

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

.

Representative Rodrigues offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Florida Excellence in Higher Education Act of 2018."

Section 2. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (5) of section 1001.706, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (h) is added to that subsection, to read:

1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

(5) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY.—

(b) The Board of Governors shall develop a strategic plan specifying goals and objectives for the State University System

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14 and each constituent university, including each university's
15 contribution to overall system goals and objectives. The
16 strategic plan must:

17 1. Include performance metrics and standards common for
18 all institutions and metrics and standards unique to
19 institutions depending on institutional core missions,
20 including, but not limited to, student admission requirements,
21 retention, graduation, percentage of graduates who have attained
22 employment, percentage of graduates enrolled in continued
23 education, licensure passage, average wages of employed
24 graduates, average cost per graduate, excess hours, student loan
25 burden and default rates, faculty awards, total annual research
26 expenditures, patents, licenses and royalties, intellectual
27 property, startup companies, annual giving, endowments, and
28 well-known, highly respected national rankings for institutional
29 and program achievements.

30 2. Consider reports and recommendations of the Higher
31 Education Coordinating Council pursuant to s. 1004.015 and the
32 Articulation Coordinating Committee pursuant to s. 1007.01.

33 3. Include student enrollment and performance data
34 delineated by method of instruction, including, but not limited
35 to, traditional, online, and distance learning instruction.

36 4. Include criteria for designating baccalaureate degree
37 and master's degree programs at specified universities as high-
38 demand programs of emphasis. Fifty percent of the criteria for

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39 designation as high-demand programs of emphasis must be based on
40 achievement of performance outcome thresholds determined by the
41 Board of Governors, and 50 percent of the criteria must be based
42 on achievement of performance outcome thresholds specifically
43 linked to:

44 a. Job placement in employment of 36 hours or more per
45 week and average full-time wages of graduates of the degree
46 programs 1 year and 5 years after graduation, based in part on
47 data provided in the economic security report of employment and
48 earning outcomes produced annually pursuant to s. 445.07.

49 b. Data-driven gap analyses, conducted by the Board of
50 Governors, of the state's job market demands and the outlook for
51 jobs that require a baccalaureate or higher degree. Each state
52 university must use the gap analyses to identify internship
53 opportunities for students to benefit from mentorship by
54 industry experts, earn industry certifications, and become
55 employed in high-demand fields.

56 (c) The Board of Governors shall develop an accountability
57 plan for the State University System and each constituent
58 university. The accountability plan must address institutional
59 and system achievement of goals and objectives specified in the
60 strategic plan adopted pursuant to paragraph (b) and must be
61 submitted as part of its legislative budget request. Each
62 university shall submit, as a component of the university's
63 annual accountability plan, information on the effectiveness of

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64 its plan for improving 4-year graduation rates and the level of
65 financial assistance provided to students pursuant to paragraph
66 (h).

67 (h) By June 1, 2018, each university board of trustees
68 shall submit a comprehensive proposal to improve undergraduate
69 4-year graduation rates to the Board of Governors for
70 implementation beginning in the fall 2018 academic semester.
71 The proposal must:

72 1. Identify academic, financial, policy, and curricular
73 incentives and disincentives for timely graduation.

74 2. Outline the implementation of a proactive financial aid
75 program to enable full-time students with financial need to take
76 at least 15 credit hours in the fall and spring semesters.

77 3. Include assurances that there will be no increased cost
78 to students.

79 Section 3. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2), paragraph (c)
80 of subsection (5), and subsections (6), (7), and (8) of section
81 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

82 1001.7065 Preeminent state research universities program.—

83 (2) ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE STANDARDS.—The
84 following academic and research excellence standards are
85 established for the preeminent state research universities
86 program:

87 (d) A 4-year graduation rate of 60 percent or higher for
88 full-time, first-time-in-college students, as reported annually

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89 to the IPEDS. However, for the 2018 determination of a state
90 university's preeminence designation and the related
91 distribution of the 2018-2019 fiscal year appropriation
92 associated with preeminence and emerging preeminence, a
93 university is considered to have satisfied this graduation rate
94 measure by attaining a 6-year graduation rate of 70 percent or
95 higher by October 1, 2017, for full-time, first-time-in-college
96 students, as reported annually to the IPEDS and confirmed by the
97 Board of Governors.

98 (5) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES PROGRAM
99 SUPPORT.—

100 (c) The award of funds under this subsection is contingent
101 upon funding provided by the Legislature ~~in the General~~
102 ~~Appropriations Act~~ to support the preeminent state research
103 universities program created under this section. Funding
104 increases appropriated beyond the amounts funded in the previous
105 fiscal year shall be distributed as follows:

106 1. Each designated preeminent state research university
107 that meets the criteria in paragraph (a) shall receive an equal
108 amount of funding.

109 2. Each designated emerging preeminent state research
110 university that meets the criteria in paragraph (b) shall,
111 beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, receive an amount of
112 funding that is equal to one-fourth ~~one-half~~ of the total
113 increased amount awarded to each designated preeminent state

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114 research university.

115 ~~(6) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY SPECIAL COURSE~~
116 ~~REQUIREMENT AUTHORITY.—In order to provide a jointly shared~~
117 ~~educational experience, a university that is designated a~~
118 ~~preeminent state research university may require its incoming~~
119 ~~first-time-in-college students to take a six-credit set of~~
120 ~~unique courses specifically determined by the university and~~
121 ~~published on the university's website. The university may~~
122 ~~stipulate that credit for such courses may not be earned through~~
123 ~~any acceleration mechanism pursuant to s. 1007.27 or s. 1007.271~~
124 ~~or any other transfer credit. All accelerated credits earned up~~
125 ~~to the limits specified in ss. 1007.27 and 1007.271 shall be~~
126 ~~applied toward graduation at the student's request.~~

127 ~~(6)(7)~~ PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY FLEXIBILITY
128 AUTHORITY.—The Board of Governors is encouraged to identify and
129 grant all reasonable, feasible authority and flexibility to
130 ensure that each designated preeminent state research university
131 and each designated emerging preeminent state research
132 university is free from unnecessary restrictions.

133 ~~(7)(8)~~ PROGRAMS OF EXCELLENCE THROUGHOUT THE STATE
134 UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.—The Board of Governors shall ~~is encouraged to~~
135 establish standards and measures whereby individual
136 undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs in
137 state universities which ~~that~~ objectively reflect national
138 excellence can be identified and make recommendations to the

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139 Legislature by September 1, 2018, as to how any such programs
140 could be enhanced and promoted.

141 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 1001.71, Florida
142 Statutes, is amended to read:

143 1001.71 University boards of trustees; membership.—

144 (1) Pursuant to s. 7(c), Art. IX of the State
145 Constitution, each local constituent university shall be
146 administered by a university board of trustees comprised of 13
147 members as follows: 6 citizen members appointed by the Governor
148 subject to confirmation by the Senate; 5 citizen members
149 appointed by the Board of Governors subject to confirmation by
150 the Senate; the chair of the faculty senate or the equivalent;
151 and the president of the student body of the university. The
152 appointed members shall serve staggered 5-year terms. In order
153 to achieve staggered terms, beginning July 1, 2003, of the
154 initial appointments by the Governor, 2 members shall serve 2-
155 year terms, 3 members shall serve 3-year terms, and 1 member
156 shall serve a 5-year term and of the initial appointments by the
157 Board of Governors, 2 members shall serve 2-year terms, 2
158 members shall serve 3-year terms, and 1 member shall serve a 5-
159 year term. There shall be no state residency requirement for
160 university board members, but the Governor and the Board of
161 Governors shall consider diversity and regional representation.
162 Beginning July 2, 2020, for purposes of this subsection,
163 regional representation shall include the chair of a campus

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164 board established pursuant to s. 1004.341.

