

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative(s) **Patterson** offered the following:

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3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 On page 2, between line(s) 23 and 24, insert:

5 Section 2. Section 1009.895, Florida Statutes, is created
6 to read:

7 1009.895 Florida Independent Collegiate Assistance Grant
8 Program.--

9 (1) The Legislature finds and declares that independent
10 institutions licensed by the Commission for Independent
11 Education are an integral part of the higher education system in
12 this state through which Florida residents seek higher
13 education. The Legislature finds that a significant number of
14 state residents choose to pursue higher education at these
15 institutions and that these institutions and the students they

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16 educate and train make a substantial contribution to the
17 development of the state's economy. The Legislature intends to
18 create a tuition assistance grant program for state residents
19 that is not based upon a student's financial need or other
20 criteria upon which financial aid programs are based.

21 (2) The Florida Independent Collegiate Assistance Grant
22 Program, to be known as the FICA Grant Program, is created as a
23 student tuition assistance grant program.

24 (a) The program shall be administered by the Department of
25 Education according to rules adopted by the State Board of
26 Education.

27 (b) The department may issue a tuition assistance grant
28 under the program to any full-time student who:

29 1. Meets student residency requirements as provided in s.
30 1009.40(1)(a)2.

31 2. Is enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at an
32 eligible independent institution of higher education as defined
33 in this section and is seeking an associate degree or higher.

34 3. Is making satisfactory academic progress as defined by
35 the independent institution of higher education in which the
36 student is enrolled.

37 4. Enrolls in an undergraduate degree program that leads
38 to employment in an occupation that is listed on a regional
39 targeted occupations list of a Florida workforce board at the
40 time of enrollment.

41 (3) An "eligible independent institution of higher
42 education" is:

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43 (a) An institution that is licensed by the Commission for
44 Independent Education under chapter 1005, is accredited by an
45 accrediting agency that is recognized by the United States
46 Secretary of Education as a reliable authority as to the quality
47 of education or training offered at its accredited institutions,
48 and has established performance requirements for student
49 achievement that include minimum objective quantitative
50 standards, including completion rates and placement rates.

51 (b) An institution whose students are not eligible to
52 participate in the Access to Better Learning and Education Grant
53 Program or the William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident Access
54 Grant Program.

55
56 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

57 On page 1, line(s) 2-14,
58 remove: all of said lines
59 and insert:

60
61 An act relating to postsecondary education; amending s. 1009.24,
62 F.S.; authorizing the Campus Board of the University of South
63 Florida St. Petersburg to submit a proposal to assess a student-
64 center-support fee to the University of South Florida Board of
65 Trustees for approval; providing a cap on the sum of the fees
66 students are required to pay for courses; prohibiting the
67 inclusion of the fee in calculating the amount a student
68 receives under specified scholarship awards; providing
69 procedures for fee recommendation and approval; providing

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70 | authorized uses of revenues from such fee; creating s. 1009.895,
71 | F.S.; creating the Florida Independent Collegiate Assistance
72 | Grant Program; providing for program administration; authorizing
73 | tuition assistance grants to certain postsecondary education
74 | students enrolling in undergraduate degree programs for
75 | specified occupations; providing institution eligibility
76 | requirements;

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