

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: Education Committee

BILL: SB 1086

INTRODUCER: Senator Jones

SUBJECT: H. William Heller Hall

DATE: February 28, 2006

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	deMarsh-Mathues	Matthews	ED	Favorable
2.	_____	_____	GO	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

The bill designates Coquina Hall on the campus of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg as the "H. William Heller Hall" and authorizes the University of South Florida St. Petersburg to erect a marker making the building designation.

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

The act takes effect upon the effective date of the retirement or resignation of H. William Heller from, or the termination of his employment with, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

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.

H. William Heller is the former Vice President of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus. Dr. Heller, joined the staff of the University of South Florida in 1992 and has served the university with great distinction over the past 12 years. Dr. Heller has worked as a Professor of Special Education, Dean, Chief Executive Officer, and Vice President. Since 1992, he has been awarded more than \$8 million in grants and contracts. As Principal Investigator, he is currently responsible for directing projects funded for approximately \$800,000.

Dr. Heller has been awarded the Presidential Citation for Exemplary Performance as Vice-Chairman of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals and the Teacher

Educator of the Year Award, Teacher Education Division by the Council of Exceptional Children, and the Merrill Publishing Company. This is the highest award given in special education for exemplary accomplishment as a teacher or educator. He has also been the recipient of the 1991 E. Wallace Wallin Award by the Council for Exceptional Children. This is the highest honor bestowed by the Council and is predicated on excellence in leadership, service, and accomplishments in the education of children with exceptionalities. He has also been awarded the United Way Alex de Tocqueville Society Volunteer Service Award, the Outstanding Service Award by the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Department of Defense, and the Romaine Mackie Leadership Award In Special Education by the Pioneer Division, Council for Exceptional Children, among others. In 2002, Dr. Heller was honored by the City of St. Petersburg for a "Decade of Excellence" with August 21, being proclaimed Bill Heller Day by the City of St. Petersburg.

Dr. Heller has served in leadership roles with the Council for Exceptional Children, the American Association for Mental Retardation, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. His professional contributions include more than 350 presentations and publications and the authoring of the Code of Ethics for the Council for Exceptional Children. Across his professional career, he has written and received grants in excess of \$150 million.

Dr. Heller has worked in the field of special education for over 40 years as a public school teacher, professor, university and mental hospital administrator, and an advocate for children and adults with disabilities.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The designates Coquina Hall on the campus of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg as the "H. William Heller Hall."

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 University of South Florida St. Petersburg will incur the cost of erecting a suitable marker for the newly designated building. According to the Board of Governors, the cost for a marker can vary from \$500 to \$1,500, depending on the number of markers and the size, type, and materials used to construct the marker.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

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

VIII. Summary of Amendments:

None.

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