

THE VALENCIA SESSION REPORT

• A Publication for Trustees, Faculty, Staff, Students, and Friends of Valencia •

July 17, 2008



The full text of all bills is available online at <http://www.leg.state.fl.us>
Please Note: All matters reported are subject to Governor's Veto



Senator Daniel Webster

2008 Legislative Session Adjourns, Valencia Bids Farewell to Friend

Introduction

▶ At 6:02 p.m. on Friday afternoon, May 2, the 2008 Session of the Florida Legislature was adjourned sine die. The 2008 Session was marked by

a \$4 billion shortfall in revenue, creating cuts, reductions and elimination of programs.

▶ While all levels of education were reduced, some of the biggest cuts took place in the health care area, with steep reductions in Medicare reimbursements to nursing homes, hospitals and HMO's. Only the infusion of \$300 million from the Chiles Tobacco Endowment allowed healthcare cuts to be moderated, but still reduced significantly. The K-12 system was reduced by more than \$300 million, and higher education, while reduced in terms of total dollars, did get some assistance from tuition increases. The final budget total was \$66.2 billion and revenues are projected to be in a continued decline.

▶ The Senate introduced 1,507 bills, resolutions and memorials, which the House accounted for 996 bills, for a total of 2,503 pieces of legislation. A total of 313 passed both chambers.

▶ *Valencia recognizes the longstanding leadership and effectiveness of Senate Majority Leader Dan Webster, who over the years has worked diligently to ensure appropriate capital and operating funding for Valencia. Please extend thanks to Sen. Webster and all of the members of Valencia's local legislative delegation - their names and contact information are contained at the end of this report.*

Taxation & Budget Reform Commission

► In addition to the regular work of the Legislature, the Taxation & Budget Reform Commission (TBRC) was also in session and finished its work on April 24, after beginning public hearings in the fall of 2007, proposing eight amendments to the Florida Constitution. The TBRC was originally established by a constitutional amendment in 1988 and meets every twenty years. Several proposed constitutional amendments would impact community colleges, including the Local Option Tax for Community Colleges, Property Taxes and Replacement of Required Local Effort with State Revenues, Ad Valorem Tax Exemption, the Blaine Amendment, and Requiring 65% of School Funding for Classroom Instruction.

► Should the property tax amendment pass, it could have significant impact of the state budget. A projected reduction of state revenue could be in the \$9 to \$11 billion dollar range. The one cent sales tax addition—proposed to replace property taxes—would potentially add \$3 billion back to the revenues. The difference would have to be realized in the elimination of sales tax exemptions, a difficult process.

Funding Issues

► Summary of Community College System and Related Budget Issues

- Total operating funds for the community college system received \$1.577 billion, representing a decrease of 1.1% from this year's adjusted budget, including an authorized 6% student fee increase. Community College System highlights:
 - Distance Learning - \$345,391
 - State College System Implementation – \$80,000
 - Baccalaureate Degrees - \$10,432,501
 - Foundation Matching Grants - \$0
 - SUCCEED, Florida/Jobs for Florida's Future- \$0
 - Commission on Community Service - \$627,495
 - College Reach Out Program (CROP) to be funded at \$2.91 million
 - Operating Costs for New Facilities - \$5,093,131
 - First Generation in College - \$2 million, funded through Office of Student Financial Assistance

- PECO Funding - \$365.6 million to the community college system
- Florida Information Resource Network (FIRN) – Funded at a level insufficient to keep services to all users, including Valencia, at the current level. Once an analysis of the budget reduction to FIRN is completed by the Department of Education, the information will be forwarded to the college.

► The District Board of Trustees received authorization to increase college credit program student fees by 6% and workforce program student fees by 6%.

Valencia 2008-2009 Appropriations

<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Amount Funded</u>	<u>Change from Current Year Funding</u>
Community College Program Fund (CCPF) Lottery	\$ 8,084,955	\$ 1,187,891
CCPF General Revenue	\$56,986,074	(\$ 2,131,545)
Perf Base Bdgt	\$0	(\$1,958,455)
Student Fees	\$42,552,582	\$ 2,303,402

TOTAL **\$107,623,611 (\$ 598,707)**

► Operating Costs of New Facilities

The college receives as general revenue \$642,030 to be used specifically for operating costs of new facilities.

► Foundation Matching Funds

Unfortunately, the legislature declined to fund the community college system's challenge matching program. If funded, Valencia's Foundation would have received \$1,090,657 to match private contributions received by February 1, 2008.

