



107476

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FC	.	
01/26/2021	.	
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The Committee on Education (Thurston) recommended the following:

1           **Senate Amendment to Amendment (793606) (with title**  
2 **amendment)**

3  
4           Delete lines 10 - 84

5 and insert:

6           (a) For the purposes of this subsection, the term  
7 "intellectual freedom and viewpoint diversity" means the  
8 exposure of students to, and the encouragement of students'  
9 exploration of, a variety of ideological and political  
10 perspectives.

11           (b) The State Board of Education may require each Florida



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12 College System institution to conduct an annual assessment of  
13 the intellectual freedom and viewpoint diversity at that  
14 institution. If the state board elects to do so, the state board  
15 must select or create an objective, nonpartisan, and  
16 statistically valid survey to be used by each institution which  
17 considers the extent to which competing ideas and perspectives  
18 are presented and members of the college community feel free to  
19 express their beliefs and viewpoints on campus and in the  
20 classroom. The state board shall compile and publish any such  
21 assessments by September 1 of each year in which the state board  
22 requires institutions to conduct the assessment.

23 Section 2. Subsection (13) is added to section 1001.706,  
24 Florida Statutes, to read:

25 1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

26 (13) INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND VIEWPOINT DIVERSITY

27 ASSESSMENT.—

28 (a) For the purposes of this subsection, the term  
29 “intellectual freedom and viewpoint diversity” means the  
30 exposure of students to, and the encouragement of students’  
31 exploration of, a variety of ideological and political  
32 perspectives.

33 (b) The Board of Governors may require each state  
34 university to conduct an annual assessment of the intellectual  
35 freedom and viewpoint diversity at that institution. If the  
36 Board of Governors elects to do so, the Board of Governors must  
37 select or create an objective, nonpartisan, and statistically  
38 valid survey to be used by each state university which considers  
39 the extent to which competing ideas and perspectives are  
40 presented and members of the university community feel free to



41 express their beliefs and viewpoints on campus and in the  
42 classroom. The Board of Governors shall compile and publish any  
43 such assessments by September 1 of each year in which the Board  
44 of Governors requires state universities to conduct the  
45 assessment.

46 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

47  
48 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

49 And the title is amended as follows:

50 Delete lines 92 - 116

51 and insert:

52 1001.03, F.S.; defining the term "intellectual freedom  
53 and viewpoint diversity"; authorizing the State Board  
54 of Education to require each Florida College System  
55 institution to conduct an annual assessment related to  
56 intellectual freedom and viewpoint diversity;  
57 providing criteria relating to such assessment;  
58 requiring the State Board of Education to publish any  
59 such assessment by a specified date; amending s.

60 1001.706, F.S.; defining the term "intellectual  
61 freedom and viewpoint diversity"; authorizing the  
62 Board of Governors to require each state university to  
63 conduct an annual assessment related to intellectual  
64 freedom and viewpoint diversity; providing criteria  
65 relating to such assessment; requiring the Board of  
66 Governors to publish any such assessment by a  
67 specified date; providing an effective date.