

Bill No. HB 1237, 1st Eng.

Barcode 154926

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Senator Alexander moved the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Section 1004.226, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

<A NAME="PageLine19 1004.226 The 21st Century Technology, Research, and

Scholarship Enhancement Act.--

(1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.--

(a) The Legislature finds that diversifying this state's economy requires a focus on building a growing base of high-wage jobs and on nurturing those technologies and clusters that will be the foundation of Florida's growing economic diversity and prosperity.

(b) The Legislature further finds that special programs are needed to facilitate the recruitment of exceptional talent to Florida's research universities and centers and to provide the infrastructure and resources that precipitate joint efforts and coinvestment among state

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1 research and development institutions, private industry, and
 2 government. Florida needs consistent commitment and investment
 3 in order to further the state's strategy of capitalizing on
 4 innovative research and development to build a thriving,
 5 technology-rich economy.

6 (2) CREATION.--The 21st Century Technology, Research,
 7 and Scholarship Enhancement Act is created for the purpose of:

8 (a) Investing in programs that attract world class
 9 scholars and building Centers of Excellence as an important
 10 means of increasing technology-based business in this state;

11 (b) Requiring coinvestment as a means of leveraging
 12 state dollars;

13 (c) Aligning research and development efforts with
 14 established, statewide economic-development strategies,
 15 including an emphasis on identified economic clusters;

16 (d) Facilitating value-added job creation through
 17 continuous improvement in university research, as well as
 18 entrepreneurship and capital-development programs; and

19 (e) Establishing Florida as a leading state for
 20 entrepreneurship and innovation, with continued commitment to
 21 university Centers of Excellence and an expanding base of
 22 research and development.

23 (3) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section, the term:

24 (a) "A 21st Century World Class Scholar" means a
 25 principal researcher/investigator who has high academic
 26 credentials, demonstrated competence, and experience that
 27 meets the requirements established by the board for a 21st
 28 Century World Class Scholar.

29 (b) "Applicant" means any state university, private
 30 university located in this state, or any private or public
 31 research center, community college, or training center in this

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1 state which coordinates with a state university for purposes
2 of this act.

3 (c) "Board" means the Florida Technology, Research,
4 and Scholarship Board.

5 (d) "Center of Excellence" means an organization of
6 personnel, facilities, and equipment established to accomplish
7 the purposes and objectives of this act.

8 (e) "Community college" means a public community
9 college in this state as defined in s. 1000.21.

10 (f) "Private university" means a baccalaureate
11 degree-granting independent nonprofit university that is
12 accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern
13 Association of Colleges and Schools and that is located in and
14 chartered as a domestic corporation by the state.

15 (g) "Research center" means an institute, center, or
16 clinic that includes research and development or education as
17 a principal mission of the organization.

18 (h) "State university" means a public university in
19 this state as defined in s. 1000.21.

20 (4) FLORIDA TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH, AND SCHOLARSHIP
21 BOARD.--The Florida Technology, Research, and Scholarship
22 Board is created within the Board of Governors of the State
23 University System to guide the establishment of Centers of
24 Excellence and the attraction of world class scholars.

25 (a) The board shall consist of 11 members. Five
26 members shall be appointed by the Governor, one of whom the
27 Governor shall appoint as chair of the board, one of whom must
28 be a member of the board of directors of Enterprise Florida,
29 Inc., and one of whom must be a member of the Board of
30 Governors of the State University System. Three members shall
31 be appointed by the President of the Senate and three members

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1 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
 2 Representatives. Appointed members must be representative of
 3 business leaders, industrial researchers, academic
 4 researchers, scientists, and leaders in the emerging and
 5 advanced technology sector. Appointed members may not serve
 6 for more than 4 years and any vacancy that occurs during these
 7 appointees' terms shall be filled in the same manner as the
 8 original appointment. A majority of members constitutes a
 9 quorum.

10 (b) Members of the board shall serve without
 11 compensation, but are entitled to receive reimbursement for
 12 per diem and travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061
 13 while in the performance of their duties.

14 (c) The Board of Governors shall provide staff support
 15 for the activities of the board and per diem and travel
 16 expenses for board members.

17 (d) The board is charged with recommending criteria to
 18 the Board of Governors for the 21st Century World Class
 19 Scholars Program and with providing guidance to the Board of
 20 Governors regarding the implementation and administration of
 21 the Centers of Excellence Program. The board shall recommend
 22 to the Board of Governors the qualifications, standards, and
 23 requirements for approval of investments in Centers of
 24 Excellence under this act. The board may form committees of
 25 its members and is encouraged to consult with Enterprise
 26 Florida, Inc., the Florida Research Consortium, Bio-Florida,
 27 IT Florida, the Florida Aviation Aerospace Alliance, and any
 28 other entity whose input may be helpful in determining the
 29 requirements and standards for the program.

30 (5) THE 21ST CENTURY WORLD CLASS SCHOLARS PROGRAM.--

31 (a) This act allocates state matching funds to attract

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1 21st Century World Class Scholars to state universities.