165 Section 5. Subsections (1), (2), and (4) of section
166 1001.92, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

167 1001.92 State University System Performance-Based
168 Incentive.—

169 (1) A State University System Performance-Based Incentive
170 shall be awarded to state universities using performance-based
171 metrics adopted by the Board of Governors of the State
172 University System. Beginning with the Board of Governors'
173 determination of each university's performance improvement and
174 achievement ratings for 2018, and the related distribution of
175 the 2018-2019 fiscal year appropriation, the performance-based
176 metrics must include 4-year graduation rates; retention rates;
177 postgraduation education rates; degree production;
178 affordability; postgraduation employment and salaries, including
179 wage thresholds that reflect the added value of a baccalaureate
180 degree; access rate, based on the percentage of undergraduate
181 students enrolled during the fall term who received a Pell Grant
182 during the fall term; and other metrics approved by the board in
183 a formally noticed meeting. The board shall adopt benchmarks to
184 evaluate each state university's performance on the metrics to
185 measure the state university's achievement of institutional
186 excellence or need for improvement and minimum requirements for
187 eligibility to receive performance funding. Access rate
188 benchmarks must be differentiated and scored to reflect the

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189 varying access rate levels among the state universities;
190 however, the scoring system may not include bonus points.

191 (2) Each fiscal year, the amount of funds available for
192 allocation to the state universities based on the performance-
193 based funding model shall consist of the state's investment in
194 performance funding plus institutional investments consisting of
195 funds deducted from the base funding of each state university in
196 the State University System in an amount provided by the
197 Legislature ~~in the General Appropriations Act~~. The Board of
198 Governors shall establish minimum performance funding
199 eligibility thresholds for the state's investment and the
200 institutional investments. A state university that meets the
201 minimum institutional investment eligibility threshold, but
202 fails to meet the minimum state investment eligibility
203 threshold, shall have its institutional investment restored but
204 is ineligible for a share of the state's investment in
205 performance funding. The institutional investment shall be
206 restored for each institution eligible for the state's
207 investment under the performance-based funding model.

208 (4) Distributions of performance funding, as provided in
209 this section, shall be made by the Legislature to each of the
210 state universities ~~listed in the Education and General~~
211 ~~Activities category in the General Appropriations Act~~.

212 Section 6. Section 1004.097, Florida Statutes, is created
213 to read:

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214 1004.097 Free expression on campus.-

215 (1) SHORT TITLE.-This section may be cited as the "Campus
216 Free Expression Act."

217 (2) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section, the term:

218 (a) "Commercial speech" means speech in which the
219 individual is engaged in commerce, the intended audience is
220 commercial or actual or potential consumers, and the content of
221 the message is commercial.

222 (b) "Free-speech zone" means an area on a campus of a
223 public institution of higher education which is designated for
224 the purpose of engaging in expressive activities.

225 (c) "Material and substantial disruption" means any
226 conduct that intentionally and significantly hinders another
227 person's or group's expressive rights. The term does not include
228 conduct that is protected under the First Amendment to the
229 United States Constitution and Art. I of the State Constitution,
230 including, but not limited to, lawful protests and counter-
231 protests in the outdoor areas of campus or minor, brief, or
232 fleeting nonviolent disruptions that are isolated or brief in
233 duration.

234 (d) "Outdoor areas of campus" means generally accessible
235 areas of a campus of a public institution of higher education in
236 which members of the campus community are commonly allowed,
237 including grassy areas, walkways, or other similar common areas.
238 The term does not include outdoor areas of campus to which

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239 | access is restricted.

240 | (e) "Public institution of higher education" means any
241 | public technical center, state college, state university, law
242 | school, medical school, dental school, or other Florida College
243 | System institution as defined in s. 1000.21.

244 | (3) RIGHT TO FREE-SPEECH ACTIVITIES.-

245 | (a) Expressive activities protected under the First
246 | Amendment to the United States Constitution and Art. I of the
247 | State Constitution include, but are not limited to, any lawful
248 | oral or written communication of ideas, including all forms of
249 | peaceful assembly, protests, and speeches; distributing
250 | literature; carrying signs; circulating petitions; and the
251 | recording and publication, including the Internet publication,
252 | of video or audio recorded in outdoor areas of campus.
253 | Expressive activities protected by this section do not include
254 | commercial speech.

255 | (b) A person who wishes to engage in an expressive
256 | activity in outdoor areas of campus may do so freely,
257 | spontaneously, and contemporaneously as long as the person's
258 | conduct is lawful and does not materially and substantially
259 | disrupt the functioning of the public institution of higher
260 | education or infringe upon the rights of other individuals or
261 | organizations to engage in expressive activities.

262 | (c) Outdoor areas of campus are considered traditional
263 | public forums for individuals, organizations, and guest

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264 speakers. A public institution of higher education may create
265 and enforce restrictions that are reasonable and content-neutral
266 on time, place, and manner of expression and that are narrowly
267 tailored to a significant institutional interest. Restrictions
268 must be clear and published and must and provide for ample
269 alternative means of expression.

270 (d) A public institution of higher education may not
271 designate any area of campus as a free-speech zone or otherwise
272 create policies restricting expressive activities to a
273 particular outdoor area of campus, except as provided in
274 paragraph (c).

275 (e) Students, faculty, or staff of a public institution of
276 higher education may not materially disrupt previously scheduled
277 or reserved activities on campus occurring at the same time.

278 (4) CAUSE OF ACTION.—A person whose expressive rights are
279 violated by an action prohibited under this section may bring an
280 action against a public institution of higher education in a
281 court of competent jurisdiction to obtain declaratory and
282 injunctive relief, reasonable court costs, and attorney fees.

283 Section 7. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) and paragraph (b)
284 of subsection (5) of section 1004.28, Florida Statutes, are
285 amended to read:

286 1004.28 Direct-support organizations; use of property;
287 board of directors; activities; audit; facilities.—

288 (2) USE OF PROPERTY.—

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289 (a) Each state university board of trustees is authorized
290 to permit the use of property, facilities, and personal services
291 at any state university by any university direct-support
292 organization, and, subject to the provisions of this section,
293 direct-support organizations may establish accounts with the
294 State Board of Administration for investment of funds pursuant
295 to part IV of chapter 218.

296 (b) The board of trustees, in accordance with regulations
297 ~~rules~~ and guidelines of the Board of Governors, shall prescribe
298 by regulation ~~rule~~ conditions with which a university direct-
299 support organization must comply in order to use property,
300 facilities, or personal services at any state university,
301 including that personal services must comply with s. 1012.976.
302 Such regulations ~~rules~~ shall provide for budget and audit review
303 and oversight by the board of trustees, including thresholds for
304 approval of purchases, acquisitions, projects, and issuance of
305 debt. No later than July 1, 2019, the transfer of a state
306 appropriation by the board of trustees to any direct-support
307 organization may only include funds pledged for capital
308 projects. Beginning July 1, 2019, and annually thereafter, each
309 university board of trustees shall report to the Legislature the
310 amount of state appropriations transferred to any direct-support
311 organization during the previous fiscal year, the purpose for
312 which the funds were transferred, and the remaining balance of
313 any funds transferred.

