The Committee on Education (Diaz) recommended the following:  

**Senate Amendment (with directory and title amendments)**

Delete lines 97 - 144

and insert:

(5) PREEMINENT STATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES PROGRAM

SUPPORT.—

(a) A state university that is designated as a preeminent state research university shall submit to the Board of Governors a 5-year benchmark plan with target rankings on key performance metrics for national excellence. Upon approval by the Board of Governors, and upon the university’s meeting the benchmark plan
goals annually, the Board of Governors shall award the university its proportionate share of any funds provided annually to support the program created under this section.

(b) A state university designated as an emerging preeminent state research university shall submit for approval to the Board of Governors a 5-year benchmark plan with target rankings on key performance metrics for national excellence. Upon approval by the Board of Governors, and upon the university's meeting the benchmark plan goals annually, the Board of Governors shall award the university its proportionate share of any funds provided annually to support the program created under this section.

(c) The award of funds under this subsection is contingent upon funding provided by the Legislature to support the preeminent state research universities program created under this section. Funding increases appropriated beyond the amounts funded in the previous fiscal year shall be distributed as determined annually by the Legislature to as follows:

1. Each designated preeminent state research university that meets the criteria in paragraph (a) shall receive an equal amount of funding.

2. Each designated emerging preeminent state research university that meets the criteria in paragraph (b) shall, beginning in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, receive an amount of funding that is equal to one-fourth of the total increased amount awarded to each designated preeminent state research university.
And the directory clause is amended as follows:

Delete lines 41 - 43 and insert:

Section 1. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsections (2), (5), and (7) of section 1001.7065, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 6 - 9 and insert:

removing funding provisions for emerging preeminent state research universities; deleting the programs of excellence designation