

State

Policy and Procedure

FCSSGA will oppose any bills and/or laws that will allow for concealed weapon use on the Florida College System campuses.

HB 4001 (Against)

Licenses to Carry Concealed Weapons or Firearms

Steube and Rehwinkel Vasilinda (CO-SPONSORS) Baxley; Boyd; Combee; Drake; Eagle; Fant; Gaetz; Renner; Smith; Stone; Sullivan; Trumbull; Van Zant; Wood

08/03/15

Removes provision prohibiting concealed carry licensees from openly carrying handgun or carrying concealed weapon or firearm into college or university facility.

Summary: An act relating to licenses to carry concealed weapons or firearms; amending s. 790.06, Florida Statutes.; deleting a provision prohibiting concealed carry licensees from openly carrying a handgun or carrying a concealed weapon or firearm into a college or university facility; providing an effective date.

Companion Bill: [SB 68](#)

HB 163 (Against)

Weapons and Firearms

Criminal Justice Subcommittee and Gaetz (CO-SPONSORS) Baxley; Combee; Drake; Eagle; Fant; O'Toole; Renner; Smith; Van Zant

09/14/15

Provides for construction of statutes that implicate right to bear arms or defend one's self; provides that person or entity who infringes on specified rights of individual may be subject to liability under specified provisions; provides exception; provides that certain persons & entities have no immunity; specifies that law enforcement officer may arrest person for unlicensed carrying of concealed weapon only upon probable cause that such violation is being committed; provides that person licensed to carry concealed firearm or weapon may also openly carry such firearm or weapon; revises legislative findings concerning possession & carrying of weapons & firearms; revises provisions concerning construction of provisions.

Summary: An act relating to weapons and firearms; creating s. 776.00111, Florida Statutes.; providing for construction of statutes that implicate the right to bear arms or defend one's self; creating s. 790.0015, Florida Statutes.

Companion Bill: [SB 300](#)

College Affordability

FCSSGA will support any bills and/or laws that will forgive loans for Florida College System students teaching in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) related fields.

SB 290 (For)

Relating to STEM Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program

Narain

08/27/15

STEM Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program: Creates STEM Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program; provides for administration, funding, eligibility, use of funds, & rules for program.

Summary: Any person who receives an education degree in Florida in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Management) fields will receive have any loans forgiven by the state.

Companion Bill: [HB 0015](#)

FCSSGA will support any bills and/or laws that require the Florida College System institutions to have student loan default rates below the national average.

SB 0146 (For)

Federal Student Loan Default Rates

Ring and Gaetz

08/19/15

Federal Student Loan Default Rates: Requiring certain institutions to maintain a federal student loan cohort default rate below a specified percentage; revising the minimum standards the Commission for Independent Education must use to evaluate an institution for licensure to include the institution's federal student loan cohort default rate; requiring Florida College System institution performance funding for industry certifications to take into consideration an institution's federal student loan cohort default rate, etc.

Summary: An act relating to federal student loan default rates; amending s. 1005.04, Florida Statutes.; requiring certain institutions to maintain a federal student loan cohort rate below a specified percentage. If a student defaults against their loan it is the responsibility of the college or university to pay the remainder.

Companion Bill: [HB 123](#)

FCSSGA will support any bills and/or laws that provide Bright Future funding for Florida College System students who are unable to accept an initial award immediately after completion of high school.

SB 520 (For)

Bright Futures Scholarship Program

Lee

10/13/15

Providing that the initial award period and the renewal period for students who are unable to accept an initial award immediately after completion of high school due to a full-time religious or service obligation begin upon the completion of the religious or service obligation; requiring a student, as a prerequisite for the Florida Academic Scholars award, the Florida Medallion Scholars award, or the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award, to identify a social or civic issue or a professional area of interest and develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area, etc.

Summary: An act relating to the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program; amending s. 1009.531, Florida Statutes; providing that the initial award period and the renewal period for students who are unable to accept an initial award immediately after completion of high school due to a full-time religious or service obligation begin upon the completion of the religious or service obligation.

Companion Bills: [HB 793](#) [SB 990](#)

FCSSGA will support any bills that allow postsecondary access and textbook affordability.

SB 984 (For)

Education Access and Affordability

Porter; (Co-Introducers) Cortes

Exemption from Legislative Lobbying Requirements; Revising the definition of the term “expenditure”; specifying that the term does not include use of a public facility or public property that is made available by a governmental entity to a legislator for a public purpose, to exempt such use from legislative lobbying requirements, etc.

Summary: Specifying that the costs of instructional materials are not included in tuition for certain online degree programs; requiring the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to annually identify strategies to promote college affordability; requiring Florida College System institution and state university boards of trustees to identify wide variances in the costs of, and frequency of changes in the selection of, textbooks and instructional materials for certain courses, etc.

Companion Bills: [HB 7019](#)

The students of Florida support any bills that will increase funding for the Florida College System.

Increase funding for the Florida College System

Social Issues

FCSSGA will support any bills and/or laws that would require law enforcement who use body cameras to have a detailed process for the proper use, maintenance, and storage of the cameras as well as storage of the data collected.

HB 93 (For)

Relating to Law Enforcement Officer Body Cameras

Jones (S)

09/10/15

Law Enforcement Officer Body Cameras: Requires law enforcement agency that permits its law enforcement officers to wear body cameras to establish policies & procedures addressing proper use, maintenance, & storage of cameras & data; requires such policies & procedures to include specified information; requires agency to ensure that specified personnel are trained; requires that data be retained in accordance with specified requirements; requires periodic review of agency body camera practices; exempts recordings from specified provisions relating to interception of wire, electronic, & oral communications.

Summary: Law enforcement who wear body cameras will be required to have written policies and procedures including the following: how officers are trained to use the body cameras, how the data will be kept for storage, and how the data will be reviewed if need be.

Companion Bill: [SB 68](#)

FCSSGA will support any bills and/or laws that prohibit discrimination against individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

HB 45 (For)

Prohibited Discrimination

Raschein (CO-SPONSORS) Edwards; Hager; Latvala; Murphy; Pilon; Richardson; Rodríguez, J.
08/11/15

Prohibited Discrimination: Creates "Florida Competitive Workforce Act"; prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation & gender identity or expression; defines terms; provides exceptions for constitutionally protected free exercise of religion

Summary: An act relating to prohibited discrimination; amending s. 4 760.01, Florida Statutes.; revising provisions to include sexual orientation and gender identity or expression and the perception of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, handicap, or marital status as impermissible grounds for discrimination.

Companion Bill: [SB 120](#)

Federal

College Affordability

FCSSGA will support any bills and/or laws that provide free tuition for Florida college students.

H.R.2962 (For)

America's College Promise Act of 2015

Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]
07/08/2015

This bill authorizes the Department of Education (ED) to award grants to states and Indian tribes to waive tuition and fees at community colleges. To receive a grant, states and Indian tribes must agree to waive tuition and fees at all their community colleges and for all eligible students. This bill waives tuition fees for the first two years at Pathways to Student Success for Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, Alaska Native-Serving Institutions, Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions, Predominantly Black Institutions, And Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions.

Summary: An eligible student is a first-time student who: (1) qualifies for resident tuition; (2) enrolls at least half-time; (3) maintains satisfactory academic progress; and (4) enrolls in an academic program with credits that are fully transferable to any public institution of higher education in the state or enrolls in a training program that leads to credentials in an in-demand industry. The bill appropriates \$1.4 billion in fiscal year 2016 and \$79.7 billion over fiscal year 2016- fiscal year 2025 to make grants under this community college program.

Companion Bill: [S.1716](#)