

Tab 1	SB 194 by Martin (CO-INTRODUCERS) Gaetz ; Identical to H 00125 Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance					
163146	A	S	UNFAV	HE, Jones	btw L.48 - 49:	01/21 09:48 AM
Tab 2	SB 1246 by Davis ; Similar to H 01325 Health Science Workforce Shortages					

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA
EDUCATION POSTSECONDARY
Senator Calatayud, Chair
Senator Simon, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, January 21, 2026
TIME: 8:30—10:30 a.m.
PLACE: 301 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Calatayud, Chair; Senator Simon, Vice Chair; Senators Berman, Harrell, Jones, and Rodriguez

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 194 Martin (Identical H 125)	Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance; Designating October 14 of each year as “Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance”; authorizing the Governor to issue an annual proclamation, etc. GO 12/09/2025 Favorable HE 01/21/2026 Favorable FP	Favorable Yeas 4 Nays 2
2	SB 1246 Davis (Similar H 1325)	Health Science Workforce Shortages; Revising legislative intent to address workforce needs in health science education programs, in addition to nursing education programs; revising the definition of the term “student”; authorizing the Linking Industry to Nursing Education Fund to be used to match certain contributions, etc. HE 01/21/2026 Favorable AHE FP	Favorable Yeas 6 Nays 0

Other Related Meeting Documents

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Education Postsecondary

BILL: SB 194

INTRODUCER: Senators Martin and Gaetz

SUBJECT: Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance

DATE: January 20, 2026

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	McVaney	McVaney	GO	Favorable
2.	Jahnke	Bouck	HE	Favorable
3.			FP	

I. Summary:

SB 194 designates October 14 of each year as “Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance.” The bill authorizes the Governor to issue a proclamation designating the day as “Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance.”

The bill is not expected to impact state or local government revenues or expenditures.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Charlie Kirk

Charlie Kirk was a co-founder and executive director of Turning Point USA, Inc., a national student movement dedicated to identifying, organizing, and empowering young people to promote the principles of free markets and limited government.¹ Mr. Kirk was born “Charles James Kirk” on October 14, 1993, in Arlington Heights, Illinois. He died September 10, 2025, after being shot while speaking to a crowd at Utah Valley University in Orem, Utah.

Turning Point USA, Inc.

Turning Point USA, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation domiciled in Indiana.² “It is organized and operated exclusively for educational and charitable purposes in accordance with section 501(c)(3), to empower informed civic and cultural engagement grounded in American

¹ Turning Point USA, *Meet the Founder*, <https://tpusa.com/meetthefounder/> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

² Indiana Secretary of State: Business Services Division, *Public Business Search*, INBIZ, <https://bsd.sos.in.gov/PublicBusinessSearch> (search “turning point usa, inc.” as business name) (last visited Jan. 13, 2026) (on file with the Senate Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability).

exceptionalism and a positive spirit of action. Turning Point USA guides citizens through the development of knowledge, skills, values, and motivation, so they can meaningfully engage in their communities to restore traditional American values like patriotism, respect for life, liberty, family, and fiscal responsibility.”³

Turning Point USA’s student program educates young people about the importance of limited government, free markets, and freedom. There are club chapters on more than 3,500 high school and college campuses, where students are encouraged to be leaders in their communities and educate others about American ideals in a fun and compelling way.⁴

Legal Holidays and Special Observances in Florida

The legislature has designated numerous days as “legal holidays.” Whenever reference is made to “legal holidays” in contracts performed in Florida, the term is understood to include those holidays designated in s. 683.01, F.S., and any other days designated by law.⁵ Section 683.01, F.S., designates the following days as legal or public holidays:

- Sunday;
- New Year’s Day, January 1;
- Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., January 15;
- Birthday of Robert E. Lee, January 19;
- Lincoln’s Birthday, February 12;
- Susan B. Anthony’s Birthday, February 15;
- Washington’s Birthday, the third Monday in February;
- Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day, the fourth Thursday in March;
- Good Friday;
- Pascua Florida Day, April 2;
- Confederate Memorial Day, April 26;
- Memorial Day, the last Monday in May;
- Birthday of Jefferson Davis, June 3;
- Flag Day, June 14;
- Independence Day, July 4;
- Labor Day, the first Monday in September;
- Columbus Day and Farmers’ Day, the second Monday in October;
- Veterans’ Day, November 11;
- General Election Day.
- Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November;
- Christmas Day, December 25; and
- Shrove Tuesday, sometimes known as “Mardi Gras” in counties where carnival associations are organized for celebrating the day.

