

Board of Governors

Development of 2004 Legislative Issues

January 22, 2004

Issue: Enrollment Planning

Issue Summary: Section 1001.02(2)(v), F.S., requires the State Board of Education “(t)o develop, and periodically review for adjustment, a coordinated 5-year plan for postsecondary enrollment and annually submit the plan to the Legislature.” Section 1011.90(1), F.S., requires the Legislature to use planned enrollments for each university as the “basis for the allocation of appropriated funds to the universities.”

Background: Historically, the Legislature has used planned enrollments at the universities as the basis for appropriations for enrollment growth. Previously, the Board of Regents approved the five-year enrollment plan for each university, which was then used as part of the Legislative Budget Request. The Legislature then accepted or modified the submitted plan for budgetary purposes.

The new statutes in effect for 2002 transferred the power to develop, and to submit to the Legislature, an enrollment plan for the universities to the State Board of Education. The use of the planned enrollment for university appropriations remained essentially unchanged under s.1011.90, F.S..

In 2003, the Legislature included the requirement for the development of an enrollment plan in proviso language of the General Appropriations Act. It directed the Chancellor to “...submit a revised 5-year state university enrollment plan by lower, upper, graduate I and graduate II levels, by university, to the Florida Board of Governors by September 1, 2003.” With significant input from the universities, the task was accomplished.

Staff Recommendation: To clarify the roles of the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors in regard to university enrollment planning, s. 1001.02(2)(v), F.S., should be amended to specify that the SBE’s coordinated 5-year plan for postsecondary enrollment is to include the Board of Governors’ 5-year plan adopted for state universities.

In addition, the proviso language in the FY 2003-04 General Appropriations Act directing the Chancellor to recommend a 5-year enrollment plan to the Board of Governors should be codified.