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314 (c) The board of trustees may not transfer any funds to
315 and shall not permit the use of property, facilities, or
316 personal services at any state university by any university
317 direct-support organization that does not provide equal
318 employment opportunities to all persons regardless of race,
319 color, religion, gender, age, or national origin.

320 (d) The board of trustees may not permit the use of state
321 funds for travel expenses by any university direct-support
322 organization.

323 (3) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—The chair of the university board
324 of trustees shall ~~may~~ appoint at least one a representative to
325 the board of directors and the executive committee of any
326 direct-support organization established under this section. The
327 president of the university for which the direct-support
328 organization is established, or his or her designee, shall also
329 serve on the board of directors and the executive committee of
330 any direct-support organization established to benefit that
331 university. The university board of trustees shall approve all
332 appointments to any direct-support organization not authorized
333 by this subsection.

334 (4) ACTIVITIES; RESTRICTION.—A university direct-support
335 organization is prohibited from giving, either directly or
336 indirectly, any gift to a political committee as defined in s.
337 106.011 for any purpose ~~other than those certified by a majority~~
338 ~~roll call vote of the governing board of the direct-support~~

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339 ~~organization at a regularly scheduled meeting as being directly~~
340 ~~related to the educational mission of the university.~~

341 (5) ANNUAL AUDIT; PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION; PUBLIC
342 MEETINGS EXEMPTION.—

343 (b) ~~All records of the organization~~ Other than the
344 auditor's report, management letter, any records related to the
345 expenditure of state funds, and any financial records related to
346 the expenditure of private funds for travel, all records of the
347 organization and any supplemental data requested by the Board of
348 Governors, the university board of trustees, the Auditor
349 General, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and
350 Government Accountability shall be confidential and exempt from
351 s. 119.07(1).

352 Section 8. Effective July 1, 2020, sections 1004.33 and
353 1004.34, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

354 Section 9. Section 1004.335, Florida Statutes, is created
355 to read:

356 1004.335 Accreditation consolidation of University of
357 South Florida branch campuses.—

358 (1) The University of South Florida Consolidation Planning
359 Study and Implementation Task Force is established to develop
360 recommendations to improve service to students by phasing out
361 the separate accreditation of the University of South Florida
362 St. Petersburg and the University of South Florida
363 Sarasota/Manatee, which were conferred by the Southern

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364 Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
365 (SACSCOC) pursuant to ss. 1004.33 and 1004.34, respectively.
366 (2) The task force shall consist of the following members:
367 (a) One member appointed by the chair of the Board of
368 Governors who will serve as chair;
369 (b) Two members appointed by the President of the Senate;
370 (c) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
371 Representatives;
372 (d) Two members appointed by the chair of the University
373 of South Florida board of trustees;
374 (e) One member appointed by the chair of the campus board
375 of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg;
376 (f) One member appointed by the chair of the campus board
377 of the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee;
378 (g) The regional chancellor of the University of South
379 Florida St. Petersburg;
380 (h) The regional chancellor of the University of South
381 Florida Sarasota/Manatee;
382 (i) The president of the University of South Florida or
383 his or her designee; and
384 (j) One student member appointed by the University of
385 South Florida Alumni Association.
386 (3) The Board of Trustees shall assign personnel from each
387 campus to staff the task force. The chair of the task force may
388 consult experts in university mergers and consolidations to

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389 assist the task force in developing recommendations.

390 (4) No later than February 15, 2019, the task force must
391 submit a report to the University of South Florida Board of
392 Trustees which includes, at a minimum, recommendations on the
393 following:

394 (a) Identification of specific degrees in programs of
395 strategic significance, including health care, science,
396 technology, engineering, mathematics, and other program
397 priorities to be offered at the University of South Florida St.
398 Petersburg and the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee
399 and the timeline for the development and delivery of programs on
400 each campus;

401 (b) Maintaining the unique identity of each campus and an
402 assessment of whether a separate educational mission is
403 beneficial to the future of each campus;

404 (c) Maintaining faculty input from all campuses during the
405 review and development of general education requirements to
406 reflect the distinctive identity of each campus;

407 (d) Developing the research capacity at each campus;

408 (e) Equitable distribution of programs and resources to
409 establish pathways to admission for all students who require
410 bridge programming and financial aid; and

411 (f) Establishing budget transparency and accountability
412 regarding the review and approval of student fees among
413 campuses, including fee differentials and athletic fees, to

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414 enable the identification of the equitable distribution of
415 resources to each campus, including the University of South
416 Florida Health.

417 (g) Developing and delivering integrated academic
418 programs, student and faculty governance, and administrative
419 services to better serve the students, faculty, and staff at the
420 University of South Florida College of Marine Science, the
421 University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee, and the University
422 of South Florida St. Petersburg.

423 (5) No later than March 15, 2019, the Board of Trustees of
424 the University of South Florida, after considering the
425 recommendations of the task force, must adopt and submit to the
426 Board of Governors an implementation plan that:

427 (a) Establishes a timeline for each step that is necessary
428 to terminate the separate accreditation for each campus no later
429 than June 30, 2020, so that there is no lapse in institutional
430 accreditation for any campus during the phasing-out process.

431 (b) Minimizes disruption to students attending any
432 University of South Florida campus so that the consolidation of
433 SACSCOC accreditation does not impede a student's ability to
434 graduate within 4 years after initial first-time-in-college
435 enrollment.

436 (c) Requires that, on or before July 1, 2020, the entirety
437 of the University of South Florida, including all campuses and
438 other component units of the university, operate under a single

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439 institutional accreditation from the SACSCOC.

440 (d) Requires that, on each regularly scheduled submission
441 date subsequent to July 1, 2020, the University of South Florida
442 report consolidated data for all of the university's campuses
443 and students to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data
444 System and to the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors
445 shall use the consolidated data for purposes of determining
446 eligibility for funding pursuant to ss. 1001.7065 and 1001.92.

447 (6) Notwithstanding ss. 1001.7065 and 1001.92 or any Board
448 of Governors regulation to the contrary relating to the
449 calculation of graduation rates and retention rates, a student
450 who meets all of the following criteria may not be counted by
451 the Board of Governors when calculating or confirming the
452 graduation rate or the retention rate of the University of South
453 Florida under those sections:

454 (a) The student was admitted to and initially enrolled
455 before the spring 2020 semester as a first-time-in-college
456 student at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg or the
457 University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee.

458 (b) The student voluntarily disenrolled from all
459 University of South Florida campuses without graduating before
460 the date of termination of the separate SACSCOC accreditation of
461 his or her admitting campus.

462 (7) This section expires July 1, 2020.

463 Section 10. Effective July 2, 2020, section 1004.341,

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464 Florida Statutes, is created to read:

465 1004.341 University of South Florida campuses.-

466 (1) The St. Petersburg and Sarasota/Manatee campuses of
467 the University of South Florida are hereby established.

468 (a) The St. Petersburg campus of the University of South
469 Florida shall be known as the "University of South Florida St.
470 Petersburg" and shall include any college of the University of
471 South Florida which is headquartered or primarily located in
472 Pinellas County.

473 (b) The Sarasota/Manatee campus of the University of South
474 Florida shall be known as the "University of South Florida
475 Sarasota/Manatee" and shall include any college of the
476 University of South Florida which is headquartered or primarily
477 located in Sarasota County or Manatee County.

