

CS/HB 725

2026

A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to political activity at public  
institutions of higher education; amending s.  
1004.097, F.S.; requiring public institutions of  
higher education to inform students and employees of  
the Campus Free Expression Act through specified  
means; creating s. 1012.802, F.S.; requiring the Board  
of Governors and the State Board of Education to adopt  
regulations and rules, respectively, describing the  
limitations of state universities and Florida College  
System institutions relating to certain political  
campaign activities; requiring the boards of trustees  
of such universities and institutions to publish on  
their official websites and provide to employees  
certain information relating to permissible and  
prohibited political activities, state law, and  
disciplinary actions; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (3) of section 1004.097, Florida Statutes, to read:

1004.097 Free expression on campus.—

(3) RIGHT TO FREE-SPEECH ACTIVITIES.—

(h) Each public institution of higher education shall

26 inform students and employees of the Campus Free Expression Act  
27 at orientation and on its official website.

28 **Section 2. Section 1012.802, Florida Statutes, is created**  
29 **to read:**

30 1012.802 Political activities.—  
31 (1) The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations for  
32 state university boards of trustees, and the State Board of  
33 Education shall adopt rules for Florida College System  
34 institution boards of trustees, describing the limitations of  
35 such universities and institutions, as tax-exempt entities,  
36 relating to participation or intervention in political campaign  
37 activities in support of or opposition to candidates for  
38 elective public office.

39 (2) One month before the primary election, as provided in  
40 s. 100.061, the boards of trustees of each state university and  
41 Florida College System institution must send an e-mail to each  
42 employee and post, in a conspicuous area, on the university's or  
43 institution's official website all of the following:

44 (a) Permissible political activities, such as voter  
45 registration events that do not involve a campaign or political  
46 party and candidate forums at which all qualified candidates for  
47 the office are invited.

48 (b) Prohibited political activities, such as university or  
49 institution faculty and employees campaigning for or with  
50 candidates while on duty, any activity that directly or

51     indirectly implies that the university or institution supports  
52     any particular candidate, and the unauthorized use of  
53     facilities, property, logos, or equipment of the university or  
54     institution for any campaign.

55         (c) The Campus Free Expression Act established by s.  
56         1004.097.

57         (d) Disciplinary action that may be taken for a violation  
58     of this section.

59     **Section 3.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.