A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the Florida Postsecondary Academic
Library Network; amending ss. 257.02 and 295.22, F.S.;
conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
amending s. 1004.013, F.S.; revising provisions
relating to the awareness of certain postsecondary
education programs and initiatives; amending s.
1006.73, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the
Florida Academic Library Services Cooperative;
providing responsibilities for the Florida
Postsecondary Academic Library Network; providing that
the Board of Governors and the Department of Education
will oversee a host entity chosen to deliver certain
services; providing the services to be provided by the
host entity; transferring responsibility for the
statewide Internet-based catalog of distance learning
courses to the host entity; providing requirements for
such catalog; transferring responsibility for certain
statewide online student advising services to the host
entity; providing requirements for such services;
requiring the host entity to annually submit a certain
report by a specified date; providing requirements for
such report; requiring the chancellors of the State
University System and the Florida College System to
provide a certain report; providing that specified
entities have responsibility for the governance and
administration of the provided services; requiring
specified entities to issue a recommendation and
report on expanding organizations who may access the
Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 257.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

257.02 State Library Council.—
(1) There shall be a State Library Council to advise and assist the division with planning, policy, and priorities related to the development of statewide information services. The council shall consist of nine members who shall be appointed by the Secretary of State. Of the nine members, three members must represent Florida public libraries, two members must represent the Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network Services Cooperative, one member must represent a multitype library cooperative, one member must represent a school library media center, one member must represent the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, and one member must represent a Florida library professional association. Members shall be appointed for 4-year terms. A vacancy on the council shall be filled for the period of the unexpired term. A person may not be...
appointed to serve more than two consecutive terms as a member
of the council. The secretary may remove from office any council
member for malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty,
incompetence, permanent inability to perform official duties, or
pleading guilty or nolo contendere to, or being found guilty of,
a felony.

Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section
295.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

295.22 Veterans Employment and Training Services Program.—
(3) ADMINISTRATION.—Florida Is For Veterans, Inc., shall
administer the Veterans Employment and Training Services Program
and perform all of the following functions:

(b) Assist veterans who reside in or relocate to this state
and who are seeking employment. The corporation shall offer
skills assessments to veterans and assist them in establishing
employment goals and applying for and achieving gainful
employment.

1. Assessment may include skill match information, skill
gap analysis, resume creation, translation of military skills
into civilian workforce skills, and translation of military
achievements and experience into generally understood civilian
workforce skills.

2. Assistance may include providing the veteran with
information on current workforce demand by industry or
geographic region, creating employment goals, and aiding or
teaching general knowledge related to completing applications.
The corporation may provide information related to industry
certifications approved by the Department of Education under s.
1008.44 as well as information related to earning academic
college credit at public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level training and education acquired in the military under s. 1004.096.

3. The corporation shall encourage veterans to register with the state’s job bank system and may refer veterans to local one-stop career centers for further services. The corporation shall provide each veteran with information about state workforce programs and shall consolidate information about all available resources on one website that, if possible, includes a hyperlink to each resource’s website and contact information, if available. If appropriate, a veteran shall be encouraged to participate in the Complete Florida Degree Program established under s. 1006.735.

4. Assessment and assistance may be in person or by electronic means, as determined by the corporation to be most efficient and best meet the needs of veterans.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 1004.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1004.013 SAIL to 60 Initiative.—

(2) The State Board of Education and the Board of Governors shall work collaboratively to, at a minimum:

(a) Increase the awareness and use of:

1. The student advising system established under s. 1006.73 s. 1006.735(4)(b).

2. The Complete Florida Degree Initiative established under s. 1006.735(2) that facilitates degree completion for the state’s adult learners. The Chancellor of the State University System and the Chancellor of the Florida College System shall consult with the Complete Florida Degree Initiative to identify...
barriers to program expansion and develop recommendations to
increase the number of participating institutions and students
served by the program. The recommendations must consider, at a
minimum, methods for increasing outreach efforts to help
students complete the “last mile” by providing financial
assistance to students who are within 12 credit hours of
completing their first associate or baccalaureate degree, but
have separated from their institution of enrollment for more
than one semester. Recommendations must be submitted to the
Board of Governors, the State Board of Education, and the
Governor no later than October 1, 2019.

