



415858

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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Floor: WD/2R

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04/24/2019 08:56 AM

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Senator Stargel moved the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Between lines 515 and 516

insert:

Section 5. Present subsection (7) of section 1004.335, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (8), a new subsection (7) is added to that section, and subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (g) of subsection (4), subsection (5), and paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of that section are amended, to read:

1004.335 Accreditation consolidation of University of South



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12 Florida branch campuses.—

13 (1) The University of South Florida Consolidation Planning  
14 Study and Implementation Task Force is established to develop  
15 recommendations to improve service to students by phasing out  
16 the separate accreditation of the University of South Florida  
17 St. Petersburg branch campus and the University of South Florida  
18 Sarasota/Manatee branch campus, which were conferred by the  
19 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on  
20 Colleges (SACSCOC) pursuant to ss. 1004.33 and 1004.34,  
21 respectively.

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

26 (a) Identification of specific degrees in programs of  
27 strategic significance, including health care, science,  
28 technology, engineering, mathematics, and other program  
29 priorities to be offered at the University of South Florida St.  
30 Petersburg branch campus and the University of South Florida  
31 Sarasota/Manatee branch campus and the timeline for the  
32 development and delivery of programs on each campus;

33 (g) Developing and delivering integrated academic programs,  
34 student and faculty governance, and administrative services to  
35 better serve the students, faculty, and staff at the University  
36 of South Florida College of Marine Science, the University of  
37 South Florida Sarasota/Manatee branch campus, and the University  
38 of South Florida St. Petersburg branch campus.

39 (5) No later than March 15, 2019, the Board of Trustees of  
40 the University of South Florida, after considering the



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41 recommendations of the task force, must adopt and submit to the  
42 Board of Governors an implementation plan that:

43 (a) Establishes a timeline for each step that is necessary  
44 to terminate the separate accreditation for each campus no later  
45 than June 30, 2020, while maintaining branch campus status for  
46 both campuses, so that there is no lapse in institutional  
47 accreditation for any campus during the phasing-out process.

48 (b) Minimizes disruption to students attending ~~any~~ the  
49 University of South Florida or any of its branch campuses ~~campus~~  
50 so that the consolidation of SACSCOC accreditation does not  
51 impede a student's ability to graduate within 4 years after  
52 initial first-time-in-college enrollment.

53 (c) Requires that, on or before July 1, 2020, the entirety  
54 of the University of South Florida, including all branch  
55 campuses and other component units of the university, operate  
56 under a single institutional accreditation from the SACSCOC.

57 (d) Requires that, on each regularly scheduled submission  
58 date subsequent to July 1, 2020, the University of South Florida  
59 report consolidated data for all of the university's campuses  
60 and students to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data  
61 System and to the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors  
62 shall use the consolidated data for purposes of determining  
63 eligibility for funding pursuant to ss. 1001.7065 and 1001.92.  
64 However, if the University of South Florida meets the deadline  
65 outlined in paragraph (c) and the University of South Florida  
66 Sarasota/Manatee and the University of South Florida St.  
67 Petersburg maintain branch campus status as defined in  
68 subsection (7), the Board of Governors may not use the  
69 consolidated data for purposes of determining eligibility for



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70 funding pursuant to s. 1001.7065 until July 1, 2022.

71

72 The Board of Governors shall monitor the fidelity of the  
73 implementation of the plan.

74 (6) Notwithstanding ss. 1001.7065 and 1001.92 or any Board  
75 of Governors regulation to the contrary relating to the  
76 calculation of graduation rates and retention rates, a student  
77 who meets all of the following criteria may not be counted by  
78 the Board of Governors when calculating or confirming the  
79 graduation rate or the retention rate of the University of South  
80 Florida under those sections:

81 (a) The student was admitted to and initially enrolled  
82 before the spring 2020 semester as a first-time-in-college  
83 student at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg branch  
84 campus or the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee  
85 branch campus.

86 (7) For purposes of this section, a branch campus is an  
87 instructional site located geographically apart and independent  
88 of the main campus of the institution. A location is independent  
89 of the main campus if the location:

90 (a) Is permanent in nature;

91 (b) Offers courses in educational programs leading to a  
92 degree, diploma, certificate, or other recognized educational  
93 credential;

94 (c) Has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory  
95 organization; and

96 (d) Has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

97 Section 6. The Board of Governors shall use its 2019  
98 Accountability Plan in determining a state university's



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99 preeminence designation and in distributing awards for the 2019-  
100 2020 fiscal year appropriation.

101  
102 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

103 And the title is amended as follows:

104 Delete line 55

105 and insert:

106 its space need calculation methodology; amending s.  
107 1004.335, F.S.; clarifying that the University of  
108 South Florida St. Petersburg and the University of  
109 South Florida Sarasota/Manatee are branch campuses;  
110 revising the date the Board of Governors will use  
111 specified data to determine funding under certain  
112 circumstances; requiring the Board of Governors to  
113 monitor the implementation of a specified plan;  
114 providing requirements for specified campuses to be  
115 considered branch campuses; requiring the Board of  
116 Governors to use its 2019 Accountability Plan for  
117 specified purposes; amending s.