2 (b) The 21st Century World Class Scholars Program
3 shall be used as a tool to develop the state's capabilities in
4 science and high-technology research, emphasizing Florida's
5 identified strengths in science and technology while also
6 recognizing new technologies as they may emerge.

7 (c) The board, in consultation with senior
8 administrators of state universities, state university
9 foundation directors, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and
10 Economic Development, the board of directors of Enterprise
11 Florida, Inc., and leading members of private industry, shall
12 develop and recommend to the Board of Governors criteria for
13 the 21st Century World Class Scholars Program. Such criteria
14 shall address, at a minimum, the following:

15 1. The presence of distinguished faculty members,
16 including whether the university has a substantial history of
17 external funding, along with the strong potential for
18 attracting a scholar of national or international eminence.

19 2. The presence of academically outstanding students,
20 along with the promise and potential for attracting additional
21 highly qualified students.

22 3. The presence of adequate research and scholarly
23 support services.

24 4. The existence of an academic environment having
25 appropriate infrastructure, including buildings, classrooms,
26 libraries, laboratories, and specialized equipment, that is
27 conducive to the conduct of the highest quality of scholarship
28 and research.

29 5. The demonstration of concordance with Florida's
30 strategic plan for economic development or an emphasis on one
31 or more emerging sciences or technologies that could favorably

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1 impact the state's economic future.

2 (d) A state university must raise a minimum of \$1
3 million to be eligible for state matching funds to recruit a
4 21st Century World Class Scholar. Funds raised by the
5 university shall be eligible for a one-to-one match from the
6 state. Revenues received from state appropriations, student
7 tuition and fees, and state-funded contracts or grants are not
8 eligible for state match.

9 (e) Upon the verification by the Board of Governors
10 that a state university has met the criteria for a 21st
11 Century World Class Scholar, the Board of Governors shall
12 release matching funds to the university. Funds shall be used
13 for the purpose of recruiting a 21st Century World Class
14 Scholar and shall be expended according to an expenditure plan
15 approved by the Board of Governors.

16 (f) This act is not intended to replace or obviate
17 existing programs.

18 (6) CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.--

19 (a) The purposes and objectives of a Center of
20 Excellence include:

21 1. Identifying and pursuing opportunities for
22 university scholars, research center scientists and engineers,
23 and private businesses to form collaborative partnerships to
24 foster and promote the research required to develop
25 commercially promising, advanced, and innovative science and
26 technology and to transfer those discoveries to commercial
27 sectors.

28 2. Acquiring and leveraging public-sector and
29 private-sector funding to provide the totality of funds,
30 personnel, facilities, equipment, and other resources needed
31 to support the research required to develop commercially

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1 promising, advanced, and innovative science and technology and
2 to transfer those discoveries to commercial sectors.

3 3. Recruiting and retaining world class scholars,
4 high-performing students, and leading scientists and engineers
5 in technology disciplines to engage in research in this state
6 and to develop commercially promising, advanced, and
7 innovative science and technology.

8 4. Enhancing and expanding science and technology
9 curricula and laboratory resources at universities and
10 research centers in this state.

11 5. Increasing the number of high-performing students
12 in science and technology disciplines who graduate from
13 universities in this state and pursue careers in this state.

14 6. Stimulating and supporting the inception, growth,
15 and diversification of science and technology-based businesses
16 and ventures in Florida and increasing employment
17 opportunities for the workforce needed to support such
18 businesses.

19 (b) The following entities are eligible to submit
20 proposals for a center of excellence:

- 21 1. Any state university.
- 22 2. Any private university.
- 23 3. The H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research
24 Institute.

25 4. The Florida Institute for Human and Machine
26 Cognition, Inc.

27 5. Any community college, training center, or other
28 public or private research center in the state which
29 coordinates with a state university for purposes of this act.

30 (c) The board shall recommend to the Board of
31 Governors criteria for approving proposals to create or expand

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1 a Center of Excellence. Such criteria shall consider:

2 1. The maturity of the applicant's existing programs
3 relating to a proposed Center of Excellence.

4 2. The comprehensiveness and effectiveness of site
5 plans relating to a proposed Center of Excellence.

6 3. The existing amount of the applicant's resources
7 dedicated to activities relating to a proposed Center of
8 Excellence.

9 4. The regional economic structure and climate.

10 5. The degree to which the applicant identifies and
11 seizes opportunities to collaborate with other public or
12 private entities for research purposes.

13 6. The presence of a comprehensive performance and
14 accountability measurement system.

15 7. The use of an integrated research and development
16 strategy using multiple levels of the educational system.

17 8. The ability of the applicant to raise research
18 funds and leverage public and private investment dollars to
19 support advanced and emerging scientific and technological
20 research and development projects.

21 9. The degree to which the applicant transfers
22 advanced and emerging sciences and technologies from its
23 laboratories to the commercial sector.

24 10. The degree to which the applicant stimulates and
25 supports the creation of new ventures.

26 11. The existence of a plan to enhance academic
27 curricula by improving communication between academia and
28 industry.

29 12. The existence of a plan to increase the number,
30 quality, and retention rate of faculty and graduate students
31 in advancing and emerging science and technology-based

1 disciplines.

