

Chapter Law 2009-187

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 2188

An act relating to the Florida College System; amending s. 20.15, F.S.; renaming the Division of Community Colleges as the Division of Florida Colleges; amending s. 1000.21, F.S.; defining the terms "Florida college" and "community college"; specifying the counties served by each Florida college; renaming specified Florida colleges; amending s. 1001.60, F.S.; providing that the Florida College System consists of specified Florida colleges; authorizing a Florida college to change the institution's name to include "college" or "state college" under specified circumstances; requiring the district board of trustees to seek statutory codification of name changes; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1004.65, F.S.; providing that each Florida college shall be governed by a district board of trustees; defining a Florida college district; providing that the open-door admission policy of Florida colleges applies to lower-division programs; providing that the primary mission of Florida colleges includes the provision of upper-level instruction and baccalaureate degrees as authorized by law; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing s. 1004.73, F.S., relating to St. Petersburg College; repealing s. 1004.875, F.S., relating to the State College Pilot Project; amending s. 1007.23, F.S.; providing that associate in arts graduates of Florida colleges must be granted admission to the upper division of a Florida college and shall receive priority for such admission over out-of-state students; requiring specified publications of Florida colleges and state universities to include certain information; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1007.33, F.S.; providing a definition for the term "district"; providing that Florida colleges may offer specified baccalaureate degree programs through agreements with regionally accredited postsecondary educational institutions; authorizing Florida colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs authorized by law prior to the act's effective date; requiring State Board of Education approval for baccalaureate degree programs proposed by a Florida college after the act's effective date; specifying the purposes for which a baccalaureate degree program may be proposed; providing an exemption from the requirement for State Board of Education approval for specified baccalaureate degree programs offered by St. Petersburg College; authorizing the Division of Florida Colleges to accept and review applications from Florida colleges to obtain an exemption from the requirement for State Board of Education approval if certain conditions are met; providing eligibility criteria for such exemption; requiring that the division recommend an institution for exemption to the board; requiring that the board review such recommendation for approval or disapproval; requiring that all Florida Colleges engage in need, demand, and impact discussions; requiring that documentation, data, and other information be provided to certain educational entities; providing for a compliance review of approved baccalaureate degree programs; specifying the approval process for baccalaureate degree programs; specifying contents of a proposal for a baccalaureate degree program; specifying requirements for Florida colleges offering baccalaureate degree programs;

requiring that the State Board of Education adopt specified rules; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending ss.120.65, 288.8175, 1001.61, 1004.70, 1004.87, and 1009.23, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 8. Subsection (11) of section 120.65, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

120.65 Administrative law judges.—

(11) The division shall be reimbursed for administrative law judge services and travel expenses by the following entities: water management districts, regional planning councils, school districts, community colleges, the Division of Florida Community Colleges, state universities, the Board of Governors of the State University System, the State Board of Education, the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, and the Commission for Independent Education. These entities shall contract with the division to establish a contract rate for services and provisions for reimbursement of administrative law judge travel expenses and video teleconferencing expenses attributable to hearings conducted on behalf of these entities. The contract rate must be based on a total-cost-recovery methodology.

Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor June 24, 2009.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 24, 2009.