

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to postsecondary education; amending s.
3 1001.44, F.S.; authorizing an articulation agreement for
4 delivery of associate in applied science degree programs
5 by career centers; providing requirements for use of the
6 designation "technical college"; providing a definition;
7 amending s. 1002.34, F.S.; providing for a charter
8 technical career center to use the designation "technical
9 college"; providing a definition; amending s. 1007.22,
10 F.S.; revising provisions relating to establishment of
11 interinstitutional mechanisms by public postsecondary
12 educational institutions; amending s. 1007.23, F.S.;
13 revising components of the statewide articulation
14 agreement; revising terminology; creating s. 1007.234,
15 F.S.; requiring the State Board of Education, in
16 consultation with the Board of Governors, to establish
17 statewide articulation agreements for articulated career
18 paths for specific professions; requiring career paths to
19 provide for the articulation of credit for certain
20 programs and experiential learning; providing criteria for
21 participation by nonpublic colleges and schools in the
22 statewide articulation agreements for articulated career
23 paths; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and
24 Government Accountability to assess articulation
25 agreements and identify career center programs that may
26 articulate to certain degree programs; requiring the
27 office to review career paths for articulation of credit

28 awarded by public and private institutions; requiring
 29 reporting to the Legislature; creating s. 1011.802, F.S.;
 30 establishing the School District Career Center Facility
 31 Enhancement Challenge Grant Program; authorizing a school
 32 district direct-support organization to solicit funds and
 33 establish a separate career center capital facilities
 34 matching account for private contributions for
 35 instructional facility construction projects; providing
 36 for match by state appropriations; providing for a portion
 37 of the cost of a facility construction project to be
 38 provided from a school district's local capital funds;
 39 providing State Board of Education requirements relating
 40 to capital outlay budget requests for such projects;
 41 providing for reversion of funds; creating the Board of
 42 Governors Scholarship Matching Pilot Project; providing
 43 for funding; providing for annual reports to the Governor
 44 and Legislature; providing for future repeal; providing an
 45 effective date.

46
 47 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

48
 49 Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 1001.44,
 50 Florida Statutes, to read:

51 1001.44 Career centers.--

52 (4) DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD CAREER CENTER PROGRAM

53 DELIVERY.--

54 (a) A district school board with an established career
55 center as part of the district school system may enter into an
56 articulation agreement for the delivery of specified associate
57 in applied science degree programs.

58 (b) A career center that offers a postsecondary adult
59 vocational program designed to articulate into an associate in
60 applied science degree program and enters into an articulation
61 agreement for the delivery of such an associate in applied
62 science degree program may use the designation "technical
63 college."

64 (c) For purposes of this subsection, "postsecondary adult
65 vocational program" is a job preparatory program, excluding
66 continuing workforce education, through which a student receives
67 a vocational certificate upon completion of instruction.

68 Section 2. Subsection (20) is added to section 1002.34,
69 Florida Statutes, to read:

70 1002.34 Charter technical career centers.--

71 (20) DESIGNATION AS A TECHNICAL COLLEGE.--A charter
72 technical career center that offers a postsecondary adult
73 vocational program designed to articulate into an associate in
74 applied science degree program and enters into an articulation
75 agreement for the delivery of such an associate in applied
76 science degree program may use the designation "technical
77 college." For purposes of this subsection, "postsecondary adult
78 vocational program" is a job preparatory program, excluding
79 continuing workforce education, through which a student receives
80 a vocational certificate upon completion of instruction.

81 Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 1007.22, Florida
82 Statutes, is amended to read:

83 1007.22 Articulation; postsecondary institution
84 coordination and collaboration.--

85 (3) Public postsecondary educational institutions ~~erving~~
86 ~~the same students in a geographic and service area~~ are
87 encouraged to establish appropriate interinstitutional
88 mechanisms to achieve cooperative planning and delivery of
89 academic programs and related services, share a high-cost
90 instructional facility and equipment, coordinate credit and
91 noncredit outreach activities, have access to each other's
92 library and media holdings and services, and provide cooperative
93 campus activities and consultative relationships for the
94 discussion and resolution of interinstitutional issues and
95 problems which discourage student access or transfer.

