

2013

VALENCIA COLLEGE

THE SESSION REPORT

FINAL

*The online version of The Session Report may be found at
<http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel>*

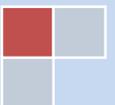
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Revised: 7/22/2013



General Session Highlights

- ▶ The Florida Legislature adjourned *sine die* on Friday, May 3, 2013. A total of 1,848 bills were introduced, although only 286 passed both chambers.
- ▶ The Florida College System (FCS) has some significant legislative changes to address as a result of the 2013 Legislative Session. Perhaps most impactful are the changes to “college prep” offerings. College prep was renamed to be “developmental education,” definitions were changed, and students will have prep *options* rather than *requirements*. The methods for offering developmental education will change dramatically as well, as instruction is to be offered in ways that move students quickly into college credit, using co-requisite instruction, modules, and tutoring as examples. Colleges asked for more flexibility in placing students, and some of the criteria suggested by the FCS were accepted. However, college placement testing (CPT) can no longer be required for most Florida public high school graduates. Admissions counseling is mandated, and will be critical to student success.
- ▶ Related to advising, the Legislature created “meta-majors” and “pathways” as tools to improve the advising of students as they enter college credit work. The creation of these new tools requires review of the communication and computation skills needed not only to enter, but to complete programs. The intent is, in part, to eliminate requirements such as higher level math in fields where that is not needed.
- ▶ For K-12, and also impacting the colleges, high school graduation requirements have changed. The math requirements for a standard diploma were reduced, and the required passage of “end of course” exams limited as well. In addition to the standard diploma, students can earn a Merit Designation (industry certification) and a Scholar Designation (college preparatory).
- ▶ The FCS institutions had asked for legislative help in funding dual enrollment, which was costing the colleges over \$50 million a year in “lost” tuition. While not specifically funded to do this, the school districts are now required to pay for tuition or other costs, depending on the location of the dual enrollment.
- ▶ Retirement changes were expected again this session, but in the end, agreement was not to be had. The two chambers differed greatly on their intent, although neither side proposed changes that would impact existing employees.



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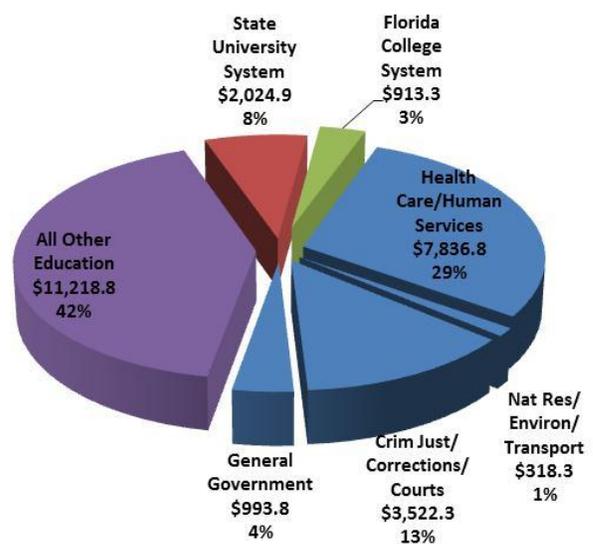
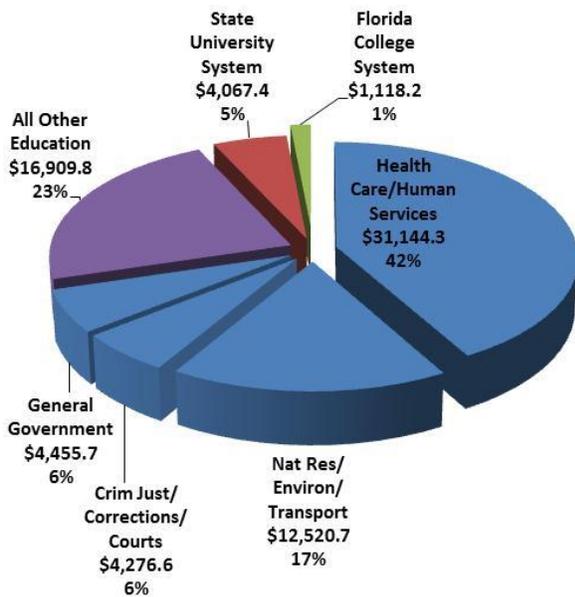
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If you have questions regarding The Session Report or need additional information, please contact [William J. Mullooney](#), Vice President for Policy and General Counsel, at 407-582-3411.

FY 2013-14 Education Appropriations

Total State Appropriations = \$74.5B Education Appropriation = \$22.1B (30%)	Total General Revenue = \$26.8B Education General Revenue = \$14.2B (53%)
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Note: Reflects the Conference Report on SB 1500 (prior to Governor Vetoes). State university total appropriations includes tuition. Other Education includes PreK-12 Education, Blind Services, Vocational Rehabilitation, Student Financial Aid, Private Colleges, Fixed Capital Outlay, State Board of Education, and Board of Governors.

General Appropriations Act (GAA) 2013-14, SB 1500

(Approved by Governor, with vetoes)

[Governor's Veto Letter / Governor's Veto List](#)

Statewide Florida College System Funding

- ▶ For the first time in several years, the Florida Legislature had significant additional General Revenue available to address state budget issues. Funding for the Florida College System and the Florida College System Program Fund (FCSPF) was increased for 2013-14 from the 2012-13 level. As part of this year's appropriation, the Legislature implemented a funding source shift for the Florida College System as well. Funding from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund (Lottery) is up substantially from \$180,808,060 to \$204,938,935, for an increase of \$24,130,875 or 13 percent. The difficulty in this for the FCS, with such a significant portion of funding coming from Lottery revenues, is that historically these funds have not been available for the colleges to draw against until after the midpoint of the fiscal year, potentially causing cash flow problems.
- ▶ Operating costs for new facilities was fully funded at \$6.3 million, including \$2.4 million for the annualization of appropriations from 2012-13 and \$3.9 million for new facilities opening in 2013-14.
- ▶ The Legislature again adjusted funding in the Florida College System Program Fund (FCSPF) to reflect a change in Florida Retirement System employer contributions. An increase of \$27.7 million was provided to fund normal cost increases of the program and to cover the Unfunded Actuarial Liability. The increase reflects the employer's contribution rates to be paid by the colleges during the 2013-14 fiscal year. These changes are intended by the Legislature to have no net impact on the funds available for college operations.
- ▶ The Legislature provided approximately \$20 million in compression/equity funding, which was distributed to eight colleges with the lowest percentage of met need in the Funding Allocation Model. This resulted in a significant reduction in the range of least-funded to best-funded colleges. All colleges except one are now funded within a 10% range of the model. In addition, the Legislature appropriated \$13.3 million in new operational funding through the FCSPF, to be distributed among the 28 colleges using the Funding Allocation Model. The result was an overall increase in state funding for the Florida College System Program Fund of \$48.6 million or a net increase of 4.6 percent over 2012-13. The Legislature also authorized local boards to increase tuition by up to 3 percent, but this provision was vetoed by the Governor. As the result of this veto, sec. 1009.23(3)(c), F.S. authorizes a tuition increase of 1.7%, the current rate of inflation.
- ▶ Within the Florida College System Program Fund, the maximum increase in state funding was 39.6 percent. Seven colleges had a net increase of greater than 10.9 percent. With non-recurring funding ending and the Legislature reverting recurring funding for several special projects appropriated in previous years, four colleges will receive less funding than in 2012-13. Depending on an individual college's funding for retirement adjustments, operating cost for new facilities, legislative initiatives, reduction of prior special project funding, and tuition, the potential range of change will be from -7.9 percent to 23.5 percent.
- ▶ The Legislature appropriated \$5 million for performance funding as a separate categorical. Distribution of these funds will be based on the number of specified industry certifications earned by a college's students.
- ▶ The Florida Virtual Campus was appropriated \$12.3 million (with a matching amount provided through the State University System's appropriation.) Funding was discontinued for the 2+2 partnership initiative.

