

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 35 Florida College System Institutions

SPONSOR(S): Ford and others

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) K-20 Competitiveness Subcommittee		Thomas	Ahearn
2) Education Committee			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill amends current law to change the name of “Pensacola Junior College” to “Pensacola State College” and “St. Johns River Community College” to “St. Johns River State College.” Each college has complied with the statutory requirements for its name change.

Current law permits an institution in the Florida College System to change its name and use the designation “college” or “state college” if the name change has been approved by the institution’s district board of trustees, the institution has been authorized to grant baccalaureate degrees, and the institution has been accredited as a baccalaureate-degree-granting institution by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. A district board of trustees that approves such a name change must seek statutory codification of the name change during the next regular legislative session.

The fiscal impact of the bill is indeterminate. (See FISCAL COMMENTS)

The effective date provided is upon becoming law.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Background

With the approval of its district board of trustees, a Florida college may change the name of the institution as listed in s. 1000.21(3), F.S., and use the designation “college” or “state college” if it has been authorized to grant baccalaureate degrees and has been accredited as a baccalaureate-degree-granting institution by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.¹ A district board of trustees that approves the use of the designation “college” or “state college” must seek statutory codification of the name change during the next regular legislative session.²

Pensacola Junior College

The Pensacola Junior College (PJC) District Board of Trustees (DBOT) approved the request to submit a proposal to offer the Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and the Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Supervision and Administration on November 10, 2008. The State Board of Education approved PJC’s proposal to offer both baccalaureate degrees on March 26, 2010. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) approved PJC to offer baccalaureate degrees on June 24, 2010. PJC’s DBOT approved the college’s name change to Pensacola State College on July 20, 2010.³

St. Johns River Community College

The St. Johns River Community College (SJRCC) District Board of Trustees approved the request to submit a proposal to offer the Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Organizational Management and the Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education on June 16, 2009. The State Board of Education approved SJRCC’s proposal to offer both baccalaureate degrees on March 26, 2010. SACS approved the college to offer baccalaureate degrees on June 24, 2010. SJRCC’s DBOT approved the college’s name change to St. Johns River State College on September 15, 2010.⁴

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 1000.21, F.S., to change the name of “Pensacola Junior College” to “Pensacola State College” and references to “St. Johns River Community College” with “St. Johns River State College.” Each college has complied with the statutory requirements for its name change. The bill makes conforming changes in ss.1004.74 and 1004.75, F.S.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

- Section 1. Amends s. 1000.21, F.S., renaming specified community colleges.
- Section 2. Amends s. 1004.74, F.S., conforming provisions.
- Section 3. Amends s. 1004.75, F.S., conforming provisions.
- Section 4. Provides an effective date of upon becoming law.

¹ Section 1001.60(2)(b)1., F.S.

² Section 1001.60(2)(c), F.S.

³ Department of Education Analysis of HB 35 (Feb. 14, 2011).

⁴ *Id.*

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

According to the Department of Education, there will be related costs associated with institutional name changes in a variety of areas such as signage, publications, and documentation. Due to the unique need of each institution, the costs associated with name changes are indeterminate at this time.⁵

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not require a city or county to expend funds or to take any action requiring the expenditure of funds.

The bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate.

This bill does not reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

⁵Department of Education Analysis of HB 35 (Feb. 14, 2011).

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

Not applicable.