~Postsecondary Education Planning Commission shall not~~

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1 ~~recommend the release of funding for any program that is~~  
2 ~~terminated before or after the evaluation required by this~~  
3 ~~section. The total funds to be released for the initiation of~~  
4 ~~an approved program shall be based on the number of fundable~~  
5 ~~upper-level student credit hours for each term. Unless~~  
6 ~~otherwise provided in an appropriations act, the funding per~~  
7 ~~credit hour shall be an amount equal to the state funds,~~  
8 ~~excluding student fees, appropriated to the State University~~  
9 ~~System for each full-time equivalent student enrolled in~~  
10 ~~upper-level course work. Student credit hours funded under~~  
11 ~~this program may not be duplicated in any other calculation of~~  
12 ~~state funding for the 4-year institution.~~

13 ~~(7) The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission~~  
14 ~~may require the participating community colleges and 4-year~~  
15 ~~postsecondary institutions to submit information necessary to~~  
16 ~~monitor the annual performance of the program. Within 90 days~~  
17 ~~after the 2nd and 4th year of the site-determined~~  
18 ~~baccalaureate degree access program, the commission shall~~  
19 ~~submit to the chairs of the education and fiscal committees of~~  
20 ~~the Legislature a progress report, including an evaluation of~~  
21 ~~the funding mechanism created by this section. The commission~~  
22 ~~shall review each site-determined baccalaureate degree access~~  
23 ~~program funded under this section to ascertain whether the~~  
24 ~~performance measures specified in the agreement between the~~  
25 ~~participating community college and the 4-year institution~~  
26 ~~have been met. Each program must be reviewed 4 years after~~  
27 ~~initiation unless a shorter timeframe is specified in the~~  
28 ~~agreement. The performance measures must include the student~~  
29 ~~graduation rate, the employment rate of program graduates both~~  
30 ~~within and outside the community college service area, the~~  
31 ~~continuing need to offer the specific baccalaureate degree~~

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1 ~~program in the community college service area, and such other~~  
2 ~~information as the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission~~  
3 ~~may determine necessary for program and performance~~  
4 ~~evaluation. Based on its evaluation, the commission shall~~  
5 ~~either approve continuation of the program, require~~  
6 ~~modifications prior to program approval, or recommend that the~~  
7 ~~participating institutions terminate the program after all~~  
8 ~~qualified members of the initial group of students have an~~  
9 ~~opportunity to complete the degree program. The commission~~  
10 ~~must submit to the Commissioner of Education for inclusion in~~  
11 ~~the legislative budget a request for funding for approved~~  
12 ~~site-determined baccalaureate degree access programs.~~

13 ~~(8) If no accredited 4-year institution is willing to~~  
14 ~~provide a baccalaureate degree program approved by the~~  
15 ~~Postsecondary Education Planning Commission under this~~  
16 ~~section, the community college board of trustees may ask the~~  
17 ~~commission to evaluate the college's request to offer the~~  
18 ~~degree program. If the commission is satisfied that the~~  
19 ~~community college should offer the degree program, it shall~~  
20 ~~recommend to the Legislature the enactment of statutory~~  
21 ~~authority for the community college to offer that specific~~  
22 ~~baccalaureate degree program.~~

23 Section 2. Effective July 1, 2001, subsection (5) of  
24 section 240.2011, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection  
25 (12) is added to that section, to read:

26 240.2011 State University System defined.--The State  
27 University System shall consist of the following:

28 (5) The University of South Florida, with a main  
29 campus located in Hillsborough County and two fiscally  
30 autonomous campuses, one in Pinellas County, named the  
31 University of South Florida St. Petersburg, and the other

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1 named the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee.

2 (12) New College of Florida, located in Sarasota  
3 County, which is the 4-year residential liberal arts honors  
4 college of the state of Florida.

5 Section 3. Section 240.527, Florida Statutes, is  
6 amended to read:

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

9 240.527 The University of South Florida St.  
10 Petersburg.--

11 (1) The St. Petersburg campus of the University of  
12 South Florida is established and shall be known as the  
13 "University of South Florida St. Petersburg."

