

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 714

SPONSOR: Governmental Oversight and Productivity Committee and Senator Lawson

SUBJECT: Herbert F. Morgan and Others Building Names

DATE: February 4, 2004 REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Dormady</u>	<u>O'Farrell</u>	<u>ED</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	<u>Wilson</u>	<u>Wilson</u>	<u>GO</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

## I. Summary:

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 714 designates the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University-Florida State University College of Engineering Building as the “Herbert F. Morgan Building,” the student life center at FSU as the “Reubin O’D. Askew Student Life Center,” and the new residence hall at FSU as the “Sherrill Williams Ragans Hall.” The bill also authorizes Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) and Florida State University (FSU) to erect markers making the respective building designations.

This bill creates an undesignated section of Florida law. The Division of Statutory Revision will determine whether it is included in the Florida Statutes or remains as a law.

The act will take effect upon becoming law.

## II. Present Situation:

Section 267.062, F.S., requires approval in law before naming a state building or other facility for a living person. Pursuant to this requirement, if a university wishes to name a building or facility after a living person, the designation must be approved by the Legislature.

Herbert F. Morgan is recently deceased. Accordingly, FAMU is not required to receive legislative approval to name the College of Engineering Building after him. Even though legislative action is not required in this instance, however, no legal restriction prohibits the Legislature from approving the building name.

**Herbert F. Morgan** was a member of the Florida House of Representatives from 1974 to 1986, during which time he served as chairman of the Appropriations and Rules Committees. During his time as a legislator, he twice received the Allen Morris Award designating the most effective member of the House of Representatives. He played a significant role in revising the Florida government's budgeting system, while working to better schools and improve care for the disabled and mentally ill. He sponsored the Women's Equity in Athletics Act as well as numerous other bills beneficial to higher education in Florida. He received many awards for effectiveness in committee work and debate.

In 1966, Mr. Morgan received a bachelor's degree in business from Florida State University (FSU), where he received the university's highest award, the James D. Westcott Distinguished Service Medal. He also received an honorary doctoral degree from FSU in 2003. FSU and Tallahassee Community College (TCC) recently established a joint scholarship in Mr. Morgan's name.

In addition to his legislative service, Mr. Morgan served as chief executive officer of the Florida Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors. He also served as chairman of the Tallahassee Memorial Regional Medical Center Board of Directors and as chairman of the TCC Board of Trustees.

**Reubin O'D. Askew**, former student body president at FSU, was the thirty-seventh Governor of the State of Florida and served two terms in that capacity from 1971 to 1979. Born in Muscogee, Oklahoma, he moved to Pensacola in 1937. Following military service in the Army and Air Force he attended and graduated from Florida State University and received his law degree from the University of Florida. He served in both the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate, serving as President Pro Tempore in the upper chamber during 1969-70. Following his second term as governor he was appointed by President Carter as United States Trade Representative and upon departure from that office campaigned for the office of President of the United States in the Democratic Party primary. He returned to public service in a variety of faculty posts with state universities and for the past several years has occupied the Eminent Scholar Chair in the School of Public Administration and Policy named after him at Florida State University. Among his most notable accomplishments while serving as Governor of Florida was the advocacy for and implementation of the "Sunshine Amendment" to the Florida Constitution, which today provides the constitutional basis for the statutory code of financial disclosure and ethical conduct for all public officers and employees.

**Sherrill Williams Ragans** joined the staff of Florida State University in 1959 and has served with distinction in a number of capacities with that institution over a career that culminated in her retirement in 2003. Originally a resident counselor, her career progressed to the positions of Assistant Dean of Students, Director of Residence Programs, and Director of University Housing. Following those offices she assumed the positions of Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, Associate Vice President for Students Affairs, and Interim Vice President for Student Affairs. Ms. Ragans has been recognized locally and nationally for her work as a role model, mentor, and friend to countless students over a more than forty-year career. Her excellence has been recognized by the many accolades she has received: the Ross Oglesby Award for Outstanding Leadership, Service, and Scholarship; the President's Humanitarian of the Year Award; and the FSU Alumni Association Circle of Gold Recognition. She is an active

and visible leader in her professional association work and has served in leadership roles with the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators and the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

This bill designates the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University-Florida State University College of Engineering Building as the “Herbert F. Morgan Building.”

The bill also designates the student life center at Florida State University as the “Reubin O’D. Askew Student Life Center” and the new residence hall on College Avenue as “Sherrill Williams Ragans Hall.”

The bill authorizes FAMU and FSU, respectively, to erect markers designating the buildings to reflect the namings.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

#### **C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

### **V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

#### **A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

#### **B. Private Sector Impact:**

None.

#### **C. Government Sector Impact:**

Each university will incur the cost of erecting a suitable marker for the newly designated building. The usual cost for these markers is approximately \$250 each.

### **VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

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