

## CHAMBER ACTION

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1 The Education Appropriations Committee recommends the following:

2  
3 **Council/Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to advanced science and technology  
7 research; creating s. 1004.226, F.S.; creating the 21st  
8 Century Technology, Research, and Scholarship Enhancement  
9 Act; providing legislative findings and intent; providing  
10 definitions; creating the Florida Technology, Research,  
11 and Scholarship Board within the Board of Governors of the  
12 State University System; providing for members of the  
13 board; providing for terms; providing for board members to  
14 be reimbursed for per diem and expenses incurred in the  
15 performance of their duties; requiring that the Board of  
16 Governors of the State University System provide staff  
17 support and other support for the board; requiring that  
18 the board provide recommendations for the 21st Century  
19 World Class Scholars Program and the Centers of Excellence  
20 Program; authorizing the board to form committees and  
21 consult with certain other entities; providing for the  
22 21st Century World Class Scholars Program to provide  
23 matching funds to state universities; providing guidelines

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24 for the board in the development of criteria for  
 25 recommendation to the Board of Governors; requiring a  
 26 minimum investment of funds; specifying the purposes of  
 27 the Centers of Excellence; specifying entities eligible to  
 28 submit proposals; requiring the board to recommend to the  
 29 Board of Governors criteria for approving proposals to  
 30 create or expand a Center of Excellence, to solicit  
 31 proposals, and to recommend proposals that meet such  
 32 criteria; requiring documentation if funds are approved  
 33 for a Center of Excellence in excess of a specified  
 34 amount; requiring reports by Centers of Excellence and the  
 35 Board of Governors; providing for expiration of the act;  
 36 providing appropriations; providing an effective date.

37

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

39

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

42 1004.226 The 21st Century Technology, Research, and  
 43 Scholarship Enhancement Act.--

44 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.--

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

50 (b) The Legislature further finds that special programs  
 51 are needed to facilitate the recruitment of exceptional talent

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52 | to Florida's research universities and centers and to provide  
53 | the infrastructure and resources that precipitate joint efforts  
54 | and coinvestment among state research and development  
55 | institutions, private industry, and government. Florida needs  
56 | consistent commitment and investment in order to further the  
57 | state's strategy of capitalizing on innovative research and  
58 | development to build a thriving, technology-rich economy.

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

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

64 | (b) Requiring coinvestment as a means of leveraging state  
65 | dollars;

66 | (c) Aligning research and development efforts with  
67 | established, statewide economic-development strategies,  
68 | including an emphasis on identified economic clusters;

69 | (d) Facilitating value-added job creation through  
70 | continuous improvement in university research, as well as  
71 | entrepreneurship and capital-development programs; and

72 | (e) Establishing Florida as a leading state for  
73 | entrepreneurship and innovation, with continued commitment to  
74 | university Centers of Excellence and an expanding base of  
75 | research and development.

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

77 | (a) "A 21st Century World Class Scholar" means a principal  
78 | researcher/investigator who has high academic credentials,  
79 | demonstrated competence, and experience that meets the

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80 | requirements established by the board for a 21st Century World  
81 | Class Scholar.

82 | (b) "Board" means the Florida Technology, Research, and  
83 | Scholarship Board.

84 | (c) "Center of Excellence" means an organization of  
85 | personnel, facilities, and equipment established to accomplish  
86 | the purposes and objectives of this act.

87 | (d) "Community college" means a Florida public community  
88 | college as defined in s. 1000.21.

89 | (e) "Private university" means a baccalaureate degree-  
90 | granting independent nonprofit university which is accredited by  
91 | the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of  
92 | Colleges and Schools and which is located in and chartered as a  
93 | domestic corporation by the state.

94 | (f) "Research center" means an institute, center, or  
95 | clinic that includes research and development or education as a  
96 | principal mission of the organization.

97 | (g) "State university" means a Florida public university  
98 | as defined in s. 1000.21.

99 | (4) FLORIDA TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH, AND SCHOLARSHIP  
100 | BOARD.--The Florida Technology, Research, and Scholarship Board  
101 | is created within the Board of Governors of the State University  
102 | System to guide the establishment of Centers of Excellence and  
103 | the attraction of world class scholars.