► Facilities Matching Funds

Unfortunately, the legislature declined to fund fully the community college system's facilities matching program. If funded, Valencia would have received \$5,181,896 to match contributions received for the construction of Building 4, Osceola Campus.

Public Educational Capital Outlay (PECO) Funds

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount Funded</u>
Allied Health Bldg 10 - West part (ce)	\$ 15,502,371
Library & High Tech Bldg 4 – Osc partial	\$ 1,066,277
Gen ren/rem, elev, parking, Clsrms/Labs, telecom sys, int fin	\$ 3,519,815
Jt-Use Clsrms/Labs/Stu Svcs w/UCF - West part (ce)	\$ 11,250,000
Land acquisition - Southeast Campus part (spc)	\$ 500,000
Maj Ren/Rem, Emer replace-Chiller w/ loop, infras-East (pc)	\$ 604,107
Rem/rem Clsrms/Labs Bldgs 1,3,4 - West	\$ 3,864,000
Sum-of Digits (Maintenance)	\$ 778,202

TOTAL PECO \$ 37,084,772

► In addition to the PECO list funding, Specific Appropriation 27 provides Valencia with \$3,750,000 to be used to fund the joint-use facility between Valencia Community College and the University of Central Florida.

Legislative Issues:

■ Bills that Passed

General Appropriations Act 2008, Conference Report on HB 5001

(Approved by Governor: 6/11/08)

- Authorizes the \$66.2 billion state budget.

Appropriation Implementing Bill for the 2008 Budget HB 5003

- Provides specific authority for implementing the budget - expires in one year.

HB 5063 Appropriation Conforming Bill: Retirement

(Approved by Governor: 6/10/08)

- This bill sets contribution rates for fiscal year 2008-09 (unchanged from fiscal year 2007-08) and 2009-10. It also clarifies how averages are calculated in the analysis of actuarial soundness of the system. The bill would provide certain former members of either the Community College or State University System Optional Retirement Program a one-time opportunity, during 2009, to transfer their assets from the optional retirement plans to purchase service credit in the Florida Retirement System (FRS). As the buy back is at actual liability, there is no adverse impact to the FRS.

HB 5083 K-12 Appropriations Conforming Bill

(Approved by Governor: 6/10/08)

- Dual Enrollment:
 - Deletes provision stating postsecondary credit shall be reported by school districts as 75 membership hours for purposes of FTE calculations.
 - Adds provision that “instructional time for dual enrollment may vary from 900 hours; however, the school district may only report the student for a maximum of 1.0 FTE student membership. Dual enrollment FTE shall be calculated in an amount equal to the hours of instruction that would be necessary to earn the FTE student membership for an equivalent course if it were taught in school districts.”
 - This means the bill authorizes a school district to report 900 hours of instructional time (one full-time student) for a dual enrollment student who is enrolled in 30 credit hours (15 credit hours per semester) in a postsecondary institution.
- Industry Certification, AP, IB and AICE Funding Calculations
 - Reduces FTE value from 0.24 to 0.16 for International Baccalaureate, Advanced International Certificates, and Advanced Placement who receive a score of 3 or higher on the College Board Advanced placement exam.

- Stipulated that the additional value of 0.3 FTE calculated for each student who completes an industry certified career and professional academy must achieve “the highest level of industry certification and a high school diploma.” It also clarifies that no more than 0.3 additional FTE can be earned per student.

CS/HB 1774 Postsecondary Appropriations Conforming Bill -- Technology and Other Fees (Lynn)

(Approved by Governor: 6/10/08)

- PSAV - Workforce Fees:
 - Establishes a standard out-of-state fee per contact hour at three times the standard tuition per contact hour for workforce.
 - Provides for a range of plus 5% and minus 5% from the standard fee for tuition and the out-of-state fee.
 - establishes an automatic increase of tuition based on inflation if tuition is not established in the general appropriation act.
- Technology Fee for Community Colleges
 - The bill authorizes a 5% of tuition per credit hour technology fee for residents and out-of-state students that is not a component part of tuition, effective on July 1, 2009. This is for college credit only. (Currently \$1.80 per credit hour and is part of tuition.
 - The fee is not paid for by Bright Futures.
 - Revenues must be expended to enhance instructional technology resources for students and faculty; the requirement that revenues be expended according to a technology plan is deleted.
- Other Fees
 - Provides that “no community college shall be required to lower any activity and service fee approved by the Board of Trustees in effect prior to 10/26/07.”
 - Allows a community college to collect up to an additional 2% of a financial aid fee if the total amount generated by the fee is less than \$500,000 (current is \$250,000).