General Appropriations Bill SB 1500 and Valencia College Budget

ISSUE	FY 2012-13 Appropriation	2013-14 Session Conference Report
FCSPF-Operating Funds General Revenue	\$ 57,136,806	\$ 54,697,159
FCSPF-Operating Funds Lottery	\$ 11,861,086* (*includes \$6,036,296 non-recurring)	\$ 12,518,377
Total FCSPF Appropriations	\$ 68,997,892* * (\$62,961,596 recurring)	\$ 67,215,536
Fixed Capital Outlay - Lottery/PECO		
Maj Ren/Rem, Emg repl-Chill w/loop, infrastr-East campus	\$ 0	\$ 2,718,884
Sum of the Digits Allocation (est.) (Maintenance)	\$ 247,430	\$ 1,906,147
Permission from the Legislature relating to Relocation of District Office ("Back of Bill" Language)	SECTION 10. Pursuant to section 1013.40, Florida Statutes, the specified Florida College System colleges are authorized to acquire or construct the following facilities from non-PECO sources, which could require general revenue funds for operation and maintenance. If existing facilities are part of these projects, each such building or site must be certified to be free of asbestos or other hazardous materials before the stated college may acquire or expend construction funds on the facility. ...	20. Valencia College - Acquire land/facilities and construct/remodel/renovate facilities for administrative offices, meeting rooms, support space, and parking, from local funds at the State Board of Education approved District Office Center (formerly known as the Downtown Center).

► **Foundation Matching Funds**

For the sixth consecutive year, the legislature declined to fund the Florida College System's challenge matching grants program. If funded, Valencia's Foundation would have received \$7,245,090 to match private contributions received by February 1, 2012.

► **Facilities Matching Funds**

For the sixth consecutive year, the legislature declined to fund the Florida College System's facilities matching grants program. If funded, Valencia would have received \$5,181,896 to match contributions received for the construction of Building 4, Osceola Campus.

Florida College System 2012-13 and 2013-14 Funding

Issue	Funding 2012-13	Funding 2013-14
Florida College System Program Fund (FCSPF) - Lottery	\$180,808,060	\$204,938,935
Florida College System Program Fund (FCSPF) - GR	\$870,982,214	\$895,449,775
Performance Incentives	\$0	\$5,000,000
Adults with Disabilities	\$876,206	\$876,206
Student Fees	5% increase	3 % increase (VETOED)
Facilities Matching	0	0
Phillip Benjamin Matching	0	0
Fixed Capital Outlay (PECO) TOTAL	\$69,098,805	\$73,760,867 (note: \$32,250,000 of this amount was VETOED)
PECO Sum-of-Digits	\$5,377,488	\$41,665,147
First Generation Matching - Lottery	\$1,327,166 Florida College System Share	\$1,327,166 Florida College System Share
College Reach Out Program	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Displaced Homemakers	\$1,816,434	\$1,816,434 (VETOED)
Public Financial Aid Lottery General Revenue (FSAG) Total	\$45,100,892 <u>\$59,602,832</u> Total \$104,703,724	\$45,100,892 <u>\$57,863,695</u> Total \$102,964,587
Florida Virtual Campus (FDLN,FACTS,CCLA,FCLA)	\$10,963,647	\$12,329,843
2 + 2 Partnerships, SUS and FCS	\$3,000,000	\$0

Appropriations Proviso, Implementing, and Conforming Bill Issues

▶ The Legislature has three methods to reflect funding decisions made in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) process.

◆ “Proviso” is language in the General Appropriations Act attached to a specific appropriation which directs or authorizes how the funds can be expended.

◆ An "implementing bill" is a substantive bill which provides instructions to enact specific provisions for a GAA appropriation or proviso by changing the law (Florida Statutes) temporarily for one year. This is necessary because the courts have ruled the GAA cannot contradict current law; however, there may be a need to temporarily suspend some provision of law.

◆ A "conforming bill" is also a substantive bill which may “travel” with the GAA. It differs from the implementing bill in that it makes permanent changes to Florida Statutes.

▶ In summary, proviso language and implementing bills are law for only one year and then they expire, while a conforming bill makes a permanent change in Florida law. While the Governor may veto the entire appropriations act or exercise his veto by “line item,” he does not have “line item” veto in a conforming or implementing bill but must act on the entire bill. Bills which are passed by the Legislature are sent to the Governor. The Governor may sign, veto, or allow a bill to become law without his signature. Because the Legislature has now adjourned the 2013 Session, the Governor has fifteen consecutive days from the date he receives a bill to act on that bill. Leadership of the Legislature staggers sending bills to the Governor in order to provide time to fully review the content/impact of bills.

▶ When a bill is passed and sent to the Governor while the Legislature is still in session, the time line is different; the Governor must act within seven days from the time his office receives the bill. Several bills were signed into law during this legislative session, for example SB 1076 has already been signed and becomes effective on July 1, 2013.

▶ Following are the bill numbers of the appropriations bill and Florida College System related conforming bills passed this session:

- SB 1500, General Appropriations Act
- SB 1502, Appropriations Implementing Bill (however, no sections impacted higher education)
- SB 1514 and SB 1720, Higher Education Conforming Bills



Conforming Bills

Conforming Bill For Higher Education Conference Report for CS/CS/SB 1720

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013 -051)

Developmental Education

Developmental - Conforming Language

- Throughout the statutes, “college preparatory” is changed to “developmental education.” Many sections of the bill do not make substantive changes, just this “conforming” change.

Definitions, including developmental education Sections 9 and 18

- Defines developmental education as: Instruction through which a high school graduate who applies for any college credit program may attain the communication and computation skills necessary to successfully complete college credit instruction. Developmental education may be delivered through a variety of accelerated and co-requisite strategies and includes any of the following:
 - Modularized instruction that is customized and targeted to address specific skills gaps.
 - Compressed course structures that accelerate student progression from developmental instruction to college-level coursework.
 - Contextualized developmental instruction that is related to meta-majors.
 - Co-requisite developmental instruction or tutoring that supplements credit instruction while a student is concurrently enrolled in a credit-bearing course.
- Defines “gateway course” as the first course that provides transferable, college-level credit allowing a student to progress in his or her program of study.
- Defines “meta-major” as a collection of programs of study or academic discipline groupings that share common foundational skills.

Admissions / Counseling / Testing of Students Section 16

- Requires admissions counseling to all students entering college credit programs. Counseling provides developmental education options for students whose assessment indicates that they need to improve communication or computation skills that are essential to perform college-level work.
- Requires local board policies to provide that students are notified of developmental education options including tutoring, extended time in gateway courses, free online courses, adult basic education, adult secondary, or private provider education.
- Strikes the prohibition for students to enroll “in additional college level courses until the student scores above the cut score on all sections of the common placement test.”



Reflecting on Ocean Pond

[Common Placement Testing, Exemptions, Meta-Majors, College Plan, College Policies on Admissions, Developmental Education Options and Disclosure Requirements](#) Section 19

- Requires SBE to identify alternative assessments that may be accepted in lieu of the common placement test.
- Requires placement testing to have capacity to diagnose basic competences in English, reading, and mathematics essential for success in meta-majors and providing test information to students on the specific skills they need to attain.
- Requires SBE, by October 31, 2013, to establish by rule the test scores a student must achieve to demonstrate college ready skills, to include:
 - Prohibition against requiring the CPT or requiring developmental education for students who entered the 9th grade in a Florida public school in the 2003-04 school year and after and who earned a standard HS diploma. It also exempts active duty members of the military.

