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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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The Appropriations Committee on Education (Grall) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraphs (a) through (d) of subsection (5) and paragraph (b) of subsection (6) of section 1001.706, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1001.706 Powers and duties of the Board of Governors.—

(5) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY.—

(a) The Legislature intends that the Board of Governors



11 shall align the missions of each constituent university with the  
12 academic success of its students; the existing and emerging  
13 economic development needs of the state; the national reputation  
14 of its faculty and its academic and research programs; the  
15 quantity of externally generated research, patents, and  
16 licenses; and the strategic and accountability plans required in  
17 paragraphs (b) and (c). The Board of Governors shall  
18 periodically review the mission of each constituent university  
19 and make updates or revisions as needed. Upon completion of a  
20 review of the mission, the board shall review existing academic  
21 programs for alignment with the mission. The board shall include  
22 in its review a direction to each constituent university to  
23 examine its programs for any curriculum that violates s. 1000.05  
24 or that is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism,  
25 oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of  
26 the United States and were created to maintain social,  
27 political, and economic inequities. The mission alignment and  
28 strategic plan must ~~shall~~ consider peer institutions at the  
29 constituent universities. The mission alignment and strategic  
30 plan must ~~shall~~ acknowledge that universities that have a  
31 national and international impact have the greatest capacity to  
32 promote the state's economic development through: new  
33 discoveries, patents, licenses, and technologies that generate  
34 state businesses of global importance; research achievements  
35 through external grants and contracts that are comparable to  
36 nationally recognized and ranked universities; the creation of a  
37 resource rich academic environment that attracts high-technology  
38 business and venture capital to the state; and this generation's  
39 finest minds focusing on solving the state's economic, social,



40 environmental, and legal problems in the areas of life sciences,  
41 water, sustainability, energy, and health care. A nationally  
42 recognized and ranked university that has a global perspective  
43 and impact must ~~shall~~ be afforded the opportunity to enable and  
44 protect the university's competitiveness on the global stage in  
45 fair competition with other institutions of other states in the  
46 highest Carnegie Classification.

47 (b) The Board of Governors shall develop a strategic plan  
48 specifying goals and objectives for the State University System  
49 and each constituent university, including each university's  
50 contribution to overall system goals and objectives. The  
51 strategic plan must:

52 1. Include performance metrics and standards common for all  
53 institutions and metrics and standards unique to institutions  
54 depending on institutional core missions, including, but not  
55 limited to, student admission requirements, retention,  
56 graduation, percentage of graduates who have attained  
57 employment, percentage of graduates enrolled in continued  
58 education, licensure passage, nondegree credential attainment,  
59 average wages of employed graduates, average cost per graduate,  
60 excess hours, student loan burden and default rates, faculty  
61 awards, total annual research expenditures, patents, licenses  
62 and royalties, intellectual property, startup companies, annual  
63 giving, endowments, and well-known, highly respected national  
64 rankings for institutional and program achievements.

65 2. Consider reports and recommendations of the Florida  
66 Talent Development Council under s. 1004.015 and the  
67 Articulation Coordinating Committee under s. 1007.01.

68 3. Include student enrollment and performance data



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69 delineated by method of instruction, including, but not limited  
70 to, traditional, online, and distance learning instruction.

71 4. Include criteria for designating baccalaureate degree  
72 and master's degree programs at specified universities as high-  
73 demand programs of emphasis. The programs of emphasis list  
74 adopted by the Board of Governors before July 1, 2021, shall be  
75 used for the 2021-2022 academic year. Beginning in the 2022-2023  
76 academic year, the Board of Governors shall adopt the criteria  
77 to determine value for and prioritization of degree credentials  
78 and degree programs established by the Credentials Review  
79 Committee under s. 445.004 for designating high-demand programs  
80 of emphasis. The Board of Governors must review designated  
81 programs of emphasis, at a minimum, every 3 years to ensure  
82 alignment with the prioritization of degree credentials and  
83 degree programs identified by the Credentials Review Committee.

84 5. Include criteria for nondegree credentials.

