

STORAGE NAME: h2129a.cu

DATE: April 10, 2000

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES
ANALYSIS**

BILL #: HB 2129

RELATING TO: Postsecondary Education/Colleges of Law

SPONSOR(S): Representative Rudolph Bradley and Others

TIED BILL(S): None

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

- (1) COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES YEAS 7 NAYS 1
 - (2) JUDICIARY
 - (3) EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS
 - (4)
 - (5)
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I. SUMMARY:

This bill authorizes the establishment of a college of law at Florida International University and a college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and requires these colleges of law to comply with the standards approved by nationally recognized associations for accredited colleges of law.

This bill also directs the Board of Regents to commence the planning of a college of law at Florida International University and a college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and authorizes this governing body to procure and accept available federal funds for the planning, creation, and establishment of the colleges of law. Additionally, this bill authorizes the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education to accept grants, donations, gifts, and monies for planning and constructing the colleges of law. Classes must commence by January 1, 2001.

Estimates submitted by Florida International University and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University project an aggregate cost of \$29.4 million in order to establish law schools at both universities. Consequently, this bill may potentially have a significant negative fiscal impact on state expenditures as a result of establishing two additional law schools within the State University System.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. DOES THE BILL SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 1. <u>Less Government</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. <u>Lower Taxes</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. <u>Individual Freedom</u> | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. <u>Personal Responsibility</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. <u>Family Empowerment</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

This bill directs the Board of Regents to commence the planning of a college of law at Florida International University and a college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and authorizes this governing body to procure and accept available federal funds for the planning, creation, and establishment of the colleges of law. Additionally, the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education are authorized to accept grants, donations, gifts, and monies for planning and constructing the colleges of law.

B. PRESENT SITUATION:

BRIEF HISTORY OF FAMU'S FIRST LAW SCHOOL:

In order to provide African-American students with an opportunity to pursue a legal education in the State of Florida, the Board of Control (predecessor to the Board of Regents) established a law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) in 1951. Prior to the establishment of this law school, the University of Florida possessed the only public law school supported by the state. However, African-American students seeking to pursue a legal education in Florida were not permitted to attend the law school at the University of Florida. Information received from the Board of Regents reports the law school at FAMU produced 32 graduates between 1951 and 1963. Of those graduates, 9 successfully passed the Florida Bar Examination. Between 1961 and 1965, the law school enrolled approximately 13-18 students per year and graduated approximately 5-6 students per year. Furthermore, 16 students were enrolled in the law school during the 1966-1967 academic year. Of those students, eight were projected to graduate at the end of the academic year. The remaining students were projected to graduate at the end of the following academic year.

At the request of the Board of Control, a team of consultants examined the legal education programs that existed in the State of Florida in 1958. The team of consultants concluded that the facilities of the colleges of law at the University of Florida, the University of Miami, and Stetson University were adequate to meet the demand for legal education in Florida into the 1970s. Studies conducted by the Board of Control in 1964 revealed that the consultants' population and enrollment estimates for 1970 were being approximated in 1963-1964. Additional studies reported that substantial increases in enrollments were necessary to meet the demand for lawyers and other legally trained individuals in the years ahead.

As part of the Board of Control's Continuing Role and Scope Study, public universities were permitted to submit proposals on how to meet the anticipated increase in demand for legal education. Representatives from the University of Florida proposed the construction of a new law center designed to meet the needs of a maximum enrollment of 1200 students.

Representatives from Florida State University proposed the establishment of a college of law at their institution with legislative authority and appropriate planning funds available in April, 1965 and classes beginning in September, 1968. Representatives from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University did not propose any changes in its role and scope in legal education.

In the summer of 1964, a second team of consultants from the University of Illinois, the University of North Carolina, and New York University examined the proposals of the University of Florida, Florida State University, and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. The team of consultants concluded that the private law schools in the state would not absorb a significant portion of the increase in demand for lawyers. The team of consultants also concluded that the state would be responsible for providing legal education to those students not served by the private law schools. In response to its conclusions, the team of consultants recommended that the law school at the University of Florida be expanded to its present capacity of 1,200 students, a law school be established at Florida State University by 1970, and the law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University be discontinued no earlier than August, 1970. The team of consultants recommended discontinuing the law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University as a result of the school's inability to attract students and graduate an acceptable number of students who would subsequently be admitted to the Florida Bar Association. In the spring of 1965, the Florida Bar Association agreed with the recommendations provided by the team of consultants.

