

CS/CS/SB 850 — Florida Industrial and Phosphate Research Institute

by Higher Education Appropriations Committee; Higher Education Committee; and Senators Alexander and Gaetz

The bill expands the mission of the Florida Institute for Phosphate Research, allowing research to be conducted in additional areas outside of the scope of the phosphate industry. The bill transfers the institute to the University of South Florida (USF) Polytechnic and changes its name to the Florida Institute for Industrial and Phosphate Research.

The bill revises the membership of the institute's board to include the campus executive officer of the USF Polytechnic and the Secretary of Environmental Protection. The institute's executive director will be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the USF Polytechnic's campus executive officer.

In addition to its current duties, the institute must provide the public with access to the results of its research activities and must maintain a public library, which may include special collections, related to its research activities.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 114-0