

VALENCIA COLLEGE

THE SESSION REPORT

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

April 16, 2013

Key Substantive Issues

Developmental Education (SB 1720 and CS/CS HB 7057)

Issue: The House and Senate bills rename "college prep" as "developmental education" and differ in several critical ways. The Senate bill has passed and been sent to the House in Messages, which has refused to concur, paving the way for a budget conference committee resolution. The Senate bill prohibits offering developmental courses as stand alone courses, prohibits colleges from charging tuition and fees for developmental courses, and requires substantial curriculum and faculty issues with an impossibly tight time frame for implementation. One obvious problem with the Senate's bill is that because it requires that developmental ed instruction occur only as a co-requisite part of college level instruction, and many adjuncts who currently teach our prep courses are not credentialed to teach college credit courses and could not continue, faculty staffing becomes an issue, and simply increasing the load of current adjunct faculty who are eligible to teach credit courses could be a costly option, given the college's expensive obligations under the new Affordable Care Act.

Message: Valencia prefers the language of the House bill, which provides continuity and flexibility in instructional methods and strategies and student placement and preserves the ability to charge tuition for developmental education. The Senate should adopt the House position.

Career and Professional Education Act (CAPE) (CS/CS SB 1076)

This bill has been passed by the Senate and the House and has been sent to the Governor for signature. It creates systems to reward colleges for industry certifications connected to postsecondary training. \$15 million is allocated for the college system in conforming bills (CS/CS SB 1076 and CS/CS HB 7057). Colleges would receive \$1,000 for each industry certification achieved by a student. The Appropriations bills identify what certifications are the priorities for this funding: automotive, cyber security, virtualization, advanced manufacturing and welding certifications.

Dual Enrollment (CS HB 5101)

Issue: The Florida College System loses up to \$50M annually on the delivery of dual enrollment since the students are not charged tuition and fees for the credits earned. House conforming bill

CS HB 5101 contains the “fix” for this issue. It requires school districts to pay tuition for each student if the course is taught on college campus and reimburse the college for actual costs if taught on high school campus. This would be a tremendous help in offsetting the cost of this program if the school districts continue dual enrollment at the current level.

Message: Valencia asks that the Senate adopt the House position on dual enrollment funding.

Key Senators

Senate President

Don Gaetz

Senate Appropriations Conference Committee

Joe Negron, Chair

Lizbeth Benacquisto, Vice Chair

Anitere Flores, At Large – Chair

Andy Gardiner, At Large gardiner.andy.web@flsenate.gov, (850) 487-5013

John Thrasher, At Large

Senate Appropriations Conference Committee on Education

Bill Galvano, Chair

Nancy Detert

John Legg

Bill Montford

John Thrasher

Also, for Senate budget and substantive issues:

David Simmons,

Darren Soto

Geraldine Thompson

Key House Members

(House Budget Conference Committee members not yet announced)

Speaker, Will Weatherford

Appropriations Chair, Seth McKeel

Majority Leader,

Steve Precourt steve.precourt@myfloridahouse.gov , (850) 717-5044

Education Committee Chair, Marlene O’Toole

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Also, for House budget and substantive issues:

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