478 (2) The University of South Florida St. Petersburg and the
479 University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee shall each have a
480 campus board and a regional chancellor. The Chair of the Board
481 of Trustees of the University of South Florida, based upon
482 recommendations of the President of the University of South
483 Florida, shall appoint:

484 (a) Seven residents of Pinellas County to serve 4-year
485 staggered terms on the Campus Board of the University of South
486 Florida St. Petersburg. A member of the Board of Trustees of the
487 University of South Florida who resides in Pinellas County shall
488 jointly serve as a member of the Board of Trustees and as chair

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489 of the campus board. The chair of the faculty senate or the
490 equivalent and the president of the student body of the campus
491 shall serve as ex officio members.

492 (b) Four residents of Manatee County and three residents
493 of Sarasota County to serve 4-year staggered terms on the Campus
494 Board of the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee. A
495 member of the Board of Trustees of the University of South
496 Florida who resides in Manatee County or Sarasota County shall
497 be selected by the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the
498 University of South Florida to serve jointly as a member of the
499 Board of Trustees and as chair of the campus board. The chair of
500 the faculty senate or the equivalent and the president of the
501 student body of the campus shall serve as ex officio members.

502
503 The Board of Trustees may reappoint a member to the campus
504 board, other than the chair, for one additional term.

505 (3) Each campus board has the powers and duties provided
506 by law, which include the authority to approve and submit an
507 annual operating plan, budget, and legislative budget request to
508 the Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida.

509 (4) The Board of Trustees shall publish and approve an
510 annual operating budget for each campus and a report on the
511 distribution of funds, including student tuition and fees,
512 preeminence funding, and performance-based funding, provided to
513 each campus.

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514 (5) The Board of Trustees must publish on its website a
515 biennial regional impact report, beginning July 1, 2021, which
516 details the specific increased investments in university
517 programs located in Pinellas, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties.
518 The report shall include, at a minimum, trend information
519 related to access to new degree programs for students in those
520 counties, any changes in student enrollment and outcomes at each
521 campus located in those counties, increased research conducted
522 and research infrastructure added in those counties, and any
523 fixed capital outlay projects or property acquisitions planned
524 or completed in those counties.

525 (6) The faculty and students at each campus shall be
526 represented in the academic and student governance structures of
527 the University of South Florida as determined by the Board of
528 Trustees.

529 Section 11. Subsection (1) of section 1004.344, Florida
530 Statutes, is amended to read:

531 1004.344 The Florida Center for the Partnerships for Arts
532 Integrated Teaching.—

533 (1) The Florida Center for the Partnerships for Arts
534 Integrated Teaching is created within the University of South
535 Florida and shall be physically headquartered at the University
536 of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee.

537 Section 12. Section 1004.6497, Florida Statutes, is
538 created to read:

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539 1004.6497 World Class Faculty and Scholar Program.—

540 (1) PURPOSE AND LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—The World Class
541 Faculty and Scholar Program is established to fund and support
542 the efforts of state universities to recruit and retain
543 exemplary faculty and research scholars. It is the intent of the
544 Legislature to elevate the national competitiveness of Florida's
545 state universities through faculty and scholar recruitment and
546 retention.

547 (2) INVESTMENTS.—Retention, recruitment, and recognition
548 efforts, activities, and investments may include, but are not
549 limited to, investments in research-centric cluster hires,
550 faculty research and research commercialization efforts,
551 instructional and research infrastructure, undergraduate student
552 participation in research, professional development, awards for
553 outstanding performance, and postdoctoral fellowships.

554 (3) FUNDING AND USE.—Funding for the program shall be as
555 provided by the Legislature. Each state university shall use the
556 funds only for the purpose and investments authorized under this
557 section. These funds may not be used to construct buildings.

558 (4) ACCOUNTABILITY.—By March 15 of each year, the Board of
559 Governors shall provide to the Governor, the President of the
560 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report
561 summarizing information from the universities in the State
562 University System, including, but not limited to:

563 (a) Specific expenditure information as it relates to the

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564 investments identified in subsection (2).

565 (b) The impact of those investments in elevating the
566 national competitiveness of the universities, specifically
567 relating to:

568 1. The success in recruiting research faculty and the
569 resulting research funding;

570 2. The 4-year graduation rate for undergraduate students;

571 3. The number of undergraduate courses offered with fewer
572 than 50 students; and

573 4. The increase in national academic standing of targeted
574 programs, specifically advancement in ranking of the targeted
575 programs among top 50 universities in well-known and highly
576 respected national public university rankings, including, but
577 not limited to, the U.S. News and World Report rankings, which
578 reflect national preeminence, using the most recent rankings.

579 Section 13. Section 1004.6498, Florida Statutes, is
580 created to read:

581 1004.6498 State University Professional and Graduate
582 Degree Excellence Program.—

583 (1) PURPOSE.—The State University Professional and
584 Graduate Degree Excellence Program is established to fund and
585 support the efforts of state universities to enhance the quality
586 and excellence of professional and graduate schools and degree
587 programs in medicine, law, and business and expand the economic
588 impact of state universities.

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589 (2) INVESTMENTS.—Quality improvement efforts may include,
590 but are not limited to, targeted investments in faculty,
591 students, research, infrastructure, and other strategic
592 endeavors to elevate the national and global prominence of state
593 university medicine, law, and graduate-level business programs.

594 (3) FUNDING AND USE.—Funding for the program shall be as
595 provided by the Legislature. Each state university shall use the
596 funds only for the purpose and investments authorized under this
597 section. These funds may not be used to construct buildings.

598 (4) ACCOUNTABILITY.—By March 15 of each year, the Board of
599 Governors shall provide to the Governor, the President of the
600 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report
601 summarizing information from the universities in the State
602 University System, including, but not limited to:

603 (a) Specific expenditure information as it relates to the
604 investments identified in subsection (2).

605 (b) The impact of those investments in elevating the
606 national and global prominence of the state university medicine,
607 law, and graduate-level business programs, specifically relating
608 to:

609 1. The first-time pass rate on the United States Medical
610 Licensing Examination;

611 2. The first-time pass rate on The Florida Bar
612 Examination;

613 3. The percentage of graduates enrolled or employed at a

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614 wage threshold that reflects the added value of a graduate-level
615 business degree;

616 4. The advancement in the rankings of the state university
617 medicine, law, and graduate-level programs in well-known and
618 highly respected national graduate-level university rankings,
619 including, but not limited to, the U.S. News and World Report
620 rankings, which reflect national preeminence, using the most
621 recent rankings; and

622 5. The added economic benefit of the universities to the
623 state.

624 Section 14. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) of section
625 1008.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

626 1008.30 Common placement testing for public postsecondary
627 education.—

628 (5)

629 (c) A university board of trustees may contract with a
630 Florida College System institution board of trustees for the
631 Florida College System institution to provide developmental
632 education on the state university campus. Any state university
633 in which the percentage of incoming students requiring
634 developmental education equals or exceeds the average percentage
635 of such students for the Florida College System may offer
636 developmental education without contracting with a Florida
637 College System institution; however, any state university
638 offering college-preparatory instruction as of January 1, 1996,

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639 may continue to provide developmental education instruction as
640 defined in s. 1008.02(1) ~~such services.~~

641 Section 15. Subsection (7) of section 1009.22, Florida
642 Statutes, is amended to read:

643 1009.22 Workforce education postsecondary student fees.—

644 (7) Each district school board and Florida College System
645 institution board of trustees is authorized to establish a
646 separate fee for technology, not to exceed 5 percent of tuition
647 per credit hour or credit-hour equivalent for resident students
648 and not to exceed 5 percent of tuition and the out-of-state fee
649 per credit hour or credit-hour equivalent for nonresident
650 students. Revenues generated from the technology fee shall be
651 used to enhance instructional technology resources for students
652 and faculty ~~and shall not be included in any award under the~~
653 ~~Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.~~ Fifty percent of
654 technology fee revenues may be pledged by a Florida College
655 System institution board of trustees as a dedicated revenue
656 source for the repayment of debt, including lease-purchase
657 agreements, not to exceed the useful life of the asset being
658 financed. Revenues generated from the technology fee may not be
659 bonded.