85 (c) The Board of Governors shall develop an accountability  
86 plan for the State University System and each constituent  
87 university. The accountability plan must address institutional  
88 and system achievement of goals and objectives specified in the  
89 strategic plan adopted pursuant to paragraph (b) and must be  
90 submitted as part of its legislative budget request. Each  
91 university shall submit, as a component of the university's  
92 annual accountability plan:7

93 1. Information on the effectiveness of its plan for  
94 improving 4-year graduation rates; and

95 2. The level of financial assistance provided to students  
96 pursuant to paragraph (h).

97 (d) ~~Beginning in the 2014-2015 academic year and annually~~



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98 ~~thereafter,~~ The Board of Governors shall annually require a  
99 state university prior to registration to provide each enrolled  
100 student electronic access to the economic security report of  
101 employment and earning outcomes prepared by the Department of  
102 Economic Opportunity pursuant to s. 445.07. In addition, the  
103 Board of Governors shall require a state university to provide  
104 each student electronic access to the following information each  
105 year prior to registration using the data described in s.  
106 1008.39:

107       1. The top 25 percent of degrees reported by the university  
108 in terms of highest full-time job placement and highest average  
109 annualized earnings in the year after earning the degree.

110       2. The bottom 10 percent of degrees reported by the  
111 university in terms of lowest full-time job placement and lowest  
112 average annualized earnings in the year after earning the  
113 degree.

114       (6) POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO PERSONNEL.—

115       (b) The Board of Governors shall ~~may~~ adopt a regulation  
116 requiring each tenured state university faculty member to  
117 undergo a comprehensive post-tenure review every 5 years. The  
118 board may include other considerations in the regulation, but  
119 the regulation must address:

- 120       1. Accomplishments and productivity;  
121       2. Assigned duties in research, teaching, and service;  
122       3. Performance metrics, evaluations, and ratings; and  
123       4. Recognition and compensation considerations, as well as  
124 improvement plans and consequences for underperformance.

125       Section 2. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (2) of  
126 section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, to read:



127 1001.7065 Preeminent state research universities program.-

128 (2) ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE STANDARDS.-The  
129 following academic and research excellence standards are  
130 established for the preeminent state research universities  
131 program and shall be reported annually in the Board of Governors  
132 Accountability Plan:

133 (m) Total annual STEM-related research expenditures,  
134 including federal research expenditures, of \$50 million or more.

135 Section 3. Section 1001.741, Florida Statutes, is created  
136 to read:

137 1001.741 State university personnel.-

138 (1) Except as delegated pursuant to paragraph (a), each  
139 state university president has the final authority for hiring  
140 the provost, the deans, and all full-time faculty for the  
141 university, and has an ongoing duty to assess the performance,  
142 productivity, and employment practices of the university's  
143 provost and deans. The president of the university is encouraged  
144 to engage in faculty recruiting as appropriate, and shall  
145 provide a regular report and recommendations on employment  
146 practices to the board at least twice annually.

147 (a) The president may delegate hiring authority to  
148 individuals on the university's executive management team within  
149 the president's office, to the provost, or to individual deans;  
150 however, the president or the person delegated such hiring  
151 authority is not bound by the recommendations or opinions of  
152 faculty or other individuals.

153 (b) A state university may not require any statement,  
154 pledge, or oath other than to uphold general and federal law,  
155 the United States Constitution, and the State Constitution as a



156 part of any admissions, hiring, employment, promotion, tenure,  
157 disciplinary, or evaluation process.

158 (2) Notwithstanding s. 447.401 or any other law, personnel  
159 actions or decisions regarding faculty, including in the areas  
160 of evaluations, promotions, tenure, discipline, or termination,  
161 may not be appealed beyond the level of a university president  
162 or designee. Such actions or decisions must have as their  
163 terminal step a final agency disposition, which must be issued  
164 in writing to the faculty member, and are not subject to  
165 arbitration. The filing of a grievance does not toll the action  
166 or decision of the university, including the termination of pay  
167 and benefits of a suspended or terminated faculty member.

168 (3) Each state university board of trustees must have  
169 procedures for the review of the president's selection and  
170 reappointment of each member of the university's executive  
171 management team, and his or her respective contract and annual  
172 salary, before such contracts and salaries become effective, in  
173 accordance with the personnel program established by the Board  
174 of Governors.

175 (4) Each state university president shall annually present  
176 to the state university board of trustees the results of  
177 performance evaluations and associated annual salaries for all  
178 evaluated academic and administrative personnel earning an  
179 annual salary of \$200,000 or more, regardless of the funding  
180 source for such salaries. The results may be presented in a  
181 summary or written format.