14 (a) The Legislature intends that the University of  
15 South Florida St. Petersburg be operated and maintained as a  
16 separate organizational and budget entity of the University of  
17 South Florida, and that all legislative appropriations for the  
18 University of South Florida St. Petersburg be set forth as  
19 separate line items in the annual General Appropriations Act.

20 (b) The University of South Florida St. Petersburg  
21 shall have a Campus Board and a Campus Executive Officer.

22 (c) As soon as possible, but no later than the  
23 effective date of this act, the President of the University of  
24 South Florida shall begin the process of application to the  
25 Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges  
26 and Schools for separate accreditation of the University of  
27 South Florida St. Petersburg. If the application is not  
28 approved or is provisionally approved, the University of South  
29 Florida shall correct any identified deficiencies and shall  
30 continue to work for accreditation.

31 (2) The Board of Trustees of the University of South

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1 Florida shall appoint to the Campus Board, from  
2 recommendations of the President of the University of South  
3 Florida, five residents of Pinellas County. If a resident of  
4 Pinellas County is appointed to the Board of Trustees of the  
5 University of South Florida, the board shall appoint that  
6 member to serve jointly as a member of the Campus Board. If  
7 more than one Pinellas County resident is appointed to the  
8 Board of Trustees, the board shall select one joint member.  
9 The Board of Trustees may reappoint a member to the Campus  
10 Board for one additional term. The Campus Board has the powers  
11 and duties provided by law, which include the authority to:  
12 (a) Review and approve an annual legislative budget  
13 request to be submitted to the Commissioner of Education. The  
14 Campus Executive Officer shall prepare the legislative budget  
15 request in accordance with guidelines established by the  
16 Florida Board of Education. This request must include items  
17 for campus operations and fixed capital outlay.  
18 (b) Approve and submit an annual operating plan and  
19 budget for review and consultation by the Board of Trustees of  
20 the University of South Florida. The campus operating budget  
21 must reflect the actual funding available to that campus from  
22 separate line-item appropriations contained in each annual  
23 General Appropriations Act, which line-item appropriations  
24 must initially reflect the funds reported to the Florida  
25 Legislature for the University of South Florida St. Petersburg  
26 Campus for fiscal year 2000-2001 and any additional funds  
27 provided in the fiscal year 2001-2002 legislative  
28 appropriation.  
29 (c) Enter into central support services contracts with  
30 the Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida for  
31 any services that the St. Petersburg campus cannot provide

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1 more economically, including payroll processing, accounting,  
2 technology, construction administration, and other desired  
3 services. However, all legal services for the campus must be  
4 provided by a central services contract with the university.  
5 The Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida and  
6 the Campus Board shall determine in a letter of agreement any  
7 allocation or sharing of student fee revenue between the  
8 University of South Florida's main campus and the St.  
9 Petersburg campus.

10  
11 The Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida may  
12 lawfully delegate other powers and duties to the Campus Board  
13 for the efficient operation and improvement of the campus and  
14 for the purpose of vesting in the campus the attributes  
15 necessary to meet the requirements for separate accreditation  
16 by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

17 (3) The University of South Florida St. Petersburg  
18 shall be administered by a Campus Executive Officer who shall  
19 be appointed by, report directly to, and serve at the pleasure  
20 of the President of the University of South Florida. The  
21 President shall consult with the Campus Board before hiring or  
22 terminating the Campus Executive Officer. The Campus Executive  
23 Officer has authority and responsibility as provided in law,  
24 including the authority to:

25 (a) Administer campus operations within the annual  
26 operating budget as approved by the Campus Board.

27 (b) Recommend to the Campus Board an annual  
28 legislative budget request that includes funding for campus  
29 operations and fixed capital outlay.

30 (c) Recommend to the Campus Board an annual campus  
31 operating budget.



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1 Sarasota/Manatee.--

2 (1) The Sarasota/Manatee campus of the University of  
3 South Florida is established and shall be known as the  
4 "University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee."

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

11 (b) The University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee  
12 shall have a Campus Board and a Campus Executive Officer.

13 (c) As soon as possible, but no later than July 1,  
14 2002, the President of the University of South Florida shall  
15 begin the process of application to the Commission on Colleges  
16 of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools for  
17 separate accreditation of the University of South Florida  
18 Sarasota/Manatee. If the application is not approved or is  
19 provisionally approved, the University of South Florida shall  
20 correct any identified deficiencies and shall continue to work  
21 for accreditation.