³ Turning Point U.S.A., Inc., Form 990: Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax (2021), available at https://apps.irs.gov/pub/epostcard/cor/800835023_202206_990_2023060921420938.pdf

⁴ Turning Point USA Students, *Start a Chapter*, <https://www.tpustudents.com/startachapter> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

⁵ Section 683.02, F.S.

Whenever a legal holiday falls on a Sunday, the Monday next following will be deemed the public holiday.⁶

In addition, the legislature has designated the following days for special observances statewide:

- Three Kings Day, January 6;⁷
- Arbor Day, the third Friday in January;⁸
- Florida Alzheimer's Disease Day, February 6;⁹
- Ronald Reagan Day, February 6;¹⁰
- Save the Florida Panther Day, the third Saturday of March;¹¹
- Medal of Honor Day, March 25;¹²
- Parents' and Children's Day, the first Sunday in April;¹³
- Everglades Day, April 7;¹⁴
- Pan-American Day, April 14;¹⁵
- Patriots' Day, April 19;¹⁶
- Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, May 1;¹⁷
- Law Day, May 1;¹⁸
- Child Welfare Professionals Recognition Day, the second Monday in May;¹⁹
- Law Enforcement Memorial Day, May 15;²⁰
- Teacher's Day, the third Friday in May;²¹
- Revive Awareness Day, June 6;²²
- Juneteenth Day, June 19;²³
- Purple Heart Day, August 7;²⁴
- Fentanyl Awareness and Education Day, August 21;²⁵
- Grandparents' Day and Family Caregivers' Day, the first Sunday after Labor Day;²⁶
- Florida Missing Children's Day, the second Monday in September;²⁷

⁶ Section 683.01(2), F.S.

⁷ Section 683.33, F.S.

⁸ Section 683.04, F.S.

⁹ Section 683.24, F.S.

¹⁰ Section 683.26, F.S.

¹¹ Section 683.18, F.S.

¹² Section 683.147, F.S.

¹³ Section 683.17, F.S.

¹⁴ Section 683.185, F.S.

¹⁵ Section 683.05, F.S.

¹⁶ Section 683.14, F.S.

¹⁷ Section 683.11, F.S.

¹⁸ Section 683.22, F.S.

¹⁹ Section 683.331, F.S.

²⁰ Section 683.115, F.S.

²¹ Section 683.15, F.S.

²² Section 683.3342, F.S.

²³ Section 683.21, F.S.

²⁴ Section 683.146, F.S.

²⁵ Section 683.3343, F.S.

²⁶ Section 683.10, F.S.

²⁷ Section 683.23, F.S.

- I am an American Day, the third Sunday in October;²⁸
- Retired Teachers' Day, the Sunday commencing the third week of November;²⁹
- Bill of Rights Day, December 15;³⁰ and
- Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, December 21.³¹

The legislature has directed the governor to annually proclaim various days of special observances. These days of special observances include:

- Pan-American Day, April 14;³²
- Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 27;³³
- Victims of Communism Day, November 7;³⁴ and
- 9/11 Heroes' Day, September 11.³⁵

Days of special observance, whether designated by the legislature or proclaimed by the Governor, have no impact on contracts in Florida or the operations of state government.³⁶

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill designates October 14, the anniversary of Mr. Kirk's birth, as "Charlie Kirk Remembrance Day." It also authorizes the Governor to issue a proclamation designating the same.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

Not applicable. The bill does not require municipalities or counties to spend funds, reduce the authority of municipalities or counties to raise revenue, or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with municipalities and counties.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

²⁸ Section 683.145, F.S.

