

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the State University System performance funding model; amending s. 1001.7065, F.S.; authorizing state universities to receive designation as preeminent state research universities; creating s. 1001.707, F.S.; providing legislative intent; requiring the Board of Governors to establish a State University System performance funding model and reporting system; specifying standards for purposes of the performance funding model; requiring the Board of Governors to implement a weighted scoring system to measure university achievement of excellence or improvement; providing funding and reporting requirements; requiring the Board of Governors to design and annually disseminate university report cards; requiring the Board of Governors to adopt regulations; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1001.7065 Preeminent state research universities program.—

(3) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY DESIGNATION.—In the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the Board of Governors designated the University of Florida and Florida State University as preeminent

27 state research universities. To receive the designation, the
28 University of Florida met all 12 of the academic and research
29 excellence standards identified in subsection (2) and Florida
30 State University met ~~shall designate each state research~~
31 ~~university that meets at least~~ 11 of the 12 academic and
32 research excellence standards identified in subsection (2) ~~a~~
33 ~~preeminent state research university.~~ Beginning with the 2014-
34 2015 fiscal year, any other state university may submit a
35 request to the Board of Governors for designation as a
36 preeminent state research university, which the Board of
37 Governors may grant based upon verification that the university
38 meets at least 11 of the 12 academic and research excellence
39 standards identified in subsection (2).

40 Section 2. Section 1001.707, Florida Statutes, is created
41 to read:

42 1001.707 State University System performance funding model
43 and reporting system.-

44 (1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.-Beginning July 1, 2014, in
45 furtherance of the collaborative partnership between the Board
46 of Governors and the Legislature as codified in the State
47 University System Governance Agreement of March 24, 2010, it is
48 the intent of the Legislature to provide authority to the Board
49 of Governors to establish and maintain a performance funding
50 model and reporting system in accordance with this section. It
51 is the further intent of the Legislature that the performance
52 funding model and reporting system shall reflect the Board of

53 Governors' operation and management of the State University
54 System as a complementary, interactive system while recognizing
55 the specific mission that each university within the State
56 University System plays in advancing the state's higher
57 education goals and priorities. To accomplish these objectives,
58 the Board of Governors may implement performance funding rewards
59 and sanctions designed to maximize each university's potential
60 to succeed, including, but not limited to, incentives for
61 preeminence and incentives for the production of highly skilled
62 graduates.

63 (2) PERFORMANCE FUNDING MODEL AND REPORTING SYSTEM.—The
64 Board of Governors shall establish the State University System
65 performance funding model and reporting system. The applicable
66 standards for purposes of the performance funding model are:

67 (a) Universities designated as preeminent state research
68 universities by the Board of Governors are subject only to the
69 academic and research excellence standards specified in s.
70 1001.7065(2).

71 (b) Except as provided in paragraphs (c) and (d), all
72 other universities are subject only to the following quality
73 standards:

74 1. Percentage of baccalaureate degree graduates employed
75 or continuing their education.

76 2. Average wages of employed baccalaureate degree
77 graduates.

78 3. Average cost per undergraduate degree.

79 4. Six-year graduation rate for full-time and part-time
80 first-time-in-college students.

81 5. Academic progress rate based on the number of students
82 retained after the first academic year with a grade point
83 average above 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

84 6. Baccalaureate degrees awarded in areas of strategic
85 emphasis as designated by the Board of Governors.

86 7. Percentage of baccalaureate degree graduates who were
87 Pell Grant recipients.

88 8. Graduate degrees awarded in strategic areas of emphasis
89 as designated by the Board of Governors.

90 9. A standard selected by the Board of Governors for each
91 university.

92 10. A standard selected by the board of trustees of each
93 university.

94 (c) In recognition of the mission of New College of
95 Florida as a small residential arts and sciences honors college,
96 New College of Florida is exempt from the standards in
97 subparagraphs (b)3. and 8. and, in lieu thereof, shall be
98 measured by the number of Fulbright Scholars and other national
99 award recipients per 100 undergraduates and the percent of
100 undergraduate courses taught by tenure-track professors.

101 (d) The standards in paragraph (b) shall be applicable to
102 Florida Polytechnic University beginning July 1, 2022.

103 (3) WEIGHTED PERFORMANCE FUNDING MODEL METHODOLOGY.—The
104 Board of Governors shall establish benchmarks for each standard

105 established in paragraphs (2)(b) and (c). The Board of Governors
106 shall also implement a weighted scoring system to measure the
107 achievement of excellence or improvement of each university.
108 Points shall be awarded to each university for each standard
109 based on the associated benchmark achieved. Each university
110 shall be awarded a total score based on the points earned for
111 each benchmark achieved.

112 (a) A university designated as a preeminent state research
113 university shall be evaluated on the academic and research
114 excellence standards specified in s. 1001.7065(2). In the Board
115 of Governors' scoring system, each of the academic and research
116 excellence standards shall be worth twice the weight and
117 commensurate fiscal value of the maximum points achievable for
118 the standards established in paragraphs (2)(b) and (c). The
119 Board of Governors shall award each preeminent state research
120 university a total score based on the points earned for each
121 academic and research excellence standard achieved.

122 (b) The initial year of use of the performance funding
123 model shall be based on data submitted by the universities to
124 the Board of Governors for fiscal year 2012-2013 and validated
125 for accuracy by the Board of Governors. Funds for the State
126 University System performance funding model are subject to
127 annual appropriation by the Legislature in the General
128 Appropriations Act. Funds appropriated each year for the
129 performance funding model shall be held in reserve until the
130 Legislative Budget Commission approves a budget amendment

131 allocating the performance funding based on the Board of
132 Governor's scoring system. The budget amendment shall be
133 submitted to the Executive Office of the Governor by the Board
134 of Governors by July 15 annually.

135 (c) Annually by March 1, the Board of Governors shall
136 submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,
137 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives containing each
138 university's scores based on data from the prior academic year
139 and suggested changes to the standards and benchmarks used to
140 evaluate a university's performance.

141 (4) UNIVERSITY REPORT CARD.—For State University System
142 transparency and clarity of student and parental choice options,
143 the Board of Governors shall design and annually disseminate a
144 report card for each university that displays the university's
145 ranking on each of the performance funding model standards
146 applicable to that university. However, the report card for each
147 preeminent state research university must also display the
148 university's ranking on each of the standards established in
149 paragraph (2) (b).

150 (5) REGULATIONS.—The Board of Governors shall adopt
151 regulations to implement the requirements of this section.

152 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.