96 Section 4. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 1007.23,
97 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

98 1007.23 Statewide articulation agreement.--

99 (1) The State Board of Education shall establish in rule a
100 statewide articulation agreement that governs:

101 (a) Articulation between secondary and postsecondary
102 education, including credit earned through high school career
103 and technical education majors and career academies;

104 (b) Admission of associate in arts degree graduates from
105 community colleges and state universities;

106 (c) Admission of applied technology diploma program
107 graduates from community colleges or career centers;

108 (d) Admission of associate in science degree and associate
 109 in applied science degree graduates from community colleges;

110 (e) The use of acceleration mechanisms, including
 111 nationally standardized examinations through which students may
 112 earn credit;

113 (f) General education requirements and statewide course
 114 numbers as provided for in ss. 1007.24 and 1007.25; ~~and~~

115 (g) Articulation among programs in nursing; ~~and-~~

116 (h) Admission of postsecondary vocational, technical, or
 117 career certificate or diploma graduates from school district
 118 career centers or charter technical career centers.

119 (3) The articulation agreement must guarantee the
 120 statewide articulation of appropriate workforce education
 121 ~~development~~ programs and courses between school districts and
 122 community colleges and specifically provide that every applied
 123 technology diploma graduate must be granted the same amount of
 124 credit upon admission to an associate in science degree or
 125 associate in applied science degree program unless it is a
 126 limited access program. Preference for admission must be given
 127 to graduates who are residents of Florida.

128 Section 5. Section 1007.234, Florida Statutes, is created
 129 to read:

130 1007.234 Statewide articulation agreements for articulated
 131 career paths.--

132 (1) By March 1, 2007, the State Board of Education, in
 133 consultation with the Board of Governors, shall establish
 134 statewide articulation agreements for articulated career paths

135 for specific workforce education professions, including, but not
136 limited to, the program areas of criminal justice, business,
137 manufacturing, nursing, allied health, and early childhood
138 education. The career paths shall provide for the articulation
139 of:

140 (a) Credit earned in vocational, technical, or career
141 certificate or diploma programs to associate in science degrees
142 or associate in applied science degrees.

143 (b) Credit earned in associate in science degree programs
144 to credit in baccalaureate degree programs.

145 (c) Credit awarded by public and private institutions.

146 (d) Credit for experiential learning associated with
147 minimum training requirements for employment.

148 (2) To participate in a statewide articulation agreement
149 for an articulated career path required in this section,
150 nonpublic colleges and schools must be fully accredited by a
151 regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the United
152 States Department of Education, must participate in the Florida
153 Education and Training Placement Information Program pursuant to
154 s. 1008.39, and must meet one of the following criteria:

155 (a) Be eligible to participate in the William L. Boyd, IV,
156 Florida Resident Access Grant Program; or

157 (b) Have been issued a license pursuant to s. 1005.31 or
158 s. 1005.32 and use an assessment required in s. 1005.04(1)(b)
159 that has been recommended by the State Board of Education. In
160 these licensed colleges and schools for courses not in the
161 statewide course numbering system pursuant to s. 1007.24,

162 credits to be accepted by a receiving institution must be
163 generated in courses for which the faculty possess credentials
164 that are comparable to those required by the accrediting
165 association of the receiving institution.

166 (3) To determine the appropriate courses and programs for
167 statewide articulation agreements for articulated career paths,
168 the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government
169 Accountability, by December 31, 2006, shall collect, review, and
170 conduct an assessment of all existing articulation agreements
171 between school district career centers or charter technical
172 career centers and community colleges.

173 (4) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government
174 Accountability shall use the information compiled pursuant to
175 subsection (3) to evaluate the effectiveness of articulation
176 agreements for articulated career paths and to identify other
177 postsecondary technical or career programs within a school
178 district career center or charter technical career center that
179 may articulate to an associate in science degree program or an
180 associate in applied science degree program on an individual
181 course or block basis for statewide articulation agreements for
182 articulated career paths. By December 31, 2007, the Office of
183 Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall
184 submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker
185 of the House of Representatives.

186 (5) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government
187 Accountability shall review all career paths that provide for
188 the articulation of credit awarded by public and private

189 institutions as required pursuant to subsection (1). The review
 190 shall include an assessment of methods used to evaluate the
 191 following: a student's ability to successfully complete the
 192 course of study for which the student has applied before
 193 accepting the student into the program; completion rates; job
 194 placement rates; and the method used by institutions to report
 195 data. By December 31, 2007, the Office of Program Policy
 196 Analysis and Government Accountability shall submit a report to
 197 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
 198 Representatives.

199 Section 6. Section 1011.802, Florida Statutes, is created
 200 to read:

201 1011.802 School District Career Center Facility
 202 Enhancement Challenge Grant Program.--

203 (1) There is established the School District Career Center
 204 Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program for the purpose of
 205 assisting career centers in building high priority instructional
 206 capital facilities consistent with s. 1001.44, including common
 207 areas connecting such facilities. The direct-support
 208 organizations that serve the school districts may solicit gifts
 209 from private sources which are eligible for state matching funds
 210 for capital facilities. For purposes of this section, private
 211 sources of funds shall not include any federal, state, or local
 212 government funds that a school district may receive.