Note: This section will likely need to be implemented for Spring 2014, following approval of the SBE rule.
 - Allows the exempted students to choose to be tested or take developmental education once counseled and advised of options.
 - Mandates that passing test scores are good for two years and students cannot be required to retest or take developmental education.
- Repeals requirement for students to complete college preparatory courses by the time they earn 12 college credits.
- Requires, by December 31, 2013, the SBE (in consultation with BOG) to approve meta-majors and academic pathways that identify gateway courses.
 - Requires colleges to use placement test results to determine readiness for the student's chosen meta-major.
 - Requires colleges to counsel students into college credit as quickly as possible with developmental education limited to content needed for the meta-major.
- Requires, by March 1, 2014, colleges to develop a plan to implement developmental education and submit it to the Chancellor for approval. Implementation can be at any time but no later than Fall 2014. Each plan must include, at a minimum, local policies that outline:
 - Documented student achievements such as grade point averages, work history, military experience, participation in juried competitions, career interests, degree major declaration, or any combination of achievements that the institution may consider, in addition to CPT scores for advising students regarding enrollment options.
 - Developmental education strategies available to students.
 - A description of student costs and financial aid opportunities associated with each option.
 - Provisions for the collection of student success data.
 - A comprehensive plan for advising students into appropriate developmental education strategies based on student success data.

[CS/CS/SB 1720, cont.](#)

- Requires colleges to submit accountability reports that include student success data relating to each developmental education strategy implemented by the institution by October 31, 2015. Chancellor compiles and submits the reports to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker and the SBE each year by December 31.

[Reporting Cost of Developmental Education](#) Section 37

- Requires FCS institutions to report as a separate item in the annual cost analysis the volume and cost of developmental education options provided to students.

General Education Requirements

[General Education Courses; Common Prerequisites](#) Sections 5 and 15

- Revises the general education requirements from 30 hours to 36 hours. Section 5 and 15
- Extends to 2015-16 implementation of the requirement that entering students complete at least one identified course in each subject area as specified in law.
- Allows core courses to be revised or the five-course maximum within each subject area to be exceeded, if approved by the SBE and the BOG. Must be recommended by the subject area faculty committee, and approved by the ACC. Section 15
- Requires all public postsecondary educational institutions to *accept* the general education core courses (current law says *offer* and *accept*) as meeting general education core course requirements. Section 15
- Continues requirement that students entering an FCS institution or state university in 2014-2015 and thereafter demonstrate competency in a foreign language as part of the associate in arts degree. Section 15

Articulation Issues

[Creation of Office of K-20 Articulation](#) Section 2

- Creates the Office of K-20 Articulation as a separate division within the DOE.

[Articulation Coordinating Committee – Expansion of Duties](#) Section 14

- Requires Articulation Coordinating Committee to provide recommendations related to access, quality, and reporting of data maintained by the K-20 data warehouse. Also adds the duty of fostering timely collection and reporting of statewide education data to improve the K-20 performance accountability system, including but not limited to, data quality, accessibility, and protection of student records and requires the Office of K-20 Articulation to provide administrative support for the Committee.
- Amends membership to allow K-12 education representatives to come from public or nonpublic (was only public) and to insure that the nonpublic postsecondary sector is represented.



[Okeehumkee on the Oklawaha](#)

Audits and Financial Penalties

Auditor General Reporting Requirements Relating to FCS Institutions Section 1

- Amends current law which states that the Auditor General shall notify the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee when it finds that a college or university has not taken full corrective action regarding an audit finding for two preceding financial or operational audits. Amendments require the Committee to refer the matter to the BOG or the SBE, respectively, for appropriate action. (see Section 21 authorizing withholding of lottery funds for failure to comply).

SBE Oversight Enforcement Authority – Withholding Lottery Funds Section 21

- Authorizes the SBE to withhold lottery funds, rather than just reduce such funds as presently authorized, until the school district or Florida college complies with the law or SBE rule (see Section 1 for Auditor General Authority.)

Student Fees

FCS Distance Learning Student Fees (Non-Resident) Section 28

- Allows FCS District Board of Trustees to establish a differential out-of-state fee for non-residents enrolled in distance learning. The fee must be sufficient to defray the full cost of instruction.

Fee Exemptions Section 29

- Increases the limit for Florida college fee exemptions from 40 to 54 FTEs or 1 % of the college's total FTE enrollment, whichever is greater.

Other Higher Education Issues

Bright Futures Scholarship Program Section 33

- Repeals the requirement for students to submit a FAFSA application in order to receive an award.

Penalties Related to Reporting of Child Abuse, Abandonment, or Neglect Section 3

- Authorizes the SBE to adopt rules to implement the “Vulnerable Peoples Act” as it relates to the FCS institutions and other sectors.

K-20 Accountability, Data Reporting Section 20

- Requires integration of SUS database into the K-20 data warehouse and requires public and Florida Resident Access Grant institutions to report data.

Higher Education Coordinating Council (HECC) Section 8

- Revises membership of the HECC to include:
 - Member of the BOG to be appointed by the chair of the BOG.
 - Member of the SBE to be appointed by the chair of SBE.

[CS/CS/SB 1720, cont.](#)

- President of Enterprise Florida or a designated member of the Stakeholder Council to be appointed by the President.
- Executive Director of the Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges.
- President of Workforce Florida or his or her designee.
- Three members of the business community, one each to be appointed by the Senate President, Speaker of the House and the Governor.
- President of Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida.
- RETAINS the chancellors of FCS and SUS.
- Adds duty to facilitate data solutions identified by ACC to improve K-20 education performance accountability system.
- Requires the Office of K-12 Articulation, in collaboration with BOG and Division of Colleges, to provide administrative support.
- Allows members serve for two years and elect the chair.

[Commission on Independent Education \(CIE\) Reporting Requirements](#) Section 13

- Requires CIE to report data (in a format specified by DOE) on students who receive State funds that includes: retention rates, transfer rates, completion rates, graduation rates, employment and placement rates, and earnings of graduates. Specifies dates reports are due.

[Conforming Bill for Higher Education Conference Report for SB 1514](#)

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013 – 045)

[Brevard Community College Name Change](#) Section 1

- Renames Brevard Community College as Eastern Florida State College.

Higher Education

[Dual Enrollment](#) Section 13

- Revises FTE reporting for the K-12 system.
- Mandates that school districts pay the standard tuition (not fees) to a College for students attending dual enrollment classes on a College campus. Requires school districts to cover Colleges' actual costs incurred when instruction is offered on the K-12 site. If taught by the college faculty, the School District will reimburse the college the costs associated with the proportion of salary and benefits, and other actual costs, to provide the instruction. If taught by the high school instructor, the School District will only be responsible for the college's actual costs. Such payments to be made from the FEEP allocation to the school district.
- Removes authority for the Colleges to limit dual enrollment based on capacity issues. Requires school districts to permit a student to enter a dual enrollment course if the student is otherwise eligible.



[To Have and Have Not](#)

[SB 1514, cont.](#)

Salary Caps Sections 21 and 22

Makes permanent a cap on remuneration, from State appropriated funds, of college presidents and administrative employees. Cap was previously set at \$200,000 from State appropriated funds and was renewed annually. This change makes that cap permanent.

OTHER BILLS THAT PASSED

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

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-027)

Postsecondary Provisions

K-20 Mission Expansion Section 1

- Expands comprehensive K-20 career and education planning by requiring the provision of information to students and parents on career opportunities, education requirements associated with each career, institutions that prepare students to enter each career, and financial aid information.

Creation of Vocational Technical Centers Governing Boards Section 3

- Allows a School Board to create governing boards for a district Vocational Technical Center (VTC), with membership and duties.
- Delegates to the VTC board decisions regarding entrance requirements for students, curriculum, program development, budget and funding allocations, development of partnership agreements with local businesses and appropriate industry certifications.
- Requires VTC governing board to approve only courses and programs that contain industry certifications. A course may be continued if at least 25% of the students enrolled in the course attain an industry certification. If fewer than 25% attain the industry certification, the course must be discontinued the following year.

Industry Certification List Section 37

- Requires SBE to approve, at least annually, the Postsecondary Industry Certification Funding List for school district workforce programs, FCS institutions and SUS Institutions. The Commissioner recommends the list to the SBE for approval. The Chancellors of the FCS, SUS and Career and Adult Education work with local workforce boards, other postsecondary institutions, businesses and industry to identify, create, and recommend to the Commissioner the certifications that should be on the list. Requires Chancellors to review results of the Economic Security Report of employment and earning outcomes when determining the recommended certifications, as well as other reports and indicators available regarding certification needs.



Patriot And Warrior

Note: *The Economic Security Report* is Florida’s initiative to better inform students and parents of the employment and economic outcomes for degrees earned at SUS and FCS institutions. The 2012 Legislature required the Department of Economic Opportunity to prepare a report on the employment and earnings of graduates from public postsecondary institutions. Colleges must provide students electronic access to the *Economic Security Report* beginning in 2014-15. The FCS uses the website titled “Smart College Choices” that provides employment and wage data for degree and certificate programs by college. <http://smart-college-choices.com>

Proviso for line item 120 requires the dissemination of the report. Each college is to determine the method and formats for disseminating the report, which shall occur no later than December 1, 2013. Colleges shall submit a copy of their plan for distributing the report to the DOE and ensure that exceptional students have appropriate access to the report. The Chancellor of the FCS shall approve the distribution plan on or before October 1, 2013.

Funding for Specified Industry Certifications Section 59

- Creates performance funding category in the College Program Fund to reward colleges for industry certifications connected to postsecondary training. Funding is contingent upon the Legislature appropriating funds in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).
- Allows Colleges to earn bonus funding when students obtain industry certifications in an occupational area specified by the Legislature. Establishes a priority for occupational areas emphasized in state, national, or corporate grants provided to Florida educational institutions. Establishes \$1,000 per industry certification may be earned but allows for proration of funds if necessary. Authorizes a cap of \$15 million in performance funding for targeted industry certifications.
- Requires FCS Chancellor to identify certifications eligible for funding on the Postsecondary Industry Certification Funding List, based upon the occupational areas specified in the GAA.

Note: The areas specified for 2013-14 in the GAA (line item 119A) include industry certifications for:

- Automotive service technology
- Cyber security
- Cloud virtualization technology
- Advanced manufacturing
- Welding
- Federal Aviation Administration airframe mechanics and power-plant mechanics
- Pharmacy technicians
- Heating, ventilation and air conditioning technicians



[A New Age](#)

[CS/CS/SB 1076, cont.](#)

Note: \$5 million was appropriated for Performance Based Incentives for industry in certifications in 2013-14. Requires the FCS Chancellor to identify the associated certifications for each area and to prepare a report for each certification to include cost, percent employed, and salary of graduates. Funding to be distributed by June 1, 2014. (Line item 119A of the GAA, SB 1500).

[Performance Funding for FCS](#) Section 61

- Requires, by October 31, 2013, the SBE to recommend methodology for allocating performance funding for the FCS institutions (and the BOG recommends for the SUS) based upon percentage of graduates employed or enrolled in further education, the average wages of employed graduates, and the average cost per graduate. **Note:** No performance funding was provided for 2013-14.

[Tuition Flexibility for \\$10,000 Bachelor's Degree](#) Section 56

- Authorizes colleges to waive any portion of the tuition, activity and service fee, financial aid fee, technology fee, capital improvement fee, and distance learning fee for the purpose of offering a Bachelor's degree for state residents so that the cost of tuition and the fees do not exceed \$10,000 for the entire degree program.
- Limits waivers to upper-level courses not to exceed 100 percent of the number of required credit hours of the Bachelor's degree program for which the student is determined eligible.

[Bright Futures](#) Section 57

- Deletes requirement for Bright Futures recipients to complete a FAFSA.

[Dual Enrollment Programs for Career Students](#) Section 32

- Limits career dual enrollment as curricular options to pursuing industry certifications, which count as credits toward the high school diploma industry and certificate or associate degree.
- Defines career early admission as a form of dual enrollment when students enroll full-time in a career center of a FCS institution in programs (was courses) leading to industry certifications. Allows participation if students have completed 4 semesters (was 6) of full-time secondary enrollment (includes 9th grade).

[Adult General Education](#) - "Action Steps" Section 50

- Requires, effective July 1, 2013, all students entering adult education to complete 'action-steps-to-employment' before the completion of the first term. Steps include identifying employment opportunities, creating a personalized employment goal, conducting a skill and knowledge inventory, comparing results with what is needed to attain the employment goal, and upgrading students' skills and knowledge needed through adult general education programs.



[Beyond the Seven Mile Bridge](#)

[Complete Florida](#) Section 51

- Makes permanent a previous pilot program to attract students to complete their degrees online. Priority will be given to adult learners who are veterans or active duty military. Initial Partners included University of West Florida (lead), St. Petersburg College and Florida State College at Jacksonville.
- Allows the BOG's gap analysis to be used in the selection of degree programs.
- Extends implementation deadline to the end of the 2013-2014 academic year, and must now identify changes to the statewide computer assisted student advising system.
- Requires a report from UWF and its partners on the program to the chairs of BOG, SBE and the Legislature by September 1, 2013.

Note: Funding of \$4 million was provided to the University of West Florida for implementation of Complete Florida by the institutions.

High School Provisions

[Graduation Requirements](#) Sections 17, 18 and 21

- Creates new Standard High School Diploma effective for students entering 9th grade in the 2013-14 school year, designed to prepare students for postsecondary work. (See chart in appendix A)
- Creates two designations that may be added to the standard high school diploma with additional student work: 1) Merit Designation – student must attain one or more industry certifications, and 2) Scholar Designation – requires additional courses and exams (consistent with university entrance requirements.)
- Allows graduation credits to be earned through equivalent, applied, integrated or career education courses including work-related internships. Definitions include:
 - Equivalent courses include one or more courses identified by content area experts as being a match to the core curricula content of another course.
 - Applied course include real-world applications of a career and technical education standard used in business or industry.
 - Integrated courses include content from several courses within a content area or across content areas.
- Requires remediation while the student is still in high school based on inadequate scores on FCAT, or common core assessments when implemented.
- Requires school districts to notify students and parents in writing regarding standard diploma requirements, available designations, state scholarship programs and postsecondary admissions.
- Creates process for developing career education courses that allow students to simultaneously earn career education and core academic credit.



[The Spring of Life](#)

Student Assessment Program for Public Schools Section 33

- Revises provisions related to FCAT and statewide, standardized end of course (EOC) assessment to align with the new testing requirements for a standard high school diploma.
- Requires the Commissioner to adopt a concordant score on the SAT and ACT for 10th grade FCAT Reading and a “comparative” score on at least one assessment for the Algebra I EOC assessment.
- The Commissioner is authorized to identify comparative scores for other statewide, standardized EOC assessments.

Common Placement Testing for Public Postsecondary Education Section 35

- Amends requirement for high schools to evaluate college readiness before 12th grade to correlate to new high school assessments.

Grandfather Provision for High School Students Section 43

- Allows any student who selected and is participating in an accelerated high school graduation option before July 1, 2013, to continue that option.

Next Generation Sunshine Skills Standards Section 5

- Provides transition to Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) and related assessments.

Elementary and Middle School Provisions

Technology Recognition Certificates Section 7

- Requires DOE to contract with technology companies that have approved certifications on the Industry Certification Funding List or the Postsecondary Industry Certification Funding List to develop two recognitions. These recognitions are optional for the school districts but bonus funds are tied to them.
- Creates option for elementary school students to earn Florida Cyber Security Recognition (awareness of safety when using the internet) and Florida Digital Arts Recognition (combines artistic talent with technology skills).
- Creates option for middle school students to earn Florida Digital Tools Certificate (digital technology skills needed for future academic work and future employment, including word processing, spreadsheet display, and the creation of presentations that include sound, text and graphics).

Public Private Partnerships: CS/CS/HB 85

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-223)

- Creates an alternative procurement process and requirements for public-private partnerships to facilitate the construction of public-purpose projects, including educational facilities.
- Creates a seven-member Public Facilities and Infrastructure Act Guidelines Task Force to recommend, by July 1, 2014, guidelines for the Legislature to consider for public-private partnerships to foster uniformity across the state. The Task Force would terminate on December 31, 2014.
- Responsible “public entities” may develop and use their own guidelines, as long as consistent with the Task Force guidelines.

