Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Education Committee
Representative Diamond offered the following:

**Substitute Amendment for Amendment (126639) by Representative Rodrigues**

Remove lines 910-964 and insert:

1. The University of South Florida shall establish a study committee to examine the potential impact of phasing out the separate accreditation of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus and the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee campus, which were conferred by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) pursuant to ss. 1004.33 and 100.34, respectively.

2. The study committee shall consist of the following members:

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(a) One representative from the University of South Florida board of trustees;
(b) One representative from the campus board of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus;
(c) One representative from the campus board of the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee campus;
(d) One senior administrator from each campus;
(e) One faculty member from each campus selected by each campus’s faculty senate;
(f) One student from each campus selected by each campus’s student government association;
(g) One representative from the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce;
(h) One representative from the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce;
(i) One representative from the St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership;
(j) One representative from the Manatee Chamber of Commerce;
(k) One representative from the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce;
(l) One representative from St. Petersburg College; and
(m) One representative from the State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota.
(3) The study committee shall hold at least one public meeting on each campus to allow for public input on the potential impact of consolidating the accreditation of all University of South Florida campuses under one single institutional accreditation. No later than February 15, 2019, the study committee must submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, which addresses the following:

(a) The potential impact of accreditation consolidation on academic programs offered at each campus;

(b) The potential impact of accreditation consolidation on admissions requirements and student access to enrollment at various campuses;

(c) The impact of accreditation consolidation on faculty and staff credentialed on each campus;

(d) An assessment by the business community in the Tampa Bay region of how accreditation consolidation may impact the academic programming needed by employers; and

(e) The support needed for each campus to achieve and maintain the metrics required for preeminent state research university status pursuant to s. 1001.7065.

(4) The study committee’s report shall include a recommendation regarding whether or not accreditation consolidation is in the best interests of the students, faculty and the communities served by the University of South Florida.
St. Petersburg, and the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee. If the study committee recommends that the University should proceed with accreditation consolidation, the study committee shall make additional recommendations, including but not limited to:

(a) Proposed changes to the composition of the University of South Florida Board of Trustees to ensure representation of the counties served by the three campuses;

(b) Proposed changes to the University budget process to provide for additional transparency and input from each campus to ensure that University funds are appropriately and equitably allocated; and

(c) Proposed changes to the governance structure on each of the campuses to ensure the successful implementation of the accreditation consolidation and governance of each campus going forward.

(5) This section expires February 16, 2019.