2.3. Summer bridge programs at state universities and
Florida College System institutions that help students
transition to postsecondary education.

Section 4. Section 1006.73, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read:

(Substantial rewording of section. See
s. 1006.73, F.S., for present text.)

1006.73 Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network.—
(1) PURPOSE.—The Board of Governors and the Department of
Education shall jointly oversee the host entity in accordance
with subsection (5) which will deliver the following services to
public postsecondary education institutions in this state,
which, for the purposes of this section, means all Florida
College System and State University System institutions:

(a) Provide information regarding and access to distance
learning courses and degree programs offered by public
postsecondary education institutions within this state.

(b) Coordinate with the Florida College System and the
State University System to identify and provide online academic support services and resources when the multi-institutional provision of such services and resources is more cost effective or operationally effective.

(c) Administer a single library automation system and associated resources and services that all public postsecondary institutions shall use to support learning, teaching, and research needs and develop automated library management tools that shall include, but are not limited to, the following services and functions:

1. A shared Internet-based catalog and discovery tool that allows a user to search and, if authorized, access the aggregate library holdings of this state’s public postsecondary education institutions. The catalog and discovery tool shall allow a user to search the library holdings of one institution, selected institutions, or all institutions and, to the extent feasible, shall include an interlibrary loan function that ensures an authorized user can access the required library holding.

2. An Internet-based searchable collection of electronic resources which shall include, but not be limited to, full-text journals, articles, databases, and electronic books licensed pursuant to paragraph (d).

3. An integrated library management system and its associated services that all public postsecondary education institution academic libraries shall use for purposes of acquiring, cataloging, circulating, and tracking library material.

4. A statewide searchable database that includes an inventory of digital archives and collections held by public
postsecondary education institutions.

(d) In collaboration with library staff from Florida College System institutions and state universities, coordinate the negotiation of statewide licensing of electronic library resources and preferred pricing agreements, issue purchase orders, and enter into contracts for the acquisition of library support services, electronic resources, and other goods and services necessary to carry out its duties under this section.

(e) Promote and provide recommendations concerning the use and distribution of open-access textbooks and education resources as a method for reducing costs.

(f) Provide appropriate help desk support, training, and consultation services to institutions and students.

(2) STATEWIDE INTERNET-BASED CATALOG OF DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES.—There is established a statewide Internet-based catalog of distance learning courses, degree programs, and resources offered by public postsecondary education institutions which is intended to assist in the coordination and collaboration of articulation and access pursuant to parts II and III of chapter 1007. The host entity is responsible for developing and disseminating operational procedures and technical guidelines for the catalog, to be followed by all participating institutions. Operating procedures and technical guidelines will address the following:

(a) Specific information concerning the distance learning course or degree program, including, but not limited to, course number, classification of instructional programs number, and information on the availability of the course or degree program; any prerequisite course or technology competency or skill; the
availability of academic support services and financial aid resources; and course costs, fees, and payment policies.

(b) Definitions and descriptions of the catalog’s search and retrieval options that, at a minimum, will allow users to search by academic term or course start date; institution, multiple institutions, or all institutions; and course or program delivery methods, course type, course availability, subject or discipline, and course number or classification of instructional programs number.

(c) An Internet-based analytic tool that allows for the collection and analysis of data as to usage of resources accessed or interaction with constituent institutions whose courses and programs are listed in the catalog.

(d) Frequent review and updates to institution catalogs to ensure that distance learning courses and degree programs comply with operational procedures.

3) STATEWIDE ONLINE STUDENT ADVISING SERVICES AND SUPPORT.—The following online services and support shall be made available on a statewide basis:

(a) A streamlined online admissions application process, which shall be used by all public postsecondary institutions, for undergraduate transient students currently enrolled and pursuing a degree at a public postsecondary education institution who enroll in a course offered by a public postsecondary education institution that is not the student’s degree-granting institution, which shall:

1. Use the transient student admissions application available through the statewide computer-assisted student advising system established pursuant to paragraph (b). This
admissions application is the only application required for enrollment of a transient student as described in this paragraph.