660 Section 16. Subsection (10) of section 1009.23, Florida
661 Statutes, is amended to read:

662 1009.23 Florida College System institution student fees.—

663 (10) Each Florida College System institution board of

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664 trustees is authorized to establish a separate fee for
665 technology, which may not exceed 5 percent of tuition per credit
666 hour or credit-hour equivalent for resident students and may not
667 exceed 5 percent of tuition and the out-of-state fee per credit
668 hour or credit-hour equivalent for nonresident students.
669 Revenues generated from the technology fee shall be used to
670 enhance instructional technology resources for students and
671 faculty. The technology fee may apply to both college credit and
672 developmental education ~~and shall not be included in any award~~
673 ~~under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.~~ Fifty
674 percent of technology fee revenues may be pledged by a Florida
675 College System institution board of trustees as a dedicated
676 revenue source for the repayment of debt, including lease-
677 purchase agreements, not to exceed the useful life of the asset
678 being financed. Revenues generated from the technology fee may
679 not be bonded.

680 Section 17. Subsection (13), paragraph (r) of subsection
681 (14), paragraphs (a), (b), and (e) of subsection (16), and
682 subsection (20) of section 1009.24, Florida Statutes, are
683 amended to read:

684 1009.24 State university student fees.—

685 (13) Each university board of trustees may establish a
686 technology fee of up to 5 percent of the tuition per credit
687 hour. The revenue from this fee shall be used to enhance
688 instructional technology resources for students and faculty. ~~The~~

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689 ~~technology fee may not be included in any award under the~~
690 ~~Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program established pursuant~~
691 ~~to ss. 1009.53-1009.538.~~

692 (14) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (15), each
693 university board of trustees is authorized to establish the
694 following fees:

695 (r) Traffic and parking fines, charges for parking decals,
696 and transportation access fees. Only universitywide
697 transportation access fees may be included in any state
698 financial assistance award authorized under part III of this
699 chapter, as specifically authorized by law or the General
700 Appropriations Act.

701
702 With the exception of housing rental rates and except as
703 otherwise provided, fees assessed pursuant to paragraphs (h)-(s)
704 shall be based on reasonable costs of services. The Board of
705 Governors shall adopt regulations and timetables necessary to
706 implement the fees and fines authorized under this subsection.
707 The fees assessed under this subsection may be used for debt
708 only as authorized under s. 1010.62.

709 (16) Each university board of trustees may establish a
710 tuition differential for undergraduate courses upon receipt of
711 approval from the Board of Governors. However, beginning July 1,
712 2014, the Board of Governors may only approve the establishment
713 of or an increase in tuition differential for a state research

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714 university designated as a preeminent state research university
715 pursuant to s. 1001.7065(3). The tuition differential shall
716 promote improvements in the quality of undergraduate education
717 and shall provide financial aid to undergraduate students who
718 exhibit financial need.

719 (a) Seventy percent of the revenues from the tuition
720 differential shall be expended for purposes of undergraduate
721 education. Such expenditures may include, but are not limited
722 to, increasing course offerings, improving graduation rates,
723 increasing the percentage of undergraduate students who are
724 taught by faculty, decreasing student-faculty ratios, providing
725 salary increases for faculty who have a history of excellent
726 teaching in undergraduate courses, improving the efficiency of
727 the delivery of undergraduate education through academic
728 advisement and counseling, and reducing the percentage of
729 students who graduate with excess hours. This expenditure for
730 undergraduate education may not be used to pay the salaries of
731 graduate teaching assistants. Except as otherwise provided in
732 this subsection, the remaining 30 percent of the revenues from
733 the tuition differential, or the equivalent amount of revenue
734 from private sources, shall be expended to provide financial aid
735 to undergraduate students who exhibit financial need, including
736 students who are scholarship recipients under s. 1009.984, to
737 meet the cost of university attendance. This expenditure for
738 need-based financial aid shall not supplant the amount of need-

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739 based aid provided to undergraduate students in the preceding
740 fiscal year from financial aid fee revenues, the direct
741 appropriation for financial assistance provided to state
742 universities in the General Appropriations Act, or from private
743 sources. The total amount of tuition differential waived under
744 subparagraph (b)7. ~~(b)8.~~ may be included in calculating the
745 expenditures for need-based financial aid to undergraduate
746 students required by this subsection. If the entire tuition and
747 fee costs of resident students who have applied for and received
748 Pell Grant funds have been met and the university has excess
749 funds remaining from the 30 percent of the revenues from the
750 tuition differential required to be used to assist students who
751 exhibit financial need, the university may expend the excess
752 portion in the same manner as required for the other 70 percent
753 of the tuition differential revenues.

754 (b) Each tuition differential is subject to the following
755 conditions:

756 1. The tuition differential may be assessed on one or more
757 undergraduate courses or on all undergraduate courses at a state
758 university.

759 2. The tuition differential may vary by course or courses,
760 by campus or center location, and by institution. Each
761 university board of trustees shall strive to maintain and
762 increase enrollment in degree programs related to math, science,
763 high technology, and other state or regional high-need fields

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764 when establishing tuition differentials by course.

765 3. For each state university that is designated as a
766 preeminent state research university by the Board of Governors,
767 pursuant to s. 1001.7065, the aggregate sum of tuition and the
768 tuition differential may be increased by no more than 6 percent
769 of the total charged for the aggregate sum of these fees in the
770 preceding fiscal year. The tuition differential may be increased
771 if the university meets or exceeds performance standard targets
772 for that university established annually by the Board of
773 Governors for the following performance standards, amounting to
774 no more than a 2-percent increase in the tuition differential
775 for each performance standard:

776 a. An increase in the 4-year ~~6-year~~ graduation rate for
777 full-time, first-time-in-college students, as reported annually
778 to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System.

779 b. An increase in the total annual research expenditures.

780 c. An increase in the total patents awarded by the United
781 States Patent and Trademark Office for the most recent years.

782 4. The aggregate sum of undergraduate tuition and fees per
783 credit hour, including the tuition differential, may not exceed
784 the national average of undergraduate tuition and fees at 4-year
785 degree-granting public postsecondary educational institutions.

786 ~~5. The tuition differential shall not be included in any~~
787 ~~award under the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program~~
788 ~~established pursuant to ss. 1009.53-1009.538.~~

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789 ~~5.6.~~ Beneficiaries having prepaid tuition contracts
790 pursuant to s. 1009.98(2)(b) which were in effect on July 1,
791 2007, and which remain in effect, are exempt from the payment of
792 the tuition differential.

793 ~~6.7.~~ The tuition differential may not be charged to any
794 student who was in attendance at the university before July 1,
795 2007, and who maintains continuous enrollment.

796 ~~7.8.~~ The tuition differential may be waived by the
797 university for students who meet the eligibility requirements
798 for the Florida public student assistance grant established in
799 s. 1009.50.