²⁹ Section 683.16, F.S.

³⁰ Section 683.25, F.S.

³¹ Section 683.325, F.S.

³² Section 683.05, F.S.

³³ Section 683.196, F.S.

³⁴ Section 683.34, F.S.

³⁵ Section 683.335, F.S.

³⁶ Section 110.117, F.S., delineates the paid holidays observed by state branches and agencies.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill is not expected to impact state or local government revenues or expenditures.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 683.338 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.



163146

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: UNFAV	.	
01/21/2026	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Education Postsecondary (Jones) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 48 and 49
insert:

Section 2. Section 683.339, Florida Statutes, is created to
read:

683.339 George Floyd Day of Remembrance.—

(1) October 14 of each year is designated as "George Floyd
Day of Remembrance."

(2) The Governor may annually issue a proclamation



163146

designating October 14 as "George Floyd Day of Remembrance."

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 2 - 6

and insert:

An act relating to days of remembrance; creating ss.
683.338 and 683.339, F.S.; designating October 14 of
each year as "Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance" and
"George Floyd Day of Remembrance," respectively;
authorizing the Governor to issue annual
proclamations; providing an effective date.

By Senator Martin

33-00520-26

2026194

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance; creating s. 683.338, F.S.; designating October 14 of each year as "Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance"; authorizing the Governor to issue an annual proclamation; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, Charlie Kirk was a champion of free speech, civil dialogue, and faith, and

WHEREAS, Charlie Kirk consistently promoted the values of individual liberty, open debate, civic engagement, and defense of constitutional principles, and

WHEREAS, Charlie Kirk believed in the power of free speech and the open debate of ideas as the foundation of a free society, and he dedicated his life to ensuring those principles were upheld on college and university campuses and in public life, and

WHEREAS, Charlie Kirk was a co-founder and the executive director of Turning Point USA, a nonprofit organization with thousands of chapters nationwide, including active chapters at colleges and universities across this state, where his work inspired Florida students to embrace civic participation and the principles of liberty and democracy, and

WHEREAS, through his public speaking, writing, and media presence, Charlie Kirk reached millions of Americans, including Floridians of all ages, encouraging them to take part in civic life and defend constitutional freedoms, and

WHEREAS, Charlie Kirk's life's work contributed to strengthening civic education, youth leadership, free speech,

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

33-00520-26

2026194

and public discourse within this state and across the nation, and

WHEREAS, Charlie Kirk is honored for his contributions to free speech, open debate, civic education, youth leadership, and the advancement of individual liberties, which left a lasting impact on this state's students and civic organizations, and

WHEREAS, Charlie Kirk's tragic death on September 10, 2025, was not only a national loss but also deeply felt within Florida's civic and educational communities, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 683.338, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

683.338 Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance.—

(1) October 14 of each year is designated as "Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance."

(2) The Governor may annually issue a proclamation designating October 14 as "Charlie Kirk Day of Remembrance."

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Page 2 of 2

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1/21/26

Meeting Date

Education Post Sec

Committee

194

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Aaron DiPietro

Phone

Address

Street

Email

City

State

Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☒ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

Florida Florida Voice

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1/21/26
Meeting Date

Education Postsecondary
Committee

194
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name John Labriola

Phone 954-515-2084

Address Po Box 650216
Street

Email John Labriola@ctcflovida.net

Miami FL 33265
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☒ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

Christian Family Coalition Florida

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
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1/21/26

Meeting Date

Ed Post Secondary

Committee

SB 194

Bill Number or Topic

N/A

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Genesis Robinson

Phone

386-341-6346

Address

424 E Central Ave

Email

genesis@equal-ground.com

Street

Orlando

City

FL

State

Zip

Speaking:

☐

For

☒

Against

☐

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☒

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☐

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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1/21/2026
Meeting Date

Education Postsecondary
Committee

SB 194
Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Kiaira Nixon Phone 904 - 422 1005

Address 5790 Royalty Rd Email Kay.nixon13@gmail.com
Street

Jacksonville FL 32254
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☒ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☐ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☒ I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by: Equal Grand

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

1-21-2026

Meeting Date

SB 194

Bill Number or Topic

Education Postsecondary

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Andrew Shirvell

Phone

(850) 404-3414

Address

P.O. Box 12152

Email

andrew@floridavoicefor
theunborn.com

Street

Tallahassee FL 32317

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

☒

For

☐

Against

☐

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☒

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

☐

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

Florida Voice For the Unborn, Inc.

