Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education (Galvano) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment**

Delete lines 4131 - 4370 and insert:

(5) The approval process for baccalaureate degree programs shall require:

(a) Each Florida Community College System institution to submit a notice of interest at least 180 days before submitting a notice of its intent to propose a baccalaureate degree program to the Division of Florida Colleges at least 100 days before the
The notice of intent must include a brief description of the program, the workforce demand and unmet need for graduates of the program to include evidence from entities independent of the institution, the geographic region to be served, and an estimated timeframe for implementation. Notices of interest and intent may be submitted by a Florida Community College System institution at any time throughout the year. The notice of intent must also include evidence that the Florida Community College System institution engaged in need, demand, and impact discussions with the state university and other regionally accredited postsecondary education providers in its service district.

(b) The Chancellor of the Florida Community College System Division of Florida Colleges to forward the notice of intent submitted pursuant to paragraph (a) and the justification for the proposed baccalaureate degree program required under paragraph (c) within 10 business days after receiving such notice and justification to the Chancellor of the State University System, the president of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, and the Executive Director of the Commission for Independent Education. State universities shall have 60 days following receipt of the notice of intent and
justification by the Chancellor of the State University System to submit an objection and a reason for the objection to the proposed baccalaureate degree program, which may include objections to the proposed new program or submit an alternative proposal to offer the baccalaureate degree program. The Chancellor of the State University System shall review the objection raised by a state university and inform the Board of Governors of the objection before a state university submits its objection to the Chancellor of the Florida Community College System. The Chancellor of the Florida Community College System must consult with the Chancellor of the State University System to consider the objection raised by the state university before the State Board of Community Colleges approves or denies a Florida Community College System institution’s proposal submitted pursuant to paragraph (c). If a proposal from a state university is not received within the 60-day period, The Chancellor of the Florida Community College System State Board of Education shall also provide regionally accredited private colleges and universities 60 days to submit an objection and a reason for the objection to the proposed baccalaureate degree program, which may include an alternative proposal to offer a baccalaureate degree program objections to the proposed new program or submit an alternative proposal. Objections by a regionally accredited private college or university or alternative proposals shall be submitted to the Chancellor of the Florida Community College System, and the state board must consider such objections before Division of Florida Colleges and must be considered by the State Board of Education in making its decision to approve or deny a Florida Community College System
institution’s proposal submitted pursuant to paragraph (c).

(c) An alternative proposal submitted by a state university or private college or university to adequately address:

1. The extent to which the workforce demand and unmet need described in the notice of intent will be met.

2. The extent to which students will be able to complete the degree in the geographic region proposed to be served by the Florida College System institution.

3. The level of financial commitment of the college or university to the development, implementation, and maintenance of the specified degree program, including timelines.

4. The extent to which faculty at both the Florida College System institution and the college or university will collaborate in the development and offering of the curriculum.

5. The ability of the Florida College System institution and the college or university to develop and approve the curriculum for the specified degree program within 6 months after an agreement between the Florida College System institution and the college or university is signed.

6. The extent to which the student may incur additional costs above what the student would expect to incur if the program were offered by the Florida College System institution.

(c)(4) Each Florida Community College System institution to submit a baccalaureate degree program proposal at least 100 days after submitting the notice of intent. Each proposal must submitted by a Florida College System institution to, at a minimum, include:

1. A description of the planning process and timeline for implementation.
2. A justification for the proposed baccalaureate degree program, including, at a minimum, a data-driven analysis of workforce demand and unmet need for graduates of the program on a district, regional, or statewide basis, as appropriate, and the extent to which the proposed program will meet the workforce demand and unmet need. The analysis must include workforce and employment data for the most recent years and projections by the Department of Economic Opportunity for future years, and a summary of degree programs similar to the proposed degree program which are currently offered by state universities or by independent nonprofit colleges or universities that are eligible to participate in a grant program pursuant to s. 1009.89 and which are located in the Florida Community College System institution’s regional service area. The analysis and evidence must be verified by the Chancellor of the Florida Community College System including evidence from entities independent of the institution.

3. Identification of the facilities, equipment, and library and academic resources that will be used to deliver the program.

4. The program cost analysis of creating a new baccalaureate degree when compared to alternative proposals and other program delivery options.

5. The program’s admission requirements, academic content, curriculum, faculty credentials, student-to-teacher ratios, and accreditation plan.

6. The program’s student enrollment projections and funding requirements, including:
   a. The impact of the program’s enrollment projections on compliance with the upper-level enrollment provisions under
subsection (6); and

b. The institution’s efforts to sustain the program at the
cost of tuition and fees for students who are classified as
residents for tuition purposes under s. 1009.21, not to exceed
$10,000 for the entire degree program, including flexible
tuition and fee rates, and the use of waivers pursuant to s.
1009.26(11).

