

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 245 Community Colleges

SPONSOR(S): Bernard and others

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

	REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1)	State Universities & Private Colleges Policy Committee	12 Y, 0 N	Thomas	Tilton
2)	Education Policy Council	13 Y, 0 N	White	Lowell
3)				
4)				
5)				

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Current law permits an institution in the Florida College System to change its name and use the designation “college” or “state college” if the name change has been approved by the institution’s district board of trustees, the institution has been authorized to grant baccalaureate degrees, and the institution has been accredited as a baccalaureate-degree-granting institution by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. A district board of trustees that approves such a name change must seek statutory codification of the name change during the next regular legislative session.

House Bill 245 amends statute to replace references to “Palm Beach Community College” with “Palm Beach State College” and references to “Seminole Community College” with “Seminole State College of Florida.” Each college has complied with the statutory requirements for its name change.

The fiscal impact of the bill is indeterminate. (See FISCAL COMMENTS)

The bill takes effect upon becoming a law.

HOUSE PRINCIPLES

Members are encouraged to evaluate proposed legislation in light of the following guiding principles of the House of Representatives

- Balance the state budget.
- Create a legal and regulatory environment that fosters economic growth and job creation.
- Lower the tax burden on families and businesses.
- Reverse or restrain the growth of government.
- Promote public safety.
- Promote educational accountability, excellence, and choice.
- Foster respect for the family and for innocent human life.
- Protect Florida's natural beauty.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Background

As used in the Florida K-20 Education Code, the term "Florida college" includes the following institutions in the Florida College System: Brevard Community College; Broward College; Central Florida Community College; Chipola College; Daytona State College; Edison State College; Florida State College at Jacksonville; Florida Keys Community College; Gulf Coast Community College; Hillsborough Community College; Indian River State College; Lake City Community College; Lake-Sumter Community College; State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota; Miami Dade College; North Florida Community College; Northwest Florida State College; Palm Beach Community College; Pasco-Hernando Community College; Pensacola Junior College; Polk State College; St. Johns River Community College; St. Petersburg College; Santa Fe College; Seminole Community College; South Florida Community College; Tallahassee Community College; and Valencia Community College.¹

With the approval of its district board of trustees, a Florida college may change the name of the institution as set forth in s. 1000.21(3), F.S., and use the designation "college" or "state college" if it has been authorized to grant baccalaureate degrees and has been accredited as a baccalaureate-degree-granting institution by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.²

A district board of trustees that approves a Florida college to use the designation "college" or "state college" must seek statutory codification of the name change during the next regular legislative session.³

Palm Beach Community College

The Palm Beach Community College (PBCC) District Board of Trustees approved the request to submit a proposal to offer the Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Supervision and Management with specializations in Health Administration, Public Safety Administration, and Business Administration in June 2007. The State Board of Education approved PBCC's proposal on February 19, 2008.⁴ The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) approved PBCC to offer baccalaureate degrees

¹ Section 1000.21(3), F.S.

² Section 1001.60(2)(b)1., F.S.

³ Section 1001.60(2)(c), F.S.

⁴ Department of Education Analysis of HB 245 (November 19, 2009).

on December 9, 2008.⁵ The PBCC's District Board of Trustees approved the college's name change to Palm Beach State College on September 8, 2009, to become effective January 2010.⁶

Seminole Community College

The Seminole Community College (SCC) District Board of Trustees approved the request to submit a proposal to offer the Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Interior Design on May 13, 2008. The State Board of Education approved SCC's proposal on January 21, 2009.⁷ The SACS approved the college to offer baccalaureate degrees on June 25, 2009.⁸ The SCC District Board of Trustees approved the college's name change to Seminole State College of Florida on September 21, 2009.⁹

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 1000.21, F.S., to replace reference to "Palm Beach Community College" with "Palm Beach State College" and reference to "Seminole Community College" with "Seminole State College of Florida." Each college has complied with the statutory requirements for the name change. The bill makes conforming changes in s. 288.8175, F.S.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 1000.21, F.S., renaming specified community colleges.

Section 2. Amends s. 288.8175, F.S., conforming provisions.

Section 3. Provides that the bill takes effect upon becoming law.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

See FISCAL COMMENTS

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

According to the Department of Education, costs associated with institutional name changes include signage, publications, documentation, and other related items. Due to the variation among institutions,

⁵ E-mail correspondence with the Governmental Relations Office of Seminole State College dated January 11, 2010.

⁶ Department of Education Analysis of HB 245 (November 19, 2009).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ E-mail correspondence with the Governmental Relations Office of Seminole State College dated January 11, 2010.

⁹ Department of Education Analysis of HB 245 (November 19, 2009).

the cost associated with name changes for Palm Beach Community College and Seminole Community College is indeterminate at this time.¹⁰

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable. The joint resolution does not appear to require a county or municipality to spend funds or take an action requiring expenditures; reduce the authority that counties and municipalities had as of February 1, 1989, to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared in the aggregate with counties and municipalities as of February 1, 1989.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

¹⁰ Department of Education Analysis of HB 245 (November 19, 2009).