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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the University of South Florida  
3           Polytechnic; creating s. 1004.345, F.S.; establishing and  
4           designating the University of South Florida Polytechnic  
5           campus; providing legislative intent; requiring the Board  
6           of Trustees to appoint a Campus Board; providing  
7           membership, powers, and duties of the Campus Board;  
8           providing that the university is administered by a Campus  
9           Executive Officer; requiring the President of the  
10          University of South Florida to consult with the Campus  
11          Board before hiring or terminating the Campus Executive  
12          Officer; providing duties and powers of the Campus  
13          Executive Officer; providing that students enrolled at a  
14          branch campus of the university have the same rights as  
15          other students; requiring the University of South Florida  
16          to provide for a system of student registration that meets  
17          certain conditions; providing an effective date.

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19   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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21           Section 1.   Section 1004.345, Florida Statutes, is created  
22   to read:

23           1004.345   The University of South Florida Polytechnic.--

24           (1)   The Lakeland campus of the University of South Florida  
25   is established and shall be known as the "University of South  
26   Florida Polytechnic."

27           (a)   The Legislature intends that the University of South  
28   Florida Polytechnic be operated and maintained as a separate  
29   organizational and budget entity of the University of South

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30 Florida, and that all legislative appropriations for the  
31 University of South Florida Polytechnic be set forth as separate  
32 line items in the annual General Appropriations Act.

33 (b) The University of South Florida Polytechnic shall have  
34 a Campus Board and a Campus Executive Officer.

35 (c) The Legislature intends that the University of South  
36 Florida Polytechnic operate under separate accreditation from the  
37 Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges  
38 and Schools when separate accreditation is in the best interest  
39 of the campus. The Campus Board shall ensure that sufficient  
40 student enrollment, faculty, and administration are in place  
41 before requesting that the Board of Trustees of the University of  
42 South Florida apply for separate accreditation for the University  
43 of South Florida Polytechnic. Upon approval by the Board of  
44 Trustees of the University of South Florida, the President of the  
45 University of South Florida shall begin the application process  
46 for separate accreditation on behalf of the Board of Trustees of  
47 the University of South Florida. If the application is not  
48 approved, or is provisionally approved, the President of the  
49 University of South Florida shall correct any identified  
50 deficiencies and shall continue to work for separate  
51 accreditation.

52 (2) The Board of Trustees of the University of South  
53 Florida shall appoint, from a list of candidates recommended by  
54 the President of the University of South Florida, four residents  
55 of the Polytechnic campus service area to serve on the Campus  
56 Board. The fifth member of the Campus Board shall be selected by  
57 the Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida from  
58 among its membership, and that trustee shall serve jointly as a

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59 member of the Board of Trustees of the University of South  
60 Florida and the Campus Board. A trustee who serves jointly on the  
61 Campus Board must be a resident of the Polytechnic campus service  
62 area, unless none of the appointed members of the Board of  
63 Trustees of the University of South Florida meet this criteria,  
64 in which case any trustee may be appointed to serve jointly on  
65 the Campus Board. The Board of Trustees of the University of  
66 South Florida shall ensure, to the greatest extent possible, that  
67 each county in the Polytechnic campus service area is represented  
68 among the membership of the Campus Board. Each member of the  
69 Campus Board shall be appointed to a 4-year term and may be  
70 reappointed for one additional 4-year term. However, for purposes  
71 of staggering the terms of the initial appointees, the Board of  
72 Trustees of the University of South Florida shall select and  
73 appoint one member to serve a term of 1 year, one member to serve  
74 a term of 2 years, and one member to serve a term of 3 years,  
75 each of whom may be reappointed to a subsequent 4-year term. The  
76 Campus Board has the powers and duties provided by law, which  
77 include the authority to:

78 (a) Review and approve an annual legislative budget request  
79 to be submitted to the Board of Trustees of the University of  
80 South Florida. The Campus Executive Officer shall prepare the  
81 legislative budget request in accordance with guidelines  
82 established by the Board of Governors of the State University  
83 System. This request must include items for campus operations and  
84 fixed capital outlay.

85 (b) Approve and submit an annual operating plan and budget  
86 for review and consultation by the Board of Trustees of the  
87 University of South Florida. The campus operating budget must

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88 reflect the actual funding available to that campus from separate  
89 line-item appropriations contained in each annual General  
90 Appropriations Act. Such line-item appropriations must initially  
91 reflect the funds reported to the Legislature for the University  
92 of South Florida Lakeland campus for the 2007-2008 fiscal year  
93 and any additional funds provided in the legislative  
94 appropriation for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

95 (c) Enter into central support services contracts with the  
96 Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida for any  
97 services that the Polytechnic campus cannot provide more  
98 economically, including payroll processing, accounting,  
99 technology, construction administration, and other desired  
100 services. However, all legal services for the campus must be  
101 provided by a central services contract with the university. The  
102 Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida and the  
103 Campus Board shall determine in a letter of agreement any  
104 allocation or sharing of student fee revenue between the  
105 University of South Florida's main campus and the Polytechnic  
106 campus.

107  
108 The Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida may  
109 lawfully delegate other powers and duties to the Campus Board for  
110 the efficient operation and improvement of the campus and for the  
111 purpose of vesting in the campus the attributes necessary to meet  
112 the requirements for separate accreditation by the Southern  
113 Association of Colleges and Schools.

114 (3) The University of South Florida Polytechnic shall be  
115 administered by a Campus Executive Officer who shall be appointed  
116 by, report directly to, and serve at the pleasure of the

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117 President of the University of South Florida. The President shall  
118 consult with the Campus Board before hiring or terminating the  
119 Campus Executive Officer. The Campus Executive Officer has  
120 authority and responsibility as provided in law, including the  
121 authority to:

122 (a) Administer campus operations within the annual  
123 operating budget as approved by the Campus Board.

124 (b) Recommend to the Campus Board an annual legislative  
125 budget request that includes funding for campus operations and  
126 fixed capital outlay.

127 (c) Recommend to the Campus Board an annual campus  
128 operating budget.

129 (d) Recommend to the Campus Board appropriate services and  
130 terms and conditions to be included in annual central support  
131 services contracts.

132 (e) Carry out any additional responsibilities assigned or  
133 delegated by the President of the University of South Florida for  
134 the efficient operation and improvement of the campus, especially  
135 any authority necessary for the purpose of vesting in the campus  
136 attributes necessary to meet the requirements for separate  
137 accreditation.

138 (4) Students enrolled at the University of South Florida,  
139 including those enrolled at a branch campus, have the same rights  
140 and obligations as provided by law, policy, or rule adopted by  
141 the University of South Florida, the Board of Governors of the  
142 State University System, the Department of Education, or any  
143 other lawful entity. The University of South Florida shall  
144 provide a comprehensive and coordinated system of student  
145 registration so that a student enrolled at any campus of the

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146 University of South Florida has the ability to register for  
147 courses at any other campus of the University of South Florida.

148 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.