- Allows up to 25% or \$600,000 (current is \$300,000) whichever is greater of financial aid fee to be used to assist students who demonstrate: academic merit, participate in athletics, public service, cultural arts, and other extracurricular programs as determined by the institution; or who are identified as members of a targeted gender or ethnic minority population.

CS/HB 5083 K-12 Appropriations Conforming Bill – Dual Enrollment & Other Issues

- Dual Enrollment
 - Deletes provision stating postsecondary credit shall be reported by school districts as 75 membership hours for purposes of FTE calculations.
 - Adds provision that “instructional time for dual enrollment may vary from 900 hours; however, the school district may only report the student for a maximum of 1.0 FTE student membership. Dual enrollment FTE shall be calculated in an amount equal to the hours of instruction that would be necessary to earn the FTE student membership for an equivalent course if it were taught in school districts.”
 - This means the bill authorizes a school district to report 900 hours of instructional time (one full-time student) for a dual enrollment student who is enrolled in 30 credit hours (15 credit hours per semester) in a postsecondary institution.

SB 186 University of South Florida Polytechnic

- Establishes the Lakeland campus of the University of South Florida as the University of South Florida Polytechnic, to be operated and maintained as a separate organizational and budget entity of the University of South Florida, with all legislative appropriations to be set forth as separate line items in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- Provides that the University of South Florida Polytechnic shall have a Campus Board and a Campus Executive Officer, who is hired by, and reports to, the President of the University of South Florida.
- Provides that the University of South Florida Polytechnic operate under separate

accreditation from the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools when separate accreditation is in the best interest of the campus.

[CS/HB 251 Reserve Officer Training Corps Programs \(Jordon\)](#)

- Prohibits any school district from banning any branch of the United States Armed Forces or the United States Department of Homeland Security from establishing, maintaining, or operating a unit of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps at a public high school in the district.
- Requires a school district to allow a student enrolled in one public high school to attend a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps at another public high school in the district under certain conditions.
- Requires a school district to grant military recruiters the same access to students which the district grants to postsecondary educational institutions or prospective employers of students.
- Prohibits any community college or state university from banning any branch of the United States Armed Forces from establishing, maintaining, or operating a unit of the Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps at the community college or state university.
- Requires a community college or state university to grant military recruiters of the United States Armed Forces or the United States Department of Homeland Security the same access to students and to campus facilities which the institution grants to other prospective employers of students.
- Requires a community college or state university, to the extent required by federal law, to grant military recruiters access to information about the institution's students.

[CS/HB 503 Gun Bill - Right to Keep & Bear Arms in Motor Vehicles \(Evers\)](#)

- Prohibits public or private employers from prohibiting a customer, employee, or invitee from possessing any legally owned firearm that is lawfully possessed & locked inside or locked to a private motor vehicle in parking lot.
- Prohibits such entities from violating specified privacy rights by verbal/written inquiry, etc.

- This law does not apply to:
 - Any school property as defined and regulated under s. 790.115.
 - Any correctional institution regulated under s. 944.47 or chapter 957.
 - Any property where a nuclear-powered electricity generation facility is located.
 - In section 790.115, the language reads: For the purposes of this section, "school" means any preschool, elementary school, middle school, junior high school, secondary school, career center, or postsecondary school, whether public or nonpublic (**therefore, this law does not apply to Valencia**).
- Effective Date: July 1, 2008: this was signed into law by the Governor on April 15, 2008.

[HB 603 Textbook Affordability \(Flores\)](#) (Approved by Governor: 5/29/08)

- Prohibits college or university employees from receiving anything of value in exchange for textbook selection, with exceptions for sample copies, royalties, honoraria, compensation for reviewing, and in the use of materials and learning technologies.
- Requires posting of required books at least 30 days before the first day of class.
- Posting must include ISBN, title, authors, publishers, edition number, copyright date, published date. State Board of Education shall adopt policies for limited exceptions for classes added after the notification deadline.
- Requires State Board of Education and Board of Governors to adopt policies, procedures and guidelines to help minimize the cost of textbooks to include:
 - The intent to use all items ordered, particularly each individual item sold as part of a bundled package, as confirmed by the course instructor before adoption is finalized.
 - Adoptions to be made with sufficient lead time to bookstores so as to confirm availability of the requested materials, and

where possible, ensure maximum availability of used books.

