

By Senator Sullivan

22-567A-02

See CS/HB 353

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to postsecondary education;
 3 amending ss. 229.003, 229.008, F.S.; revising
 4 the membership of state university boards of
 5 trustees; creating s. 240.236, F.S.; providing
 6 requirements for university student
 7 governments; providing requirements with
 8 respect to the adoption of internal procedures;
 9 providing for review of an internal procedure
 10 disapproved by a university president;
 11 providing procedures for suspension and removal
 12 of student government officers; amending s.
 13 240.5277, F.S.; revising the membership of the
 14 Board of Trustees of New College of Florida;
 15 repealing s. 240.136, F.S., relating to
 16 suspension and removal of elected student
 17 government officials at state universities and
 18 community colleges; providing an effective
 19 date.

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

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 23 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 229.003, Florida
 24 Statutes, is amended to read:

25 229.003 Florida education governance reorganization.--

26 (4) The Governor shall appoint for each university in
 27 the State University System a 12-member board of trustees,
 28 which shall be a body corporate with all the powers of a body
 29 corporate. In addition to the 12 members, the ~~a~~ student body
 30 president elected on the main campus pursuant to s. 240.236
 31 shall serve ex officio as a voting member of the board of

1 trustees. There shall be no state residency requirement for
2 university board members, but the Governor shall consider
3 diversity and regional representation. Each appointee is
4 subject to confirmation by the Senate at the regular
5 legislative session immediately following his or her
6 appointment.

7 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
8 229.008, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

9 229.008 Boards of trustees of the state
10 universities.--

11 (1)(a) Effective July 1, 2001, and no later than
12 November 1, 2001, the Governor shall appoint a 12-member
13 ~~13-member~~ board of trustees for each university in the State
14 University System, each member to be confirmed by the Senate
15 in the regular legislative session immediately following his
16 or her appointment. In addition, the a student body president
17 elected on the main campus pursuant to s. 240.236 shall serve
18 ex officio as a voting member of his or her university board
19 of trustees. There shall be no state residency requirement for
20 university board members, but the Governor shall consider
21 diversity and regional representation. Members of the boards
22 of trustees shall receive no compensation but may be
23 reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses as provided in s.
24 112.061.

25 Section 3. Section 240.236, Florida Statutes, is
26 created to read:

27 240.236 University student governments.--

28 (1) A student government is created on the main campus
29 of each state university. In addition, each university board
30 of trustees may establish a student government on any branch
31 campus or center.

1 (2) Each student government shall be organized and
2 maintained by students and shall be composed of at least a
3 student body president, a student legislative body, and a
4 student judiciary. The student body president and the student
5 legislative body shall be elected by the student body;
6 however, interim vacancies and the student judiciary may be
7 filled in a manner other than election as prescribed by the
8 internal procedures of the student government.

9 (3) Each student government shall adopt internal
10 procedures governing:

11 (a) The operation and administration of the student
12 government.

13 (b) The execution of all other duties as prescribed to
14 the student government by law.

15 (4)(a) The qualifications, elections, and returns, the
16 appointments, and the suspension, removal, and discipline of
17 officers of the student government shall be determined by the
18 student government as prescribed by its internal procedures.

19 (b) Any elected or appointed officer of the student
20 government may be removed from office by the majority vote of
21 students participating in a referendum held under this
22 paragraph. Each student government shall adopt internal
23 procedures by which students may petition for a referendum to
24 remove from office an elected or appointed officer of the
25 student government. The grounds for removal of a student
26 government officer by petition must be expressly contained in
27 the petition and are limited to the following: malfeasance,
28 misfeasance, neglect of duty, incompetence, permanent
29 inability to perform official duties, or conviction of a
30 felony. The referendum must be held no later than 60 days
31 after the filing of the petition.

1 (c) Each student government shall adopt internal
2 procedures providing for the suspension and removal of an
3 elected or appointed student government officer following the
4 conviction of that officer of a felony.

5 (5) Each student government is a part of the
6 university at which it is established. If an internal
7 procedure of the university student government is disapproved
8 by the university president under s. 229.0082(15), a member of
9 the university board of trustees may request a review of the
10 disapproved procedure at the next meeting of the board of
11 trustees.

12 Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 240.5277, Florida
13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 240.5277 New College of Florida.--

15 (3) BOARD OF TRUSTEES.--The Governor shall appoint 12
16 members to the Board of Trustees, to serve 4-year staggered
17 terms, as follows:

18 (a) Three residents of Sarasota County.

19 (b) Two residents of Manatee County.

20 (c) Until the expiration date of the terms of office
21 of the members who are on the board June 30, 2001, seven
22 members selected from the Board of Trustees of the New College
23 Foundation.

24
25 In addition, ~~the~~ a student body president of New College of
26 Florida elected pursuant to s. 240.236 shall serve ex officio
27 as ~~be~~ a voting member of the board.

28 Section 5. Section 240.136, Florida Statutes, is
29 repealed.

30 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Revises the membership of state university boards of trustees. Prescribes requirements for university student governments. Requires student governments to adopt specified internal procedures. Revises the membership of the Board of Trustees of New College of Florida. Repeals current provisions governing the suspension and removal of elected student government officials.