22 (2) The Board of Trustees of the University of South  
23 Florida shall appoint to the Campus Board, from  
24 recommendations of the President of the University of South  
25 Florida, three residents of Manatee County and two residents  
26 of Sarasota County, to serve 4-year staggered terms. If one or  
27 more residents of Sarasota County or Manatee County is  
28 appointed to the Board of Trustees of the University of South  
29 Florida, the board shall, at the next vacancy of the campus  
30 board, appoint one of those members to serve jointly as a  
31 member of the Campus Board. The Board of Trustees may

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1 reappoint a member to the Campus Board for one additional  
2 term. The Campus Board has the powers and duties provided by  
3 law, which include the authority to:

4 (a) Review and approve an annual legislative budget  
5 request to be submitted to the Commissioner of Education. The  
6 Campus Executive Officer shall prepare the legislative budget  
7 request in accordance with guidelines established by the  
8 Florida Board of Education. This request must include items  
9 for campus operations and fixed capital outlay.

10 (b) Approve and submit an annual operating plan and  
11 budget for review and consultation by the Board of Trustees of  
12 the University of South Florida. The campus operating budget  
13 must reflect the actual funding available to that campus from  
14 separate line-item appropriations contained in each annual  
15 General Appropriations Act, which line-item appropriations  
16 must initially reflect the funds reported to the Florida  
17 Legislature for the University of South Florida  
18 Sarasota/Manatee Campus for fiscal year 2000-2001 and any  
19 additional funds provided in the fiscal year 2001-2002  
20 legislative appropriation.

21 (c) Enter into central support services contracts with  
22 the Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida for  
23 any services that the campus at Sarasota/Manatee cannot  
24 provide more economically, including payroll processing,  
25 accounting, technology, construction administration, and other  
26 desired services. However, all legal services for the campus  
27 must be provided by a central services contract with the  
28 university. The Board of Trustees of the University of South  
29 Florida and the Campus Board shall determine in a letter of  
30 agreement any allocation or sharing of student fee revenue  
31 between the University of South Florida's main campus and the

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1 Sarasota/Manatee campus.

2

3 The Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida may  
4 lawfully delegate other powers and duties to the Campus Board  
5 for the efficient operation and improvement of the campus and  
6 for the purpose of vesting in the campus the attributes  
7 necessary to meet the requirements for separate accreditation  
8 by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

9 (3) The University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee  
10 shall be administered by a Campus Executive Officer who shall  
11 be appointed by, report directly to, and serve at the pleasure  
12 of the President of the University of South Florida. The  
13 President shall consult with the Campus Board before hiring or  
14 terminating the Campus Executive Officer. The Campus Executive  
15 Officer has authority and responsibility as provided in law,  
16 including the authority to:

17 (a) Administer campus operations within the annual  
18 operating budget as approved by the Campus Board.

19 (b) Recommend to the Campus Board an annual  
20 legislative budget request that includes funding for campus  
21 operations and fixed capital outlay.

22 (c) Recommend to the Campus Board an annual campus  
23 operating budget.

24 (d) Recommend to the Campus Board appropriate services  
25 and terms and conditions to be included in annual central  
26 support services contracts.

27 (e) Carry out any additional responsibilities assigned  
28 or delegated by the President of the University of South  
29 Florida for the efficient operation and improvement of the  
30 campus, especially any authority necessary for the purpose of  
31 vesting in the campus attributes necessary to meet the

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1 requirements for separate accreditation.

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

12 (5) Promote technology transfer between the research  
13 operations of the University of South Florida and local  
14 economic development agencies.

15 Section 5. New College of Florida.--

16 (1) Mission and goals.--As a member of the State  
17 University System of Florida, New College of Florida preserves  
18 its distinctive mission as a residential liberal arts honors  
19 college. To maintain this mission, New College of Florida has  
20 the following goals:

21 (a) To provide a quality education to students of high  
22 ability who, because of their ability, deserve a program of  
23 study that is both demanding and stimulating.