104 | (a) The board shall consist of 11 members. Seven members  
105 | shall be appointed by the Governor, one of whom the Governor  
106 | shall appoint as chair of the board, one of whom must be a  
107 | member of the board of directors of Enterprise Florida, Inc.,

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108 and one of whom must be a member of the Board of Governors of  
109 the State University System. Two members shall be appointed by  
110 the President of the Senate and two members shall be appointed  
111 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Appointed  
112 members must be representative of business leaders, industrial  
113 researchers, academic researchers, scientists, and leaders in  
114 the emerging and advanced technology sector. Appointed members  
115 may not serve for more than 4 years and any vacancy that occurs  
116 during these appointees' terms shall be filled in the same  
117 manner as the original appointment. A majority of members  
118 constitutes a quorum.

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

123 (c) The Board of Governors shall provide staff support for  
124 the activities of the board and per diem and travel expenses for  
125 board members.

126 (d) The board is charged with recommending criteria to the  
127 Board of Governors for the 21st Century World Class Scholars  
128 Program and with providing guidance to the Board of Governors  
129 regarding the implementation and administration of the Centers  
130 of Excellence Program. The board shall recommend to the Board of  
131 Governors the qualifications, standards, and requirements for  
132 approval of investments in Centers of Excellence under this act.  
133 The board may form committees of its members and is encouraged  
134 to consult with Enterprise Florida, Inc., the Florida Research  
135 Consortium, Bio-Florida, IT Florida, the Florida Aviation and

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136 Aerospace Alliance, and any other entity whose input may be  
137 helpful in determining the requirements and standards for the  
138 program.

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

140 (a) This act allocates state matching funds to attract  
141 21st Century World Class Scholars to state universities.

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

147 (c) The board, in consultation with senior administrators  
148 of state universities, state university foundation directors,  
149 the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, the  
150 board of directors of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and leading  
151 members of private industry, shall develop and recommend to the  
152 Board of Governors criteria for the 21st Century World Class  
153 Scholars Program. Such criteria shall address, at a minimum, the  
154 following:

155 1. The presence of distinguished faculty members,  
156 including whether the university has a substantial history of  
157 external funding, along with the strong potential for attracting  
158 a scholar of national or international eminence.

159 2. The presence of academically outstanding students,  
160 along with the promise and potential for attracting additional  
161 highly qualified students.

162 3. The presence of adequate research and scholarly support  
163 services.

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164       4. The existence of an academic environment having  
165 appropriate infrastructure, including buildings, classrooms,  
166 libraries, laboratories, and specialized equipment, that is  
167 conducive to the conduct of the highest quality of scholarship  
168 and research.

169       5. The demonstration of concordance with Florida's  
170 strategic plan for economic development or an emphasis on one or  
171 more emerging sciences or technologies that could favorably  
172 impact the state's economic future.

173       (d) A state university must raise a minimum of \$1 million  
174 to be eligible for state matching funds to recruit a 21st  
175 Century World Class Scholar. Funds raised by the university  
176 shall be eligible for a one-to-one match from the state.  
177 Revenues received from state appropriations, student tuition and  
178 fees, and state-funded contracts or grants are not eligible for  
179 state match.

180       (e) Upon the verification by the Board of Governors that a  
181 state university has met the criteria for a 21st Century World  
182 Class Scholar, the Board of Governors shall release matching  
183 funds to the university. Funds shall be used for the purpose of  
184 recruiting a 21st Century World Class Scholar and shall be  
185 expended according to an expenditure plan approved by the Board  
186 of Governors.

187       (f) Nothing in this act is intended to replace or obviate  
188 existing programs.

189       (6) CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.--

190       (a) The purposes and objectives of a Center of Excellence  
191 include:

192        1. Identifying and pursuing opportunities for university  
193 scholars, research center scientists and engineers, and private  
194 businesses to form collaborative partnerships to foster and  
195 promote the research required to develop commercially promising,  
196 advanced, and innovative science and technology and to transfer  
197 those discoveries to commercial sectors.

198        2. Acquiring and leveraging public-sector and private-  
199 sector funding to provide the totality of funds, personnel,  
200 facilities, equipment, and other resources needed to support the  
201 research required to develop commercially promising, advanced,  
202 and innovative science and technology and to transfer those  
203 discoveries to commercial sectors.

