



LegisLetter

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Volume Nine / Number Twelve • June 4, 2003

After the regular session collapsed in its final days without a budget, Governor Bush ordered the Legislature back to Tallahassee to pass this one bill the constitution requires every year. Nerves were frayed and negotiations were fragile during the two-week special session, but lawmakers finally approved a \$53.5 billion spending plan. The Governor will have 15 days to announce his vetoes after he receives the bill from the House Speaker and Senate President.

Universities took a \$40 million cut – the House had originally proposed a \$118 million cut a few months ago – which resulted in a \$5.4 million reduction for Florida State University, about 2.2 percent of our base. Tuition will increase by 8.5 percent, with an additional 6.5 percent available for our Board of Trustees to authorize for all levels except in-state undergrads. Enrollment growth was not funded this year (**see related story**).

In addition to the budget, legislators also passed an admissions-deposit bill for state universities, a few important “glitch” items, and a presidential salary cap (**see Spotlight on Bills**).

However, legislators have not quite completed their work. Governor Bush will call them back again on June 16 for a four-day special session to address medical malpractice issues.

I will send a final newsletter once the veto messages are in and relevant legislation has been signed into law, which should be by the end of this month. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me if you need any information. I can be reached at (850) 644-4453 or by e-mail at kdaly@govrel.fsu.edu.

Kathleen

Budget Highlights - Special Session 2003A

The Legislature approved the State’s \$53.5 billion budget on Tuesday, May 27. Florida State University received a 2.2% cut over last years spending. Below is a summary of funds included in the 2003-04 spending plan:

Cuts to Universities		(\$40 million)
Cuts to FSU		(\$5.4 million) - 2.2% General Revenue and Lottery Cut
FSU Base General Revenue and Lottery Dollars		\$230,145,178 E & G/Financial Aid \$14,747,174 Lottery
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		\$244,992,352
Florida Center for Reading Research Tuition		\$1,593,600 in Lottery Base
	In-State	Out-of-State
	8.5% across the board increase. The Board of Trustees may determine an additional increase of up to 6.5% for all levels except undergraduate.	8.5 % across the board The Board of Trustees may determine an additional increase of up to 6.5% for all levels.
Enrollment Growth		\$0
Medical School - General Revenue and Lottery		\$22,761,502 Grant-in-Aid,
Cuts to Medical School		(\$424,872) - 2.2% cut
School of Chiropractic		\$0
Challenge Grant/ Courtelis Facilities-FSU		\$6,205,814
Public Broadcasting		\$1,600,000 Florida Channel, \$557,675 WFSU TV, \$105,614 WFSU Radio
Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources Center-FSU		\$594,558
Autism Program-FSU		\$816,666
Ringling Museum		\$2,256,000

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Facilities – PECO

Utilities/Infrastructure/ Capital Renewal/Roofs	\$4,300,000
Building Envelope Improvements – Phase II	\$1,500,000
Science Bldg. Support systems	\$4,000,000
Marine Science Research & Training Center	\$3,500,000
Life Sciences Teaching & Research Center	\$2,700,000
Panama City Design and Build Project	\$800,000
Panama City Campus Academic Building	\$500,000
Psychology Building	\$2,313,969

SUS Items

Bright Futures

\$235,688,631

Pay Package

2 percent increase, \$500.00 minimum/\$1,400.00 maximum effective December 1, 2003.

Health Insurance

Effective December 1, 2003, employee's share of health insurance premiums shall increase from \$41.96 per month to \$48.67 per month for individual coverage and from \$150.98 per month to \$175.14 per month for family coverage. Additional proviso for increase of co-payments.

