



299628

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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Floor: 3/AD/3R

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04/25/2019 03:33 PM

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Senator Stargel moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 537 and 538

insert:

Section 6. Present subsection (7) of section 1004.335, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (8), a new subsection (7) is added to that section, and subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (g) of subsection (4), subsection (5), and paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of that section are amended, to read:

1004.335 Accreditation consolidation of University of South



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12 Florida branch campuses.—

13 (1) The University of South Florida Consolidation Planning
14 Study and Implementation Task Force is established to develop
15 recommendations to improve service to students by phasing out
16 the separate accreditation of the University of South Florida
17 St. Petersburg branch campus and the University of South Florida
18 Sarasota/Manatee branch campus, which were conferred by the
19 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on
20 Colleges (SACSCOC) pursuant to ss. 1004.33 and 1004.34,
21 respectively.

22 (4) No later than February 15, 2019, the task force must
23 submit a report to the University of South Florida Board of
24 Trustees which includes, at a minimum, recommendations on the
25 following:

26 (a) Identification of specific degrees in programs of
27 strategic significance, including health care, science,
28 technology, engineering, mathematics, and other program
29 priorities to be offered at the University of South Florida St.
30 Petersburg branch campus and the University of South Florida
31 Sarasota/Manatee branch campus and the timeline for the
32 development and delivery of programs on each campus;

33 (g) Developing and delivering integrated academic programs,
34 student and faculty governance, and administrative services to
35 better serve the students, faculty, and staff at the University
36 of South Florida College of Marine Science, the University of
37 South Florida Sarasota/Manatee branch campus, and the University
38 of South Florida St. Petersburg branch campus.

39 (5) No later than March 15, 2019, the Board of Trustees of
40 the University of South Florida, after considering the



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41 recommendations of the task force, must adopt and submit to the
42 Board of Governors an implementation plan that:

43 (a) Establishes a timeline for each step that is necessary
44 to terminate the separate accreditation for each campus no later
45 than June 30, 2020, while maintaining branch campus status for
46 both campuses, so that there is no lapse in institutional
47 accreditation for any campus during the phasing-out process.

48 (b) Minimizes disruption to students attending ~~any~~ the
49 University of South Florida or any of its branch campuses ~~campus~~
50 so that the consolidation of SACSCOC accreditation does not
51 impede a student's ability to graduate within 4 years after
52 initial first-time-in-college enrollment.

53 (c) Requires that, on or before July 1, 2020, the entirety
54 of the University of South Florida, including all branch
55 campuses and other component units of the university, operate
56 under a single institutional accreditation from the SACSCOC.

57 (d) Requires that, on each regularly scheduled submission
58 date subsequent to July 1, 2020, the University of South Florida
59 report consolidated data for all of the university's campuses
60 and students to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data
61 System and to the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors
62 shall use the consolidated data for purposes of determining
63 eligibility for funding pursuant to ss. 1001.7065 and 1001.92.
64 However, if the University of South Florida meets the deadline
65 outlined in paragraph (c) and the University of South Florida
66 Sarasota/Manatee and the University of South Florida St.
67 Petersburg maintain branch campus status as defined in
68 subsection (7), the Board of Governors may not use the
69 consolidated data for purposes of determining eligibility for



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70 funding pursuant to s. 1001.7065 until July 1, 2022.

71

72 The Board of Governors shall monitor the fidelity of the
73 implementation of the plan.

74 (6) Notwithstanding ss. 1001.7065 and 1001.92 or any Board
75 of Governors regulation to the contrary relating to the
76 calculation of graduation rates and retention rates, a student
77 who meets all of the following criteria may not be counted by
78 the Board of Governors when calculating or confirming the
79 graduation rate or the retention rate of the University of South
80 Florida under those sections:

81 (a) The student was admitted to and initially enrolled
82 before the spring 2020 semester as a first-time-in-college
83 student at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg branch
84 campus or the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee
85 branch campus.

86 (7) For purposes of this section, a branch campus is an
87 instructional site located geographically apart and independent
88 of the main campus of the institution. A location is independent
89 of the main campus if the location:

90 (a) Is permanent in nature;

91 (b) Offers courses in educational programs leading to a
92 degree, diploma, certificate, or other recognized educational
93 credential;

94 (c) Has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory
95 organization; and

96 (d) Has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

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99 And the title is amended as follows:

100 Delete line 65

101 and insert:

102 its space need calculation methodology; amending s.
103 1004.335, F.S.; clarifying that the University of
104 South Florida St. Petersburg and the University of
105 South Florida Sarasota/Manatee are branch campuses;
106 revising the date the Board of Governors will use
107 specified data to determine funding under certain
108 circumstances; requiring the Board of Governors to
109 monitor the implementation of a specified plan;
110 providing requirements for specified campuses to be
111 considered branch campuses; amending s.