

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 505 Community Colleges
SPONSOR(S): Henriquez and others
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 1356

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) <u>Community Colleges & Workforce Committee</u>	<u>5 Y, 0 N</u>	<u>Thomas</u>	<u>Ashworth</u>
2) <u>Education Appropriations Committee</u>	<u></u>	<u>Hamon</u>	<u>Hamon</u>
3) <u>Governmental Operations Committee</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
4) <u>Education Council</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
5) <u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill provides that a community college's program of intercollegiate athletics may include intercollegiate football.

Currently, 25 community colleges in Florida sponsor intercollegiate athletic programs, which include baseball, basketball, swimming, golf, fast-pitch softball, volleyball, and tennis. State Board of Education Rule prohibits community colleges from including intercollegiate football.

Under the provisions of the bill, a community college could choose to include an intercollegiate football program. Federal gender equity laws would require adding 1.2 female athletes for every male football player at the college to maintain gender equity.

The estimated cost of a football program in other states ranged from \$90,000 to \$632,650 for the 2000 season.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Provide Limited Government: The bill authorizes community colleges to include intercollegiate football as part of the athletic program.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

Community colleges are not required to participate in intercollegiate athletic programs. Of the 28 community colleges in the state of Florida 25 of them sponsor intercollegiate athletic programs and participate in four athletic conferences under the direction of the Florida Community College Activities Association. Athletic programs may include baseball, basketball, swimming, golf, fast-pitch softball, volleyball, and tennis.

Currently, State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.058 states that community colleges are prohibited from including intercollegiate football as an authorized student activity. Statutory authority for this rule is in s. 1001.02(1) and (9), F.S. Section 1001.02(1), F.S., authorizes the State Board of Education to adopt rules to implement provisions of law conferring duties upon the SBOE for the improvement of the education system. Subsection (9) of the same section of law requires that the SBOE rules for community colleges must address program offerings, provisions for program service areas, non-classroom activities, and student services.

The number of community colleges sponsoring National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) intercollegiate football programs is on the decline. In the 1993-94 academic year, 78 community colleges sponsored intercollegiate football. By 2005-06, only 69 community colleges sponsored intercollegiate football.¹

Effects of Proposed Changes

The bill provides that a community college's program of intercollegiate athletics may include intercollegiate football. The bill does not require a community college to sponsor an intercollegiate football program.

Expense

The estimated cost of a football program in other states ranged from \$90,000 to \$632,650 for the 2000 season. Additionally, the estimated start-up cost of a football program was \$217,700 - \$256,700.² This figure includes facilities, equipment, coaching and other staffing, scholarships, catastrophic insurance, medical examination and care, and travel.

Gender Equity

Title IX requirements would pose an obstacle for community colleges that sponsored intercollegiate football. The mandate would require adding 1.2 female athletes for every male football player at the college to maintain gender equity.

¹ <http://www.njcaa.org/>

² Florida Department of Education 2006 Legislative Bill Analysis, (Revised) January 11, 2006, at 2.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Amends s. 1001.65, F.S.; providing that a community college's program of intercollegiate athletics may include intercollegiate football.

Section 2: Provides an effective date of July 1, 2006.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The estimated cost of a football program in other states range from a low \$90,000 to a high \$632,650 for the 2000 season. Additionally, the estimated start-up cost of a football program was \$217,700 - \$256,700.³ This figure includes facilities, equipment, coaching and other staffing, scholarships, catastrophic insurance, medical examination and care, and travel. Community colleges will need to weigh the cost to support an intercollegiate football program against the benefits of having such a program.

According to the 2003-04 Intercollegiate Athletics Financial Report, Student Activity and Service Fees comprise about one-third of the total revenues for athletics for the community college system.⁴ Rule 6A-14.057, FAC, requires that expenditure from Student Activity and Service Fees are in accordance with a budget prepared jointly by student and college staff and approved by the president. Other significant sources for funding for community college athletics include college operating funds and financial aid fees.

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds. This bill does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities. This bill does not reduce the authority that counties and municipalities have to raise revenue.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES