

**STORAGE NAME:** h0407.go

**DATE:** February 17, 1999

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
AS REVISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS  
ANALYSIS**

**BILL #:** HB 407

**RELATING TO:** Terms of office for members of the Board of Regents

**SPONSOR(S):** Representative Casey

**COMPANION BILL(S):** None

**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:**

- (1) COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES YEAS 6 NAYS 0
  - (2) GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
  - (3)
  - (4)
  - (5)
- 

I. SUMMARY:

This bill restores the terms of office for members of the Board of Regents to six years. The terms of office for members of the Board of Regents appointed after July 1, 1998, were reduced from six years to four years by the 1998 Legislature (Section 53, Ch. 98-421, L.O.F.).

The proposed change to the terms of office for members of the Board of Regents should have no fiscal impact.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

The Board of Regents consists of the Commissioner of Education and 13 citizens of Florida who are appointed by the Governor, approved by three members of the Cabinet, and confirmed by the Senate.

Prior to July 1, 1998, the terms of office for members of the Board of Regents were six years, except for the Commissioner of Education and a full-time student member who serves one year. Section 53 of Ch. 98-421, L.O.F., reduced the six-year term to a four-year term for members of the Board of Regents appointed after July 1, 1998. There have been no new appointments to the Board of Regents subject to the four-year term of office.

There is no statutory limit to the number of terms a member may serve.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill restores the term of office for members of the Board of Regents to six years.

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

(1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

No.

(2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

No.

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

No.

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced:

Not applicable.

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

N/A.

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

N/A.

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

N/A.

2. Lower Taxes:

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

No.

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

No.

c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

No.

d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

No.

e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

No.

3. Personal Responsibility:

a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

No.

b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

No.

4. Individual Freedom:

- a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

No.

- b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

No.

5. Family Empowerment:

- a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:

Not applicable.

- (1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

N/A

- (2) Who makes the decisions?

N/A

- (3) Are private alternatives permitted?

N/A

- (4) Are families required to participate in a program?

N/A

- (5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

N/A

- b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?

No.

- c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

Not applicable.

(1) parents and guardians?

N/A

(2) service providers?

N/A

(3) government employees/agencies?

N/A

**D. STATUTE(S) AFFECTED:**

Amends s. 240.207, F.S.

**E. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:**

Section 1 - Amends s. 240.207, F.S., restoring the term of office for members of the Board of Regents to 6 years.

Section 2 - Provides an effective date of upon becoming a law.

**III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:**

**A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:**

1. Non-recurring Effects:

No apparent effect.

2. Recurring Effects:

None.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None.

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

None.

**B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:**

1. Non-recurring Effects:

None.

2. Recurring Effects:

None.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

None.

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

None.

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise and Employment Markets:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

Restoring the terms of office of the members of the Board of Regents to six years should have no fiscal impact.

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate.

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

This bill does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

**STORAGE NAME:** h0407.go

**DATE:** February 17, 1999

**PAGE 7**

V. COMMENTS:

The last Legislature reduced to Board of Regents term of office from 6 years, to 4 years.

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None.

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON Colleges & Universities:  
Prepared by:

Staff Director:

Betty H. Tilton, Ph. D.

Betty H. Tilton, Ph. D.

AS REVISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS:  
Prepared by:

Staff Director:

Russell J. Cyphers, Jr.

Jimmy O. Helms