[CS/CS/HB 85, cont.](#)

- Specifies the requirements for partnerships, including provisions requiring public entities to notice unsolicited proposals, conduct independent analyses of proposed partnerships, notify other affected local jurisdictions, and enter into interim and comprehensive agreements for qualifying projects.
- Authorizes responsible public entities to approve a qualifying project if there is a need for or benefit derived from the project, the estimated cost is reasonable, and the private entity's plans will result in the timely acquisition, design, construction, improvement renovation, expansion, equipping, maintenance, or operation of the qualifying project.

Lake-Sumter Name Change: HB 209

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-024)

- Renames Lake-Sumter Community College as Lake-Sumter State College.

Digital Learning: CS/HB 7029

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-225)

K-12 Online Catalog Section 1

- Requires the DOE to develop an online catalog of available digital learning courses from public and private providers. Each course must have a course description, completion and passage rates, as well as a method for students and teacher users to provide evaluative feedback.

The Florida Virtual School (FVS) Section 2

- Creates Florida Virtual School Global (FVSG) for services outside of Florida. Adds ability for an alternative testing site if agreed to by the school district and the FVS.
- Requires the Auditor General to conduct an operational audit of FVS and FVSG.

School District Virtual Courses Section 4

- Requires the school districts to code blended courses for reporting purposes.
- Allows students to enroll in an online course offered by any other district without limitations.
- Adds requirement that access to virtual courses shall be available to students during the normal school day.

Florida Approved Courses and Tests (FACT) Initiative Section 5

- Provides purposes and intent to include expanding options to suit unique student interests, satisfy educational requirements, and accelerating student accomplishment of goals.
- Requires, beginning in the 2015-16 school year, for FACT to be implemented to expand student choices in selecting high-quality online courses, including MOOCs, for promotion or graduation.
- Allows courses to use a blended learning model and include differentiated instruction, flexible scheduling, differentiated teaching and self-paced learning. Also allows instruction to be provided using online videos, class forums and homework assignments and projects, coupled with one-one-one direct instructional support to students.

Florida Approved Courses (FACs) Section 5

- Requires DOE to publish a list of online providers approved to offer FACs which shall be listed in the online catalog.
- Defines FAC as an “online course provided by individuals which include, but are not limited to, massive open online courses or remedial education associated with the courses that are measured pursuant to s 1008.22.”
- Allows MOOCs to be authorized in: algebra I, biology, geometry, and civics. Courses may be applied toward requirements for promotion or graduation in whole, in subparts, or in a combination of whole and subparts. A student may not be required to repeat subparts that are satisfactorily completed.
- Requires the FAC to be approved by the Commissioner of Education for application in K-12 public schools in accordance with rules of the SBE. Courses must be annually identified, approved, published and publicized.

FAC Provider Requirements Section 5

- Establishes FAC provider requirements to include non-sectarian, compliance with anti-discrimination requirements, instructional staff are Florida certified teachers or adjunct educators, background screening required on employees.
- Requires provider to provide information to parents and students online which include contact information, requirements for instructor contact.
- Requires provider to have prior successful experience offering online courses to elementary, middle or high school students. However, for those without this successful prior experience, DOE may conditionally approve them to operate for one year.
- Requires provider to ensure instructional and curricular quality through an accountability plan including meeting the standards of the International Association for K-12 Online Learning and the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), aligning instructional content with Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, and insuring mechanisms that determine a student satisfied requirements for grade level promotion and high school graduation.

Rules to Provide Postsecondary Credit for Online Courses Section 6

- Requires, beginning in 2015-16 school year, the SBE and BOG to adopt rules that enable students to earn academic credit for online courses, including MOOCs, prior to initial enrollment at a postsecondary institution.
- Rules of SBE and BOG must include procedures for credential evaluation and the award of credit, including, but not limited to recommendations for credit by ACE; equivalency and alignment of coursework with appropriate courses; course descriptions; type and amount of credit that may be awarded; and transfer of credit.

Test Administration Section 7

- Expands authority for testing to be administered through contracts in other locations approved by DOE.

Private Contractor to review courses Section 8

- Requires, by August 30, 2013, DOE to contract with a qualified contractor to review and provide recommendations for online courses, including MOOCs and competency-based online courses for K-12 and postsecondary education. The recommendations must, at a minimum include improving access to the online courses; approving the courses; funding the courses; holding providers accountable; and awarding credit for such courses.
- Requires the department to identify measures of quality based upon student outcomes, such as completion and achievement rates correlated appropriately to each delivery model.
- Requires measures for students to demonstrate competency, such as prior learning assessments, end-of-course exams, assessments established by regionally accredited public institutions which may be applied as one whole assessment or as two or more discrete sub assessments such that when combined, the sub assessments are equivalent to a whole assessment.
- Allows for opportunities to use online courses, including MOOCs using blended learning or other tools delivered in modules or segments to provide instruction for students in K-12 education.

Findings Report

- Requires the DOE shall provide findings and recommendations to the Governor, President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House by February 1, 2014.

Florida College System Police Officers: CS/SB 454

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-17)

- Aligns College System statutes with K-12 and state university statutes related to mutual aid agreements, giving FCS officers the same authority as other public education sector law enforcement.
- Provides FCS law enforcement officers with express authority to enter into mutual aid agreements with local law enforcement agencies, with authority to patrol within 1000 feet of any college owned or leased property or within an agreed upon jurisdictional area.

Independent Living: CS/SB 1036

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-178)

- Provides young adults the option to remain in foster care until the age of 21, instead of 18. Doing so is designed to encourage completion of high school or GED, enrollment in post-secondary education, or beginning a career.
- Restructures the Road-to-Independence Program to allow for enrollment as a full-time student or equivalent in eligible postsecondary education, or part-time in some circumstances or with approval from academic advisor.
- Requires DCF to work with the BOG, the FCS and DOE to address the need for a comprehensive support structure in the academic arena. SUS and FCS to provide postsecondary educational campus coaching positions, integrated into the institution. DCF has the discretion to determine which college or university will offer a campus coaching position, based on demographic data indicating the greatest need. Campus coaches are to be employees of the educational institution.

Emergency Medical Services: SB 520

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-128)

- Deletes the requirement for emergency technicians and paramedics to obtain human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) training and continuing education instruction.
- Links the definitions of advanced life support and basic life support to the EMT-Paramedic National Standard and the EMT-Basic National Standard, respectively, as well as the National EMS Education Standards of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT).
- Adds those National EMS Education Standards approved by the Department of Health (DOH) to the allowed standards on which EMS trainers may base their curricula.
- Increases the period of time within which an EMT or a paramedic must pass their required certification exam after completing their training program from one year to two years.

Political Subdivisions/ Employee Benefits: CS/HB 655

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-200)

- Defines “political subdivision” as a county, municipality, department, commission, district, board, or other public body, whether corporate or otherwise, created by or under State law. Prohibits a political subdivision from requiring a minimum wage or employment benefit for employees of contractors or subcontractors, or awarding contract preferences based upon the wages or benefits provided to employees.
- Adds a definition of “employment benefits” as anything of value that an employee may receive from an employer in addition to wages and salary. The term “State minimum wage” is also added and means a minimum wage required under the State Constitution or state law.
- Creates the Employer-Sponsored Benefits Study Task Force to be organized by September 31, 2013. Task Force to analyze employment benefits and the impact of State preemption of the regulation of such benefits. Due by January 15, 2014, to include findings and recommendations for legislative action regarding the regulation of employment benefits.