On-line Sunshine

Be sure to visit On-line Sunshine on the World Wide Web for budget and other legislative information.

www.leg.state.fl.us



Spotlight on Bills

Bills that passed Special Session 2003A

HB 51A, State Universities, by Representative David Meador (R-Lake Mary), establishes the Board of Governors and provides membership and terms of office; revises the membership of university boards of trustees and terms of office; authorizes a nonrefundable admissions deposit; limits the annual remuneration of a state university president to \$225,000 from public funds; and provides certain limitations on benefits for state retirement. **Effective date: July 1, 2003.**

HB 55A, Charter Schools, by Representative Dennis Baxley (R-Ocala), provides guiding principles for charter schools, requires an emphasis on reading; requires certain accountability measures; authorizes community colleges to develop charter schools; revises application requirements; provides additional requirements for a charter school's annual report; eliminates limitations on the number of charter schools per school district; provides exceptions to the one lab school per university limitation grandfathering in the FSU Pembroke Pines Charter School in Broward; revises provisions relating to funding for lab schools; revises provisions relating to employees of lab schools; and, revises eligibility criteria for charter school capital outlay funding. **Effective date: July 1, 2003.**

HB 63A, Florida Clean Air Act, by Representative Manuel Prieguez (R-Miami), prohibits smoking in an enclosed indoor workplace; establishes specific exceptions to the prohibition against smoking in an enclosed indoor workplace; provides for designated custom smoking rooms in airport in-transit lounges, provides for exemptions including medical and scientific research approved by the Department of Health, etc. **Effective Date: July 1, 2003.**

SB 4A, General Appropriations Implementing Bill, by Senate Appropriations, relating to the implementation of the following items: direct deposit of funds; deferred comp; consolidated financing of deferred-payment purchases; and insurance issues (such as workers' comp and UMIFA).

SB 30A, Amendment 9/State Constitution, by Senator Lee Constantine (R-Altamonte Springs), defines the terms "core-curricula courses" and "extracurricular courses"; establishes the constitutional class size maximum; provides for the determination of averages; provides for the department to calculate averages based upon student membership surveys; provides implementation options for school districts; provides accountability for the class size reduction measures; establishes an operating categorical fund for implementing class size reduction; provides for the use of

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Spotlight on Bills

the funds by school districts. **The effective date is July 1, 2003** except changes to DROP (provides extension of participation in DROP for certain K-12 instructional personnel from 60 months to 96 months), which are **effective June 1, 2003**.

SB 50A, Workers Compensation, by Senator Charlie Clary (R- Destin), provides, revises, and deletes definitions; revises authorization to claim exemptions and requirements relating to submitting notice of election of exemption; specifies effect of exemption; revises provisions relating to failure to secure compensation; provides that a corporate officer electing to be exempt may not receive benefits; revises provisions relating to compensation for subsequent injuries; revises provisions relating to drug testing; specifying effect of criminal acts; provides for compensability of mental and nervous injuries; revises provisions relating to contractors and subcontractors with regard to liability for compensation; requires subcontractors to provide evidence of workers' compensation coverage or proof of exemption to a contractor; deletes provisions relating to independent contractors; revises requirements relating to workplace safety programs, etc. The companion bill **Effective Date: October 1, 2003**.

SB 354 -- Bright Futures Scholarship Testing by Senator Lisa Carlton (R-Sarasota). Repeals the Bright Futures Scholarship Testing requirement (CLEP). Passed Legislature and will take **effect on July 1, 2003**.

Bills that failed Special Session 2003A

SB 6A, Florida Residents' Tax Relief Act of 2003, by Senator Anna Cowin (R-Leesburg) and HB 39, by Representative Bev Kilmer, (R-Marianna), relating to creating the act; specified period during which sale of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales tax, commonly referred to as the "Sales Tax Holiday" bill.

HB 37, Educational Enhancement Trust Fund by Representative Fred Brummer, (R-Apopka), and SB 28, by Representative Evelyn Lynn (R-Ormond Beach), relating to increasing amounts to be deposited into the Educational Enhancement Trust fund.

HB 45A, High School Graduation by Representative John Quinones (R-Kissimmee), providing learning opportunities for certain students to meet high school graduation requirements; provides requirements for certain transfer students and provides for alternate assessments for grade 10 FCAT test. There was no Senate companion.

HB 49A, Florida K-20 Education Code by Representative David Meador, (R-Lake Mary), the school code glitch bill relating to correcting and updating provisions in Florida Statutes to conform the 2002 rewrite of the school code. There was no Senate companion. These provisions were included in SB 4A, the budget implementing bill.

HB 127A, Resident Status/Tuition by Representative Juan Zapata (R-Miami), relating to providing an exemption from payment of nonresident tuition at certain institution for certain students meeting eligibility criteria; providing general requirements for eligibility for state financial aid. There was no Senate companion.

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