- Before a textbook is adopted, a course instructor or the academic department offering the course must determine the extent to which a new edition differs significantly and substantively from earlier versions and the value of changing to a new edition.
- Establishment of policies shall address the availability of required textbooks to students otherwise unable to afford the cost.
- Effective July 1, 2008

CS/CS/SB 696 Community College Bonding (Oelrich)

(Approved by Governor: 6/17/08)

- Authorizes community college boards of trustees to enter into short-term financing contracts for goods, materials, and services for a term of not more than five years.
- Payments on such contracts must be subject to an annual appropriation by the board of trustees.
- Community college boards may pledge capital improvement fee revenues and parking fee revenues as a dedicated revenue source to the repayment of debt with an overall term of not more than seven years and revenue bonds with a term not exceeding 20 years. The revenue bonds must be issued by the Division of Bond Finance.
- The Division of Bond Finance may pledge fees collected by one or more community colleges to secure such bonds.
- Prohibits the use of tuition, financial aid fees, the Community College Program Fund, or any other operating revenues of a community college to secure revenue bonds.
- Requires community college boards of trustees to authorize all debt incurred by a direct support organization, but permits the boards to delegate to the direct support organization authority to approve short-term loans and lease purchase agreements with a term of five years or less.
- Renames Daytona Beach Community College as “Daytona Beach College” and Indian River Community College as “Indian River College.”

CS/CS/SB 1276 Educational Facilities Construction/Day Labor (Bennett)

(Approved by Governor: 6/24/08)

- For day-labor contracts by either district school boards or community college boards of trustees, the maximum amount of such contracts is increased from \$200,000 to \$280,000. The amount shall be adjusted annually based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- Allows Florida Keys Community College to construct a dormitory for up to 100 beds for full time community college students.
- Under certain circumstances, provides flexibility to school districts to expend \$65 per unweighted FTE from its capital outlay millage funds for operational purposes.

SB 1716 State College System (Oelrich)

(Approved by Governor: 5/29/08)

- Drops “Community” from names of Daytona Beach, Broward, Indian River, Polk and Santa Fe Community Colleges.
- Allows other community colleges to change their names if approved to offer baccalaureate degrees, or if otherwise approved by State Board of Education pursuant to agreement.
- Colleges must maintain primary mission to respond to community needs; maintain the open door policy; provide outreach to underserved populations; provide remedial education; comply with statewide articulation agreement of the 2+2 system with four-year institutions.
- Re-states that the colleges will be governed by local boards of trustees.
- Creates Florida College System comprised of 2 and 4-year public postsecondary institutions offering undergraduate degrees. Prohibits members of system from calling themselves universities or offering graduate degrees.
- Creates a 12-member Florida College System Task Force consisting of the Commissioner and 11 other members to be appointed by the Commissioner. Membership to include the Commissioner as Chair and 7 community college presidents, one state university president, one president of a FRAG-eligible institution, one president of an institution

licensed by the Commission on Independent Education, and one member at-large.

- Defines the duties of the Task Force, to include:
 - Recommending a process for transition to state colleges as well as an approval process and funding model for baccalaureate degrees.
 - Identifying areas both geographic and academic in which an increased number of graduates who have BA degrees are necessary in order to meet regional and statewide workforce needs.
 - Monitoring the implementation of the State College Pilot Project.
 - Recommending priorities and criteria for BA programs that may be offered without specific approval by the State Board of Education.
- Requires the Task Force to make recommendations to the Governor, State Board of Education, Senate President and House Speaker by March 2, 2009.
- Any recommendations must be approved by 3/4 of the membership of the Task Force.
- Task Force to sunset on June 30, 2010.
- Creates Florida State College Pilot Project. Participating colleges are: Chipola, Edison, Daytona Beach, Miami-Dade, Polk, St. Pete, Santa Fe, Indian River and Okaloosa-Walton.
- Requires same conditions listed above regarding mission, open door policy for associate degree programs, outreach, and remedial education .
- Restricts admission to upper division program to students with an associate degree or who have passed the CLAST exam.
- Mandates CLAST exam testing for students entering the baccalaureate programs if they received an exemption as part of a longitudinal study.
- Pilot project colleges are required to collaborate with the Florida College System Task Force and submit a report to the Governor, House Speaker and Senate President by January 2009. The report and recommendations are to include the following:

- Development of program approval process to be followed by the SBOE when considering proposals for new BA degree programs that are designed to meet the employment needs of Florida
 - Proposals for new BA degree programs are not limited to proposals designed to meet regional workforce needs
 - Formulation of criteria for the transition of an institution from a community college to a state college
 - Development of a funding model for state colleges
- A 2/3 vote of the pilot project colleges is required for any recommendation.