800 ~~8.9.~~ Subject to approval by the Board of Governors, the
801 tuition differential authorized pursuant to this subsection may
802 take effect with the 2009 fall term.

803 (e) The Board of Governors shall submit a report to the
804 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
805 Representatives, and the Governor describing the implementation
806 of the provisions of this subsection no later than February 1 of
807 each year. The report shall summarize proposals received by the
808 board during the preceding fiscal year and actions taken by the
809 board in response to such proposals. In addition, the report
810 shall provide the following information for each university that
811 has been approved by the board to assess a tuition differential:

812 1. The course or courses for which the tuition
813 differential was assessed and the amount assessed.

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814 2. The total revenues generated by the tuition
815 differential.

816 3. With respect to waivers authorized under subparagraph
817 (b)7. ~~(b)8.~~, the number of students eligible for a waiver, the
818 number of students receiving a waiver, and the value of waivers
819 provided.

820 4. Detailed expenditures of the revenues generated by the
821 tuition differential.

822 5. Changes in retention rates, graduation rates, the
823 percentage of students graduating with more than 110 percent of
824 the hours required for graduation, pass rates on licensure
825 examinations, the number of undergraduate course offerings, the
826 percentage of undergraduate students who are taught by faculty,
827 student-faculty ratios, and the average salaries of faculty who
828 teach undergraduate courses.

829 (20) Each state university shall publicly notice and
830 notify all enrolled students of any proposal to change ~~increase~~
831 tuition or fees at least 28 days before its consideration at a
832 board of trustees meeting. The notice must:

833 (a) Include the date and time of the meeting at which the
834 proposal will be considered.

835 (b) Specifically outline the details of existing tuition
836 and fees, the rationale for the proposed change ~~increase~~, and
837 how the funds from the proposed change ~~increase~~ will be used.

838 (c) Be posted on the university's website and issued in a

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839 | press release.

840 | Section 18. Subsection (9) of section 1009.53, Florida
841 | Statutes, is amended to read:

842 | 1009.53 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.—

843 | (9) A student may use a Florida Academic Scholars ~~an~~ award
844 | for summer term enrollment beginning in the 2018 summer term, as
845 | funded by the Legislature. A student may use a Florida Medallion
846 | Scholars award for summer term enrollment beginning in the 2019
847 | summer term, as funded by the Legislature. A student may use
848 | other Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program awards for
849 | summer term enrollment, if funded by the Legislature ~~if funds~~
850 | ~~are available.~~

851 | Section 19. Subsection (2) of section 1009.534, Florida
852 | Statutes, is amended to read:

853 | 1009.534 Florida Academic Scholars award.—

854 | (2) A Florida Academic Scholar who is enrolled in a
855 | certificate, diploma, associate, or baccalaureate degree program
856 | at a public or nonpublic postsecondary education institution is
857 | eligible, beginning in the 2017-2018 academic year, for an award
858 | equal to the amount necessary to pay 100 percent of tuition and
859 | fees established under ss. 1009.22(3), (5), (6), and (7);
860 | 1009.23(3), (4), (7), (8), (10), and (11); and 1009.24(4), (7)-
861 | (13), (14)(r), and (16), as applicable, and is eligible for an
862 | additional \$300 each fall and spring academic semester or the
863 | equivalent for textbooks, ~~specified in the General~~

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864 ~~Appropriations Act~~ to assist with the payment of educational
865 expenses.

866 Section 20. Subsection (2) of section 1009.535, Florida
867 Statutes, is amended to read:

868 1009.535 Florida Medallion Scholars award.—

869 (2) A Florida Medallion Scholar who is enrolled in a
870 certificate, diploma, associate, or baccalaureate degree program
871 at a public or nonpublic postsecondary education institution is
872 eligible, beginning in the fall 2018 semester, for an award
873 equal to the amount necessary to pay 75 percent of tuition and
874 fees established under ss. 1009.22(3), (5), (6), and (7);
875 1009.23(3), (4), (7), (8), (10), and (11); and 1009.24(4), (7)-
876 (13), (14)(r), and (16), as applicable, ~~specified in the General~~
877 ~~Appropriations Act~~ to assist with the payment of educational
878 expenses.

879 Section 21. Subsections (1), (2), and (4) and paragraph
880 (c) of subsection (5) of section 1009.701, Florida Statutes, are
881 amended to read:

882 1009.701 First Generation Matching Grant Program.—

883 (1) The First Generation Matching Grant Program is created
884 to enable each state university and Florida College System
885 institution to provide donors with a matching grant incentive
886 for contributions that will create grant-based student financial
887 aid for undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need
888 and whose parents, as defined in s. 1009.21(1), have not earned

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889 a baccalaureate degree. In the case of any individual who
890 regularly resided with and received support from only one
891 parent, an individual whose only such parent did not complete a
892 baccalaureate degree would also be eligible.

893 (2) Funds appropriated by the Legislature for the program
894 shall be allocated by the Office of Student Financial Assistance
895 to match private contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis;
896 however, beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, such funds
897 shall be allocated at a ratio of \$2 of state funds to \$1 of
898 private contributions. Contributions made to a state university
899 or a Florida College System institution and pledged for the
900 purposes of this section are eligible for state matching funds
901 appropriated for this program and are not eligible for any other
902 state matching grant program. Pledged contributions are not
903 eligible for matching prior to the actual collection of the
904 total funds. The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall
905 reserve a proportionate allocation of the total appropriated
906 funds for each state university and Florida College System
907 institution on the basis of full-time equivalent enrollment.
908 Funds that remain unmatched as of December 1 shall be
909 reallocated to state universities and colleges that have
910 remaining unmatched private contributions for the program on the
911 basis of full-time equivalent enrollment.

912 (4) Each participating state university and Florida
913 College System institution shall establish an application

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914 process, determine student eligibility for initial and renewal
915 awards in conformance with subsection (5), identify the amount
916 awarded to each recipient, and notify recipients of the amount
917 of their awards.

918 (5) In order to be eligible to receive a grant pursuant to
919 this section, an applicant must:

920 (c) Be accepted at a state university or Florida College
921 System institution.

922 Section 22. Subsections (2), (4), and (5) of section
923 1009.893, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

924 1009.893 Benacquisto Scholarship Program.—

925 (2) The Benacquisto Scholarship Program is created to
926 reward a ~~any Florida~~ high school graduate who receives
927 recognition as a National Merit Scholar or National Achievement
928 Scholar and who initially enrolls in the 2014-2015 academic year
929 or, later, in a baccalaureate degree program at an eligible
930 Florida public or independent postsecondary educational
931 institution.

932 (4) In order to be eligible for an award under the
933 scholarship program, a student must meet the requirements of
934 paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).÷

935 (a) A student who is a resident of this state, ~~Be a state~~
936 ~~resident~~ as determined in s. 1009.40 and rules of the State
937 Board of Education, must:÷

938 1. ~~(b)~~ Earn a standard Florida high school diploma or its

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939 equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s. 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282,
940 or s. 1003.435 unless:

941 ~~a.1.~~ The student completes a home education program
942 according to s. 1002.41; or

943 ~~b.2.~~ The student earns a high school diploma from a non-
944 Florida school while living with a parent who is on military or
945 public service assignment out of this state;

946 ~~2.(e)~~ Be accepted by and enroll in a Florida public or
947 independent postsecondary educational institution that is
948 regionally accredited; and

949 ~~3.(d)~~ Be enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree
950 program at an eligible regionally accredited Florida public or
951 independent postsecondary educational institution during the
952 fall academic term following high school graduation.

