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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

Senator Rouson moved the following:

1 **Senate Amendment to Amendment (843425) (with title**
2 **amendment)**

3
4 Delete lines 352 - 528

5 and insert:

6 Section 8. Effective July 1, 2020, section 1004.34, Florida
7 Statutes, is repealed.

8 Section 9. By January 1, 2019, the Office of Program Policy
9 Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall conduct a
10 study to evaluate the effects of consolidating the University of
11 South Florida St. Petersburg into the University of South



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12 Florida system and provide a report to the Governor and the
13 Legislature on the results of the study.

14 Section 10. Section 1004.335, Florida Statutes, is created
15 to read:

16 1004.335 Accreditation consolidation of University of South
17 Florida branch campuses.—

18 (1) The University of South Florida Consolidation Planning
19 Study and Implementation Task Force is established to develop
20 recommendations to improve service to students by phasing out
21 the separate accreditation of the University of South Florida
22 Sarasota/Manatee, which was conferred by the Southern
23 Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
24 (SACSCOC) pursuant to s. 1004.34.

25 (2) The task force shall consist of the following members:

26 (a) One member appointed by the chair of the Board of
27 Governors who will serve as chair;

28 (b) Two members appointed by the President of the Senate;

29 (c) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
30 Representatives;

31 (d) Two members appointed by the chair of the University of
32 South Florida board of trustees;

33 (e) One member appointed by the chair of the campus board
34 of the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee;

35 (f) The regional chancellor of the University of South
36 Florida Sarasota/Manatee;

37 (g) The president of the University of South Florida or his
38 or her designee; and

39 (h) One student member appointed by the University of South
40 Florida Alumni Association.



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41 (3) The Board of Trustees shall assign personnel from each
42 campus to staff the task force. The chair of the task force may
43 consult experts in university mergers and consolidations to
44 assist the task force in developing recommendations.

45 (4) No later than February 15, 2019, the task force must
46 submit a report to the University of South Florida Board of
47 Trustees which includes, at a minimum, recommendations on the
48 following:

49 (a) Identification of specific degrees in programs of
50 strategic significance, including health care, science,
51 technology, engineering, mathematics, and other program
52 priorities to be offered at the University of South Florida
53 Sarasota/Manatee and the timeline for the development and
54 delivery of programs on the campus;

55 (b) Maintaining the unique identity of each campus and an
56 assessment of whether a separate educational mission is
57 beneficial to the future of each campus;

58 (c) Maintaining faculty input from all campuses during the
59 review and development of general education requirements to
60 reflect the distinctive identity of the campus;

61 (d) Developing the research capacity at the campus;

62 (e) Equitable distribution of programs and resources to
63 establish pathways to admission for all students who require
64 bridge programming and financial aid; and

65 (f) Establishing budget transparency and accountability
66 regarding the review and approval of student fees among
67 campuses, including fee differentials and athletic fees, to
68 enable the identification of the equitable distribution of
69 resources to each campus, including the University of South



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70 Florida Health.

71 (g) Developing and delivering integrated academic programs,
72 student and faculty governance, and administrative services to
73 better serve the students, faculty, and staff at the University
74 of South Florida College of Marine Science and the University of
75 South Florida Sarasota/Manatee.

76 (5) No later than March 15, 2019, the Board of Trustees of
77 the University of South Florida, after considering the
78 recommendations of the task force, must adopt and submit to the
79 Board of Governors an implementation plan that:

80 (a) Establishes a timeline for each step that is necessary
81 to terminate the separate accreditation for the campus no later
82 than June 30, 2020, so that there is no lapse in institutional
83 accreditation for the campus during the phasing-out process.

84 (b) Minimizes disruption to students attending any
85 University of South Florida campus so that the consolidation of
86 SACSCOC accreditation does not impede a student's ability to
87 graduate within 4 years after initial first-time-in-college
88 enrollment.

89 (c) Requires that, on or before July 1, 2020, the
90 University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee and the University
91 of South Florida Tampa operate under a single institutional
92 accreditation from the SACSCOC.

93 (d) Requires that, on each regularly scheduled submission
94 date subsequent to July 1, 2020, the University of South Florida
95 report consolidated data for all of the university's campuses
96 and students to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data
97 System and to the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors
98 shall use the consolidated data for purposes of determining



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99 eligibility for funding pursuant to ss. 1001.7065 and 1001.92.