SB 1908 Education Reform Package (Gaetz)
(Approved by Governor: 6/30/08)

- State Standards: Revises the “Sunshine State Standards” and renames them to “Next Generation Sunshine State Standards” (NGSSS); revises core content guidelines; establishes time lines. Provides direction to Commissioner and SBOE and requires community college representatives and other education sector representatives to review standards.
- H.S. Diploma Designations: Establishes high school diploma designations to include several areas: Student’s Major Area of Interest; reflecting completion of four or more accelerated college credit courses including AP, IB, AICE or Dual Enrollment; career education certification; and Ready to Work Credential.
- Apprenticeship: Provides an exemption for adult apprenticeship students from entry-level examinations.
- Dual Enrollment: Establishes that the identification of grades for dual enrollment courses is the responsibility of the postsecondary institution and that school districts must post the assigned grade.
- Assessment and Remediation: Requires an evaluation before the beginning of grade 12 of each high school student who indicates an interest in postsecondary education. High

schools shall perform this evaluation using results from the corresponding component of the common placement test.

- **Assessment and Remediation:** Authorizes DOE to purchase or develop assessments necessary for the evaluations; requires SBOE to establish by rule minimum test scores. Students who demonstrate readiness by achieving the minimum test scores and enroll in a community college within 2 years of achieving such scores shall not be required to enroll in remediation courses as a condition of acceptance to any community college. The high school shall use the results to advise students of identified deficiencies and to the extent practicable provide 12th grade students access to appropriate remedial instruction prior to high school graduation. The remedial instruction provided shall be a collaborative effort between secondary and postsecondary educational institutions. The Florida Virtual School may be used to provide the remedial instruction.
- *Note: Proviso language in Specific Appropriation 133 of the 2008-2009 General Appropriation Act (HB 5001) provides \$700,000 for this purpose.*
- **School Grades:** Expands categories to determine school grades to include high school graduation rate; performance and participation on AP, IB, Dual Enrollment, AICE courses, and Industry Certification. Also includes postsecondary readiness as measured by SAT, ACT or the CPT. Performance by at-risk students and end-of-course exams will also be included.
- **Student Performance Assessment:** Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, student assessment data shall be based on a combination of factors to include: high school graduation rate of the school, performance and participate of the school's students in AP, IB, Dual Enrollment, AICE and achievement of industry certification; student performance on SAT, ACT or CPT and student performance on end-of-course assessments.
- **Student Performance Assessment:** Authorizes the Commissioner to add to the FCAT other means of statewide assessment

aligned with the Sunshine State Standards to include end-of-course assessments. These may include College Board AP, IB, AICE or nationally-approved industry-approved examinations if the Commissioner determines that the assessments show that the student has met or exceeded grade-level expectations for Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. Allows Commissioner to collaborate with the American Diploma project in the adoption or development of end-of-course assessments for NGSSS.

- **Electronic Personal Education Plans:** Requires an annual review of each high school student's electronic personal education plan.
- **Graduation Requirements:** Adds a practical arts course to general requirements for high school graduation.
- **Ready to Work Credential:** Establishes Florida Ready to Work Credential categories: Bronze, Silver, and Gold.
- Other provisions primarily of concern to K-12 school districts.

CS/HB 7105 Postsecondary Distance Learning
(Pickens, Policy and Budget Council)

(Approved by Governor: 6/10/08)

- **Creates Florida Distance Learning Task Force** consisting of nine members, including four university representatives, four representatives of community colleges, and the Director of the Florida Distance Learning Consortium. The Task Force makes recommendations regarding:
 - Management & promotion of the Florida Higher Education Distance Learning Catalog.
 - Creation of a central content repository.
 - Policies that address ways to increase access and cost-effectiveness in the development and delivery of undergraduate distance learning courses.
 - An accountability mechanism to assess the effectiveness of the services provided by the Florida Distance Learning Consortium.

- The future role of the consortium as a facilitator of the state’s public undergraduate postsecondary distance learning.

- A process for reporting on the data collected by the catalog.

- The definition of a distance learning course.

- Recommend a plan for developing and implementing an on-line system that streamlines and automates the registration process for students .

- **Establishes Florida Higher Education Distance Learning Catalog** to include requirements for:

- Clear, complete, and timely information on the DL course and degree program requirements; type of technology and equipment required; any prerequisite courses or technology competencies and skills; availability of academic support services; identification of financial aid resources and all cost, fee, and payment policies.