Based on correspondence drafted by the Board of Regents, there is no record of any action by the Board of Control or the Board of Regents in response to the recommendations of the consultants. The 1965 Legislature transferred the funds supporting the law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University to Florida State University in order to establish and support a new law school. There is a record of action by the Board of Regents in response to the transfer of funds. In the fall of 1966, the recently established law school at Florida State University enrolled 110 students and employed 6 faculty members. After reviewing cost factors related to maintaining two law schools at two state universities in the same city, and considering that the student-faculty ratio at FAMU's law school was two to one, the Board of Regents recommended the law school at FAMU be discontinued effective July 1, 1968.

BOARD OF REGENTS FEASIBILITY STUDY:

The 1991 Florida Legislature required the Board of Regents to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of a third public law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. The feasibility study addresses the following issues: anticipated student enrollment, projected operating and capital costs, effects on minorities, and expanding minority access to legal education.

Anticipated Student Enrollment - In order to determine an appropriate level of enrollment for the planning of a third public law school, the Board of Regents requested pertinent information from the American Bar Association (ABA). Information was provided on 176 law schools approved by the American Bar Association in the fall of 1990. Of these approved law schools, 74 resided in the public sector. According to the information provided, the average full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment at public ABA approved law schools was 611 and the median was 537. Among the largest public law schools, enrollment levels ranged from 400 to 600 FTE students. Therefore, the Board of Regents utilized 500 FTE students in order to plan the establishment of a third public law school. The Board of Regents suggested that fewer FTE students would not result in a substantial reduction of expenditures because "substantial capital and operating costs must be incurred in order to create an appropriate academic infrastructure, whether a critical mass is being served or not."

Projected Operating and Capital Costs - The feasibility study indicates that the four major cost items associated with the establishment of a law school include acquiring a site; planning, constructing, and equipping a building; stocking a law library; and continuing operating costs. The study indicates that it is customary for the State University System to be the recipient of donated land. If the trend continues, land would be donated in order to build a new law school in an urban area. Consequently, the study indicates that no costs should be associated with the acquisition of a site.

The costs associated with planning, constructing, and equipping a new law school were based on the following five types of facilities: classrooms, a library, offices, auditoriums, and student services facilities. Planning, constructing, and equipping a new law school must also consider infrastructure costs, which the Board of Regents calculated as 10% of the cost for facilities. The feasibility study reveals that planning, constructing, and equipping a new law school would cost approximately \$13.7 million. These costs represented 1991 dollars and were based on the average costs associated with three different sites. These costs equated to \$2.6 million for classrooms, \$5.2 million for a library, \$4.1 million for offices, \$0.4 million for auditoriums, \$0.3 million for student services, and \$1.2 million for infrastructure expenses.

The feasibility study recommends that a new law school library should contain at least 150,000 volumes or volume equivalents. As of June 30, 1990, this figure was significantly less than the average number (284,430) of volumes or volume equivalents and the median number (267,861) of volumes or volume equivalents contained in 37 southeastern law schools. The average cost in 1991 dollars to stock a law library was approximately \$92 per volume or volume equivalent. Therefore, obtaining 150,000 volumes or volume equivalents would cost \$13.8 million in 1991.

The Board of Regents patterned the operating costs for a new public law school after the existing public law schools. The operating costs were based on average faculty salaries, number and types of employees, expenses, library resource expenses, and operating capital outlay costs. Based on the funding methodology adopted by the Board of Regents, the operating costs in 1991 dollars totaled \$8.4 million. This amount equated to \$5.8 million for Instruction and Research, \$0.2 million for Student Services, \$0.5 million for Library Staffing, \$1.0 million for Library Resources, and \$0.9 million for Administrative Direction and Support Services.

According to the feasibility study, the four major cost items associated with the establishment of a law school include acquiring a site; planning, constructing, and equipping a building; stocking a law library; and continuing operating costs. Based on the aforementioned calculations, the projected operating and capital costs in 1991 dollars totaled \$35.9 million.

Effects on Minorities - The Board of Regents examined the number of law degrees conferred by race at the two public law schools (University of Florida & Florida State University) from 1978-1979 to 1988-1989. During this period of time, the law schools graduated 5,533 students. Of those students, 90% were classified as Caucasian, while 4% were classified as Hispanic and another 4% were classified as African-American. During each of the ten years, the public law schools conferred approximately the same number of law degrees to minorities. Between the years 1983 and 1990, the acceptance rates for both public law schools fell within five percentage points between each of the ethnic categories (Caucasian, Hispanic, African-American). Furthermore, the feasibility study reveals that 22,925 Caucasian students applied to the state's public law schools between 1979 and 1989, while 2,192 Hispanic students and 1,487 African-American students applied to the state's public law schools during the same period of time. Consequently, the lack of minority participation in legal education was attributable to the lack of minority applicants. The Board of Regents also analyzed retention

rates for African-American students enrolled in the state's public law schools between 1985-1986 and 1988-1989 and concluded that the law school at the University of Florida lost approximately an equal number of first year African-American law students as compared to all other races. Because the number of African-American students enrolled in the law school was minimal during this period of time, the law school actually lost a large percentage of first year African-American law students. The feasibility study reports that every African-American student who entered a law school in Florida and did not graduate represented a sizeable portion of prospective minority lawyers lost.

Expanding Minority Access to Legal Education - The feasibility study presents short-term and immediate options in order to expand minority access to legal education. These options include expanding the Virgil Hawkins Fellowships, contracting with private law schools, and granting fee waivers. The study recommends increasing the award amount for each Virgil Hawkins Fellowship and adjusting the award amount through subsequent legislation. Additionally, the fellowships should emulate the McKnight Program by providing centralized recruiting, substantial support services, and placement procedures for Hispanic and African-American students. State contracting for academic programs with independent institutions avoids start-up costs by capitalizing on the investments of independent institutions and retains flexibility for the state in contracting for various levels of service as dictated by need. The study indicates that contracting with an independent institution does not guarantee an increase in the number of students seeking to obtain a law degree, but it may provide students with a higher level of support and/or it may increase the number of students enrolled in a law school. Finally, the Board of Regents suggested that granting fee waivers to students attending public law schools may increase the number of minorities applying to law school.

MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM:

In 1993, the Board of Regents recognized and articulated the critical need for increased minority participation in the judicial system of Florida. The Master Plan for 1993-1998 described and proposed the establishment of a scholarship program to provide financial, academic, and other support services to minority law students. In response, the Legislature funded and implemented the Minority Participation in Legal Education (MPLE) Program. According to section 240.498, Florida Statutes, the legislative purpose of the MPLE Program is to increase by 200 the number of minority students enrolled in law schools in the state. Students participating in the MPLE Program agree to take the Florida Bar Examination and, upon successful admission to the Florida Bar Association, practice law in the state. These students must practice law in the state for a period of time equal to the amount of time for which the students received assistance. These students are only obligated to practice law in the state for a maximum period of three years. If these students choose not to practice law in the state, they must repay the amount of assistance they received. The legislative purpose of the MPLE pre-law scholarship program is to increase the opportunity of minority students to prepare for law school. The MPLE pre-law scholarship program provides for student fees, room and board, supplies, and academic and other support services to selected minority students at Florida universities. These students must agree to enter a Florida law school within two years after graduation or repay the scholarship loan amount plus interest.

MGT of America Study on the MPLE Program - Recently, some questions have been raised about the effectiveness of the program in achieving its goals of increasing minority participation in legal education. In July, 1998, the Chancellor of the Board of Regents determined that a study was needed to review the success of the program. Subsequently, on February 18, 1999, MGT of America, Inc., issued a report on the MPLE Program. This report reveals that the total number of law school applicants from Florida decreased over a seven year period. Specifically, the total number of Florida applicants decreased by 20% between 1990-1991 and

1997-1998, while the number of minority applicants increased by 32% during the same period of time. In particular, the number of African-American applicants increased by 70% and the number of Hispanic applicants increased by 5% during this period of time. Additionally, the number of law school enrollments from Florida decreased by 1.4%, while the number of minority enrollments increased by 27% during this seven year span. The number of African-American students enrolled in a Florida law school increased by 63% and the number of Hispanic students enrolled in a Florida law school increased by 20% over the seven years.

Since the inception of the MPLE Program, the number of minority students enrolled in a Florida law school increased by 120 from 983 in 1993-1994 to 1,103 in 1997-1998 (includes African-Americans, Hispanics, and Native Americans). Consequently, the program has yet to meet its legislative purpose of increasing the number of minority law school students in Florida by 200. Since the inception of the MPLE Program, the number of African-American students enrolled in a Florida law school actually decreased by 42 from 497 in 1993-1994 to 455 in 1997-1998 and the number of Hispanic students enrolled in a Florida law school actually increased by 145 from 471 in 1993-1994 to 616 in 1997-1998. The report indicates that Florida is actually ahead of national trends in minority law school enrollments. The percentage increase in minority law school enrollments in Florida exceeded the national average by 2.5% from 1990-1991 to 1996-1997.