100 (6) Notwithstanding ss. 1001.7065 and 1001.92 or any Board
101 of Governors regulation to the contrary relating to the
102 calculation of graduation rates and retention rates, a student
103 who meets all of the following criteria may not be counted by
104 the Board of Governors when calculating or confirming the
105 graduation rate or the retention rate of the University of South
106 Florida under those sections:

107 (a) The student was admitted to and initially enrolled
108 before the spring 2020 semester as a first-time-in-college
109 student at the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee.

110 (b) The student voluntarily disenrolled from all University
111 of South Florida campuses without graduating before the date of
112 termination of the separate SACSCOC accreditation of his or her
113 admitting campus.

114 (7) This section expires July 1, 2020.

115 Section 11. Effective July 2, 2020, section 1004.341,
116 Florida Statutes, is created to read:

117 1004.341 University of South Florida campuses.-

118 (1) The Sarasota/Manatee campuses of the University of
119 South Florida is hereby established.

120 (2) The Sarasota/Manatee campus of the University of South
121 Florida shall be known as the "University of South Florida
122 Sarasota/Manatee" and shall include any college of the
123 University of South Florida which is headquartered or primarily
124 located in Sarasota County or Manatee County.

125 (3) The University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee shall
126 have a campus board and a regional chancellor. The Chair of the
127 Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida, based upon



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128 recommendations of the President of the University of South
129 Florida, shall appoint four residents of Manatee County and
130 three residents of Sarasota County to serve 4-year staggered
131 terms on the Campus Board of the University of South Florida
132 Sarasota/Manatee. A member of the Board of Trustees of the
133 University of South Florida who resides in Manatee County or
134 Sarasota County shall be selected by the Chair of the Board of
135 Trustees of the University of South Florida to serve jointly as
136 a member of the Board of Trustees and as chair of the campus
137 board. The chair of the faculty senate or the equivalent and the
138 president of the student body of the campus shall serve as ex
139 officio members.

140
141 The Board of Trustees may reappoint a member to the campus
142 board, other than the chair, for one additional term.

143 (3) The campus board has the powers and duties provided by
144 law, which include the authority to approve and submit an annual
145 operating plan, budget, and legislative budget request to the
146 Board of Trustees of the University of South Florida.

147 (4) The Board of Trustees shall publish and approve an
148 annual operating budget for the campus and a report on the
149 distribution of funds, including student tuition and fees,
150 preeminence funding, and performance-based funding, provided to
151 the campus.

152 (5) The Board of Trustees must publish on its website a
153 biennial regional impact report, beginning July 1, 2021, which
154 details the specific increased investments in university
155 programs located in Pinellas, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties.
156 The report shall include, at a minimum, trend information



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157 related to access to new degree programs for students in those
158 counties, any changes in student enrollment and outcomes at each
159 campus located in those counties, increased research conducted
160 and research infrastructure added in those counties, and any
161 fixed capital outlay projects or property acquisitions planned
162 or completed in those counties.

163 (6) The faculty and students at the campus shall be
164 represented in the academic and student governance structures of
165 the University of South Florida as determined by the Board of
166 Trustees.

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

169 And the title is amended as follows:

170 Delete lines 1170 - 1194

171 and insert:

172 documents; providing for the future repeal of s.
173 1004.34, F.S., relating to the University of South
174 Florida Sarasota/Manatee; requiring a study by a
175 specified date; creating s. 1004.335, F.S.; creating
176 the University of South Florida Consolidation Planning
177 Study and Implementation Task Force for certain
178 purposes; providing for membership and staffing;
179 requiring a report to the University of South Florida
180 Board of Trustees; requiring the University of South
181 Florida Board of Trustees to adopt and submit a plan
182 to phase out the separate accreditation of the
183 University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee by a
184 specified date; providing requirements for such plan;
185 providing that certain students may not be included in



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186 specified graduation and retention rate calculations;
187 creating s. 1004.341, F.S.; establishing the
188 Sarasota/Manatee campus of the University of South
189 Florida; requiring a campus board and a regional
190 chancellor; establishing membership requirements and
191 powers and duties of the campus board; providing
192 budget and reporting requirements for the University
193 of South Florida Board of Trustees; requiring faculty
194 and student representation from the campus in the
195 academic and student governance