7. A plan of action if the program is terminated.

(d)(e) The State Board of Community Colleges to review the proposal, notify the Florida Community College System institution of any deficiencies in writing within 30 days following receipt of the proposal, and provide the Florida Community College System institution with an opportunity to correct the deficiencies. Within 45 days following receipt of a completed proposal by the State Board of Community Division of Florida Colleges, the Chancellor of the Florida Community College System Commissioner of Education shall recommend approval or disapproval of the proposal to the State Board of Community Colleges Education. The State Board of Community Colleges Education shall consider such recommendation, the proposal, input from the Chancellor of the State University System and the president of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, and any objections or alternative proposals at its next meeting. If the State Board of Community Colleges Education disapproves the Florida Community College System institution’s proposal, it shall provide the Florida Community College System institution with written reasons for that determination.

(e)(f) The Florida Community College System institution to
obtain from the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation as a baccalaureate-degree-granting institution if approved by the State Board of Community Colleges Education to offer its first baccalaureate degree program.

(f) (g) The Florida Community College System institution to notify the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools of subsequent degree programs that are approved by the State Board of Community Colleges Education and to comply with the association’s required substantive change protocols for accreditation purposes.

(g) (h) The Florida Community College System institution to annually report to the State Board of Community Colleges, the Chancellor of the State University System, and upon request of the State Board of Education, the Commissioner of Education, the Chancellor of the Florida College System, or the Legislature, report its status using the following performance and compliance indicators:

1. Obtaining and maintaining appropriate Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation;
2. Maintaining qualified faculty and institutional resources;
3. Maintaining student enrollment in previously approved programs;
4. Managing fiscal resources appropriately;
5. Complying with the primary mission and responsibility requirements in subsections (2) and (3); and
6. Other indicators of success, including program completions, employment and earnings outcomes, student
acceptance into and performance in graduate programs placements, and surveys of graduates and employers; and-

7. Continuing to meet workforce demand, as provided in subparagraph (c)2., as demonstrated through a data-driven needs assessment by the Florida Community College System institution which is verified by more than one third-party professional entity that is independent of the institution.

8. Complying with the upper-level enrollment provisions under subsection (6).

The State Board of Community Colleges Education, upon annual review of the baccalaureate degree program performance and compliance indicators and needs assessment, may require a Florida Community College System institution’s board of trustees to modify or terminate a baccalaureate degree program authorized under this section. If the annual review indicates negative program performance and compliance results, and if the needs assessment fails to demonstrate a need for the program, the State Board of Community Colleges must require a Florida Community College System institution’s board of trustees to terminate that baccalaureate degree program.

(6)(a) If the 2015-2016 total upper-level, undergraduate full-time equivalent enrollment at a Florida Community College System institution is at or above 8 percent of the 2015-2016 combined total lower-level and upper-level full-time equivalent enrollment at that institution, the total upper-level enrollment, as a percentage of the combined enrollment, may not increase by more than 2 percentage points unless the institution obtains prior legislative approval.
(b) If the 2015-2016 total upper-level, undergraduate full-time equivalent enrollment at a Florida Community College System institution is below 8 percent of the 2015-2016 combined total lower-level and upper-level full-time equivalent enrollment at that institution, the total upper-level enrollment, as a percentage of the combined enrollment, may not increase by more than 4 percentage points unless the institution obtains prior legislative approval.

(c) Within the 2 percent or 4 percent growth authorized under paragraph (a) or paragraph (b), for any planned and purposeful expansion of existing baccalaureate degree programs or creation of a new baccalaureate program, a community college must demonstrate satisfactory performance in fulfilling its primary mission pursuant to s. 1004.65, executing at least one "2+2" targeted pathway articulation agreement pursuant to s. 1007.23, and meeting or exceeding the performance standards related to on-time completion and graduation rates under s. 1001.66 for students earning associate of arts or baccalaureate degrees. The State Board of Community Colleges may not approve a new baccalaureate degree program proposal for a community college that does not meet the conditions specified in this subsection in addition to the other requirements for approval under this section. Each community college that offers a baccalaureate degree must annually review each baccalaureate degree program and annually report to the State Board of Community Colleges, in a format prescribed by the state board, current and projected student enrollment for such program, justification for continuation of each baccalaureate degree program, and a plan to comply with the upper-level enrollment
provisions of this subsection. A Florida Community College System institution that does not comply with the requirements of this section is subject to s. 1001.602(9) and may not report for funding, the upper-level, undergraduate full-time equivalent enrollment that exceeds the upper-level enrollment percent provision of this subsection.

(7) The State Board of Community Colleges Education shall adopt rules to prescribe format and content requirements and submission procedures for notices of interest and intent, baccalaureate degree program proposals, objections, proposals, alternative proposals, and compliance reviews under subsection (5).