2. Implement the financial aid procedures required by the transient student admissions application process.

3. Transfer credit awarded by the institution offering the course to the transient student’s degree-granting institution.

4. Provide an interface between the institutional advising system and the statewide computer-assisted student advising system established pursuant to paragraph (b) in order to electronically send, receive, and process transient student admissions application.

(b) A statewide computer-assisted student advising system that shall support the process of advising, registering, and capturing student progression toward a degree and career and shall include a degree audit and an articulation component. Florida College System institutions and state universities shall interface institutional advising systems with the statewide computer-assisted student advising system. At a minimum, the statewide computer-assisted student advising system shall:

1. Allow a student to access the system at any time.

2. Allow a student to search public postsecondary education institutions and identify course options that will meet the requirements of a selected path toward a degree.

3. Audit transcripts of students enrolled in a public postsecondary education institution to assess current academic standing, the requirements for a student to transfer to another institution, and all requirements necessary for graduation.

4. Serve as the official statewide repository for the
common prerequisite manual, admissions information for
transferring programs, foreign language requirements, residency
requirements, and statewide articulation agreements.

5. Provide information relating to career descriptions and
corresponding educational requirements, admissions requirements,
and available sources of student financial assistance.

6. Provide the admissions application for transient
students pursuant to paragraph (a) which must include the
electronic transfer and receipt of information and records for:

a. Admissions and readmissions.

b. Financial aid.

c. Transfer of credit awarded by the institution offering
the course to the transient student’s degree-granting
institution using the Florida Automated System for Transferring
Education Records (the "FASTER System").

(c) A method for identifying and evaluating new
technologies and instructional methods for improving distance
learning instruction and development for faculty, student
learning outcomes, student access, the efficient delivery of
student support services, and the overall quality of
postsecondary distance learning courses and degree programs.

(d) Negotiation of statewide licensing resources and
preferred pricing agreements, issuing purchase orders, and
entering into contracts for the acquisition of distance learning
resources, student and support services, electronic resources,
and other goods and services necessary to carry out duties under
this section.

(4) REPORTING.—Beginning December 31, 2021, and each year
thereafter, the host entity shall submit a report to the
chancellors of the State University System and the Florida College System regarding the implementation and operation of all components described in this section, including, but not limited to, usage information collected under paragraph (2)(c), information and associated costs relating to the services and functions of the program, and the implementation and operation of the automated library services. The chancellors will provide an annual report on the performance of the host entity in delivering the services and any recommendations for changes needed to this section to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Board of Governors, and the State Board of Education.

(5) GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION.—The Office of the Board of Governors and the Department of Education shall have joint responsibility for determining the host entity for the services described in this section and shall share in the receipt and administration of an associated appropriation as described in the General Appropriations Act. The chancellors of the Florida College System and the Board of Governors shall provide oversight for successful delivery by the host entity of the services described in this section.

(6) RECOMMENDATION ON OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO BE INCLUDED WITHIN THE FLORIDA POSTSECONDARY ACADEMIC LIBRARY NETWORK.—By June 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Education and the Chancellor of the State University System shall provide a joint recommendation for a process by which school district career centers operated under s. 1001.44 and charter technical career centers under s. 1002.34 would access appropriate postsecondary distance learning, student support services, and library assets
described in this section. The recommendation must include an
analysis of the resources necessary to expand access and assets
to centers and their students.

Section 5. Section 1006.735, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 6. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section
1007.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1007.01 Articulation; legislative intent; purpose; role of
the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors;
Articulation Coordinating Committee.—

(3) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
Chancellor of the State University System, shall establish the
Articulation Coordinating Committee, which shall make
recommendations related to statewide articulation policies and
issues regarding access, quality, and reporting of data
maintained by the K-20 data warehouse, established pursuant to
ss. 1001.10 and 1008.31, to the Higher Education Coordination
Council, the State Board of Education, and the Board of
Governors. The committee shall consist of two members each
representing the State University System, the Florida College
System, public career and technical education, K-12 education,
and nonpublic postsecondary education and one member
representing students. The chair shall be elected from the
membership. The Office of K-20 Articulation shall provide
administrative support for the committee. The committee shall:

(h) Recommend roles and responsibilities of public
education entities in interfacing with the single, statewide
computer-assisted student advising system established pursuant
to s. 1006.73 or s. 1006.735.

Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 1007.27, Florida
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349 Statutes, is amended to read:
350 1007.27 Articulated acceleration mechanisms.—
351 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that a variety of
352 articulated acceleration mechanisms be available for secondary
353 and postsecondary students attending public educational
354 institutions. It is intended that articulated acceleration serve
355 to shorten the time necessary for a student to complete the
356 requirements associated with the conference of a high school
357 diploma and a postsecondary degree, broaden the scope of
358 curricular options available to students, or increase the depth
359 of study available for a particular subject. Articulated
360 acceleration mechanisms shall include, but are not limited to,
361 dual enrollment and early admission as provided for in s.
362 1007.271, advanced placement, credit by examination, the
363 International Baccalaureate Program, and the Advanced
364 International Certificate of Education Program. Credit earned
365 through the Florida Virtual School shall provide additional
366 opportunities for early graduation and acceleration. Students of
367 Florida public secondary schools enrolled pursuant to this
368 subsection shall be deemed authorized users of the state-funded
369 electronic library resources that are licensed for Florida
370 College System institutions and state universities by the
371 Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network Services
372 Cooperative. Verification of eligibility shall be in accordance
373 with rules established by the State Board of Education and
374 regulations established by the Board of Governors and processes
375 implemented by Florida College System institutions and state
376 universities.
377
378 Section 8. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (16) and
subsection (17) of section 1009.23, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1009.23 Florida College System institution student fees.—

(16)(a) Each Florida College System institution may assess a student who enrolls in a course listed in the distance learning catalog, established pursuant to s. 1006.73 or 1006.735, a per-credit-hour distance learning course user fee. For purposes of assessing this fee, a distance learning course is a course in which at least 80 percent of the direct instruction of the course is delivered using some form of technology when the student and instructor are separated by time or space, or both.

(c) If an institution assesses the distance learning fee, the institution must provide a link to the catalog within the advising and distance learning sections of the institution’s website, using a graphic and description provided by the Complete Florida Plus Program, to inform students of the catalog.

(17) Each Florida College System institution that accepts transient students, pursuant to s. 1006.73 or 1006.735, may establish a transient student fee not to exceed $5 per course for processing the transient student admissions application.

Section 9. Paragraph (t) of subsection (14) and paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (17) of section 1009.24, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1009.24 State university student fees.—

(14) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (15), each university board of trustees is authorized to establish the following fees:
(t) A transient student fee that may not exceed $5 per course for accepting a transient student and processing the transient student admissions application pursuant to s. 1006.73 s. 1006.735.

With the exception of housing rental rates and except as otherwise provided, fees assessed pursuant to paragraphs (h)-(s) shall be based on reasonable costs of services. The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations and timetables necessary to implement the fees and fines authorized under this subsection. The fees assessed under this subsection may be used for debt only as authorized under s. 1010.62.

(17)(a) A state university may assess a student who enrolls in a course listed in the distance learning catalog, established pursuant to s. 1006.73 s. 1006.735, a per-credit-hour distance learning course fee. For purposes of assessing this fee, a distance learning course is a course in which at least 80 percent of the direct instruction of the course is delivered using some form of technology when the student and instructor are separated by time or space, or both.

(c) If an institution assesses the distance learning fee, the institution must provide a link to the catalog within the advising and distance learning sections of the institution’s website, using a graphic and description provided by the Complete Florida Plus Program, informing students of the catalog.

Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.