

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: Higher Education Committee

BILL: SB 644

INTRODUCER: Senator Lynn

SUBJECT: State Universities/Building Designations

DATE: March 25, 2007

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Brown</u>	<u>Matthews</u>	<u>HE</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>GO</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	<u>EF</u>	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This bill provides an exception to the naming of a living person of state buildings and facilities requirement of legislative approval. A building, road, bridge, park, recreational complex, or other similar facility of a state university may be named for a living donor in accordance with rules of the Board of Governors of the State University System.

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.¹ This requirement applies to the following property belonging to the state:

- Buildings;
- Roads;
- Bridges;
- Parks;

¹ s. 267.062(1), F.S.

- Recreational complexes; or
- Other similar facilities.²

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.³

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.⁴ While the university and the State Board of Education are authorized to approve naming a grant-funded facility after a donor, a naming of a living person requires legislative approval.⁵

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This bill removes the prohibition on naming state buildings after a living person without legislative approval in certain instances.

A building, road, bridge, park, recreational complex, or other similar facility of a state university may be named for a living donor in accordance with rules of the Board of Governors of the State University System. The bill is silent on the identity of the designator. It may be prudent to identify whether the Board of Governors is authorized to name the state university facilities or the university board of trustees.

This 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.

² *Id.*

³ s. 1011.32(12), F.S.

⁴ s. 1013.79, F.S.

⁵ s. 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.