182 Section 4. Section 1004.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
183 read:

184 1004.06 Prohibited expenditures.-



185       (1) A ~~No~~ Florida College System institution, state  
186 university, Florida College System institution direct-support  
187 organization, or state university direct-support organization  
188 may not ~~shall~~ expend any funds, regardless of source, to  
189 purchase membership in, or goods and services from, any  
190 organization that discriminates on the basis of race, color,  
191 national origin, sex, disability ~~gender~~, or religion.

192       (2) A Florida College System institution, state university,  
193 Florida College System institution direct-support organization,  
194 or state university direct-support organization may not expend  
195 any funds, regardless of source, to promote, support, or  
196 maintain any programs or campus activities that:

197           (a) Violate s. 1000.05; or

198           (b) Are based on theories that systemic racism, sexism,  
199 oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of  
200 the United States and were created to maintain social,  
201 political, and economic inequities.

202       (3) Subsection (2) does not prohibit programs or campus  
203 activities and functions required for compliance with federal  
204 laws or regulations; for obtaining or retaining institutional or  
205 discipline-specific accreditation; for securing or retaining  
206 research contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements; or for  
207 access programs for military veterans, Pell Grant recipients,  
208 first generation college students, nontraditional students,  
209 "2+2" transfer students from the Florida College System,  
210 students from low-income families, or students with unique  
211 abilities.

212       (4) The State Board of Education and the Board of Governors  
213 shall adopt rules and regulations, respectively, to implement





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214 this section.

215 Section 5. Section 1004.3841, Florida Statutes, is created  
216 to read:

217 1004.3841 The Institute for Risk Management and Insurance  
218 Education.—The Institute for Risk Management and Insurance  
219 Education is established within the College of Business at the  
220 University of Central Florida. Since insurance and risk  
221 management is a major industry in the state, with a  
222 concentration of such industry in Volusia County, the institute  
223 shall be located in Volusia County. Like many other industries  
224 in the state, the insurance and risk management industry is  
225 being revolutionized by, among other things, the integration of  
226 technology, predictive analytics, and data science, and is  
227 becoming more complex, given its exposure to transformative  
228 trends in the economy and environment. The purpose of the  
229 institute is to respond to the ever-evolving insurance and risk  
230 management industry and the present and emerging needs of this  
231 state and its residents. The goals of the institute are to:

232 (1) Pursue technological innovations that advance risk  
233 valuation models and operational efficiencies in the insurance  
234 industry.

235 (2) Drive the development of workforce competencies in data  
236 analytics, system-level thinking, technology integration,  
237 entrepreneurship, and actuarial science.

238 (3) Leverage the University of Central Florida's world-  
239 class assets in data science, artificial intelligence, computer  
240 science, engineering, finance, economics, and sales.

241 (4) Take advantage of the University of Central Florida's  
242 robust portfolio of academic program offerings and draw on



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243 faculty and industry experts in diverse fields, including  
244 actuarial science, computer science, economics, engineering,  
245 environmental science, finance, forensics, law, management,  
246 marketing, and psychology.

247 (5) Develop and offer risk management and insurance  
248 education, including education that recognizes risks in areas  
249 such as the environment, pandemic disease, and digital security.

250 (6) Offer programs, workshops, case studies, and applied  
251 research studies that integrate technology and artificial  
252 intelligence with soft skills while preparing students and  
253 professionals for the technology-enabled insurance industry of  
254 the future.

255 Section 6. Section 1004.6496, Florida Statutes, is amended  
256 to read:

257 1004.6496 Hamilton Center for Classical and Civic  
258 Education.—

259 (1) By July 1, 2024, the Board of Trustees of the  
260 University of Florida may use funds as provided in the General  
261 Appropriations Act and charitable donations to establish and  
262 fund the Hamilton Center for Classical and Civic Education as an  
263 academic unit within the University of Florida. The purpose of  
264 the center is to support teaching and research concerning the  
265 ideas, traditions, and texts that form the foundations of  
266 Western and American civilization.

