

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Education Council 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 special postsecondary education
7 programs; 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; creating s. 1004.384, F.S.;

37 authorizing a College of Medicine at the University of
 38 Central Florida; creating s. 1004.385, F.S.; authorizing a
 39 College of Medicine at Florida International University;
 40 providing an effective date.

41
 42 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

43
 44 Section 1. Section 1004.226, Florida Statutes, is created
 45 to read:

46 1004.226 The 21st Century Technology, Research, and
 47 Scholarship Enhancement Act.--

48 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.--

49 (a) The Legislature finds that diversifying this state's
 50 economy requires a focus on building a growing base of high-wage
 51 jobs and on nurturing those technologies and clusters that will

52 be the foundation of Florida's growing economic diversity and
53 prosperity.

54 (b) The Legislature further finds that special programs
55 are needed to facilitate the recruitment of exceptional talent
56 to Florida's research universities and centers and to provide
57 the infrastructure and resources that precipitate joint efforts
58 and coinvestment among state research and development
59 institutions, private industry, and government. Florida needs
60 consistent commitment and investment in order to further the
61 state's strategy of capitalizing on innovative research and
62 development to build a thriving, technology-rich economy.

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

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

68 (b) Requiring coinvestment as a means of leveraging state
69 dollars;

70 (c) Aligning research and development efforts with
71 established, statewide economic-development strategies,
72 including an emphasis on identified economic clusters;

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

76 (e) Establishing Florida as a leading state for
77 entrepreneurship and innovation, with continued commitment to
78 university Centers of Excellence and an expanding base of
79 research and development.

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

81 (a) "A 21st Century World Class Scholar" means a principal
82 researcher/investigator who has high academic credentials,
83 demonstrated competence, and experience that meets the
84 requirements established by the board for a 21st Century World
85 Class Scholar.

86 (b) "Board" means the Florida Technology, Research, and
87 Scholarship Board.

88 (c) "Center of Excellence" means an organization of
89 personnel, facilities, and equipment established to accomplish
90 the purposes and objectives of this act.

91 (d) "Community college" means a Florida public community
92 college as defined in s. 1000.21.

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

98 (f) "Research center" means an institute, center, or
99 clinic that includes research and development or education as a
100 principal mission of the organization.

101 (g) "State university" means a Florida public university
102 as defined in s. 1000.21.

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

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108 (a) The board shall consist of 11 members. Seven members
109 shall be appointed by the Governor, one of whom the Governor
110 shall appoint as chair of the board, one of whom must be a
111 member of the board of directors of Enterprise Florida, Inc.,
112 and one of whom must be a member of the Board of Governors of
113 the State University System. Two members shall be appointed by
114 the President of the Senate and two members shall be appointed
115 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Appointed
116 members must be representative of business leaders, industrial
117 researchers, academic researchers, scientists, and leaders in
118 the emerging and advanced technology sector. Appointed members
119 may not serve for more than 4 years and any vacancy that occurs
120 during these appointees' terms shall be filled in the same
121 manner as the original appointment. A majority of members
122 constitutes a quorum.

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

127 (c) The Board of Governors shall provide staff support for
128 the activities of the board and per diem and travel expenses for
129 board members.

130 (d) The board is charged with recommending criteria to the
131 Board of Governors for the 21st Century World Class Scholars
132 Program and with providing guidance to the Board of Governors
133 regarding the implementation and administration of the Centers
134 of Excellence Program. The board shall recommend to the Board of
135 Governors the qualifications, standards, and requirements for

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136 approval of investments in Centers of Excellence under this act.
137 The board may form committees of its members and is encouraged
138 to consult with Enterprise Florida, Inc., the Florida Research
139 Consortium, Bio-Florida, IT Florida, the Florida Aviation and
140 Aerospace Alliance, and any other entity whose input may be
141 helpful in determining the requirements and standards for the
142 program.

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

144 (a) This act allocates state matching funds to attract
145 21st Century World Class Scholars to state universities.

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

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

159 1. The presence of distinguished faculty members,
160 including whether the university has a substantial history of
161 external funding, along with the strong potential for attracting
162 a scholar of national or international eminence.