Teacher Preparation: CS/CS/SB 1664

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-85)

- Revises requirements for State approved educator preparation programs, educator and principal certification, and the Florida Teachers Lead Program.
- Revises the framework for the approval of teacher preparation programs based on performance outcome metrics and holds all preparation programs accountable.
- Streamlines the core curriculum so that it is more focused and relevant and allows for deeper preparation in standards-based instruction.
- Requires candidates to demonstrate that they have a positive impact on student learning growth in field experiences before completing a program.
-

Economic Development: SB 705

(Approved by Governor; Chapter 2013-120)

- Expands the list of entities eligible to receive assistance from the Florida Institute for the Commercialization of Public Research to include “innovation businesses.” It also allows the Institute to create corporate subsidiaries; to acquire ownership (and related) rights with respect to the products of financed companies; and, under some circumstances, to charge for services provided to private companies and/or organizations whose products are developed by the R&D activities of a publicly supported college, university or research institute.
- Creates the Florida Technology Seed Capital Fund as a subsidiary of the Institute, for purposes of stimulating greater private-sector investment and providing advice and other value-added services to start-up companies within targeted industry sectors.

Public Meetings: CS/CS/SB 50

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-227)

- Requires that any Board or other public body permit citizens be heard during the decision making process. Provides that the opportunity to be heard does not have to occur at the hearing where the final decision is made, but must be prior to the final decision. Requires affected public bodies to enact appropriate policies and procedures. Provides for legal remedies for violation.

Public Construction Projects: CS/CS/HB 269

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-193)

- Requires certain governmental bodies to identify materials to be utilized on public construction projects. If wood is utilized, requires acquisition within the State of Florida, if available. Common materials such as plywood for forms are exempt. This does not appear to apply to FCS institutions.
- Requires building permitting agencies to review and approve a structural inspection plan for threshold buildings prior to issuing a building permit and to approve the inspection schedules prepared by the architect and engineer of record. Colleges will need to comply with the threshold building permit process specified. Section 16
- Directs DBPR to prepare a new energy efficiency code that will apply to the design and operation of all buildings. FCS college buildings are expected to have to comply with this Energy Conservation code. Section 18
- Clarifies applicability of thermal efficiency standards for all buildings, including college buildings. Section 20
- Outlines specific building features that must be taken into account when designing, operating and renovating non-residential buildings. Includes elements such as HVAC, external envelope components, lighting and all systems consuming energy. Sections 21 and 23

Procurement of Commodities and Contractual Services: CS/CS/HB 1309

(Approved by Governor; Chapter 2013-154)

- Creates new subsection in the public records statute pertaining to contracts of "public agencies," defined in a manner that includes colleges. All contracts for services will be required to include provisions that the contractor comply with public records laws.
- Permits Department of Management Services to lead or enter into joint agreements with governmental entities for the purchase of commodities or contractual services that can be used by multiple agencies. Services or commodities provided to State agencies by governmental entities are now *not* subject to the competitive solicitation requirements otherwise required by law.

Transparency in State Contracting: HB 5401

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013 – 054)

- Requires the Governor's Office to establish and maintain a single website that provides access to all other websites providing information on the approved operating budget for each branch of State government and state agency, and providing information on fiscal planning for the State, all with specified data and features.
- Requires the Department of Management Services to establish and maintain a website that contains certain information regarding employees of State agencies, state universities, and the State Board of Administration (does not include employees of colleges).
- Requires, by November 1, 2013, the Legislative Auditing committee must recommend to the Senate President and the House Speaker additional information to be added to a website, such as whether to expand the scope of information to include state universities, Florida College System institutions, school districts, charter schools, charter technical career centers, local government units, and other governmental entities, and a format for collecting the displaying such additional information.
- Requires the Chief Financial Officer to establish and maintain a contract tracking system for the contracts and contract amendments of "state entities," a term which is defined and does not appear to include Florida College System institutions.

Design Professionals: CS/SB 286

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-028)

- Provides tort liability immunity to design professionals (individuals licensed in Florida as an architect, interior designer, landscape architect, engineer, or surveyor) employed by a business or an agent of a business. The individual design professional immunity takes effect if:
 - The contract is made between the business entity and the claimant (or another entity on claimant's behalf).
 - The contract does not name an individual employee or agent as a party.
 - The contract prominently states that an individual may not be held liable for negligence.
 - The business entity maintains professional liability insurance as required under contract.
 - And all damages are solely economic in nature and do not extend to personal injuries or property not subject to the contract.

Charter Schools: CS/CS/HB 7009

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-250)

- Provides clarification language to charter sponsors regarding the application and appeal processes.
- Impacts FCS charter schools as it relates to monitoring by the school district, requiring annual report on student success and financials, and limiting approved teacher preparation programs. Limits employee contracts beyond the length of the charter contract and requires monthly financial reports.

Reviser's Bill: SB 1096

(Approved by Governor, Chapter 2013-035)

Combined effort by the Governor, Legislature, and education stakeholders to reduce regulation of public educational institutions and repeal obsolete laws. The following of interest to FCS institutions are repealed:

- Substance Abuse Symptom Training Programs (unfunded).
- Centers of Technology Innovation (unfunded and none in existence).
- Sponsorship of Athletic Activities (repeal of slow-pitch softball).
- Safety Issues in Courses Offered by Public Postsecondary Educational Institutions (covered by federal law).
- Transition to Teaching Program (grant has expired).
- Florida College System Institution and University Energy Consumption (reports submitted in 2011).

BILLS THAT FAILED

Residency for Tuition Purposes: CS/HB 7051

- Would have codified a ruling from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida by stating that a United States citizen who is a dependent child may not be denied classification as a resident for tuition purposes based solely upon the immigration status of his or her parent.
- Would have expanded the definition of parent to include step-parent, and the definition of dependent child to include anyone who is not deemed independent for federal financial aid purposes.
- Would have allowed a student to provide his or her own personal documents to establish residency as opposed to only the parent's documents.
- Would have allowed for veterans of the Armed Services, including reserves, who were honorably discharged and reside in Florida to immediately obtain residency for tuition purposes, without the 12 months requirement.

Retirement: CS/CS/SB 1392

- Would have required elected officials and Senior Management positions to participate in an investment plan (defined contribution). All other employees would have the ability to choose between the Pension Plan (defined benefit).

Bills That Failed, cont.

Retirement: CS/CS/HB 7011

- Would have required all positions (full time) to participate in an investment plan (defined contribution). The pension plan (defined benefit) would have ended on the effective date for all new employees. Current employees would have been unaffected.



A New Capital

Education Accountability: SB 878 / HB 7027

- Would have formalized DOE procedures for accessing and reporting data and ensuring compliance with FERPA. However, the language would have created substantial FERPA related challenges for colleges.
- Promoted adoption of a common set of data elements identified by the National Center for Education Statistics to support the effective exchange of data within and across states. Provided a timeline for annually collecting and reporting student level data from the prior year. Improved and streamlined access to data maintained by the K-20 data warehouse by creating and fully implementing a web-based interface for public access and a self-service.

Discretionary School Sales Surtax: SB 1176 / HB 337

- Would have increased capital funding by authorizing public higher education institutions to use a portion of the School Capital Outlay Tax, in accordance with a required inter-local agreement with school district.
- Would have preserved local control and decision making authority by mandating that the surtax must be levied pursuant to a descriptive resolution placed on a referendum ballot in the county of participation, conditioned to take effect only upon the approval of a majority of electors in the county voting in the referendum.

Local Surtax: CS/CS/SB 1718 / HB 1295

- Would have authorized a new discretionary sales surtax known as the Higher Education Surtax. It allowed a county to levy a voter-approved discretionary sales surtax of up to 0.5 percent for the benefit of Miami-Dade County, since it was the only county eligible under this section of law. The bill established procedures and requirements for deposits, investments and usage. An independent oversight board would have been required to approve all funding plans. The approved surtax would have expired after 5 years.

Bills That Failed, cont.

Adult Education Fees: HB 751/ SB 1610

- Would have revised student fees for adult general education programs, setting them at \$.83 per contact hour for residents and nonresidents and \$2.49 per contact hour for out-of-state students, and ended the current practice of charging block tuition.

