

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to postsecondary education enhancements;  
3           requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and  
4           Government Accountability to conduct a study of certain  
5           enrollment forecasting models; requiring a final report;  
6           requiring the Department of Education to conduct a review  
7           of certain courses in the statewide course numbering  
8           system and update the system as appropriate; requiring a  
9           report; requiring nonpublic postsecondary institutions  
10          that participate in statewide course numbering to provide  
11          certain information in their catalogs; requiring the  
12          department's website to include certain information;  
13          requiring the department to review certain examinations  
14          and recommend articulated acceleration mechanisms;  
15          amending s. 1007.33, F.S.; identifying the areas in which  
16          community colleges may propose to deliver baccalaureate  
17          degree programs; removing requirement that proposal be  
18          submitted to the Council for Education Policy Research and  
19          Improvement for review; providing an effective date.

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

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23           Section 1. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and  
24 Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall conduct a study of the  
25 higher education enrollment forecasting models currently used in  
26 the state. The study must analyze the current models and provide  
27 options for improvements. The review shall specifically examine  
28 ways to include Florida's changing demographics in the

29 forecasts. During the course of the study OPPAGA shall consult  
30 with staff from the Office of Economic and Demographic Research.  
31 A final report with recommendations shall be submitted to the  
32 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
33 Representatives by February 1, 2008.

34 Section 2. (1) The Department of Education shall conduct  
35 a comprehensive review of the courses that are listed in the  
36 statewide course numbering system to:

37 (a) Identify courses that are listed in the system that  
38 have not been taught at an institution for the preceding 5  
39 years;

40 (b) Identify courses of nonpublic postsecondary  
41 institutions that may be inappropriately designated as  
42 equivalent for purposes of transfer of credit; and

43 (c) Update the statewide course numbering system as  
44 appropriate based on these findings.

45 (2) The Department of Education shall submit a report of  
46 its findings and actions to the President of the Senate and the  
47 Speaker of the House of Representatives by February 1, 2008.

48 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule to  
49 the contrary, any nonpublic postsecondary institution, as a  
50 condition of initial or continued participation in the statewide  
51 course numbering system, shall identify in all of its catalogs,  
52 printed or electronic, the specific courses offered by the  
53 institution that are included in the statewide course numbering  
54 system.

55 (4) No later than July 1, 2008, the Department of  
56 Education shall develop and maintain in the department's website

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57 a listing of all courses in the statewide course numbering  
58 system and the institutions that offer each course. The listing  
59 shall be available to the public. Each institution that  
60 participates in the statewide course numbering system shall  
61 include in all of its catalogs, printed or electronic, a  
62 statement advising the reader of the website address and its use  
63 as a resource for information on the transferability of credits  
64 to other Florida institutions.

65 Section 3. No later than March 1, 2008, the Department of  
66 Education shall review the Excelsior College Examinations (ECE)  
67 and Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support  
68 (DANTES) standardized subject area tests (DSST) and recommend to  
69 the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors, the  
70 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
71 Representatives any examination that should be identified as an  
72 articulated acceleration mechanism under s. 1007.27, Florida  
73 Statutes. The department shall also identify the minimum scores,  
74 maximum credit, and course or courses for which credit is to be  
75 awarded for each examination recommended by the department.

76 Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 1007.33, Florida  
77 Statutes, is amended to read:

78 1007.33 Site-determined baccalaureate degree access.--

79 (3) A community college may develop a proposal to deliver  
80 specified baccalaureate degree programs in the areas of teaching  
81 and nursing and in the areas of math and science for the purpose  
82 of preparing graduates to enter a teaching position and to  
83 deliver bachelor of applied science workforce-related degrees in  
84 high need/high demand majors ~~its district to meet local~~

85 ~~workforce needs.~~ The bachelor of applied science degree is a  
86 workforce baccalaureate degree designed primarily for associate  
87 in science degree holders desiring career advancement or  
88 advanced technical training. The proposal must be submitted to  
89 the State Board of Education for approval. The community  
90 college's proposal must include the following information:

91 (a) Demand for the baccalaureate degree program is  
92 identified by the workforce development board, local businesses  
93 and industry, local chambers of commerce, and potential  
94 students.

95 (b) Unmet need for graduates of the proposed degree  
96 program is substantiated.

97 (c) The community college has the facilities and academic  
98 resources to deliver the program.

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100 ~~The proposal must be submitted to the Council for Education~~  
101 ~~Policy Research and Improvement for review and comment.~~ Upon  
102 approval of the State Board of Education for the specific degree  
103 program or programs, the community college shall pursue regional  
104 accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern  
105 Association of Colleges and Schools. Any additional  
106 baccalaureate degree programs the community college wishes to  
107 offer must be approved by the State Board of Education.

108 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.