2 13. The existence of a plan to increase the likelihood
3 of faculty and graduate students pursuing private-sector
4 careers in the state.

5 14. The ability of the applicant to provide capital
6 facilities necessary to support research and development.

7 (d) To call for proposals, the board shall notify the
8 president or chief executive officer of the eligible entities
9 identified in paragraph (b). The board shall periodically
10 solicit proposals for Centers of Excellence.

11 (e) The board shall recommend to the Board of
12 Governors for approval and funding those proposals that meet
13 the criteria approved by the Board of Governors.

14 (f) If no proposal is judged worthy of approval during
15 a solicitation cycle, an approval need not be made. This act
16 does not establish a limit for an investment amount; however,
17 any approval for a single Center of Excellence exceeding \$20
18 million must be documented to have superior prospects for
19 success in its field of research and offer outstanding
20 opportunities to leverage state dollars.

21 (7) ANNUAL REPORT.--The board, in cooperation with the
22 Board of Governors of the State University System and the
23 state universities or research centers receiving investments
24 under this act, shall issue an annual report by December 31
25 each year of the activities conducted, including the
26 accomplishments and overall economic benefits to the state,
27 the number of 21st Century World Class Scholars attracted, the
28 number of Centers of Excellence created or expanded, the
29 success of collaborations with related industries, and the
30 success of these programs. The annual report shall be
31 presented to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and

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1 the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The annual report
2 must include a copy of an independent audit of the board and a
3 review of the progress of programs administered by the board.

4 Section 2. For the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the sum of
5 \$8 million is appropriated from general revenue funds to the
6 University of South Florida for the purpose of enhancing
7 graduate programs.

8 Section 3. For the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the sum of
9 \$100 million is appropriated from nonrecurring general revenue
10 to the Board of Governors of the State University System, of
11 which \$70 million shall be allocated for the 21st Century
12 World Class Scholars Program and \$30 million for the Centers
13 of Excellence Program. Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and pursuant
14 to s. 216.351, Florida Statutes, any unexpended balance from
15 this appropriation shall be carried forward at the end of each
16 fiscal year until the 2009-2010 fiscal year. At the end of the
17 2009-2010 fiscal year, any remaining balance of this
18 appropriation which has not been disbursed by the Board of
19 Governors shall revert unallocated to the General Revenue
20 Fund.

21 Section 4. Section 1004.226, Florida Statutes, shall
22 expire on June 30, 2011.

23 Section 5. Section 1004.384, Florida Statutes, is
24 created to read:

25 1004.384 University of Central Florida College of
26 Medicine.--A college of medicine, as approved by the Board of
27 Governors on March 23, 2006, is authorized at the University
28 of Central Florida.

29 Section 6. Section 1004.385, Florida Statutes, is
30 created to read:

31 1004.385 Florida International University College of

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1 Medicine.--A college of medicine, as approved by the Board of
 2 Governors on March 23, 2006, is authorized at Florida
 3 International University.

4 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

7 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

8 And the title is amended as follows:

9 Delete everything before the enacting clause

11 and insert:

12 A bill to be entitled

13 An act relating to advanced science and
 14 technology research; creating s. 1004.226,
 15 F.S.; creating the 21st Century Technology,
 16 Research, and Scholarship Enhancement Act;
 17 providing legislative findings and intent;
 18 providing definitions; creating the Florida
 19 Technology, Research, and Scholarship Board
 20 within the Board of Governors of the State
 21 University System; providing for members of the
 22 board; providing for terms; providing for board
 23 members to be reimbursed for per diem and
 24 expenses incurred in the performance of their
 25 duties; requiring that the Board of Governors
 26 of the State University System provide staff
 27 support and other support for the board;
 28 creating s. 1004.384, F.S.; authorizing a
 29 college of medicine at the University of
 30 Central Florida; creating s. 1004.385, F.S.;

31 authorizing a college of medicine at Florida

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1 International University; requiring that the
2 board provide recommendations for the 21st
3 Century World Class Scholars Program and the
4 Centers of Excellence Program; authorizing the
5 board to form committees and consult with
6 certain other entities; providing for the 21st
7 Century World Class Scholars Program to provide
8 matching funds to state universities to pay
9 salaries and support research in science and
10 technology; providing guidelines for the board
11 to consider in developing its criteria for an
12 award of matching funds; requiring a minimum
13 investment of private funds; specifying the
14 purposes of the Centers of Excellence;
15 identifying the entities that are eligible to
16 submit proposals for a center of excellence;
17 requiring that the board develop criteria for
18 approving proposals to create or expand a
19 Center of Excellence; requiring that the board
20 solicit proposals and notify state universities
21 and research centers of a call for proposals;
22 requiring that a Center of Excellence approved
23 under the act report on its achievement of
24 objectives; requiring certain documentation if
25 funds are approved for a Center of Excellence
26 in excess of a specified amount; requiring that
27 the board submit an annual report to the
28 Governor and Legislature; providing
29 appropriations; providing for carrying forward
30 certain unexpended balances of an
31 appropriation; providing for the future repeal

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of the act; providing an effective date.