Overall, the report concludes that the MPLE Program has had a positive effect on increasing the number of minorities receiving legal education in Florida, although not to the extent the Legislature had intended. The report also concludes that the increase in minority enrollments in Florida law schools and the fact that Florida is ahead of national trends in minority law school enrollments can be partially attributable to the success of the MPLE Program.

PEPC Study on the MPLE Program - The 1999 Legislature directed the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission (PEPC) to conduct a review of the Minority Participation in Legal Education (MPLE) Program in order to determine the most appropriate entity to administer the program and assess the effectiveness of the MPLE Program in increasing the number of minority students who enroll in the State of Florida's accredited law schools and who practice law in Florida.

According to the Commission's study, the total number of minority students enrolled in a Florida law school increased by 17%, from 1,075 in 1993-1994 to 1,256 in 1998-1999 (includes African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Others). More specifically, the number of Hispanic students enrolled in a Florida law school increased by 42%, from 471 in 1993-1994 to 670 in 1998-1999. However, the number of African-American students enrolled in a Florida law school decreased by 17%, from 497 in 1993-1994 to 426 in 1998-1999.

The Commission concludes that the MPLE Program has been successful in increasing the number of minority students attending law schools in the State of Florida and is in accordance with the state's ongoing commitment to increasing and maintaining access to higher education for all of its citizens. The Commission outlines several recommendations intended to improve, expand, and strengthen the MPLE Program. These recommendations include:

- Change the name of the Minority Participation in Legal Education Program to the Full Participation in Legal Education Program.
- Maintain the current administration of the MPLE Program but create an advisory group known as the Board of Advisors that is comprised of 10 members representing the legal community.

- Modify the purpose of the MPLE law school scholarship program so that an increase occurs in the number of students who are currently under-represented in Florida's law schools, particularly African-Americans and Hispanics.
- Provide MPLE law school scholarships to students enrolled on a part-time basis.
- Clarify the types of student support services the law school scholarship program should provide to include a beginning law scholars' orientation, first year campus meetings, a law scholars' annual meeting, a resume directory, bar passage support, and supplemental bar preparation clinics.
- Modify the selection process for the law school scholarship program so that each accredited law school in Florida is guaranteed three "seats" per year from the total number of scholarships awarded.

FEASIBILITY STUDY RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LAW SCHOOL AT FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY:

In order to respond in a comprehensive and thorough manner to the question of establishing additional public law schools in Florida, the Board of Regents directed its Chancellor to initiate appropriate studies on this matter. Consequently, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University submitted a feasibility study relating to the establishment of a law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University to the Chancellor of the Board of Regents during the summer of 1999, which was subsequently rejected. This feasibility study reports that two of the main reasons for establishing a law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University are the need to keep access to the legal profession open and the demand for part-time legal education.

According to the feasibility study, the primary reason for establishing a law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University is the need to keep access to the legal profession open to the citizens of Florida. Additionally, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University is the state's only public Historically Black College or University (HBCU) and as a result, it possesses a unique mission that involves meeting the educational needs of African-Americans and other ethnic minorities. According to the feasibility study, African-Americans are statistically under-represented in the legal profession. Most traditional postsecondary education institutions are unable to recruit, retain, and graduate African-American law students at an adequate rate. The study reports that Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University's mission to serve ethnic minority students is likely to have a significant impact on the feasibility of establishing a law school at the university.

The feasibility study suggests that a second reason for establishing a law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University is the demand for part-time legal education. The study reports that part-time legal education will become a more important vehicle for many citizens of the state because they can not afford a legal education without maintaining full-time employment or because they prefer a legal education for purposes of advancing a career outside of the legal career.

The feasibility study projects that the costs associated with the establishment of a law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University are approximately \$27.3 million. These costs equate to \$19.2 million for the construction of the law school, \$1.5 million for utilities and infrastructure expenses, \$1.9 million for planning the law school, \$1.9 million for equipping and furnishing the law school, and \$2.8 million for initial operating expenses.

