

Florida State College at Jacksonville | Legislative Update III – 2023

MARCH 27, 2023

Week 3

During the third week of session, several members of the District Board of Trustees traveled with President Avendano to Tallahassee to advocate for policies and budget items that support FSCJ. The group also attended the AFC Trustees Commission & FCS Council of Presidents Joint Legislative Meeting where they had the opportunity to hear from Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez, and many other state legislators focusing on higher education in Florida.



Bill Tracking

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| SB 542 (Similar to HB 39) | Requires Florida College System institutions & state universities to have supply of emergency opioid antagonists in certain residence halls & dormitories for use by specified employees; provides requirements for placement & accessibility of emergency opioid antagonists & training; provides specified immunity from liability. | In Rules |
| SB44/HB 7023 (Identical bills) | Directs the Division of Law Revision to prepare a reviser's bill to replace references to the phrases "the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools," "the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools," and "the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges," wherever they occur in the Florida Statutes, with the phrase "an accrediting agency or association recognized by the database created and maintained by the United States Department of Education." | Both bills passed the Senate and House. The Governor approved this legislation. |
| HB 139 | Provides benefits, training, and employment assistance for Veterans and their spouses, including a requirement for Department of Veterans Affairs to create a grant program for veterans' nursing degree programs. | In Appropriations |
| SB 240 | Requires the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help to work with other specified entities to provide certain information relating to workforce development boards; revises the list of credentials that must be included on the Master Credentials List; revises the entities that may be a local apprenticeship sponsor; revises the credit requirements for a high school diploma; revises which courses must be included on the CAPE Industry Certification Funding List; revises the cost factor for secondary career education programs; revises requirements for the Florida Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant Program. | In Fiscal Policy Committee |
| SB 256 (Similar to HB 1445) | Requires a public employee who desires to be a member of an employee organization to sign a membership authorization form beginning on a specified date; requires an employee organization to revoke a public employee's membership upon receipt of his or her written request for revocation; prohibits certain employee organizations from having dues and uniform assessments deducted and collected by the employer from certain salaries; revises requirements for applications for initial registrations and renewals of registration of employee organizations; revises prohibitions for employee organizations and certain persons and entities relating to employee organizations. | Placed on Senate Calendar for a third reading. |
| HB 339 (Similar to SB 550) | Revises eligibility requirements for educational benefits provided by state to spouse or dependent child of deceased or disabled servicemember; revises eligibility requirements for educational benefits provided by state to dependent child of prisoner of war, person missing in action, or deceased or disabled servicemember who participated in certain military operations. | Placed on House Calendar for a second reading. |

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| SB 1060/HB 461 (Identical bills) | Creates the Apprenticeship and Preapprenticeship Direct Funding Grant Program for specified purposes; requiring the Department of Education to administer the program; requiring apprenticeship or preapprenticeship programs to submit an application to the department for participation in the program; prohibiting certain apprenticeship or preapprenticeship programs from participating in the grant program. | Now in Appropriations Committee on Education |
| SB 274/HB 517 (Identical bills) | Revising a primary goal of the Florida Center for Nursing to provide that development of a state-wide plan for nursing manpower must include the encouragement and coordination of the development of partnerships with hospitals which provide opportunities for nursing students to obtain clinical experience; requiring that the Articulation Coordinating Committee convene a workgroup to establish a process for determining postsecondary course equivalencies and the minimum postsecondary credit or career education clock hours that must be awarded in accredited nursing education programs for military training and education required for service in specified positions; authorizing the award of additional postsecondary credit or career education clock hours. | Passed by the Senate |
| HB 465 | Prohibits institutions from imposing additional criteria to determine student eligibility for Open Door Grant Program; revises student eligibility requirements; & increases amount DOE may reimburse institution through program for completed workforce training program. | In Higher Education Appropriations |
| SB 846 (Similar to HB 679) | Prohibits state universities and state colleges from accepting grants or participating in agreements with a foreign country of concern unless specified conditions are met; authorizes state universities to enter into agreements with a foreign country of concern if such agreement is approved by the BOG and specified requirements are met; authorizes the board to sanction and to withhold performance funding from a state university for entering into an unauthorized foreign agreement; requires each state university and state college to annually submit specified information to the BOG and DOE if certain conditions are met. | In Judiciary |
| SB 732/HB 845 (Identical bills) | Defines the term "military student;" requiring the State Board of Education to adopt rules and the Board of Governors to adopt regulations to establish the Collegiate Purple Star Campuses program; specifying program criteria for participating Florida College System institutions, state universities, and career centers. | In Rules |
| SB 750 | Requires the Articulation Coordinating Committee to convene a workgroup by a specified date to develop specified articulation agreements; requiring Florida College System institutions to award transfer credit for certain courses; providing requirements for an associate in arts specialized transfer degree; providing that, upon approval of a new associate in arts specialized transfer degree, Florida College System institutions may offer the degree and shall report certain data. | In Appropriations Committee on Education |