267 (2) The goals of the center are to:

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

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



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

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

277 (e) Coordinate with the Florida Institute for Governance  
278 and Civics ~~of Politics~~ created pursuant to s. 1004.6499 and the  
279 Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom created  
280 pursuant to s. 1004.64991 and assist in the curation and  
281 implementation of Portraits in Patriotism created pursuant to s.  
282 1003.44.

283 (3) In order to carry out the purposes set forth in  
284 subsection (2), the center is authorized to:

285 (a) Hire necessary faculty and staff pursuant to s.  
286 1001.741;

287 (b) Enroll students;

288 (c) Develop curriculum and offer new courses, including  
289 honors courses, certificates, and major and minor programs;

290 (d) Hold events, including fundraisers;

291 (e) Fulfill other actions approved by the president of the  
292 university; and

293 (f) Generate resources based on student credit hour  
294 enrollment, in the same manner as any other center within the  
295 institution.

296 (4) The president of the university may hire a director for  
297 the center.

298 (a) The president of the university may remove the director  
299 in accordance with the policies and procedures established at  
300 the university.



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301 (b) The director of the center must report directly to the  
302 president or provost of the university.

303 (5) Faculty of the center may be awarded tenure, subject to  
304 the tenure regulations adopted by the university board of  
305 trustees.

306 (6) Funds appropriated specifically to the center may not  
307 be used for any other purpose at the university; however, the  
308 university can provide additional funding as available to the  
309 center.

310 Section 7. Section 1004.6499, Florida Statutes, is amended  
311 to read:

312 1004.6499 Florida Institute for Governance and Civics ~~of~~  
313 ~~Politics.~~—

314 (1) The Florida Institute for Governance and Civics ~~of~~  
315 ~~Politics~~ is established at the Florida State University ~~within~~  
316 ~~the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy. The purpose of~~  
317 ~~the institute is to provide the southeastern region of the~~  
318 ~~United States with a world class, bipartisan, nationally~~  
319 ~~renowned institute of politics.~~

320 (2) The goals of the institute are to:

321 (a) Provide students with access to an interdisciplinary  
322 hub that will develop academically rigorous scholarship and  
323 coursework on the origins of the American system of government,  
324 its foundational documents, its subsequent political traditions  
325 and evolutions, and its impact on comparative political systems  
326 ~~Motivate students throughout the Florida State University to~~  
327 ~~become aware of the significance of government and civic~~  
328 ~~engagement at all levels and politics in general.~~

329 (b) Encourage civic literacy in this state through the



330 development of educational tools and resources for K-12 and  
331 postsecondary students which foster an understanding of how  
332 individual rights, constitutionalism, separation of powers, and  
333 federalism function within the American system ~~Provide students~~  
334 ~~with an opportunity to be politically active and civically~~  
335 ~~engaged.~~

336 (c) Model civic discourse that recognizes the importance of  
337 viewpoint diversity, intellectual rigor, and an evidence-based  
338 approach to history ~~Nurture a greater awareness of and passion~~  
339 ~~for public service and politics.~~

340 (d) Plan and host forums to allow students and guests to  
341 hear from exceptional individuals who have excelled in a wide  
342 range of sectors of American life, to highlight the  
343 possibilities created by individual achievement and  
344 entrepreneurial vision ~~and interact with experts from~~  
345 ~~government, politics, policy, and journalism on a frequent~~  
346 ~~basis.~~

347 (e) Become a national and state resource on using polling  
348 instruments and other assessments to measure civic literacy and  
349 make recommendations for improving civic education ~~information~~  
350 ~~and survey methodology.~~

351 (f) Provide fellowships and internship opportunities to  
352 students in government, ~~nonprofit organizations, and community~~  
353 ~~organizations.~~

354 (g) Create through scholarship, original research,  
355 publications, symposia, testimonials, and other means a body of  
356 resources that can be accessed by students, scholars, and  
357 government officials to understand the innovations in public  
358 policy in this state over a rolling 30-year time period ~~Provide~~



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359 ~~training sessions for newly elected state and local public~~  
360 ~~officials.~~

361 ~~(h) Organize and sponsor conferences, symposia, and~~  
362 ~~workshops throughout this state to educate and inform citizens,~~  
363 ~~elected officials, and appointed policymakers regarding~~  
364 ~~effective policymaking techniques and processes.~~

