

By the Committee on Education Appropriations; and Senator Sebesta

602-2045-05

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the University of South Florida St. Petersburg; amending s. 1009.24, F.S.; authorizing the Campus Board of the university to submit a proposal to assess a student-center-support fee to the University of South Florida Board of Trustees for approval; providing a cap on the sum of the fees students are required to pay for courses; prohibiting the inclusion of the fee in calculating the amount a student receives under specified scholarship awards; providing procedures for fee recommendation and approval; providing authorized uses of revenues from such fee; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (15) is added to section 1009.24, Florida Statutes, to read:

1009.24 State university student fees.--

(15)(a) The Campus Board of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg is authorized to submit a proposal to the University of South Florida Board of Trustees to assess a student-center-support fee.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3), the sum of the activity and service, health, athletic, and student-center-support fees that a student is required to pay to register for a course offered by the University of South Florida St. Petersburg shall not exceed 40 percent of the tuition established in law or in the General Appropriations

1 Act. However, the student-center-support fee assessed pursuant
2 to this subsection is not subject to the 5 percent cap imposed
3 by subsection (3).

4 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 1009.534,
5 1009.535, and 1009.536, the student-center-support fee
6 assessed under this subsection may not be included in
7 calculating the amount a student receives for a Florida
8 Academic Scholars award, a Florida Medallion Scholars award,
9 or a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award.

10 (d) The fee must be recommended by a committee, at
11 least half of whom are students appointed by the president of
12 the student body. The Campus Board must appoint the remainder
13 of the committee. A chair, appointed jointly by the Campus
14 Board and the president of the student body, shall vote only
15 in the event of a tie. The recommendations of the committee
16 shall take effect only after approval by the university
17 president, after consultation with the student body president,
18 with final approval by the University of South Florida Board
19 of Trustees.

20 (e) The revenues from the fee may be used to retire
21 bonds or other forms of indebtedness issued or procured for
22 the purposes of planning, constructing, equipping, and
23 operating the student center facility.

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

25
26 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
27 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
28 Senate Bill 658

29 CS/SB 658 Clarifies that the student-center-support fee is
30 within the 40% of tuition cap imposed by Section 1009.24 (3),
31 but not the 5% per year annual growth cap. The amendment also
specifies that the student center support fee may be used to
retire indebtedness related to the center.