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Education Postsecondary

BILL: SB 1246

INTRODUCER: Senator Davis

SUBJECT: Health Science Workforce Shortages

DATE: January 20, 2026

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Jahnke	Bouck	HE	Favorable
2.			AHE	
3.			FP	

I. Summary:

SB 1246 expands the scope of the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund to address workforce shortages in health science education programs, in addition to nursing education programs. The bill revises eligibility, matching contribution authority, allowable uses of funds, grant evaluation criteria, and reporting requirements to support the expansion of health science education programs aligned with the State Board of Education’s Career and Technical Education Health Science curriculum framework.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Linking Industry to Nursing Education Fund

The Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund was established in 2022¹ as a competitive grant opportunity, and provides matching funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis to participating institutions that partner with health care providers² incentivizing collaboration to meet local, regional, and statewide demand for nurses.³

For purposes of the LINE Fund, a “student” is a resident for tuition purposes⁴ who is enrolled in a nursing education program at an institution.⁵

¹ Chapter 2022-154, s. 50, Laws of Fla.

² Sections 1009.8962, F.S. and 768.38, F.S.

³ Florida Board of Governors, *All Universities with Nursing Programs Receive LINE Funding*, available at <https://www.flbog.edu/2024/10/31/all-universities-with-nursing-programs-receive-line-funding/> (Last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

⁴ Section 1009.21, F.S.

⁵ Section 1009.8962(3)(c), F.S.

The LINE Funds are available to:

- District career centers;⁶
- Charter technical career centers;⁷
- Florida College System (FCS) institutions;
- State Universities;
- Independent nonprofit colleges or universities located and chartered in the state accredited by a United States Department of Education recognized accrediting agency or association to grant baccalaureate degrees;⁸ and
- Independent school, college, or university with an accredited program as defined in s. 464.003 which is located in this state and licensed by the Commission for Independent Education pursuant to s. 1005.31, which has a nursing education program that meets or exceeds the following:
 - For a certified nursing assistant program, a completion rate of at least 70 percent for the prior year.
 - For a licensed practical nurse, associate of science in nursing, and bachelor of science in nursing program, a first-time passage rate on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination of at least 75 percent for the prior year based on a minimum of 10 testing participants.⁹

The funds are to be administered by the Board of Governors (BOG) for state universities and by the Florida Department of Education (DOE) for all other institutions.¹⁰ The funds may be used for student scholarships, recruitment of additional faculty, equipment, and simulation centers to advance high-quality nursing education programs throughout the state. Funds may not be used for the construction of new buildings.¹¹

Each institution must submit a proposal to the BOG or DOE. The proposal must identify the health care partner located and licensed in the state. The BOG or DOE must review and evaluate each proposal according to the following minimum criteria:

- Whether funds committed by the health care partner will contribute to an eligible purpose.
- How the institution plans to use the funds, including how such funds will be utilized to increase student enrollment and program completion.
- How the health care partner will onboard and retain graduates.
- How the funds will expand the institution's nursing education programs to meet local, regional, or state workforce demands. If applicable, it should include advanced education nursing programs and how the funds will increase the number of faculty and clinical preceptors and planned efforts to utilize the clinical placement process.¹²

For the 2025-2026 fiscal year, \$24,000,000 was provided to school district postsecondary technical career centers, charter technical career centers, FCS institutions, independent non-profit

⁶ Section 1001.44, F.S.

⁷ Section 1002.34, F.S.

⁸ Section 1009.8962(3), F.S.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ Section 1009.8962(4), F.S.

