



Bill Number: CS/SB 1064, Enrolled

Bill Title: University Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program

Bill Sponsor: Education Facilities Appropriations and Senator King

Effective Date: July 1, 2007

DOE Contact: Linda Champion, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations, (850) 245-0406

Executive Summary:

This act streamlines the administrative process for the Alex P. Courtelis University Facility Enhancement Challenge Grant Program and updates the statutes to conform to current administrative practices. This legislation requires each university to maintain a separate account for private matching funds. The effect will be to eliminate several unnecessary administrative processes including: the need to transfer private matching funds from universities to the state's Capital Facilities Matching Trust Fund; the need to process interim budget amendments to create matching trust fund budget authority to disburse the private matching funds from the trust fund; the need for Department of Education (DOE) staff to track and invest separate cash sources in the trust fund; and, the need for staff to review, analyze and approve project encumbrance authorization requests and monthly cash disbursement requests for the private funds.

Since the Capital Facilities Matching Trust Fund will no longer be a repository of private matching funds and has not received state matching appropriations in recent years, the bill terminates the trust fund on July 1, 2009; the intervening 2 years will allow DOE to phase out the fund.

The bill also requires unneeded or reverted funds to be returned to the fund from which appropriated for both the Courtelis Challenge Grant Program and the Community College Challenge Grant Program.

General Implementation Timeline:

July 1, 2007 -- Effective date of the act

July 1, 2009 – Termination of Capital Facilities Matching Trust Fund