204        3. Recruiting and retaining world class scholars, high-  
205 performing students, and leading scientists and engineers in  
206 technology disciplines to engage in research in this state and  
207 to develop commercially promising, advanced, and innovative  
208 science and technology.

209        4. Enhancing and expanding science and technology  
210 curricula and laboratory resources at universities and research  
211 centers in this state.

212        5. Increasing the number of high-performing students in  
213 science and technology disciplines who graduate from  
214 universities in this state and pursue careers in this state.

215        6. Stimulating and supporting the inception, growth, and  
216 diversification of science and technology-based businesses and  
217 ventures in Florida and increasing employment opportunities for  
218 the workforce needed to support such businesses.



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- 219           (b) The following entities are eligible to submit  
 220 proposals for a Center of Excellence:
- 221           1. Any state university.
  - 222           2. Any private university.
  - 223           3. The H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research  
 224 Institute.
  - 225           4. The Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition,  
 226 Inc..
  - 227           5. Any community college, training center, or other public  
 228 or private research center in the state that coordinates with a  
 229 state university for purposes of this act.
- 230           (c) The board shall recommend to the Board of Governors  
 231 criteria for approving proposals to create or expand a Center of  
 232 Excellence. Such criteria shall consider:
- 233           1. The maturity of the applicant's existing programs  
 234 relating to a proposed Center of Excellence.
  - 235           2. The comprehensiveness and effectiveness of site plans  
 236 relating to a proposed Center of Excellence.
  - 237           3. The existing amount of the applicant's resources  
 238 dedicated to activities relating to a proposed Center of  
 239 Excellence.
  - 240           4. The regional economic structure and climate.
  - 241           5. The degree to which the applicant identifies and seizes  
 242 opportunities to collaborate with other public or private  
 243 entities for research purposes.
  - 244           6. The presence of a comprehensive performance and  
 245 accountability measurement system.

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

248 8. The ability of the applicant to raise research funds  
249 and leverage public and private investment dollars to support  
250 advanced and emerging scientific and technological research and  
251 development projects.

252 9. The degree to which the applicant transfers advanced  
253 and emerging sciences and technologies from its laboratories to  
254 the commercial sector.

255 10. The degree to which the applicant stimulates and  
256 supports the creation of new ventures.

257 11. The existence of a plan to enhance academic curricula  
258 by improving communication between academia and industry.

259 12. The existence of a plan to increase the number,  
260 quality, and retention rate of faculty and graduate students in  
261 advancing and emerging science and technology-based disciplines.

262 13. The existence of a plan to increase the likelihood of  
263 faculty and graduate students pursuing private-sector careers in  
264 the state.

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

267 (d) The board shall periodically solicit proposals for  
268 Centers of Excellence. To call for proposals, the board shall  
269 notify the president or chief executive officer of the eligible  
270 entities identified in paragraph (b).

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

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

281 (7) ANNUAL REPORT.--

282 (a) Any Center of Excellence receiving funding pursuant to  
283 this section shall provide at least annual reports to the board  
284 and the Board of Governors concerning its achievement of  
285 objectives as identified and presented in the approved proposal.

286 (b) The Board of Governors shall issue an annual report by  
287 December 31 each year of the activities conducted, including the  
288 accomplishments and overall economic benefits to the state, the  
289 number of 21st Century World Class Scholars attracted, the  
290 number of Centers of Excellence created or expanded, the success  
291 of collaborations with related industries, and the success of  
292 these programs. The annual report shall be presented to the  
293 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the  
294 House of Representatives. The annual report must include a copy  
295 of an independent audit of the board and a review of the  
296 progress of programs established pursuant to this section.

297 (8) EXPIRATION.--This section shall expire June 30, 2011.

298 Section 2. For the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the sum of \$100  
299 million is appropriated from nonrecurring general revenue to the  
300 Board of Governors of the State University System, of which \$50  
301 million shall be allocated for the 21st Century World Class

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302 | Scholars Program and \$50 million for the Centers of Excellence  
303 | Program.

304 |       Section 3.   This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.