¹¹ Section 1009.8962(6), F.S.

¹² Section 1009.8962(7), F.S.

colleges or universities, and independent schools, colleges, or universities for participation in the LINE Fund program.¹³ In the same year, \$6,000,000 was provided to state universities for participation in the LINE Fund program.¹⁴

Career and Technical Education Health Science Curriculum Framework

The DOE is responsible for developing and maintaining Career and Technical Education (CTE) curriculum frameworks for middle school, secondary, and postsecondary CTE programs. These programs are organized into 17 career clusters¹⁵ and are designed to serve middle school, high school, district technical college, and FCS students statewide. The CTE curriculum frameworks establish standards and competencies developed in collaboration with business, industry, and education partners and are intended to prepare students for occupations important to Florida's economic development.¹⁶ The CTE curriculum frameworks are adopted annually by the State Board of Education.¹⁷ All CTE curriculum frameworks, including the Health Science framework, are available on the DOE CTE webpage and through CPALMS-CTE.¹⁸

The Health Science curriculum framework identifies courses, competencies, and instructional sequences that support health science career pathways from introductory through advanced levels across educational settings. Programs aligned with the Health Science curriculum framework include certificate and degree pathways that prepare students for health care-related occupations, such as nursing support, allied health, and clinical services.¹⁹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 1246 amends s. 1009.8962, F.S., to expand the scope of the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund to address workforce shortages in health science education programs in addition to nursing education programs. The legislative intent is revised to reflect a broader focus on health science workforce needs and to include programs aligned with the State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Health Science curriculum framework.

The bill revises the definition of "student" to include a resident for tuition purposes who is enrolled in a nursing education or health science education degree or certificate program that is part of the State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Health Science curriculum framework.

¹³ Specific Appropriation 131, Ch. 2025-1981, L.O.F.

¹⁴ Specific Appropriation 146, Ch. 2025-198, L.O.F.

¹⁵ The Florida Department of Education, Career & Technical Education, *2025-26 CTE Curriculum Frameworks*, <https://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-tech-edu/curriculum-frameworks/2025-26-frameworks/> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

¹⁶ The Florida Department of Education, Career & Technical Education, *CTE Curriculum Frameworks*, <https://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-tech-edu/curriculum-frameworks/> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

¹⁷ Rule 6A-60571, F.A.C.

¹⁸ CPALMS, *Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs*, <https://www.cpalms.org/PreviewCourseProgram/CTE?frameurl=%2Fsearch> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

¹⁹ The Florida Department of Education, *2025-26 CTE Curriculum Frameworks, Health Science*, <https://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-tech-edu/curriculum-frameworks/2025-26-frameworks/health-science.stml> (last visited Jan. 14, 2026).

The bill authorizes the LINE Fund to provide a dollar-for-dollar match for contributions made by individuals or entities that are not health care partners, provided the contribution supports an eligible purpose of the fund. Contributions from health care partners must be given priority when awarding matching funds to institutions.

The bill revises allowable uses of LINE Fund monies for nursing and health science education programs by authorizing expenditures for student recruitment and facility renovation or remodeling.

Additionally, the bill revises grant proposal evaluation criteria to include how funds will expand health science education programs to meet workforce demand. The bill revises annual reporting requirements for grant recipients to include enrollment data for applicable health science education programs, in addition to nursing programs.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

This bill does not have a fiscal impact on state revenues or expenditures, as the dollar-to-dollar match is subject to available funds.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

The bill includes health science programs in the definition of “student.” However, in doing so, both nursing education and health science education are linked to institutions that are part of the State Board of Education’s (SBE) career and technical education (CTE) frameworks in Health Science. Adhering to such a definition would exclude programs at state universities and private postsecondary institutions. The sponsor may wish to clarify that a student may be enrolled in a nursing education program at an institution, or in a health science education degree or certificate program at an institution that is part of the SBE’s CTE frameworks in Health Science.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 1009.8962 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

