

By the Committee on Higher Education; and Senator Lynn

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the state university system;  
3           amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; revising the powers and  
4           duties of the Board of Governors relating to  
5           accountability; requiring that the board align the  
6           missions of each constituent university; authorizing  
7           the board and the Legislature to assign specific  
8           projects, missions, exemptions, and other  
9           responsibilities to institutions that are nationally  
10          recognized and ranked and that have a global  
11          perspective and impact; amending s. 1004.226, F.S.;  
12          revising the legislative findings and intent relating  
13          to the 21st Century Technology, Research, and  
14          Scholarship Enhancement Act to conform to changes made  
15          by the act; amending s. 1007.33, F.S.; revising  
16          provisions that require a Florida college to provide  
17          notice of its intent to propose a baccalaureate degree  
18          program; providing an effective date.

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

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22           Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 1001.706, Florida  
23 Statutes, is amended to read:

24           1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

25           (4) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY.—

26           (a) The Board of Governors shall align the missions of each  
27 constituent university with the quality of its students; the  
28 national reputation of its faculty and its academic and research  
29 programs; the quantity of externally generated research,

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30 patents, and licenses; and the strategic and accountability  
31 plans required in paragraphs (b) and (c). The mission alignment  
32 and strategic plan shall consider peer institutions at the  
33 constituent universities. The mission alignment and strategic  
34 plan shall acknowledge that universities that have a national  
35 and international impact have the greatest capacity to promote  
36 the state's economic development through: new discoveries,  
37 patents, licenses, and technologies that generate state  
38 businesses of global importance; research achievements of an  
39 eminent faculty that brings over one-half billion dollars per  
40 year into the state economy through external grants and  
41 contracts; the creation of a resource-rich academic environment  
42 that attracts high-technology business and venture capital to  
43 the state; and this generation's finest minds focusing on  
44 solving the state's economic, social, environmental, and legal  
45 problems in the areas of agriculture, water, sustainability,  
46 energy, and health care. A nationally recognized and ranked  
47 university that has a global perspective and impact shall be  
48 afforded the freedom to pursue an agenda on the global stage in  
49 fair competition with other flagship institutions of other  
50 states. The Board of Governors and the Legislature may assign  
51 specific projects, missions, exemptions, and other  
52 responsibilities to such institutions.

53 (b) ~~(a)~~ The Board of Governors shall develop a strategic  
54 plan specifying goals and objectives for the State University  
55 System and each constituent university.

56 (c) ~~(b)~~ The Board of Governors shall develop an  
57 accountability plan for the State University System and each  
58 constituent university.

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59        (d)~~(e)~~ The Board of Governors shall maintain an effective  
60 information system to provide accurate, timely, and cost-  
61 effective information about each university. The board shall  
62 continue to collect and maintain, at a minimum, the management  
63 information databases as such databases existed on June 30,  
64 2002.

65        (e)~~(d)~~ If the Board of Governors of the State University  
66 System determines that a state university board of trustees is  
67 unwilling or unable to address substantiated allegations made by  
68 any person relating to waste, fraud, or financial mismanagement  
69 within the state university, the Office of the Inspector General  
70 shall investigate the allegations.

71        Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 1004.226, Florida  
72 Statutes, is amended to read:

73        1004.226 The 21st Century Technology, Research, and  
74 Scholarship Enhancement Act.—

75        (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—

76        (a) The Legislature finds that diversifying this state's  
77 economy requires a focus on building a growing base of high-wage  
78 jobs and on nurturing those technologies and clusters that will  
79 be the foundation of Florida's growing economic diversity and  
80 prosperity.

81        (b) The Legislature further finds that special programs are  
82 needed to facilitate the recruitment of exceptional talent to  
83 Florida's research universities and centers and to provide the  
84 infrastructure and resources that precipitate joint efforts and  
85 coinvestment among state research and development institutions,  
86 private industry, and government. Florida needs consistent  
87 commitment and investment in order to further the state's

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88 strategy of capitalizing on innovative research and development  
89 to build a thriving, technology-rich economy.

90 (c) The Legislature further finds that a university that  
91 has a national and international impact has the greatest  
92 capacity to promote the state's economic development through:  
93 new discoveries, patents, licenses, and technologies that  
94 generate state businesses of global importance; research  
95 achievements of an eminent faculty that brings over one-half  
96 billion dollars per year into the state economy through external  
97 grants and contracts; the creation of a resource-rich academic  
98 environment that attracts high-technology business and venture  
99 capital to the state; and this generation's finest minds  
100 focusing on solving the state's economic, social, environmental,  
101 and legal problems in the areas of agriculture, water,  
102 sustainability, energy, and health care. A nationally recognized  
103 and ranked university that has a global perspective and impact  
104 shall be afforded the freedom to pursue an agenda on the global  
105 stage in fair competition with other flagship institutions of  
106 other states.

107 Section 3. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (5) of  
108 section 1007.33, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

109 1007.33 Site-determined baccalaureate degree access.—

110 (5) The approval process for baccalaureate degree programs  
111 shall require:

112 (a) Each Florida college to submit a notice of its intent  
113 to propose a baccalaureate degree program to the Division of  
114 Florida Colleges and the Chancellor of the State University  
115 System at least 100 days before the submission of its proposal  
116 under paragraph (d). The notice must include a brief description

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117 of the program, the workforce demand and unmet need for  
118 graduates of the program, the geographic region to be served,  
119 and an estimated timeframe for implementation. Notices of intent  
120 may be submitted by a Florida college at any time throughout the  
121 year.

122 (b) The Division of Florida Colleges to forward the notice  
123 of intent within 10 business days after receiving such notice to  
124 ~~the Chancellor of the State University System,~~ the President of  
125 the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida~~,~~ and the  
126 Executive Director of the Council for Independent Education.  
127 State universities shall have 60 days following receipt of the  
128 notice by the Chancellor of the State University System to  
129 submit an alternative proposal to offer the baccalaureate degree  
130 program. If a proposal from a state university is not received  
131 within the 60-day period, the State Board of Education shall  
132 provide regionally accredited private colleges and universities  
133 30 days to submit an alternative proposal. Alternative proposals  
134 shall be submitted to the Division of Florida Colleges and must  
135 be considered by the State Board of Education in making its  
136 decision to approve or deny a Florida college's proposal.

137 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.