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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/20/2012	.	
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The Committee on Higher Education (Lynn) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1001.7065 State universities of academic and research excellence and national preeminence.-

(1) This section may be cited as the "State Universities of Academic and Research Excellence and National Preeminence Act."

(2) A partnership initiative is established between the Board of Governors and the Legislature to lift the academic and



13 research excellence and national preeminence of the highest-
14 performing state research universities in accordance with this
15 section. The initiative derives from the State University System
16 Governance Agreement executed on March 24, 2010, wherein the
17 Board of Governors and leaders of the Legislature agreed to a
18 framework for the collaborative exercise of their joint
19 authority and shared responsibility for the State University
20 System. Specifically, the governance agreement confirmed the
21 commitment of the Board of Governors and the Legislature to
22 continue collaboration on accountability measures, the use of
23 data, and recommendations derived from such data.

24 (3) Beginning with the 2012-2013 academic year, a state
25 research university that the Board of Governors finds has
26 substantially met at least 11 of the following academic and
27 research excellence standards may establish resident and
28 nonresident student tuition and fees for undergraduate and
29 graduate courses and programs at differentiated and market
30 rates, notwithstanding ss. 1009.01 and 1009.24, as approved by
31 the university's board of trustees and the Board of Governors:

32 (a) An average weighted grade point average of 3.8 or
33 higher on a 4.0 scale and an average SAT score of 1800 or higher
34 for incoming freshman during the fall term, as reported
35 annually.

36 (b) A top 50 ranking on at least two well-known and highly
37 respected national public university rankings reflecting
38 national preeminence while using the most recent data.

39 (c) A freshman retention rate of 90 percent or higher for
40 full-time, first-time-in-college students, as reported annually
41 to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).



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42 (d) Six or more faculty members at the state university who
43 are members of a national academy, as reported annually by the
44 Center for Measuring University Performance for the Top American
45 Research Universities.

46 (e) Total annual research expenditures, including federal
47 research expenditures, of \$200 million or more, as reported
48 annually, while using the most recent data.

49 (f) Total annual research expenditures in diversified
50 health sciences of \$100 million or more, as reported annually by
51 the National Science Foundation (NSF).

52 (g) A top 100 public university national ranking for
53 research expenditures in five or more science, technology,
54 engineering, or mathematics fields of study, as reported
55 annually by the NSF.

56 (h) One hundred or more total patents awarded for the most
57 recent 3-year period, as reported annually to the IPEDS.

58 (i) Two hundred fifty or more doctoral degrees awarded, as
59 reported annually to the IPEDS.

60 (j) Two hundred or more post-doctoral appointees, as
61 reported annually.

62 (k) A national ranking in quality better than predicted by
63 available financial resources, as reported annually by U.S. News
64 and World Report.

65 (l) An endowment of \$400 million or more, as reported
66 annually, while using the most recent data.

67 (m) Annual giving of \$45 million or more, as reported
68 annually, while using the most recent data.

69 (n) Unallocated funds as a percentage of total budget of
70 12.5 percent or more, as reported annually to the Board of



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71 Governors.

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73 An increase to tuition or fees may occur no more than once each
74 academic year and must be implemented beginning with the fall
75 term. In addition, the Board of Governors may exercise its
76 governing authority to identify and grant additional authority
77 and flexibilities within its constitutional powers and
78 responsibilities as may be appropriate to achieve the goals of
79 this section. However, a qualified beneficiary having a prepaid
80 advance payment contract pursuant to s. 1009.98(2)(b) which was
81 in effect prior to the first year a state university receives
82 tuition and fee authority under this subsection, and that
83 remains in effect, is exempt from the payment of any increase to
84 tuition and fees assessed pursuant to the tuition and fee
85 authority. A qualified beneficiary having a prepaid advance
86 payment contract pursuant to s. 1009.98(2)(b) which is entered
87 into the first year a state university receives tuition and fee
88 authority under this subsection, or thereafter, is liable for
89 the difference between the highest rate of tuition and fees
90 covered by the advance payment contract and the tuition and fees
91 assessed by the state university of national preeminence which
92 the student attends.

93 (4) In order to provide a jointly shared educational
94 experience, and notwithstanding the provisions of part II of
95 chapter 1007 or any other law, rule, or regulation, a state
96 university that the Board of Governors finds has substantially
97 met at least 11 of the academic and research excellence
98 standards set forth in subsection (3) may require its incoming
99 first-time-in college students to take a 9-credit to 12-credit



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100 set of courses specifically determined by the state university.
101 The state university may require that they be taken at the
102 specific state university involved and that credit for any such
103 required courses cannot be fulfilled through any acceleration,
104 transfer, or other similar mechanism.

105 (5) The Board of Governors shall oversee the implementation
106 of this section and may recommend to the Legislature for future
107 consideration additional state university programs of academic
108 and research excellence, or academic programs of national or
109 international preeminence, together with recommended
110 flexibilities designed to move those state universities or
111 programs to a higher preeminence in appropriate nationally
112 recognized rankings.

113 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

114
115 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

116 And the title is amended as follows:

117 Delete everything before the enacting clause
118 and insert:

119 A bill to be entitled
120 An act relating to state universities of academic and
121 research excellence and national preeminence; creating
122 s. 1001.7065, F.S.; providing a short title;
123 establishing a partnership initiative between the
124 Board of Governors of the State University System and
125 the Legislature to lift the academic and research
126 excellence and national preeminence of the highest-
127 performing state research universities; authorizing a
128 state research university that meets specified



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129 criteria, and receives approval, to establish resident
130 and nonresident student tuition or fees at
131 differentiated and market rates; providing conditions
132 for increasing such tuition or fees; authorizing the
133 Board of Governors to exercise its governing
134 authority; providing an exemption from the payment of
135 increased tuition or fees for certain students;
136 authorizing a state research university that meets
137 specified criteria, and receives approval, to
138 establish a set of courses having specified credits
139 hours to provide a jointly shared educational
140 experience for all first-time-in-college students;
141 requiring implementation by the Board of Governors;
142 authorizing the Board of Governors to make
143 recommendations to the Legislature; providing an
144 effective date.