- All DL courses and degree programs to meet applicable and appropriate accreditation standards and criteria.

- Review of catalog at start of each academic semester to ensure DL courses and degree programs comply with the operational guidelines and procedures.

- The catalog to have an analytic web-based tool to collect and analyze data to identify number and type of students who use the catalog to search for DL courses and degree programs.

- **Distance Learning Student Fees**

- Amends user fee section of law to specify that lab fees do not apply to DL courses.

- Deletes authority of the SBOE to create fees or promulgate rules for fees not specifically authorized in statute.

- Creates a new subsection that authorizes the SBOE to promulgate rules to implement the user fees section of statute – note that in order to have the authority to charge a

specific user fee or fine it must be listed in s. 1009.23 (12).

- Adds new user fee authority for distance learning courses and requires an annual report to the Division of CCs on the total amount of revenue generated by the DL course user fee for the prior academic year, which includes how the revenue was expended. Clearly states that the user fee cannot exceed the additional costs of the services provided exclusively to the development and delivery of the DL course or program and that the institution shall not assess any other fee to cover the same additional costs.

- Requires the listing of the DL course in the catalog in order to have the authority to assess the user fee.

- Requires the institution to prominently display the link for the Consortium catalog on its web site so that students will be informed of this resource to assist them in obtaining needed courses for degree completion.

SB 7135 Energy Conservation and Sustainable Buildings Act (Mayfield, Kreegel)

(Approved by Governor: 6/25/08)

- Community Colleges--all buildings to be constructed shall meet either United States Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED’s certification or Green Globes certification for projects that are commenced after July 1, 2008. For community colleges only, new construction is required to be certified and there is no requirement for a certain level (i.e. silver, gold, platinum). For other state agencies renovations, remodels and certification for leased space is required.

- St. Petersburg College was named as an entity that will allow it to “provide training and educational opportunities that will ensure that green building rating system certifying agents are available to work with appropriate entities” and to “provide continuing education for the construction industry to develop online curriculum for use statewide, etc...”

- New vehicles purchased under a state purchasing plan are reviewed in consideration of the classification (use) of vehicle, with the purchase authorized for the vehicles that provide

the greatest fuel efficiency available for that classification.

- Recycling programs are to be developed statewide with specific deadlines for developing state guidelines.
- Performance Contracting for Energy was expanded to include wastewater and water. Certain other restrictions related to contract approval were implemented.
- Modifications to the Florida Building Code to increase the energy performance of new buildings by at least 20% as compared to the energy efficiency provisions of the 2007 FBC with an increase in coming years of up to a maximum of 50% by 2019. Changes will be coming that impact construction at schools and home.

■ Bills that Failed

[SJR 2308 Governance – Constitutional Amendment](#)

- Elected Commissioner.
- Requires Commissioner to hold at least a bachelor's degree.
- Makes Cabinet the State Board of Education.
- Establishes Florida College System, comprised of 2 and 4-year public postsecondary schools offering undergraduate degrees.
- Creates 6-member Florida College Board to oversee system.
- Reduces Board of Governors from 14 to 6 members, with duties to be determined by statute.
- Proposed House Amendment by Rep. Proctor removed all portions of the bill except those pertaining to the Florida College System and Board.

[SB 320 Excess Hours](#) (also amended on to many other bills)

- The amended version of this bill provided that each freshman entering postsecondary education as a first-time college, degree-seeking student in the 2008 fall semester and all first time college degree-seeking freshmen thereafter would have to pay 50% per credit hour above the normal in-state tuition rate for credit

hours in excess of 150 % of those required for the degree.

- Original excess hours language in this bill would have required university students to pay 150% of the normal in-state tuition rate for any hours over 120% of the hours needed to graduate, with certain limitations and exceptions.

[SB 2848 and SB 2170 Retirement/DROP Rehiring](#)

- The retirement/DROP rehiring issue was an ongoing controversy during the second half of Session. A number of approaches were proposed to address the issue, including increasing the time after leaving a job before a rehiring may occur, limiting the amount of pay a rehire could receive, and prohibiting a rehired retiree from receiving both a pension and a salary.

[HB 475 Financial Aid/Residency \(Foreign Students\)](#)

- Effective for the 2009-2010 academic year and each year thereafter, prohibits a state university or community college from using state funds appropriated directly or indirectly to the institution and tuition and fee revenues generated by Florida residents to provide financial assistance to any student holding an F-1 or M-1 visa.
- Financial assistance does not include compensation paid to students for assistantships or participation in work-study programs.