365 ~~(i) Create and promote research and awareness regarding~~  
366 ~~politics, citizen involvement, and public service.~~

367 ~~(j) Collaborate with related policy institutes and research~~  
368 ~~activities at the Florida State University and other~~  
369 ~~institutions of higher education to motivate, increase, and~~  
370 ~~sustain citizen involvement in public affairs.~~

371 Section 8. Subsection (3) is added to section 1004.64991,  
372 Florida Statutes, to read:

373 1004.64991 The Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic  
374 Freedom.—

375 (3) In order to carry out the purpose set forth in this  
376 section, the institute is authorized to:

377 (a) Hire necessary faculty and staff pursuant to s.  
378 1001.741;

379 (b) Enroll students;

380 (c) Develop curriculum and offer new courses, including  
381 honors courses, certificates, and major and minor programs;

382 (d) Hold events, including fundraisers;

383 (e) Fulfill other actions approved by the president of the  
384 university; and

385 (f) Generate resources based on student credit hour  
386 enrollment, in the same manner as any college within the  
387 institution.



388 Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 1007.25, Florida  
389 Statutes, is amended to read:

390 1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites;  
391 other degree requirements.—

392 (3) The chair of the State Board of Education and the chair  
393 of the Board of Governors, or their designees, shall jointly  
394 appoint faculty committees to review and recommend to the  
395 Articulation Coordinating Committee for approval by the State  
396 Board of Education and the Board of Governors ~~identify~~ statewide  
397 general education core course options for inclusion in the  
398 statewide course numbering system established under s. 1007.24.  
399 Faculty committees shall, by July 1, 2024, and by July 1 every 4  
400 years thereafter, review and submit recommendations to the  
401 Articulation Coordinating Committee and the commissioner for the  
402 removal, alignment, realignment, or addition of general  
403 education core courses that satisfy the requirements of this  
404 subsection.

405 (a) General education core course options shall consist of  
406 a maximum of five courses within each of the subject areas of  
407 communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and  
408 natural sciences. The core courses may be revised, or the five-  
409 course maximum within each subject area may be exceeded, if  
410 approved by the State Board of Education and the Board of  
411 Governors, as recommended by the subject area faculty committee  
412 and approved by the Articulation Coordinating Committee as  
413 necessary for a subject area.

414 (b) Each general education core course option must contain  
415 high-level academic and critical thinking skills and common  
416 competencies that students must demonstrate to successfully



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417 complete the course.

418 (c) General education core courses may not distort  
419 significant historical events or include a curriculum that  
420 teaches identity politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on  
421 theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege  
422 are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were  
423 created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.

424 (d) General education core courses must meet the following  
425 standards:

426 1. Communication courses must afford students the ability  
427 to communicate effectively, including the ability to write  
428 clearly and engage in public speaking.

429 2. Humanities courses must afford students the ability to  
430 think critically through the mastering of subjects concerned  
431 with human culture, especially literature, history, art, music,  
432 and philosophy, and must include selections from the Western  
433 canon.

434 3. Social science courses must afford students an  
435 understanding of the basic social and behavioral science  
436 concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavior and  
437 past and present social, political, and economic issues.

438 4. Natural science courses must afford students the ability  
439 to critically examine and evaluate the principles of the  
440 scientific method, model construction, and use the scientific  
441 method to explain natural experiences and phenomena.

442 5. Mathematics courses must afford students a mastery of  
443 foundational mathematical and computation models and methods by  
444 applying such models and methods in problem solving.

445 (e) Beginning with students initially entering a Florida





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446 College System institution or state university in 2015-2016 and  
447 thereafter, each student must complete at least one identified  
448 core course in each subject area as part of the general  
449 education course requirements. Beginning in the 2022-2023  
450 academic year and thereafter, students entering a technical  
451 degree education program as defined in s. 1004.02(13) must  
452 complete at least one identified core course in each subject  
453 area as part of the general education course requirements before  
454 a degree is awarded.

455 (f) All public postsecondary educational institutions shall  
456 offer at least one general education core course in each of the  
457 identified subject areas and accept these courses as meeting  
458 general education core course requirements upon transfer,  
459 regardless of whether the receiving institution offers the  
460 identical general education core courses. The remaining general  
461 education course requirements shall be identified by each  
462 institution as approved in accordance with this section and  
463 listed in the statewide course numbering system and reported to  
464 the department by their statewide course number.