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| SB 958 (Similar to HB 931) | Revises date by which SBE & BOG must annually compile & publish specified assessments; establishes Office of Public Policy Events within State University System & provides requirements; designates Florida Student Association as non-profit advocacy organization for students of SUS & provides requirements; & prohibits public institutions of higher education from requiring completion of political loyalty test or for persons to meet certain qualifications for specified purposes. | In Appropriations Committee on Education |
| SB 7026 | Requires the BOG to develop regulations for university boards of trustees relating to contracting for the construction of new facilities or for work on existing facilities; authorizes a state university to waive the out-of-state fee for a student who is an intercollegiate athlete receiving a scholarship; revises the list of authorized expenditures that may be included in a carry forward spending plan for state universities and Florida College System institutions; revises a limitation on compensation for state university employees. | In Appropriations |
| HB 999 | As it relates to Florida Colleges System Institutions - revises requirements for general education core courses; requires Articulation Coordinating Committee to submit certain courses to State Board of Education & Board of Governors; provides requirements for public postsecondary educational institutions & their presidents & boards of trustees relating to general education courses. | In Education and Employment Committee. No Action in the past week. |
| SB 1172 | Establishing the Hunger-Free Campus Pilot Program within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for a specified period; requiring the Commissioner of Agriculture to identify the three state universities or Florida College System institutions with the highest number of Pell Grant-eligible students for participation in the pilot program; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to conduct a study to evaluate food insecurity on the campuses of state universities and FSC institutions. | In Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government. No action in the past week. |
| HB 51/SB 590 | Defines "protected hairstyle"; prohibits discrimination based on protected hairstyle in Florida K-20 public education system; provides that term "race" includes protected hairstyles for purposes of United States Code within public & private education system. | No action in the past two weeks. |
| HB 191/SB 1656 (Identical bills) | Provides certain low-income, female students who are pregnant as result of rape, incest, domestic violence, or human trafficking are exempt from paying specified postsecondary tuition & fees; establishes Academic Success of Pregnant Female Students Who Are Victims of Sexual Abuse Grant Program within DOE. | No action in the past two weeks. |
| HB 215/SB 456 (Identical bills) | Defines "sensitive location"; prohibits possession or use of firearm in sensitive location; includes educational institutions as a sensitive location. | No action in the past two weeks. |

HB 311/SB 324 (Identical bills) Removes provisions relating to intellectual freedom & viewpoint diversity assessment within FCS institutions & state universities; removes prohibition against SBE & BOG shielding specified individuals from free speech; removes prohibition against SBE & BOG shielding specified individuals from access to or observation of certain ideas & opinions; removes authorization for students to record video or audio of class lectures.

No action in the past two weeks.




HB 417/SB 660 (Identical Bills) Requires Department of Lottery to create instant-ticket lottery game that benefits veterans' assistance education programs; provides that veterans' assistance education programs may be funded by Educational Enhancement Trust Fund; requires department to provide certain information to public.

No action in the past two weeks.

SB 526/HB 595 (Identical bills) Revises requirements for a person to be considered a resident for tuition purposes to include time spent in certain correctional institutions; revises the types of documentation authorized to determine residency in the state for specified purposes.

No action in the past two weeks.

If you have any questions or comments about bills being tracked or other matters not included in the update, please feel free to contact Taylor Mejia, Director of Government and Community Relations.

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