By Senator Davis

5-01341-26

20261246__

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to health science workforce shortages; amending s. 1009.8962, F.S.; revising legislative intent to address workforce needs in health science education programs, in addition to nursing education programs; revising the definition of the term "student"; authorizing the Linking Industry to Nursing Education Fund to be used to match certain contributions; revising how certain funds may be expended; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (2), paragraph (c) of subsection (3), subsection (5), paragraph (a) of subsection (6), paragraph (d) of subsection (8), and paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of section 1009.8962, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1009.8962 Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund.—

(2) Recognizing that the state has a persistent and growing nursing shortage and shortages in other related health science professions, it is the intent of the Legislature to address this critical workforce need by incentivizing collaboration between nursing and health science education programs and health care partners through the establishment of the LINE Fund. This fund is intended to meet local, regional, and state workforce demand by recruiting faculty and clinical preceptors, increasing the capacity of high-quality nursing and health science education

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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20261246__

programs as outlined in the State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Health Science curriculum framework, and increasing the number of nursing and health science education program graduates who are prepared to enter the workforce.

(3) As used in this section, the term:

(c) "Student" means a person who is a resident for tuition purposes pursuant to s. 1009.21 and enrolled in a nursing education or health science education degree or certificate program at an institution that is part of the State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Health Science curriculum framework.

(5) Subject to available funds, for every dollar contributed to an institution by a health care partner, the fund shall provide a dollar-to-dollar match to the participating institution. Subject to available funds, the fund may also provide a dollar-to-dollar match to the participating institution for every dollar contributed to an institution or its direct support organization by an individual or entity that does not meet the definition of a health care partner, provided the contribution supports an eligible purpose of the fund. Contributions from health care partners shall receive priority when awarding matching funds to institutions.

(6) (a) Funds may be used for student scholarships, recruitment of additional faculty and students, equipment, facility renovation or remodeling, and simulation centers to advance high-quality nursing and health science education programs throughout the state.

(8) The Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, must review and evaluate each completed and timely

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submitted proposal according to the following minimum criteria:

(d) How the funds will expand the institution's nursing and health science education programs to meet local, regional, or state workforce demands. If applicable, this shall include advanced education nursing programs and how the funds will increase the number of faculty and clinical preceptors and planned efforts to utilize the clinical placement process established in s. 14.36.

(9)

(b) Annually, by February 1, each institution awarded grant funds in the previous fiscal year shall submit a report to the Board of Governors or Department of Education, as applicable, that demonstrates the expansion as outlined in the proposal and the use of funds. At minimum, the report must include, by program level, the number of additional nursing and other applicable health science education students enrolled; if scholarships were awarded using grant funds, the number of students who received scholarships and the average award amount; and the outcomes of students as reported by the Office of Reimagining Education and Career Help pursuant to s. 14.36(3)(1).

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
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1/21/26

Meeting Date

SB 1246

Bill Number or Topic

Education Postsecondary

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Kathleen Plinske

Phone 815-703-5857

Address Valencia College 1800 S Kirkman Rd

Street

Email kplinske@valenciacollege.edu

Orlando

City

FL

State

32811

Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☒ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

Valencia College

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1/21/26

Meeting Date

SB 1246

Bill Number or Topic

Educ - Post Sec

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

ANTONIO CARVALAL

Phone

850 222 3222

Address

PO Box 386

Email

Tony@myafchome.org

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32302

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

☐

For

☐

Against

☐

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☒

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☒

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

Association of
Florida Colleges

☐

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
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1-21-26

Meeting Date

1246

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Mauricio Montiel

Phone

786-355-0075

Address

Street

Email

mmontie3@mdc.edu

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

☐

For

☐

Against

☐

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☒

In Support

☐

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☒

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

Miami Dade College

☐

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
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1/21/26

Meeting Date

1246

Bill Number or Topic

EDUCATION POST

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

BRUCE G. LUNCAN

Phone

86-847-1436

Address

1956 MAGNOLIA CIR

Email

bluncan@lssc.edu

Street

TAVARES

City

FL

State

32778

Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.



