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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/21/2023	.	
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The Committee on Fiscal Policy (Grall) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 365 - 415
and insert:

(1) The Board of Trustees of the University of Florida may use funds as provided in the General Appropriations Act and charitable donations to establish and fund the Hamilton Center for Classical and Civic Education as an academic unit within the University of Florida. The purpose of the center is to support teaching and research concerning the ideas, traditions, and



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11 texts that form the foundations of Western and American
12 civilization.

13 (2) Beginning January 1, 2025, and by each January 1
14 thereafter, the University of Florida must report to the
15 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
16 House of Representatives on the progress toward establishing the
17 center as a permanent college at the university. The report must
18 include a timeline for establishing the college, enrollment and
19 educational outcomes and future goals for enrollment and
20 educational outcomes, current financial progress and future
21 financial needs, and any recommendation for changes in general
22 law.

23 (3) The goals of the center are to:

24 (a) Educate university students in core texts and great
25 debates of Western civilization and the Great Books.

26 1. The center is responsible for developing curriculum and
27 courses to satisfy the requirement for the competency in civil
28 discourse.

29 2. Courses developed under this paragraph may be used to
30 satisfy the requirements of s. 1007.25(5).

31 (b) Educate university students in the principles, ideals,
32 and institutions of the American political order.

33 (c) Educate university students in the foundations of
34 responsible leadership and informed citizenship.

35 (d) Provide programming and training related to civic
36 education and the values of open inquiry and civil discourse to
37 support the K-20 system.

38 (e) Coordinate with the Florida Institute for Governance
39 and Civics ~~of Politics~~ created pursuant to s. 1004.6499 and the



40 Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom created
41 pursuant to s. 1004.64991 and assist in the curation and
42 implementation of Portraits in Patriotism created pursuant to s.
43 1003.44.

44 (f) Develop educational programming and a plan for the
45 implementation of such programming to ensure that all university
46 students demonstrate competency in civil discourse.

47 (4) In order to carry out the goals set forth in subsection
48 (3), the president of the University of Florida must:

49 (a) Annually update the board of trustees on the center's
50 progress toward developing educational programming to ensure
51 that all students at the university demonstrate competency in
52 civil discourse. The president's report must identify a timeline
53 and support necessary for the university to achieve this goal.

54 (b) Guide the university's leadership and the center to
55 ensure that the center is able to enroll students, hire faculty,
56 ensure a pathway to tenure for faculty, develop curricula and
57 courses, establish certificate and degree programs, establish
58 major and minor programs, and fulfill other actions approved by
59 the president of the university.

60 (5) Funds appropriated specifically to the center may not
61 be used for any other purpose; however, the university may
62 provide additional funding as available to the center.

63
64 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

65 And the title is amended as follows:

66 Delete lines 48 - 49

67 and insert:

68 Center for Classical and Civic Education; requiring



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69 the University of Florida to annually report to the
70 Governor and Legislature on the transition of the
71 center to a college; revising the goals of the center;
72 requiring the University of Florida president to take
73 specified actions; providing requirements for the use
74 of appropriated funds; authorizing the university to
75 provide additional funding to the center;