953 (b) A student who initially enrolls in a baccalaureate
954 degree program in the 2018-2019 academic year or later and who
955 is not a resident of this state, as determined in s. 1009.40 and
956 rules of the State Board of Education, must:

957 1. Physically reside in this state on or near the campus
958 of the postsecondary educational institution in which the
959 student is enrolled;

960 2. Earn a high school diploma from a school outside
961 Florida which is comparable to a standard Florida high school
962 diploma or its equivalent pursuant to s. 1002.3105, s.
963 1003.4281, s. 1003.4282, or s. 1003.435 or must complete a home

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964 education program in another state; and

965 3. Be accepted by and enrolled full-time in a
966 baccalaureate degree program at an eligible regionally
967 accredited Florida public or independent postsecondary
968 educational institution during the fall academic term following
969 high school graduation.

970 (5) (a) 1. An eligible student who meets the requirements of
971 paragraph (4) (a), who is a National Merit Scholar or National
972 Achievement Scholar, and who attends a Florida public
973 postsecondary educational institution shall receive a
974 scholarship award equal to the institutional cost of attendance
975 minus the sum of the student's Florida Bright Futures
976 Scholarship and National Merit Scholarship or National
977 Achievement Scholarship.

978 2. An eligible student who meets the requirements of
979 paragraph (4) (b), who is a National Merit Scholar, and who
980 attends a Florida public postsecondary educational institution
981 shall receive a scholarship award equal to the institutional
982 cost of attendance for a resident of this state minus the
983 student's National Merit Scholarship. Such student is exempt
984 from the payment of out-of-state fees.

985 (b) An eligible student who is a National Merit Scholar or
986 National Achievement Scholar and who attends a Florida
987 independent postsecondary educational institution shall receive
988 a scholarship award equal to the highest cost of attendance for

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989 a resident of this state enrolled at a Florida public
990 university, as reported by the Board of Governors of the State
991 University System, minus the sum of the student's Florida Bright
992 Futures Scholarship and National Merit Scholarship or National
993 Achievement Scholarship.

994 Section 23. Section 1009.894, Florida Statutes, is created
995 to read:

996 1009.894 Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program.-
997 The Legislature recognizes the vital contribution of farmworkers
998 to the economy of this state. The Florida Farmworker Student
999 Scholarship Program is created to provide scholarships for
1000 farmworkers, as defined in s. 420.503, and the children of such
1001 farmworkers.

1002 (1) The Department of Education shall administer the
1003 Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship Program according to
1004 rules and procedures established by the State Board of
1005 Education. Up to 50 scholarships shall be awarded annually
1006 according to the criteria established in subsection (2) and
1007 contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature.

1008 (2) (a) To be eligible for an initial scholarship, a
1009 student must, at a minimum:

1010 1. Have a resident status as required by s. 1009.40 and
1011 rules of the State Board of Education;

1012 2. Earn a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average
1013 of 3.5 for all high school courses creditable toward a diploma;

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1014 3. Complete a minimum of 30 hours of community service;
1015 and

1016 4. Have at least a 90-percent attendance rate and not have
1017 had any disciplinary action brought against him or her, as
1018 documented on the student's high school transcript.

1019
1020 For purposes of this section, students who are undocumented for
1021 federal immigration purposes are not eligible for an award.

1022 (b) The department shall rank eligible initial applicants
1023 for the purposes of awarding scholarships based on need, as
1024 determined by the department.

1025 (c) To renew a scholarship awarded pursuant to this
1026 section, a student must maintain at least a cumulative grade
1027 point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale for college
1028 coursework.

1029 (3) A scholarship recipient must enroll in a minimum of 12
1030 credit hours per term, or the equivalent, at a public
1031 postsecondary educational institution in this state to receive
1032 funding.

1033 (4) A scholarship recipient may receive an award for a
1034 maximum of 100 percent of the number of credit hours required to
1035 complete an associate or baccalaureate degree program or receive
1036 an award for a maximum of 100 percent of the credit hours or
1037 clock hours required to complete up to 90 credit hours of a
1038 program that terminates in a career certificate. The scholarship

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1039 recipient is eligible for an award equal to the amount required
1040 to pay the tuition and fees established under ss. 1009.22(3),
1041 (5), (6), and (7); 1009.23(3), (4), (7), (8), (10), and (11);
1042 and 1009.24(4), (7)-(13), (14)(r), and (16), as applicable, at a
1043 public postsecondary educational institution in this state.

1044 Renewal scholarship awards must take precedence over new
1045 scholarship awards in a year in which funds are not sufficient
1046 to accommodate both initial and renewal awards. The scholarship
1047 must be prorated for any such year.

1048 (5) Subject to appropriation by the Legislature, the
1049 department shall annually issue awards from the scholarship
1050 program. Before the registration period each semester, the
1051 department shall transmit payment for each award to the
1052 president or director of the postsecondary educational
1053 institution, or his or her representative. However, the
1054 department may withhold payment if the receiving institution
1055 fails to submit the following reports or make the following
1056 refunds to the department:

1057 (a) Each institution shall certify to the department the
1058 eligibility status of each student to receive a disbursement
1059 within 30 days before the end of its regular registration
1060 period, inclusive of a drop and add period. An institution is
1061 not required to reevaluate the student eligibility after the end
1062 of the drop and add period.

1063 (b) An institution that receives funds from the

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1064 scholarship program must certify to the department the amount of
1065 funds disbursed to each student and remit to the department any
1066 undisbursed advance within 60 days after the end of the regular
1067 registration period.

1068 (6) The department shall allocate funds to the appropriate
1069 institutions and collect and maintain data regarding the
1070 scholarship program within the student financial assistance
1071 database as specified in s. 1009.94.

1072 Section 24. Paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (10) of
1073 section 1009.98, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
1074 paragraphs (f) and (g), respectively, and a new paragraph (e) is
1075 added to that subsection to read:

1076 1009.98 Stanley G. Tate Florida Prepaid College Program.—

1077 (10) PAYMENTS ON BEHALF OF QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES.—

1078 (e) Notwithstanding the number of credit hours used by a
1079 state university to assess the amount for registration fees,
1080 tuition, tuition differential, or local fees, the amount paid by
1081 the board to any state university on behalf of a qualified
1082 beneficiary of an advance payment contract purchased before July
1083 1, 2024, may not exceed the number of credit hours taken by that
1084 qualified beneficiary at the state university.

1085 Section 25. The Division of Law Revision and Information
1086 is directed to substitute the term "Effective Access to Student
1087 Education Grant Program" for "Florida Resident Access Grant
1088 Program" and the term "Effective Access to Student Education

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1089 grant" for "Florida resident access grant" wherever those terms
1090 appear in the Florida Statutes.

1091 Section 26. By October 1, 2019, the Board of Governors, in
1092 consultation with the state universities, shall submit to the
1093 Legislature recommendations for future consideration on the most
1094 efficient process to achieve a complete performance-based
1095 continuous improvement model focused on outcomes that provides
1096 for the equitable distribution of performance funds. In addition
1097 to recommendations submitted by the Board of Governors, the
1098 Legislature shall review recommendations from an independent
1099 entity that consults with the Board of Governors for the purpose
1100 of receiving input on behalf of the state university system.
1101 Implementation of any recommendations shall not occur unless
1102 affirmatively enacted by the Legislature.