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163 2. The presence of academically outstanding students,
164 along with the promise and potential for attracting additional
165 highly qualified students.

166 3. The presence of adequate research and scholarly support
167 services.

168 4. The existence of an academic environment having
169 appropriate infrastructure, including buildings, classrooms,
170 libraries, laboratories, and specialized equipment, that is
171 conducive to the conduct of the highest quality of scholarship
172 and research.

173 5. The demonstration of concordance with Florida's
174 strategic plan for economic development or an emphasis on one or
175 more emerging sciences or technologies that could favorably
176 impact the state's economic future.

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

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

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

193 (6) CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.--

194 (a) The purposes and objectives of a Center of Excellence
 195 include:

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

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

208 3. Recruiting and retaining world class scholars, high-
 209 performing students, and leading scientists and engineers in
 210 technology disciplines to engage in research in this state and
 211 to develop commercially promising, advanced, and innovative
 212 science and technology.

213 4. Enhancing and expanding science and technology
 214 curricula and laboratory resources at universities and research
 215 centers in this state.

216 5. Increasing the number of high-performing students in
 217 science and technology disciplines who graduate from
 218 universities in this state and pursue careers in this state.

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219 6. Stimulating and supporting the inception, growth, and
220 diversification of science and technology-based businesses and
221 ventures in Florida and increasing employment opportunities for
222 the workforce needed to support such businesses.

223 (b) The following entities are eligible to submit
224 proposals for a Center of Excellence:

225 1. Any state university.

226 2. Any private university.

227 3. The H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research
228 Institute.

229 4. The Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition,
230 Inc..

231 5. Any community college, training center, or other public
232 or private research center in the state that coordinates with a
233 state university for purposes of this act.

234 (c) The board shall recommend to the Board of Governors
235 criteria for approving proposals to create or expand a Center of
236 Excellence. Such criteria shall consider:

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

239 2. The comprehensiveness and effectiveness of site plans
240 relating to a proposed Center of Excellence.

241 3. The existing amount of the applicant's resources
242 dedicated to activities relating to a proposed Center of
243 Excellence.

244 4. The regional economic structure and climate.

245 5. The degree to which the applicant identifies and seizes
246 opportunities to collaborate with other public or private
247 entities for research purposes.

248 6. The presence of a comprehensive performance and
249 accountability measurement system.

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

252 8. The ability of the applicant to raise research funds
253 and leverage public and private investment dollars to support
254 advanced and emerging scientific and technological research and
255 development projects.

256 9. The degree to which the applicant transfers advanced
257 and emerging sciences and technologies from its laboratories to
258 the commercial sector.

259 10. The degree to which the applicant stimulates and
260 supports the creation of new ventures.

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

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

266 13. The existence of a plan to increase the likelihood of
267 faculty and graduate students pursuing private-sector careers in
268 the state.

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

271 (d) The board shall periodically solicit proposals for
272 Centers of Excellence. To call for proposals, the board shall

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273 notify the president or chief executive officer of the eligible
274 entities identified in paragraph (b).

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

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

285 (7) ANNUAL REPORT.--

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

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

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301 (8) EXPIRATION.--This section shall expire June 30, 2011.
 302 Section 2. For the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the sum of \$100
 303 million is appropriated from nonrecurring general revenue to the
 304 Board of Governors of the State University System, of which \$50
 305 million shall be allocated for the 21st Century World Class
 306 Scholars Program and \$50 million for the Centers of Excellence
 307 Program.
 308 Section 3. Section 1004.384, Florida Statutes, is created
 309 to read:
 310 1004.384 University of Central Florida College of
 311 Medicine.--As approved by the Board of Governors of the State
 312 University System on March 23, 2006, a College of Medicine is
 313 authorized at the University of Central Florida.
 314 Section 4. Section 1004.385, Florida Statutes, is created
 315 to read:
 316 1004.385 Florida International University College of
 317 Medicine.--As approved by the Board of Governors of the State
 318 University System on March 23, 2006, a College of Medicine is
 319 authorized at Florida International University.
 320 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.