Public Data: SB 1004/ HB 1133

- Would have required each college to submit an inventory of all public data in its custody to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Secretary of State by July 1, 2014, and every 6 months thereafter. "Public data" was defined to mean any document, paper, letter, map, book, tape, photograph, film, sound recording, data processing software, or other material, regardless of the physical form, characteristics, or means of transmission, made or received in connection with the official business of an agency.

Preference in Award of State Contracts: SB 684 / HB 307 / HB 1017

- Would have expanded the 5% 'Florida Preference' factor that public entities must apply in the competitive procurement process in the purchase of commodities and to the procurement of construction services.

Veteran Preference in State Purchasing: SB 1124 / HB 719

- Would have revised state agency competitive procurement preferences in regards to Veteran Business Enterprises (VBE) as certified by the Office of Supplier Diversity within DMS. Would have granted a 3% preference to the first \$500,000 of a certified VBE's submitted bid or proposal.

Health Care Practitioners: CS/SB 612

- Would have required those who introduce themselves as "doctor" when rendering healthcare to verbally disclose their status as a nurse practitioner, doctor of nursing practice, or corresponding appropriate title that corresponds with the person's license.

Credit Card Solicitations: HB 1217 / SB 1202

- Would have prohibited the advertising, marketing or merchandising of credit cards on Florida College System and state university campuses.

Public Record/Postsecondary Education Executive Search: CS/CS/HB 637

- Would have allowed search committees to withhold identifying information of applicants and potential applicants for president, provost, or dean of a state university or Florida College System institution.

Bills That Failed, cont.

Juvenile Justice Education Program: CS/HB 441 /CS/SB 1406

- Would have revised the accountability of juvenile justice education programs by requiring cost and effectiveness information, accountability and reports on educational performance of students in commitment, day treatment, prevention, and detention programs.
- Would have required school districts and juvenile justice education providers, in collaboration with others, to develop individualized transition plans, provide oversight and guidance on education transition planning and services, to provide career readiness and exploration opportunities and to eliminate barriers to education.

How to Find the Final Version of a Bill

The simplest way to see the final version of a bill is to go to www.flsenate.gov and enter the bill number in the space provided on the top of the homepage, or go to www.flhouse.gov and click on the top tab “Bills.” Senate bills are always even numbers (SB 00) and House bills are always odd numbers (HB 11). On the House site, note that you may choose either chamber or choose “both.” When you enter the bill number, the history of the bill will appear. For bills that have passed, go to the section on “Bill Text” and choose the entry followed by “ER,” which is the most recent, enrolled version of the bill. An enrolled bill is the one being sent to the Governor. For bills that have not passed, go to the section on “Bill Text” and choose the entry with the latest date, which is the final version of the bill before it failed.

APPENDIX A

NEW Standard High School Diploma

Subject Area	Requirements
English (ELA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 credits ELA I, II, III, and IV Passage of 10th grade FCAT Reading Must take 10th grade FCAT Writing
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 credits which must include Algebra I and Geometry Algebra I EOC assessment is 30% of final course grade and passage is required for a standard diploma. <u>NOTE:</u> student may earn credit for course without passage of EOC, but must pass EOC to graduate Geometry EOC assessment is 30% of final course grade Industry certification courses that lead to college credit may be substituted for up to 2 mathematics credits
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 credits including Biology I Biology I EOC assessment is 30% of final course grade Industry certification courses that lead to college credit may be substituted for up to 1 science credit
Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 credits: 1 U.S. History; 1 World History; .5 Economics, including financial literacy; .5 U.S. Government U.S. History EOC is 30% of final course grade
Foreign Language	None
Fine or Performing Arts	1 credit
Physical Education	1 credit
Electives	8 credits: School districts must develop/offer coordinated electives so students develop knowledge/skill in area of interest, such as STEM or Liberal Arts. Electives must include opportunities to earn college credit, including industry-certified career education programs, series of career-themed courses that result in industry certification or articulated award of college credit, or career education courses with a statewide or local articulation agreement which leads to college credit.
ADDITIONAL DESIGNATIONS	“Designation” will be added to the Standard High School Diploma with the following:
Merit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attain one or more industry certifications
Scholar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass 11th grade ELA common core assessment, effective when the state transitions to common core assessments Earn 1 credit in Algebra II and 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous course. When the state transitions to common core assessments, students must pass the Algebra II common core assessment Pass the Biology I EOC assessment and earn one credit in Chemistry or Physics and one credit in an equally rigorous course Pass the US History EOC assessment Earn two credits in the same foreign language Earn at least one credit in AP, IB, AICE, or dual enrollment

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS/DEFINITIONS

ACC	Articulation Coordinating Council
BOG	Board of Governors for the State University System
BOT	Board of Trustees
CIE	Council for Independent Education
CS	Committee Substitute
CPT	Common/College Placement Test
DBPR	Department of Business and Professional Regulation
DCF	Department of Children and Families
DMS	Department of Management Services
DOE	Department of Education
EOC	End of Course (exam)
FCS	Florida College System
FCSPF	Florida College System Program Fund
FCO	Fixed Capital Outlay
FAFSA	Free Application for Federal Student Assistance
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
FVC	Florida Virtual Campus: this entity was created to now encompass the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Florida Distance Learning Consortium (FDLC) ○ Florida Center for Advising and Academic Support (FCAAS) which runs the Florida Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students (FACTS) ○ College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) for the FCS ○ Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA) for the university system
GAA	General Appropriations Act, also referred to as the budget
HB	House Bill
HECC	Higher Education Coordinating Council
Line Item	The number attached to an appropriation or proviso in the GAA
MOOC	Massive Open Online Course
PECO	Public Education Capital Outlay
PECO Sum of Digits	Funds provided to the colleges for maintenance that is based upon square feet of facility space at the institution
Proviso	Language that directs specific instructions regarding an appropriation in the GAA
SB	Senate Bill
SBE	State Board of Education
VTC	Vocational Technical Center



Valencia College Legislative Delegation



*Please extend thanks to all of the members of Valencia's local legislative delegation
Their names and contact information are listed below.*

Senate



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President-Designate
(R) District 13

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Committee Assignments

Joint Legislative Budget Commission;
Appropriations; Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development (Chair); Environmental Preservation and Conservation;
Ethics and Elections; Gaming; Judiciary;
Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security; Rules;
Budget Conference - At Large;
Budget Conference - Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development/Transportation & Economic Development (Co Chair)



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Committee Assignments

Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining
Agriculture; Appropriations
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services (Chair)
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs
Environmental Preservation and Conservation
Health Policy
Select Committee on Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
Budget Conference - Health and Human Services/Health Care (Co Chair)



Senator Alan Hays
(R) District 11

District Address: 871 South Central Avenue
Umatilla, FL 32784-9290
Phone: (352) 742-6441

Legislative Address: 320 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
Phone: (850) 487-5011

Legislative Assistant: Nanci Cornwell, Jessica Crawford, Renee Hodges, Anne-Marie Norman

Email: hays.alan.web@flsenate.gov

Committee Assignments

Joint Legislative Auditing Committee
Joint Legislative Budget Commission
Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining (Alternating Chair); Appropriations
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government (Chair); Banking and Insurance
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs (Vice Chair)
Commerce and Tourism; Governmental Oversight and Accountability (Vice Chair); Budget Conference - General Government/Agriculture & Natural Resources (Co Chair); Budget Conference - General Government/Governmental Operations (Co Chair)

Valencia College Legislative Delegation: Florida Senate (continued)



**Senator Darren Soto
(D) District 14**

District Address: Kissimmee City Hall - Suite 305
101 North Church Street
Kissimmee, FL 34741
Phone: (407) 846-5187

Legislative Address: 220 Senate Office Building
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Phone: (850) 487-5014

Legislative Assistant: Christine Aleknavich
District Secretary: Tracy Brooks, Cecilia Figueroa

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Committee Assignments

Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining;
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice;
Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government; Community Affairs;
Environmental Preservation and Conservation;
Ethics and Elections;
Judiciary (Vice Chair);
Select Committee on Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ;
Budget Conference - General Government/Agriculture & Natural Resources;
Budget Conference – General;
Government/Governmental Operations



