

The Florida Senate
PROFESSIONAL STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: Governmental Operations Committee

BILL: CS/SB 644

INTRODUCER: Governmental Operations Committee and Senator Lynn

SUBJECT: State Universities/Building Designations

DATE: April 18, 2007 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Brown	Matthews	HE	Favorable
2.	McKay	Wilson	GO	Fav/CS
3.			EF	
4.				
5.				
6.				

I. Summary:

This bill changes current law to allow a building, road, bridge, park, recreational complex, or other similar facility of a state university to be named by a university board of trustees for a living donor in accordance with rules adopted of the Board of Governors of the State University System, without legislative approval.

This bill removes the State Board of Education’s authority to name a facility constructed through funding from the University Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program in honor of a donor. This authority is replaced with the university board of trustees, and, if the naming is of a living person, this authority is subject to rules by the Board of Governors.

This bill substantially amends sections 267.062 and 1013.79 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Naming Authority of State Buildings

Presently, the naming of state buildings and land for living persons requires legislative approval. This requirement applies to the following property belonging to the state:

- Buildings;
- Roads;
- Bridges;
- Parks;
- Recreational complexes; or

- Other similar facilities.¹

This provision does not apply to community colleges. These institutions may name a facility for a living donor unless the facility was constructed under the Community College Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program, which requires State Board of Education approval for naming a facility for a living donor.²

University Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program

The 2002 Legislature established the Alec P. Courtelis Capital Facilities Matching Trust Fund to provide a funding mechanism for high priority, instructional and research-related capital facilities at state universities.³ While the university and the State Board of Education are authorized to approve naming a grant-funded facility after a donor, naming a facility for a living person requires legislative approval.⁴

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 of the bill removes the prohibition in s. 267.062, F.S., on naming certain state buildings after a living person without legislative approval. It provides that a building, road, bridge, park, recreational complex, or other similar facility of a state university may be named for a living donor by the university's board of trustees in accordance with rules adopted by the Board of Governors of the State University System.

The bill does not specify in the grant of rulemaking authority whether the Board of Governors or the university board of trustees is authorized to name university facilities.

Section 2 of the bill removes the State Board of Education's authority to name, after a donor, a facility constructed through University Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program funding. This authority is replaced with the university board of trustees. If the naming is of a living person, the university board of trustee's approval is subject to rules by the Board of Governors. This provision of the bill would make the challenge grant program naming requirement comparable to that of community colleges.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

¹ Section 267.062(1), F.S.

² Section 1011.32(12), F.S.

³ Section 1013.79, F.S.

⁴ Section 1013.79(11), F.S.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Authorizing the naming of state university land and facilities for living persons may encourage donations, either through the University Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program, or otherwise.

Although the bill does not require any funds to implement its provisions, the Board of Governors indicates a fiscal impact related to the creation of signage, ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 for each sign. However, according to the Board of Governors, funds to purchase signage could come from the plant, operation, and maintenance allocation or Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) fixed capital outlay lump sum appropriations for Maintenance, Repair, Renovation, and Remodeling purposes.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Summary of Amendments:

None.

This Senate Professional Staff Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
