

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Update

May 20, 2015

SUBJECT: Florida College System – President Thomas LoBasso, on behalf of the Council of Presidents

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

N/A

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the Legislature winding up their regular session in an unusual fashion, many of the policy issues the Council of Presidents was following did not pass before the end of session. Bills that died included SB 948, which contained a number of provisions such as:

- College (and textbook) affordability
- Performance funding
- Baccalaureate degrees in the FCS

We are all eager to have the Legislature come back into Special Session to work on a budget for the State. As a reminder, here is where we were with the original budgets from each chamber:

- The Senate budget contains funding to address equity among the funding for the 28 colleges as well as significant performance funding.
- The House budget currently contains only the performance funding but we are hopeful that they will be able to address equity as we move into budget negotiations.
- Our incoming Council of Presidents Chair recently authored an opinion editorial in support of performance funding for the Florida College System.

The Council of Presidents will be meeting in June to begin work on legislative priorities and a legislative budget request for the 2016 session. We will work closely with Commissioner Stewart in hopes that our budget request could be heard and considered by the State Board of Education at a later date this summer.

Supporting Documentation Included: N/A

Facilitator/Presenter: Thomas LoBasso, President, Daytona State College