465 (g) A public postsecondary educational institution may not  
466 require a student to complete an additional course to meet a  
467 subject area distribution requirement that was completed by the  
468 student with a course that has since been removed as a general  
469 education core course.

470 (h) The general education core course options shall be  
471 adopted in rule by the State Board of Education and in  
472 regulation by the Board of Governors.

473 Section 10. Section 1007.55, Florida Statutes, is created  
474 to read:



475 1007.55 General education course principles, standards, and  
476 content.—

477 (1) The Legislature finds it necessary to ensure that every  
478 undergraduate student of a Florida public postsecondary  
479 educational institution graduates as an informed citizen through  
480 participation in rigorous general education courses that promote  
481 and preserve the constitutional republic through traditional,  
482 historically accurate, and high-quality coursework. General  
483 education courses should provide broad foundational knowledge to  
484 help students develop intellectual skills and habits that enable  
485 them to become more effective and lifelong learners. Courses  
486 with a curriculum based on unproven, speculative, or exploratory  
487 content are best suited as elective or specific program  
488 prerequisite credit, not general education credit. General  
489 education courses must:

490 (a) Meet the course standards as provided in s. 1007.25;  
491 and

492 (b) Whenever applicable, provide instruction on the  
493 historical background and philosophical foundation of Western  
494 civilization and this nation's historical documents, such as the  
495 Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the  
496 Bill of Rights and subsequent amendments, and the Federalist  
497 Papers.

498 (2) Public postsecondary educational institution boards of  
499 trustees and presidents are responsible for annually reviewing  
500 and approving, at a public meeting, general education course  
501 requirements, as authorized and approved in accordance with ss.  
502 1007.24 and 1007.25 and this section, at their respective  
503 institutions. The following must be included for each listed



504 general education course:  
505       (a) The general education distribution area;  
506       (b) The number of state universities that offer the course  
507 and the number of Florida College System institutions that offer  
508 the course; and  
509       (c) The course level.  
510       (3) Each public postsecondary educational institution must  
511 annually submit to the Board of Governors or the State Board of  
512 Education, as applicable, the institution's listing of approved  
513 general education courses, which must include the information in  
514 paragraphs (2) (a), (b), and (c). The applicable board must  
515 approve the institution general education course lists.  
516       (4) Public postsecondary educational institutions must  
517 report courses meeting institutional general education subject  
518 requirements to the department by their statewide course number.  
519       (5) Public postsecondary educational institutions that fail  
520 to comply with the requirements of this section are not eligible  
521 to receive performance-based funding pursuant to ss. 1001.66 or  
522 1001.92.  
523       (6) A public postsecondary educational institution may not  
524 require a student to take an additional course to meet a subject  
525 area distribution requirement that was completed by the student  
526 with a course that has since been removed as a general education  
527 course.  
528       (7) The State Board of Education and the Board of Governors  
529 shall adopt rules and regulations, respectively, to implement  
530 this section.  
531       Section 11. Present subsections (3) and (4) of section  
532 1008.47, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4)



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533 and (5), respectively, a new subsection (3) is added to that  
534 section, and subsection (2) and present subsection (3) of that  
535 section are amended, to read:

536 1008.47 Postsecondary education institution accreditation.—

537 (2) ACCREDITATION.—

538 (a) By September 1, 2022, the Board of Governors or the  
539 State Board of Education, as applicable, shall identify and  
540 determine the accrediting agencies or associations best suited  
541 to serve as an accreditor for public postsecondary institutions.  
542 Such accrediting agencies or associations must be recognized by  
543 the database created and maintained by the United States  
544 Department of Education. ~~A public postsecondary institution may~~  
545 ~~not be accredited by the same accrediting agency or association~~  
546 ~~for consecutive accreditation cycles.~~ In the year following  
547 reaffirmation or fifth-year review by its accrediting agencies  
548 or associations, each public postsecondary institution must seek  
549 and obtain accreditation from an accrediting agency or  
550 association identified by the Board of Governors or State Board  
551 of Education, respectively, before its next reaffirmation or  
552 fifth-year review date. The requirements in this section are  
553 limited to a one-time change in accreditation. The requirements  
554 of this subsection are not applicable to those professional,  
555 graduate, departmental, or certificate programs at public  
556 postsecondary institutions that have specific accreditation  
557 requirements or best practices, including, but not limited to,  
558 law, pharmacy, engineering, or other similarly situated  
559 educational programs.