24 (b) To engage in undergraduate educational reform by  
25 combining educational innovation with educational excellence.

26 (c) To provide programs of study that allow students  
27 to design their educational experience as much as possible in  
28 accordance with their individual interests, values, and  
29 abilities.

30 (d) To challenge undergraduates not only to master  
31 existing bodies of knowledge but also to extend the frontiers

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1 of knowledge through original research.

2 (2) Accreditation.--As soon as possible, New College  
3 of Florida shall apply to the Commission on Colleges of the  
4 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools for separate  
5 accreditation.

6 (3) Board of Trustees.--The Governor shall appoint 11  
7 members to the Board of Trustees, to serve 4-year staggered  
8 terms, as follows:

9 (a) Three residents of Sarasota County.

10 (b) Two residents of Manatee County.

11 (c) Until the expiration date of the terms of office  
12 of the members who are on the board June 30, 2001, six members  
13 shall be selected from the Board of Trustees of the New  
14 College Foundation.

15 Section 6. Legislative intent.--The Legislature  
16 intends to create an innovative means to increase access to  
17 baccalaureate-degree-level education in populous counties that  
18 are underserved by public baccalaureate-degree-granting  
19 institutions. This education is intended to address the  
20 state's workforce needs, especially the need for teachers,  
21 nurses, and business managers in agencies and firms that  
22 require expertise in technology.

23 Section 7. St. Petersburg College; mission.--St.  
24 Petersburg Junior College is redesignated as St. Petersburg  
25 College. The college shall immediately seek accreditation from  
26 the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as a  
27 baccalaureate-degree-granting college.

28 (1) The primary mission of St. Petersburg College is  
29 to provide high-quality undergraduate education at an  
30 affordable price for students and the state. The purpose is to  
31 promote economic development by preparing people for

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1 occupations that require a bachelor's degree and are in demand  
2 by existing or emerging public and private employers in this  
3 state.

4 (2) The college is to maintain the mission and  
5 policies of a Florida community college, including the  
6 open-door admissions policy and the authority to offer all  
7 programs consistent with a public community college's  
8 authority.

9 (3) St. Petersburg College shall maintain the  
10 distinction between the college and its university center. St.  
11 Petersburg College is limited to community college programs  
12 and to selected baccalaureate-degree-level programs that meet  
13 community needs and are authorized as provided by this act.  
14 The University Center may make available more diverse program  
15 offerings, but those programs are offered by a participating  
16 college or university and are not to be classified or funded  
17 as a program of St. Petersburg College.

18 (4) The academic policies of the upper-division  
19 program at St. Petersburg College must be in accordance with  
20 policies of the State University System.

21 (5) Sections 240.293 and 240.2945, Florida Statutes,  
22 apply to St. Petersburg College.

23 Section 8. St. Petersburg College; students.--

24 (1) St. Petersburg College shall maintain separate  
25 records for students who are enrolled in courses classified in  
26 the upper division and lower division of a baccalaureate  
27 program, according to the Common Course Numbering System. A  
28 student shall be reported as a community college student for  
29 enrollment in a lower-division course and as a  
30 baccalaureate-degree-program student for enrollment in an  
31 upper-division course.

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1           (2) The Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg College  
2 shall establish the level of matriculation, tuition, and other  
3 authorized student fees.

4           (a) For each credit hour of enrollment in a  
5 certificate-level course or lower-division-level college  
6 credit course, matriculation and tuition fees must be within  
7 the range authorized in law and rule for a community college  
8 student at that level.

9           (b) For each credit hour of enrollment in an  
10 upper-division-level course, matriculation and tuition fees  
11 must be in an amount established by the Board of Trustees of  
12 St. Petersburg College. However, fees for upper-division  
13 students must reflect the fact that the college does not incur  
14 the costs of major research programs. Therefore, the board  
15 shall establish fees for upper-division students within a  
16 range that is lower than the fees established for students at  
17 a public university but higher than the fees for community  
18 college students.

19           (c) Other mandatory fees and local fees must be at the  
20 same level for all lower division students. For upper division  
21 students, other mandatory fees and local fees must be at a  
22 level less than fees established for University of South  
23 Florida students, regardless of program enrollment or level.  
24 However, students in workforce development education courses  
25 maintain the authorized fee exemptions described in section  
26 239.117, Florida Statutes, and may be exempt from local fees  
27 imposed by the Board of Trustees, at the board's discretion.