[HB 331 Technical Colleges](#)

- Authorized Charter Technical Career Centers and public Technical Centers to change their names to Technical “College”; the rationale was to promote their institutions and encourage students to continue on to postsecondary.
- Authorized the use of the name “college” or “technical college” while they pursued SACS accreditation, if their sponsor agreed to the name change.

[SB 2388 Fire Safety Inspections/State Fire Marshal](#)

- The bill moved the current statutes regulating fire safety inspections at public education facilities from F.S. 1033 (education facilities statutes) to F.S. 633.0221 (fire marshal statutes).

This means all rule making authority involving educational institutions would have moved to the State Fire Marshal/ Florida Fire Safety.

- The bill moved sections of law from FS 1013.12 to FS 633.0221. It leaves intact “consultation with Department of Education” but the “board” changes from the respective “education boards” to the “Fire Safety Board” as the “board” of authority. This could have meant that education boards may no longer have had the authority to appoint certified fire safety inspectors and would have been forced to use “local fire officials” even though the individuals have the same qualifications. Without the proposed clarifying amendment, the education boards could have lost their authority for the appointment of fire safety inspectors and their participation in rule making.

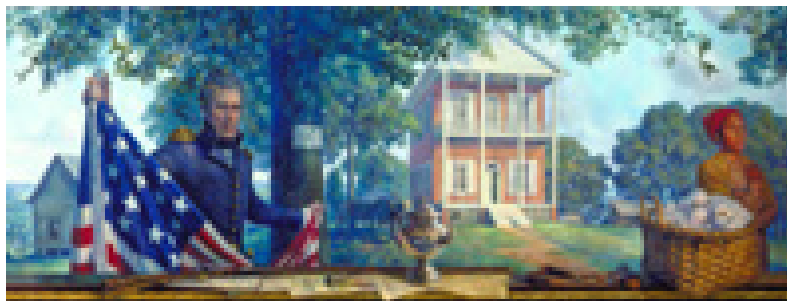
HB 883/SB 1576 Charitable Campaigns Foundations

- Created the Public Employees' Charitable Campaign for local public employers other than state or federal employees.

- Authorized a public employer to conduct a charitable campaign as the sole fundraising drive conducted during work hours.
- Concern expressed by college foundations that the bill could inadvertently disallow internal college Foundation campaigns.



Future House Speaker Dean Cannon



If you have questions regarding The Session Report or need additional information, please contact [William J. MULLowney, Esq.](#), or [Lisa Lovell](#) in the Office of the Vice President for Policy and General Counsel. Dr. MULLowney and Ms. Lovell can be reached at 407-582-3450.

Valencia's State Legislative Delegation
(As of 3/13/08)

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Legislative Assistants:
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Committees:
-Law and Justice Policy and Calendar
Committee, Chair
-Criminal Justice, Chair
-Education Pre-K – 12 Appropriations
-Environmental Preservation and
Conservation
-Health Policy
-Rules
-Transportation
-Committee on Public Service
Commission Oversight

District 026 Senator Mike Haridopolos

Majority (Republican) Whip
DOB: March 15, 1970
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Legislative Address:
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Senate VOIP 5056
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Legislative Assistants:
Lori Scott, Nancy Bernier, Katherine
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haridopolos.mike.web@flsenate.gov
Committees:
-Finance and Tax, Chair
-Fiscal Policy and Calendar Committee
-Children, Families, and Elder Affairs
-Community Affairs
-Military Affairs and Domestic Security
-Regulated Industries
-Rules
-Legislative Auditing Committee

District 024 Senator Bill Posey

DOB: December 18, 1947
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Legislative Assistants:

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Committees:

- Banking and Insurance, Chair
- Government Operations, Vice Chair
- Economic Opportunities Policy and
Calendar Committee
- Responsible Regulation Policy and
Calendar Committee
- Rules
- Select Committee on Property
Insurance Accountability, Vice Chair

District 019 Senator Gary Siplin

DOB: October 21, 1954

District Office:

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Legislative Address:

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Legislative Assistants:

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Committees:

- Education Pre-K - 12 Appropriations, VC
- Health Regulation, Vice Chair
- Fiscal Policy and Calendar Committee
- Social Responsibility Policy and Cal Com
- Commerce
- Community Affairs
- Military Affairs and Domestic Security
- Florida Legislative Committee on
Intergovernmental Relations