560 (b) Once a public postsecondary institution is required to  
561 seek and obtain accreditation from an agency or association



562 identified pursuant to paragraph (a), the institution shall seek  
563 accreditation from a regional accrediting agency or association  
564 and provide quarterly reports of its progress to the Board of  
565 Governors or State Board of Education, as applicable. If each  
566 regional accreditation agency or association identified pursuant  
567 to paragraph (a) has refused to grant candidacy status to an  
568 institution, the institution must ~~shall~~ seek and obtain  
569 accreditation from any accrediting agency or association that is  
570 different from its current accrediting agency or association and  
571 is recognized by the database created and maintained by the  
572 United States Department of Education. If a public postsecondary  
573 institution is not granted candidacy status before its next  
574 reaffirmation or fifth-year review date, the institution may  
575 remain with its current accrediting agency or association.

576 (c) This subsection expires December 31, 2032.

577 (3) PROHIBITION.—An accrediting agency or association may  
578 not compel any public postsecondary institution to violate state  
579 law, and any adverse action upon the institution based upon the  
580 institution's compliance with state law constitutes a violation  
581 of this section that may be enforced through subsection (4),  
582 except to the extent that state law is preempted by a federal  
583 law that recognizes the necessity of the accreditation standard  
584 or requirement.

585 (4) ~~(3)~~ CAUSE OF ACTION.—A postsecondary education  
586 institution negatively impacted by retaliatory or adverse action  
587 taken against the postsecondary education institution by an  
588 accrediting agency or association may bring an action against  
589 the accrediting agency or association in a court of competent  
590 jurisdiction and may obtain liquidated damages in up to the



591 amount of federal financial aid received by the postsecondary  
592 education institution, court costs, and reasonable attorney  
593 fees.

594 Section 12. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (18)  
595 of section 1009.26, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

596 1009.26 Fee Waivers.—

597 (18) (a) For every course in a Program of Strategic  
598 Emphasis, as identified in subparagraph 3., or a state-approved  
599 teacher preparation program, in which a student is enrolled, a  
600 state university shall waive 100 percent of the tuition and fees  
601 for an equivalent course in such program for a student who:

602 1. Is a resident for tuition purposes under s. 1009.21.

603 2. Has earned at least 60 semester credit hours towards a  
604 baccalaureate degree within 2 academic years after initial  
605 enrollment at a Florida public postsecondary institution.

606 3. Enrolls in one of 10 Programs of Strategic Emphasis as  
607 adopted by the Board of Governors, or a state-approved teacher  
608 preparation program. The Board of Governors shall adopt eight  
609 Programs of Strategic Emphasis in science, technology,  
610 engineering, or math and, beginning with the 2022-2023 academic  
611 year, two Programs of Strategic Emphasis in the critical  
612 workforce gap analysis category for which a student may be  
613 eligible to receive the tuition and fee waiver authorized by  
614 this subsection. The programs identified by the board must  
615 reflect the priorities of the state and be offered at a majority  
616 of state universities at the time the Board of Governors  
617 approves the list.

618 (b) A waiver granted under this subsection is applicable  
619 only for upper-level courses and up to 110 percent of the number



620 of required credit hours of the baccalaureate degree program for  
621 which the student is enrolled. A student granted a waiver under  
622 this subsection shall continue receiving the waiver until the  
623 student graduates, exceeds the number of allowable credit hours,  
624 or withdraws from an eligible program, regardless of whether the  
625 program is removed from the approved list of eligible programs  
626 subsequent to the student's enrollment.

627 (c) Upon enrollment in a Program of Strategic Emphasis or a  
628 state-approved teacher preparation program, the tuition and fees  
629 waived under this subsection must be reported for state funding  
630 purposes under ss. 1009.534 and 1009.535 and must be disbursed  
631 to the student. The amount disbursed to the student must ~~shall~~  
632 be equal to the award amount the student has received under s.  
633 1009.534(2) or s. 1009.535(2).