213 (2) The School District Career Center Facility Enhancement
 214 Challenge Grant Program shall provide funds to match private
 215 contributions for the development of high priority instructional

216 capital facilities, including common areas connecting such
217 facilities, within the career centers.

218 (3) Within the direct-support organization of each school
219 district, a separate career center capital facilities matching
220 account must be established for the purpose of providing
221 matching funds from the direct-support organization's
222 unrestricted donations or other private contributions for the
223 development of high priority instructional capital facilities,
224 including common areas connecting such facilities. The
225 Legislature may appropriate funds for distribution to a school
226 district after matching funds are certified by the direct-
227 support organization and school district to the Department of
228 Education. The Public Education Capital Outlay and Debt Service
229 Trust Fund shall not be used as the source of the state match
230 for private contributions.

231 (4) A project may not be initiated unless all private
232 funds for planning, construction, and equipping the facility
233 have been received and deposited in the direct-support
234 organization's matching account and the state's share for the
235 minimum amount of funds needed to begin the project has been
236 appropriated by the Legislature. The Legislature may appropriate
237 the state's matching funds in one or more fiscal years for the
238 planning, construction, and equipping of an eligible facility.
239 However, these requirements shall not preclude the school
240 district or direct-support organization from expending available
241 funds from private sources to develop a prospectus, including
242 preliminary architectural schematics or models, for use in its

243 efforts to raise private funds for a facility. Additionally, any
244 private sources of funds expended for this purpose are eligible
245 for state matching funds if the project is awarded grant funds
246 under this section.

247 (5) To be eligible to participate in the School District
248 Career Center Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program, a
249 school district, through its direct-support organization, shall
250 raise contributions from private sources equal to one-third of
251 the total cost of a facility construction project. After raising
252 such contributions, the school district shall be eligible for a
253 match by a state appropriation equal to the amount raised for a
254 facility construction project up to one-third of the cost of the
255 project, subject to the General Appropriations Act. Another one-
256 third of the total cost must be provided from the school
257 district's local capital funds.

258 (6) If the state's share of the required match is
259 insufficient to meet the requirements of subsection (5), the
260 school district shall renegotiate the terms of the contribution
261 with the donors. If the project is terminated, each private
262 donation, plus accrued interest, shall revert to the direct-
263 support organization for remittance to the donor at the donor's
264 discretion.

265 (7) By September 1 of each year, the State Board of
266 Education shall transmit to the Legislature, in the capital
267 outlay budget request, a list of projects that meet all
268 eligibility requirements to participate in the School District
269 Career Center Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program and a

270 budget request that includes the recommended schedule necessary
271 to complete each project.

272 (8) In order for a project to be eligible under this
273 program, it must be survey-recommended under the provisions of
274 s. 1013.31, included in the school district's 5-year capital
275 improvement plan, and receive prior approval from the State
276 Board of Education.

277 (9) Any project funds that are unexpended after a project
278 is completed shall revert to the school district direct-support
279 organization's career center capital facilities matching
280 account. One-third of such unexpended funds shall be reserved
281 for the school district career center that originally received
282 the private contribution for the purpose of providing private
283 matching funds for future facility construction projects as
284 provided in this section. One-third of such unexpended funds
285 shall be returned to the General Revenue Fund. One-third of such
286 unexpended funds shall be returned to the school district.

287 (10) The surveys, architectural plans, facility, and
288 equipment shall be the property of the participating school
289 district.

290 Section 7. Board of Governors Scholarship Matching Pilot
291 Project.--The Board of Governors and the Board of Governors
292 Foundation are authorized to provide donors with an incentive in
293 the form of matching grants for donations for the sole purpose
294 of providing needs-based financial assistance for students
295 attending state universities. Donations received by the Board of
296 Governors for this purpose prior to September 30, 2006, are

297 eligible for state matching funds through legislative
298 appropriations. Any donations and state matching grants received
299 by the Board of Governors pursuant to this section may be
300 invested by the Board of Governors Foundation. Donations, state
301 matching funds, and associated investment earnings must be fully
302 disbursed for needs-based financial assistance to state
303 university students prior to June 30, 2010. The Board of
304 Governors shall provide annual reports to the Governor, the
305 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
306 Representatives providing information on the unexpended balance
307 of funds associated with this pilot project; the number of
308 students who received financial assistance; the number of
309 scholarship recipients at each state university; and the
310 minimum, maximum, and average annual award per recipient, by
311 university. The reports shall be submitted by September 30 for
312 the preceding annual period ending on June 30. This section is
313 repealed effective September 30, 2010.

314 Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.