

HB 7147

2007

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to postsecondary education enhancements;
3 requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and
4 Government Accountability to conduct a study of certain
5 enrollment forecasting models; requiring a final report;
6 requiring the Department of Education to conduct a review
7 of certain courses in the statewide course numbering
8 system and update the system as appropriate; requiring a
9 report; requiring nonpublic postsecondary institutions
10 that participate in statewide course numbering to provide
11 certain information in their catalogs; requiring the
12 department's website to include certain information;
13 requiring the department to review certain examinations
14 and recommend articulated acceleration mechanisms;
15 amending s. 1007.33, F.S.; identifying the areas in which
16 community colleges may propose to deliver baccalaureate
17 degree programs; removing requirement that proposal be
18 submitted to the Council for Education Policy Research and
19 Improvement for review; providing an effective date.

20
21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

22
23 Section 1. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and
24 Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall conduct a study of the
25 higher education enrollment forecasting models currently used in
26 the state. The study must analyze the current models and provide
27 options for improvements. The review shall specifically examine
28 ways to include Florida's changing demographics in the

HB 7147

2007

29 forecasts. During the course of the study OPPAGA shall consult
30 with staff from the Office of Economic and Demographic Research.
31 A final report with recommendations shall be submitted to the
32 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
33 Representatives by February 1, 2008.

34 Section 2. (1) The Department of Education shall conduct
35 a comprehensive review of the courses that are listed in the
36 statewide course numbering system to:

37 (a) Identify courses that are listed in the system that
38 have not been taught at an institution for the preceding 5
39 years;

40 (b) Identify courses of nonpublic postsecondary
41 institutions that may be inappropriately designated as
42 equivalent for purposes of transfer of credit; and

43 (c) Update the statewide course numbering system as
44 appropriate based on these findings.

45 (2) The Department of Education shall submit a report of
46 its findings and actions to the President of the Senate and the
47 Speaker of the House of Representatives by February 1, 2008.

48 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule to
49 the contrary, any nonpublic postsecondary institution, as a
50 condition of initial or continued participation in the statewide
51 course numbering system, shall identify in all of its catalogs,
52 printed or electronic, the specific courses offered by the
53 institution that are included in the statewide course numbering
54 system.

55 (4) No later than July 1, 2008, the Department of
56 Education shall develop and maintain in the department's website

HB 7147

2007

57 a listing of all courses in the statewide course numbering
58 system and the institutions that offer each course. The listing
59 shall be available to the public. Each institution that
60 participates in the statewide course numbering system shall
61 include in all of its catalogs, printed or electronic, a
62 statement advising the reader of the website address and its use
63 as a resource for information on the transferability of credits
64 to other Florida institutions.

65 Section 3. No later than March 1, 2008, the Department of
66 Education shall review the Excelsior College Examinations (ECE)
67 and Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support
68 (DANTES) standardized subject area tests (DSST) and recommend to
69 the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors, the
70 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
71 Representatives any examination that should be identified as an
72 articulated acceleration mechanism under s. 1007.27, Florida
73 Statutes. The department shall also identify the minimum scores,
74 maximum credit, and course or courses for which credit is to be
75 awarded for each examination recommended by the department.

76 Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 1007.33, Florida
77 Statutes, is amended to read:

78 1007.33 Site-determined baccalaureate degree access.--

79 (3) A community college may develop a proposal to deliver
80 specified baccalaureate degree programs in the areas of teaching
81 and nursing and to deliver bachelor of applied science
82 workforce-related degrees in high need/high demand majors ~~its~~
83 ~~district to meet local workforce needs.~~ The bachelor of applied
84 science degree is a workforce baccalaureate degree designed

HB 7147

2007

85 primarily for associate in science degree holders desiring
86 career advancement or advanced technical training. The proposal
87 must be submitted to the State Board of Education for approval.
88 The community college's proposal must include the following
89 information:

90 (a) Demand for the baccalaureate degree program is
91 identified by the workforce development board, local businesses
92 and industry, local chambers of commerce, and potential
93 students.

94 (b) Unmet need for graduates of the proposed degree
95 program is substantiated.

96 (c) The community college has the facilities and academic
97 resources to deliver the program.

98
99 ~~The proposal must be submitted to the Council for Education~~
100 ~~Policy Research and Improvement for review and comment.~~ Upon
101 approval of the State Board of Education for the specific degree
102 program or programs, the community college shall pursue regional
103 accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern
104 Association of Colleges and Schools. Any additional
105 baccalaureate degree programs the community college wishes to
106 offer must be approved by the State Board of Education.

107 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.