

By the Committee on Colleges & Universities and  
Representatives Waters and Heyman

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to postsecondary education;  
3           amending ss. 229.003 and 229.008, F.S.;  
4           revising the membership of state university  
5           boards of trustees; creating s. 240.236, F.S.;  
6           providing 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.

20  
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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