FEASIBILITY STUDY RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LAW SCHOOL AT FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY:

As mentioned previously, the Board of Regents directed its Chancellor to initiate appropriate studies in order to respond in a comprehensive and thorough manner to the question of establishing additional public law schools in Florida. Consequently, Florida International University submitted a feasibility study relating to the establishment of a law school at Florida International University to the Chancellor of the Board of Regents in April 1999, which was subsequently rejected. This feasibility study reports that a law school should be established at Florida International University as a result of the following reasons:

- A clear need for a public law school at an affordable cost exists in the state's largest metropolitan area (South Florida).
- Since Florida International University is located in an ethnically diverse metropolitan area, a law school should contribute to an increase in the number of African-American and Hispanic attorneys.
- The law school will permit students to enroll on a part-time basis.
- The only access to legal education for individuals located in South Florida are private law schools with extremely high tuition rates. Consequently, students who decide to attend one of two private law schools in South Florida can expect to accumulate approximately \$75,000 in debt.

The feasibility study projects that the costs associated with the establishment of a law school at Florida International University are approximately \$2.1 million. These costs equate to \$1.1 million for instruction and research expenses, \$0.8 million for a library collection, and \$0.2 million for other expenses. It should be noted that no construction costs are associated with the establishment of a law school because the university expects to house the law school within the existing University Park Campus.

C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill authorizes the establishment of a college of law at Florida International University and a college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and requires these colleges of law to comply with the standards approved by nationally recognized associations for accredited colleges of law.

This bill also directs the Board of Regents to commence the planning of a college of law at Florida International University and a college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and authorizes this governing body to procure and accept available federal funds for the planning, creation, and establishment of the colleges of law. Additionally, this bill authorizes the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education to accept grants, donations, gifts, and monies for planning and constructing the colleges of law. Classes must commence by January 1, 2001.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

SECTION 1: Creates an unspecified section of the Florida Statutes in order to (1) authorize the establishment of a college of law at Florida International University; (2) require this college of law to comply with the standards approved by nationally recognized associations for accredited colleges of law; (3) direct the Board of Regents to begin the planning of a college

of law at Florida International University; (4) authorize the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education to accept grants, donations, gifts, and monies for planning and constructing this college of law; (5) authorize the Board of Regents to procure and accept available federal funds for the planning, creation, and establishment of this college of law; and (6) require classes at the college of law at Florida International University to commence by January 1, 2001.

SECTION 2: Creates an unspecified section of the Florida Statutes in order to (1) authorize the establishment of a college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University; (2) require this college of law to comply with the standards approved by nationally recognized associations for accredited colleges of law; (3) direct the Board of Regents to begin the planning of a college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University; (4) authorize the Board of Regents and the State Board of Education to accept grants, donations, gifts, and monies for planning and constructing this college of law; (5) authorize the Board of Regents to procure and accept available federal funds for the planning, creation, and establishment of this college of law; and (6) require classes at the college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University to commence by January 1, 2001.

SECTION 3: Establishes that this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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

A. **FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:**

1. **Revenues:**

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state revenues.

2. **Expenditures:**

Estimates submitted by Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University suggest the following fiscal impact on state expenditures in order to establish a law school at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University:

	FY 00-01:	FY 01-02:	FY 02-03:
Construction	\$19,200,000		
Utilities & Infrastructure	\$ 1,500,000		
Planning	\$ 1,950,000		
Furniture & Equipment	<u>\$ 1,900,000</u>		
Total Capital Expenses	\$24,550,000		
Operating Expenses	\$ 850,000	\$1,910,000	\$2,927,000
Library Acquisitions	<u>\$ 2,000,000</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 750,000</u>
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 2,750,000	\$2,910,000	\$3,677,000
TOTAL COSTS	\$27,300,000	\$2,910,000	\$3,677,000

Estimates submitted by Florida International University suggest the following fiscal impact on state expenditures in order to establish a law school at Florida International University:

FY 00-01: FY 01-02: FY 02-03:

Instruction & Research	\$1,146,770	\$1,709,350	\$2,437,445
Library Staffing	\$ 38,883	\$ 77,766	\$ 116,648
Library Books	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000
Administrative Support	\$ 126,394	\$ 252,788	\$ 379,181
Student Services	\$ 53,255	\$ 106,509	\$ 159,764
Total Expenses	\$2,165,302	\$2,946,413	\$3,893,038
TOTAL COSTS	\$2,165,302	\$2,946,413	\$3,893,038

No construction costs are associated with the establishment of a law school because the university expects to house the law school within the existing University Park Campus.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local revenues.

2. Expenditures:

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local expenditures.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

Students who otherwise would have attended a private law school have the option of attending one of two additional law schools within the State University System and paying significantly less for tuition and fees.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

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 action which requires the expenditure of funds.

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

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

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.

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V. COMMENTS:

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None.

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES:

Prepared by:

Staff Director:

Daniel Furman

Betty H. Tilton, Ph.D.