

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.)

Prepared By: Ways and Means Committee

BILL: CS/SB 2584

SPONSOR: Education Appropriations Committee and Senator Alexander

SUBJECT: Higher Education/Deposit of Funds in Major Gifts Trust Fund

DATE: March 29, 2005

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Newman</u>	<u>Newman</u>	<u>EA</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	<u>Newman</u>	<u>Coburn</u>	<u>WM</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This bill eliminates the mandatory requirement that the Legislature “double” appropriate certain funds appropriated for university matching grants and gifts, but does not prohibit this procedure if the Legislature should determine there is a need for it.

This bill amends section 1011.94 (1), Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

The statute providing for the Trust Fund for University Major Gifts currently requires that all funds appropriated by the Legislature for challenge grants, new donors, major gifts, sales tax exemption matching funds pursuant to s. 212.08(5)(j), Florida Statutes, or the eminent scholars program be deposited into the Trust Fund for University Major Gifts. This results in most of the funds appropriated by the Legislature for these Major Gifts programs being appropriated twice in the annual General Appropriations Act. Funds are appropriated from various sources for transfer to the Trust Fund for University Major Gifts and then appropriated a second time from the Trust Fund for University Major Gifts for expenditure. The practice of “double” budgeting these funds does not conform to the current practice used for the General Appropriations Act.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The proposed change eliminates the mandatory requirement to “double” appropriate these funds. The funds appropriated by the Legislature for these programs can be expended directly from the appropriation without the need to “double” appropriate them.

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:

The bill will eliminate a double budgeting practice which results in the totals in the General Appropriations Act being overstated.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Summary of Amendments:

None.

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