I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:



I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

1-21-26

Meeting Date

1246

Bill Number or Topic

Education Post Secondary
Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Tim Morris Phone 352-874-6322

Address 9605 Silver Lake Dr Email Tmorris826@aol.com
Street

Leesburg FL 34788
City State Zip

Speaking: ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Information **OR** Waive Speaking: ☒ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- ☒ I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.
- ☐ I am a registered lobbyist, representing:
- ☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1/21/24

Meeting Date

SB1244

Bill Number or Topic

Ed Postsecondary

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Carolyn Johnson

Phone 521-1200

Address 131 S Bronough St

Street

Email cjohnson@flchamber.com

Tallahassee FL

City

State

32301

Zip

Speaking: ☒ For ☐ Against ☐ Information

OR

Waive Speaking: ☐ In Support ☐ Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

☒ I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

FL Chamber of
Commerce

☐ I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 301
Caption: Senate Education Postsecondary Committee

Case No.:

Type:
Judge:

Started: 1/21/2026 8:31:37 AM

Ends: 1/21/2026 9:23:12 AM

Length: 00:51:35

8:31:37 AM	Order
8:31:47 AM	Roll call
8:32:06 AM	Chair Simon
8:32:12 AM	Tab 2: SB 1246
8:32:15 AM	Chair Simon recognizes Sen Davis to explain the bill
8:32:28 AM	Sen Davis
8:33:39 AM	Questions:
8:33:41 AM	Sen Harrell
8:34:10 AM	Sen Davis
8:34:41 AM	Sen Harrell
8:35:12 AM	Sen Davis
8:35:27 AM	Sen Harrell
8:35:52 AM	Sen Davis
8:36:10 AM	Chair Simon acknowledges waives speaking
8:36:47 AM	Debate:
8:36:49 AM	Sen Harrell
8:37:22 AM	Chair Simon recognizes Sen Davis to close on the bill
8:37:25 AM	Sen Davis
8:38:10 AM	Roll call
8:38:21 AM	Chair Simon reports on SB 1246
8:38:31 AM	Tab 1: SB 194
8:38:34 AM	Chair Simon recognizes Sen Martin to explain the bill
8:38:38 AM	Sen Martin
8:39:52 AM	Questions:
8:40:06 AM	Sen Berman
8:40:15 AM	Sen Martin
8:40:31 AM	Sen Berman
8:40:46 AM	Sen Martin
8:41:39 AM	Sen Berman
8:41:46 AM	Sen Martin
8:41:51 AM	Sen Berman
8:42:38 AM	Sen Martin
8:43:55 AM	Sen Berman
8:44:08 AM	Sen Martin
8:45:21 AM	Sen Berman
8:45:30 AM	Sen Martin
8:46:31 AM	Sen Berman
8:46:45 AM	Sen Martin
8:47:09 AM	Sen Berman
8:47:17 AM	Chair Simon passes gavel to Sen Calatayud
8:47:39 AM	Appearance Cards:
8:47:50 AM	Andrew Shirvell, Florida Voice For the Unborn, Inc.
8:49:08 AM	Kiara Nixon, Equal Ground
8:51:33 AM	Genesis Robinson, Equal Ground
8:55:25 AM	Chair Calatayud acknowledges waives speaking
8:55:49 AM	Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Jones to explain am. 163146
8:55:51 AM	Sen Jones
9:03:23 AM	Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Martin to comment on the am.
9:03:27 AM	Sen Martin
9:04:20 AM	Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Jones to close on the am.
9:04:29 AM	Sen Jones
9:05:20 AM	Roll call

9:05:39 AM Chair Calatayud reports on the am.
9:05:49 AM Debate:
9:05:52 AM Sen Berman
9:08:08 AM Vice Chair Simon
9:12:49 AM Sen Jones
9:18:55 AM Chair Calatayud
9:19:13 AM Chair Calatayud recognizes Sen Martin to close on the bill
9:19:15 AM Sen Martin
9:22:31 AM Roll call
9:22:45 AM Chair Calatayud reports on SB 194
9:22:57 AM Chair Calatayud motions to record vote for Tab 2, affirmative
9:23:03 AM Adjournment