District 009 Senator Daniel Webster

Majority (Republican) Leader

DOB: April 27, 1949

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Committees:

- Education Facilities Appropriations
- Judiciary
- Transportation
- Transportation and Economic
Development Appropriations
- Select Committee on Property
Insurance Accountability

HOUSE

District 033 Representative Sandra Adams

DOB: December 14, 1956

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Legislative Address:
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Legislative Assistant:

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Committees:

- Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety, Chair
- Joint Committee on Public Service Commission Oversight, Alternating Chair
- Select Committee to Protect Personal Information, Vice Chair
- Committee on Ethics & Elections
- Joint Legislative Sunset Committee
- Safety & Security Council

District 079 Representative Frank Attkisson

DOB: November 2, 1955

District Office:
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Legislative Assistant:

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District Secretary

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Committees:

- Government Efficiency & Accountability Council, Chair
- Joint Committee on Public Service Commission Oversight
- Policy and Budget Council
- Rules & Calendar Council

District 035 Representative Dean Cannon

DOB: August 2, 1968

District Office:
Suite E

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Winter Park, FL 32789-4946
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or

P.O. Box 2265
Winter Park, FL 32790-2265

Legislative Address:
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Legislative Assistant:

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District Secretary

Kathy Gilland

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Committees:

- Economic Expansion & Infrastructure Council, Chair
- Legislative Budget Commission
- Policy & Budget Council
- Rules & Calendar Council

District 034 Representative Chris Dorworth

DOB: July 17, 1976

District Office:

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Heathrow, FL 32746-5072
407-333-1815

Legislative Address:

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Legislative Assistant:

Sharon Spann

District Secretary

Carolyn Johnson

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Committees:

- Committee on Utilities & Telecommunications, Vice Chair
- Committee on Healthy Seniors
- Committee on State Affairs
- Jobs & Entrepreneurship Council

District 040 Representative Andy Gardiner

DOB: January 23, 1969

District Office:

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Legislative Assistant:

Stacy Vancamp
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Committees:
-Committee on State Affairs, Chair
-Committee on 21st Century
Competitiveness
-Committee on Business Regulation
-Committee on Energy
-Government Efficiency &
Accountability Council

District 038 Representative Bryan Nelson

DOB: September 14, 1958
District Office:
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Legislative Address:
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Legislative Assistant:
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Chris Finkbeiner
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Committees:
-Committee on Agribusiness, Vice
Chair
-Committee on Insurance
-Environment & Natural Resources
Council
-Joint Legislative Committee on
Everglades Oversight

District 041 Representative Stephen Precourt

DOB: October 20, 1960
District Office:
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Legislative Address:
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Legislative Assistant:
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Committees:
-Committee on Energy, Vice Chair
-Committee on 21st Century
Competitiveness

-Committee on Constitution & Civil
Law
-Committee on Infrastructure
-Environment & Natural Resources
Council
-Select Committee to Protect Personal
Information

District 36 Representative Scott Randolph

DOB: October 17, 1973
District Office:
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Legislative Address:
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Legislative Assistant:
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District Secretary
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Committees:

-Committee on Environmental
Protection, Democratic Ranking
Member
-Committee on Insurance
-Environment & Natural Resources
Council
-Joint Administrative Procedures
Committee

District 032 Representative Tony Sasso III

DOB: January 9, 1953
District Office:
32 North Orlando Avenue
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321-449-5111
Legislative Address:
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Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
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Legislative Assistant:
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District Secretary
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sasso.tony@myfloridahouse.com
Committees:

-Committee on Conservation & State
Lands
-Committee on Juvenile Justice
-Environment & Natural Resources
Council

District 037 Representative David Simmons

DOB: June 13, 1952
District Office:
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407-262-7520

Legislative Address:
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402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
850-488-2231

Legislative Assistant:
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District Secretary
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simmons.david@myfloridahouse.com

- Committees:
- Committee on 21st Century Competitiveness, Chair
 - Committee on Constitution & Civil Law
 - Committee on Ethics & Elections
 - Schools & Learning Council
 - Select Committee to Protect Personal Information

District 049 Representative Darren Soto

DOB: February 25, 1978
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Legislative Assistant:
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- Committees:
- Committee on Economic Development
 - Committee on Health Quality
 - Government Efficiency & Accountability Council

District 039 Representative Geraldine F. (Geri) Thompson

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Legislative Assistant:
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- Committees:
- Committee on State Affairs, Democratic Ranking Member
 - Committee on Tourism & Trade
 - Government Efficiency & Accountability Council