1103 Section 27. For the 2018-2019 fiscal year, \$121,776,631 in
1104 recurring funds from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund and
1105 \$1,736,404 in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund are
1106 appropriated to the Department of Education to implement this
1107 act. Of these funds, \$1,737,223 from the Educational Enhancement
1108 Trust Fund shall be used for 2019 summer term awards for Florida
1109 Bright Futures Academic Scholars, \$28,416,515 from the
1110 Educational Enhancement Trust Fund shall be used for 2019 summer
1111 term awards for Florida Bright Futures Medallion Scholars,
1112 \$91,622,893 from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund shall be
1113 used for Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program awards,

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1114 \$1,236,404 from the General Revenue Fund shall be used for the
 1115 Benacquisto Scholarship Program, and \$500,000 from the General
 1116 Revenue Fund shall be used for the Florida Farmworker Student
 1117 Scholarship Program.

1118 Section 28. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
 1119 act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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T I T L E A M E N D M E N T

1123

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

1124

A bill to be entitled

1125

An act relating to higher education; providing a short

1126

title; amending s. 1001.706, F.S.; requiring state

1127

universities to identify internship opportunities in

1128

high-demand fields; revising requirements for state

1129

university accountability plans; requiring state

1130

university boards of trustees to submit a proposal to

1131

improve graduation rates by a specified date;

1132

providing requirements for such proposals; amending s.

1133

1001.7065, F.S.; revising the preeminent state

1134

research universities program graduation rate

1135

requirements and funding distributions; specifying

1136

funding as provided by the Legislature; deleting the

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authority for such universities to stipulate a special

1138

course requirement for incoming students; requiring

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1139 the Board of Governors to establish certain standards
1140 and make recommendations by a specified date; amending
1141 s. 1001.71, F.S.; revising the membership of
1142 university boards of trustees; amending s. 1001.92,
1143 F.S.; requiring certain performance-based metrics to
1144 include specified graduation rates and access
1145 benchmarks; specifying funding as provided by the
1146 Legislature; creating s. 1004.097, F.S.; providing a
1147 short title; providing definitions; specifying
1148 protected expressive activities; authorizing a person
1149 to engage in expressive activities under certain
1150 circumstances; authorizing a public institution of
1151 higher education to create and enforce certain
1152 restrictions relating to expressive activities on
1153 campus; prohibiting certain actions relating to
1154 expressive activities on campus; providing a cause of
1155 action for violations; amending s. 1004.28, F.S.;
1156 requiring a state university board of trustees to
1157 prescribe certain regulations to limit the services,
1158 activities, and expenses of its direct-support
1159 organizations; providing requirements for transfer of
1160 state appropriations; prohibiting transfer of funds to
1161 certain university direct-support organizations;
1162 requiring the chair of the board of trustees to
1163 appoint at least one representative to the board of

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1164 directors and executive committee of a university
1165 direct-support organization; requiring the board of
1166 trustees to approve certain appointments; deleting an
1167 exception to the prohibition against direct-support
1168 organizations donating gifts to a political committee;
1169 requiring the disclosure of certain financial
1170 documents; providing for the future repeal of ss.
1171 1004.33 and 1004.34, F.S., relating to the University
1172 of South Florida St. Petersburg and Sarasota/Manatee,
1173 respectively; creating s. 1004.335, F.S.; creating the
1174 University of South Florida Consolidation Planning
1175 Study and Implementation Task Force for certain
1176 purposes; providing for membership and staffing;
1177 requiring a report to the University of South Florida
1178 Board of Trustees; requiring the University of South
1179 Florida Board of Trustees to adopt and submit a plan
1180 to phase out the separate accreditations of the
1181 University of South Florida St. Petersburg and the
1182 University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee by a
1183 specified date; providing requirements for such plan;
1184 providing that certain students may not be included in
1185 specified graduation and retention rate calculations;
1186 creating s. 1004.341, F.S.; establishing the St.
1187 Petersburg and Sarasota/Manatee campuses of the
1188 University of South Florida; requiring campus boards

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1189 and regional chancellors; establishing membership
1190 requirements and powers and duties of campus boards;
1191 providing budget and reporting requirements for the
1192 University of South Florida Board of Trustees;
1193 requiring faculty and student representation from each
1194 campus in the academic and student governance
1195 structures of the University of South Florida;
1196 amending s. 1004.344; requiring the Florida Center for
1197 the Partnerships for Arts Integrated Teaching to be
1198 located at a certain branch campus; creating s.
1199 1004.6497, F.S.; establishing the World Class Faculty
1200 and Scholar Program; providing purpose and intent;
1201 specifying authorized investments and activities;
1202 specifying funding requirements; requiring an annual
1203 report to the Governor and Legislature; creating s.
1204 1004.6498, F.S.; establishing the State University
1205 Professional and Graduate Degree Excellence Program;
1206 providing purpose; specifying authorized investments;
1207 specifying funding requirements; requiring an annual
1208 report to the Governor and Legislature; amending s.
1209 1008.30, F.S.; authorizing certain state universities
1210 to continue to provide developmental education
1211 instruction; amending ss. 1009.22 and 1009.23, F.S.;
1212 removing the prohibition on the inclusion of certain
1213 technology fees in the funds for the Florida Bright

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1214 Futures Scholarship Program award; amending s.
1215 1009.24, F.S.; removing the prohibition on the
1216 inclusion of a technology fee and a tuition
1217 differential fee in the funds for the Florida Bright
1218 Futures Scholarship Program award; specifying
1219 transportation access fees authorized for inclusion in
1220 state financial assistance awards; requiring specified
1221 notification of tuition or fee changes; amending s.
1222 1009.53, F.S.; authorizing students to use certain
1223 Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program awards for
1224 summer term enrollment beginning in specified years
1225 under certain circumstances; amending s. 1009.534,
1226 F.S.; authorizing Florida Academic Scholars award
1227 amounts to cover tuition, fees, textbooks, and other
1228 educational expenses; amending s. 1009.535, F.S.;
1229 authorizing Florida Medallion Scholars award amounts
1230 to cover specified tuition and fees; amending s.
1231 1009.701, F.S.; revising the state-to-private match
1232 requirement for contributions to the First Generation
1233 Matching Grant Program beginning in a specified fiscal
1234 year; extending the program to include Florida College
1235 System institution students; amending s. 1009.893,
1236 F.S.; extending coverage of the Benacquisto
1237 Scholarship Program to include tuition and fees for
1238 qualified nonresident students; creating s. 1009.894,

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1239 F.S.; creating the Florida Farmworker Student
1240 Scholarship Program; providing purpose; requiring the
1241 Department of Education to administer the scholarship
1242 program; providing student eligibility criteria;
1243 specifying award amounts and distributions; amending
1244 s. 1009.98, F.S.; providing that certain payments from
1245 the Florida Prepaid College Board to a state
1246 university on behalf of a qualified beneficiary may
1247 not exceed a specified amount; providing a directive
1248 to the Division of Law Revision and Information;
1249 requiring the Board of Governors, in consultation with
1250 the state universities, to submit recommendations for
1251 a process to achieve a complete performance-based
1252 continuous improvement funding model; requiring the
1253 Legislature to review recommendations from an
1254 independent entity; requiring such entity to consult
1255 with the Board of Governors; requiring legislative
1256 action before implementation of any recommendations;
1257 providing appropriations; providing effective dates.

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