

HB 0903

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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to admission to state universities;
 providing the popular name the "Thurgood Marshall
 University Opportunity Act"; amending s. 1007.261, F.S.;
 authorizing each university to use race as one of the
 criteria for admission; amending ss. 1004.39 and 1004.40,
 F.S.; deleting a restriction that prohibits the college of
 law at Florida International University and the college of
 law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University from
 using race as a preference in the admissions process;
 providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act shall be known by the popular name the
 "Thurgood Marshall University Opportunity Act."

Section 2. Subsection (11) is added to section 1007.261,
 Florida Statutes, to read:

1007.261 State universities; admissions of students.--Each
 university board of trustees is authorized to adopt rules
 governing the admission of students, subject to this section and
 rules of the State Board of Education.

(11) Each university may use race as one of the criteria
 for admission.

Section 3. Subsection (6) of section 1004.39, Florida
 Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.39 College of law at Florida International
 University.--

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29 (6) The college of law at Florida International University
 30 shall be dedicated to providing opportunities for minorities to
 31 attain representation within the legal profession proportionate
 32 to their representation in the general population; however, the
 33 college of law shall not include preferences in the admissions
 34 process for applicants on the basis of ~~race~~, national origin, or
 35 gender.

36 Section 4. Subsection (6) of section 1004.40, Florida
 37 Statutes, is amended to read:

38 1004.40 College of law at Florida Agricultural and
 39 Mechanical University.--

40 (6) The college of law at Florida Agricultural and
 41 Mechanical University shall be dedicated to providing
 42 opportunities for minorities to attain representation within the
 43 legal profession proportionate to their representation in the
 44 general population; however, the college of law shall not
 45 include preferences in the admissions process for applicants on
 46 the basis of ~~race~~, national origin, or gender.

47 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.