634 Section 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

635  
636 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

637 And the title is amended as follows:

638 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
639 and insert:

640 A bill to be entitled

641 An act relating to higher education; amending s.  
642 1001.706, F.S.; revising the duties of the Board of  
643 Governors relating to the mission of each state  
644 university; revising requirements for the Board of  
645 Governors' strategic plan relating to the goals and  
646 objectives of the State University System; requiring  
647 the Board of Governors to annually require each state  
648 university to include certain information in its



649 economic security report; requiring, rather than  
650 authorizing, a Board of Governors regulation to  
651 include a post-tenure review of state university  
652 faculty on a specified basis; amending s. 1001.7065,  
653 F.S.; requiring the Board of Governors Accountability  
654 Plan to annually report certain research expenditures  
655 of a specified amount; creating s. 1001.741, F.S.;  
656 providing that each state university president is  
657 responsible for hiring the provost, the deans, and  
658 full-time faculty; proving that the president has a  
659 duty to assess the performance of the provost and  
660 deans; authorizing the president to delegate hiring  
661 authority to specified individuals and entities;  
662 prohibiting a university from using specified methods  
663 in its admissions or personnel processes; providing  
664 that certain actions regarding personnel may not be  
665 appealed beyond the university president; requiring  
666 each state university board of trustees to have review  
667 procedures for the president's selection and  
668 reappointment of certain faculty; requiring each state  
669 university president to annually present specified  
670 performance evaluations and salaries to the board of  
671 trustees; amending s. 1004.06, F.S.; prohibiting  
672 specified educational institutions from expending  
673 funds to promote specified concepts; providing  
674 exceptions; requiring the State Board of Education and  
675 the Board of Governors to adopt rules and regulations,  
676 respectively; creating s. 1004.3841, F.S.; creating  
677 the Institute for Risk Management and Insurance





678 Education within the College of Business at the  
679 University of Central Florida; requiring that the  
680 institute be located in a specified county; providing  
681 the purpose and goals of the institute; amending s.  
682 1004.6496, F.S.; authorizing the Board of Trustees of  
683 the University of Florida to use charitable donations  
684 in addition to appropriated funds to fund the Hamilton  
685 Center for Classical and Civic Education; revising the  
686 goals of the center; providing powers of the center;  
687 amending s. 1004.6499, F.S.; renaming the Florida  
688 Institute of Politics at the Florida State University  
689 as the Florida Institute for Governance and Civics;  
690 providing the goals of the institute; amending s.  
691 1004.64991, F.S.; authorizing the Adam Smith Center  
692 for the Study of Economic Freedom to perform certain  
693 tasks in order to carry out its established purpose;  
694 amending s. 1007.25, F.S.; revising how general  
695 education core courses are established; requiring the  
696 State Board of Education and the Board of Governors to  
697 consider approval of certain courses; requiring  
698 faculty committees to review and submit  
699 recommendations to the Articulation Coordinating  
700 Committee and the commissioner relating to certain  
701 courses by a specified date and periodically  
702 thereafter; prohibiting general education core courses  
703 from teaching certain topics or presenting information  
704 in specified ways; providing requirements for general  
705 education core courses; requiring specified  
706 educational institutions to offer certain courses;



707 prohibiting public postsecondary educational  
708 institutions from requiring students to take certain  
709 additional general education core courses; creating s.  
710 1007.55, F.S.; providing legislative findings;  
711 providing requirements for general education courses;  
712 requiring public postsecondary educational institution  
713 boards of trustees and presidents to annually review  
714 and approve general education requirements; requiring  
715 public postsecondary educational institutions to  
716 report certain courses to the department; providing a  
717 penalty for failing to meet such review and approval  
718 requirements; prohibiting public postsecondary  
719 educational institutions from requiring students to  
720 take certain additional general education courses;  
721 requiring the State Board of Education and the Board  
722 of Governors to adopt rules and regulations,  
723 respectively; amending s. 1008.47, F.S.; specifying a  
724 one-time limit on the requirement to change  
725 accrediting agencies; providing for expiration;  
726 prohibiting an accrediting entity from requiring a  
727 public postsecondary institution to violate state law;  
728 amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; providing that certain  
729 provisions apply to a state-approved teacher  
730 preparation program; providing that certain  
731 postsecondary fee waivers continue until specified  
732 criteria are met; providing an effective date.