28           Section 9. St. Petersburg College; degrees.--

29           (1) In addition to the certificates, diplomas, and  
30 degrees authorized in section 240.301, Florida Statutes, St.  
31 Petersburg College may offer selected baccalaureate degrees.

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1 Initially, the college may offer programs that lead to a  
2 baccalaureate degree in the following fields:

3 (a) Bachelor of Science in Nursing. This program must  
4 be designed to articulate with the Associate in Science Degree  
5 in nursing. St. Petersburg College shall continue to offer the  
6 Associate in Science degree in nursing.

7 (b) Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in  
8 Elementary Education.

9 (c) Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in  
10 Special Education.

11 (d) Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in  
12 Secondary Education.

13 (e) Bachelor of Applied Science in fields selected by  
14 the Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg College. The board  
15 shall base the selection on an analysis of workforce needs and  
16 opportunities in the following counties: Pinellas, Pasco,  
17 Hernando, and other counties approved by the Florida  
18 Department of Education. For each program selected, St.  
19 Petersburg College must offer a related Associate-in-Science  
20 or Associate-in-Applied-Science degree program, and the  
21 baccalaureate-degree-level program must be designed to  
22 articulate fully with at least one Associate-in-Science degree  
23 program. The college is encouraged to develop articulation  
24 agreements for enrollment of graduates of related  
25 Associate-in-Applied-Science degree programs.

26 (2) St. Petersburg College may offer courses that  
27 enable teachers to qualify for certification and  
28 recertification as required by law or rule.

29 (3) The college may offer programs to provide  
30 opportunities for a person who holds a baccalaureate degree,  
31 but is not certified to teach, to obtain any additional

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1 courses required for teacher certification.

2 (4) Masters-degree-level programs and doctoral  
3 programs may be provided by agreement with a college or  
4 university participating in the University Center of St.  
5 Petersburg College.

6 (5) For those students living outside Pinellas County,  
7 St. Petersburg College shall recruit for the upper-division  
8 only those students who have earned an associate degree. In  
9 recruiting upper division students in Pasco and Hernando  
10 Counties, St. Petersburg College shall work cooperatively with  
11 Pasco-Hernando Community College and shall seek to offer  
12 courses and programs at Pasco-Hernando Community College when  
13 feasible. The nursing programs, in particular, must be  
14 conducted cooperatively, and programs at St. Petersburg  
15 College shall not conflict with Pasco-Hernando Community  
16 College's and the University of South Florida's cooperative  
17 nursing program.

18 Section 10. St. Petersburg College; boards.--

19 (1) The Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg Junior  
20 College is renamed the Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg  
21 College and serves as its governing board. The Governor shall  
22 appoint members as provided in section 240.313, Florida  
23 Statutes, and the board has the duties and authorities granted  
24 in sections 240.315 and 240.319, Florida Statutes, and by  
25 rules of the State Board of Education.

26 (2) The Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg College  
27 may authorize direct support organizations as authorized in  
28 sections 240.299 and 240.331, Florida Statutes.

29 (3) The Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg College  
30 may continue to award degrees, diplomas, and certificates as  
31 authorized for St. Petersburg Junior College, and in the name

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1 of St. Petersburg Junior College, until St. Petersburg College  
2 receives its accreditation.

3 (4) A coordinating board shall assist the Board of  
4 Trustees in its deliberations concerning issues that affect  
5 the upper division of the college. The coordinating board  
6 consists of the President of the University of South Florida,  
7 the President of St. Petersburg College, the President of  
8 Pasco-Hernando Community College, and the chairpersons of the  
9 boards of trustees of those institutions.

10 (5) Beginning 4 years after the college receives  
11 accreditation to offer baccalaureate degrees, the Board of  
12 Trustees of St. Petersburg College may determine additional  
13 programs to be offered, with the approval of the coordinating  
14 board. The determination must consider community needs and  
15 economic opportunities.

16 (6) The coordinating board shall meet at the request  
17 of the President of the University of South Florida or the  
18 President of St. Petersburg College.