**Senator Kelli Stargel
(R) District 15**

District Address: Suite 102
902 S. Florida Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803
Phone: (863) 284-4430

Legislative Address: 324 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
Phone: (850) 487-5015

Legislative Assistant: Rachel Barnes, Samantha Hartman, Chris Dowdy

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Committee Assignments

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight;
Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development;
Commerce and Tourism;
Community Affairs;
Education;
Regulated Industries (Chair);
Budget Conference - General Government/Agriculture & Natural Resources;
Budget Conference - General Government/Governmental Operations



**Senator Geraldine Thompson
(D) District 12**

District Address: 511 West South Street
Suite 204
Orlando, FL 32805
Phone: (407) 245-1511

Legislative Address: 224 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
Phone: (850) 487-5012

Legislative Assistant: Roosevelt Holmes, Landra Robeson, Dan Rogers

Email: thompson.geraldine.web@flsenate.gov

Committee Assignments

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee
Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government (Vice Chair)
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs
Commerce and Tourism
Community Affairs (Vice Chair)
Transportation
Budget Conference - Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development/Transportation & Economic Development

Valencia College Legislative Delegation: Florida House of Representatives



**Representative
Bruce Antone
(D) District 46**

District Address: Tampa Avenue Complex
434 North Tampa Avenue
Orlando, FL 32805-1220
Phone: (407) 245-0303

Legislative Address: 1402 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5046

Legislative Assistant: Alicia Stallworth
District Secretary: Pamela Newton

Email:
bruce.antone@myfloridahouse.gov

Committee Assignments
Government Operations Appropriations
Subcommittee (Minority Ranking Member)
Transportation & Economic Development
Appropriations Subcommittee
Economic Development & Tourism
Subcommittee
Rulemaking Oversight & Repeal
Subcommittee



**Representative
Randolph Bracy
(D) District 45**

District Address: Suite 300
1800 Pembroke Drive
Orlando, FL 32810-6378
Phone: (407) 660-6670

Legislative Address: 1301 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5045

Legislative Assistant: Kyle Alexandre
District Secretary: Falecete Williams

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Committee Assignments
Local & Federal Affairs Committee
Choice & Innovation Subcommittee
K-12 Subcommittee
Higher Education & Workforce
Subcommittee
Criminal Justice Subcommittee



**Representative
Karen Castor Dentel
(D) District 30**

District Address: 696 North Maitland
Avenue
Maitland, FL 32751-4423
Phone: (407) 659-4818

Legislative Address: 1401 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5030

Legislative Assistant: Kathleen Roe
District Secretary: Helen Miller

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Committee Assignments
Education Appropriations Subcommittee
Economic Development & Tourism
Subcommittee
K-12 Subcommittee
Business & Professional Regulation
Subcommittee
Budget Conference - Education/Education



**Representative
Neil Combee
(R) District 39**

District Address: 108 West Polk Street
Auburndale, FL 33823-3428
Phone: (863) 968-5666

Legislative Address: 1302 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5039

Legislative Assistant: Barbara
Blasingame
District Secretary: Lori Allen

Email:
Neil.Combee@myfloridahouse.gov

Committee Assignments
Regulatory Affairs Committee
State Affairs Committee
Economic Development & Tourism
Subcommittee
Government Operations Subcommittee

Valencia College Legislative Delegation: Florida House of Representatives (continued)



**Representative
Tom Goodson
District 50**

District Address: Suite 1 C
400 South Street
Titusville, FL 32780-7610
Phone: (321) 383-5151

Legislative Address: 200 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5050

Legislative Assistant: Amy Gregory
District Secretary: Kerensa Slocum

Email:
tom.goodson@myfloridahouse.gov

Committee Assignments
Economic Affairs Committee (Vice Chair)
Transportation & Economic Development
Appropriations Subcommittee
Civil Justice Subcommittee
Insurance & Banking Subcommittee
Agriculture & Natural Resources
Subcommittee (Vice Chair)
Budget Conference - Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic
Development/Transportation & Economic
Development



**Representative
Mike La Rosa
(R) District 42**

District Address: 1224 10th Street
Saint Cloud, FL 34769-3343
Phone: (407) 891-2555

Legislative Address: 1302 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5042

Legislative Assistant: Rebekah Hurd
District Secretary: Sherry Goad, Stephen
Gately

Email:
Mike.LaRosa@myfloridahouse.gov

Committee Assignments
Local & Federal Affairs Committee
State Affairs Committee
Justice Appropriations Subcommittee
Business & Professional Regulation
Subcommittee
Energy & Utilities Subcommittee (Vice
Chair)
Budget Conference - Criminal and Civil
Justice/Justice



**Representative
Bryan Nelson
(R) District 31**

District Address: 409 S. Park Ave
Apopka, FL 32703-5261
Phone: (407) 884-2023

Legislative Address: 303 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5031

Legislative Assistant: Chelsea Swift
District Secretary: Emelien Kelly,
Jonathan Till

Email:
bryan.nelson@myfloridahouse.gov

Committee Assignments
Regulatory Affairs Committee
Government Operations Appropriations
Subcommittee
Health Quality Subcommittee
Insurance & Banking Subcommittee (Chair)
Select Committee on PPACA (Patient
Protection and Affordable Care Act)



**Representative
Steve Precourt
Majority Leader (2012-14)
(R) District 44**

District Address: Suite 270
7009 Dr. Phillips Boulevard
Orlando, FL 32819-5124
Phone: (407) 355-5784

Legislative Address: 322 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5044

Legislative Assistant: Maggie Mickler
District Secretary: Tricia Hall

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Committee Assignments
Appropriations Committee
Budget Conference - At Large

Valencia College Legislative Delegation: Florida House of Representatives (continued)



**Representative
Ricardo Rangel
(D) District 43**

District Address: 704 Mabbette Street
Kissimmee, FL 34741-5154
Phone: (407) 518-0043

Legislative Address: 1101 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
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Legislative Assistant: Al Yorston
District Secretary: Jennifer Marquez

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Committee Assignments
Local & Federal Affairs Committee
State Affairs Committee
Government Operations Appropriations
Subcommittee
Veteran and Military Affairs
Subcommittee
Government Operations Subcommittee



**Representative
Joe Saunders
Deputy Whip (2012-14)
(D) District 49**

District Address: Suite 130
3361 Rouse Road
Orlando, FL 32817-2145
Phone: (407) 207-7283

Legislative Address: 1101 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5049

Legislative Assistant: Carlos Smith
District Secretary: Madelyn Duran

Email:
Joe.Saunders@myfloridahouse.gov

Committee Assignments
Choice & Innovation Subcommittee
Higher Education & Workforce
Subcommittee
Education Committee
Health Quality Subcommittee



**Representative
Linda Stewart
(D) District 37**

District Address: 2212 Curry Ford Road
Orlando, FL 32806-2422
Phone: (407) 893-3141

Legislative Address: 1402 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5047

Legislative Assistant: Matt Alford
District Secretary: Dana Rutledge

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Linda.Stewart@myfloridahouse.gov

Committee Assignments
Agriculture & Natural Resources
Appropriations Subcommittee
Regulatory Affairs Committee
State Affairs Committee
Transportation & Highway Safety
Subcommittee
Select Committee on Claim Bills
Budget Conference - General
Government/Agriculture & Natural
Resources



**Representative
Victor Manuel Torres
(D) District 48**

District Address: Suite 1-C
5425 South Semoran Boulevard
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Phone: (407) 730-3422

Legislative Address: 1402 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 717-5048

Legislative Assistant: Joshua Romero
District Secretary: Natalie Intondi

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Committee Assignments
Government Operations Appropriations
Subcommittee
Transportation & Economic Development
Appropriations Subcommittee
Education Committee
Rulemaking Oversight & Repeal Subcommittee
Budget Conference - Finance and Tax/Finance
& Tax