19 (7) If the coordinating board cannot decide an issue  
20 of importance to the programs designed for upper-division  
21 students, the chief educational officer of this state shall  
22 resolve the issue.

23 Section 11. St. Petersburg College; employees.--

24 (1) Employment at St. Petersburg College is governed  
25 by the same laws that govern community colleges, except that  
26 upper-division faculty are eligible for continuing contract  
27 upon the completion of the fifth year of teaching.

28 (2) Employee records for all personnel shall be  
29 maintained as required by s. 240.337, Florida Statutes.

30 Section 12. St. Petersburg College; facilities.--The  
31 St. Petersburg College may request funding from the Public

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1 Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service Trust Fund as a  
2 community college and as a university. The municipalities of  
3 Pinellas County, the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas  
4 County, and all other governmental entities are authorized to  
5 cooperate with the Board of Trustees in establishing this  
6 institution. The acquisition and donation of lands, buildings,  
7 and equipment for the use of St. Petersburg College are  
8 authorized as a public purpose. The Board of County  
9 Commissioners of Pinellas County and all municipalities in  
10 Pinellas County may exercise the power of eminent domain to  
11 acquire lands, buildings, and equipment for the use of St.  
12 Petersburg College, regardless of whether such lands,  
13 buildings, and equipment are located in a community  
14 redevelopment area.

15 Section 13. St. Petersburg College; state funding.--

16 (1) The Legislature intends to fund St. Petersburg  
17 College as a community college for its workforce development  
18 education programs and for its lower-division-level college  
19 credit courses and programs.

20 (2) The Legislature intends to fund St. Petersburg  
21 College as a baccalaureate-degree-level institution for its  
22 upper-division-level courses and programs.

23 (3) During the 2001-2002 fiscal year, St. Petersburg  
24 College shall estimate the appropriate level of funding for  
25 these programs. By March 1, 2002, the college shall complete a  
26 cost study and shall submit to the Legislature a proposal for  
27 cost accounting and legislative budget requests designed to  
28 acknowledge its unique classification. The cost study must  
29 indicate actual costs projected for the first 4 years of  
30 operation as a baccalaureate-level institution, with the first  
31 students expected to enroll in the upper division in fall

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1 semester of 2002.

2           Section 14. Nothing contained within this act shall be  
3 construed to adversely impact the accreditation of the  
4 University of South Florida.

5           Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

6  
7

8 ===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====

9 And the title is amended as follows:

10           Delete everything before the enacting clause

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and insert:

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to postsecondary education;  
amending s. 240.3836, F.S.; providing  
legislative intent; providing a process for  
authorizing community colleges to offer  
baccalaureate degree programs; amending s.  
240.527, F.S.; requiring a Campus Board of the  
University of South Florida St. Petersburg;  
requiring separate accreditation; providing  
powers and duties of the Campus Board and the  
Campus Executive Officer; providing a procedure  
for preparing a budget request; providing for  
central support services contracts and a letter  
of agreement; excluding certain entities from  
certain provisions; amending s. 240.2011, F.S.;  
adding to the State University System the New  
College in Sarasota; creating fiscally  
autonomous campuses of the University of South  
Florida; requiring a Campus Board of the

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1 University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee;  
2 authorizing separate accreditation; providing  
3 powers and duties of the Campus Board and the  
4 Campus Executive Officer; providing a procedure  
5 for preparing a budget request; providing for  
6 central-support-services contracts and a letter  
7 of agreement; establishing a mission, goals,  
8 and board of trustees for New College of  
9 Florida; providing Legislative intent;  
10 redesignating St. Petersburg Junior College as  
11 "St. Petersburg College"; requiring  
12 accreditation; providing a mission; providing  
13 for students and fees; providing conditional  
14 authority to offer baccalaureate-degree-level  
15 programs; authorizing certain  
16 baccalaureate-degree programs and a process for  
17 increasing their number; establishing a  
18 governing board and a coordinating board;  
19 providing for dispute resolution; providing for  
20 certain employment classifications; providing  
21 for the acquisition of land, buildings, and  
22 equipment; authorizing the power of eminent  
23 domain; providing for state funding; requiring  
24 a cost-accounting process; providing an  
25 effective date.

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