

Governor's Budget Recommendation Conforming Bill
Hamilton Center

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the Hamilton Center; amending s.
3 1004.6496, F.S.; amending scope of the Hamilton Center to
4 the Hamilton College; providing additional authority to
5 the Hamilton College; providing an effective date.

6
7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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9 Section 1. Section 1004.6496, Florida Statutes, is amended
10 to read:

11 1004.6496 Hamilton ~~Center~~ College for Classical and Civic
12 Education.-

13 (1) By July 1, 2024, ~~t~~The Board of Trustees of the
14 University of Florida may use funds as provided in the General
15 Appropriations Act and charitable donations to establish and
16 fund the Hamilton ~~Center~~ College for Classical and Civic
17 Education as an academic unit within the University of Florida.
18 The purpose of the ~~center~~ college is to support teaching and
19 research concerning the ideas, traditions, and texts that form
20 the foundations of Western and American civilization.

21 (2) The goals of the ~~center~~ college are to:

22 (a) Educate university students in core texts and great
23 debates of Western civilization and the Great Books. Beginning
24 with students entering the University of Florida in the 2026-
25 2027 school year and thereafter, each student must demonstrate
26 competency in civil discourse.

27 1. The Hamilton College is responsible for developing
28 curriculum and courses to satisfy the requirement for the
29 competency in civil discourse.

Governor's Budget Recommendation Conforming Bill
Hamilton Center

30 2. Courses developed under this paragraph may be used to
31 satisfy the requirements of s. 1007.25(5) until the end of the
32 2025-26 academic year.

33 (b) Educate university students in the principles, ideals,
34 and institutions of the American political order.

35 (c) Educate university students in the foundations of
36 responsible leadership and informed citizenship.

37 (d) Provide programming and training related to civic
38 education and the values of open inquiry and civil discourse to
39 support the K-20 system.

40 (e) Coordinate with the Florida Institute of Politics
41 created pursuant to s. 1004.6499 and the Adam Smith Center for
42 the Study of Economic Freedom created pursuant to s. 1004.64991
43 and assist in the curation and implementation of Portraits in
44 Patriotism created pursuant to s. 1003.44.

45 (3) In order to carry out the purpose set forth in
46 subsection (2), the college is authorized to:

47 (a) Hire necessary faculty and staff;

48 (b) Enroll students;

49 (c) Develop curriculum and offer new courses, including
50 honors courses, certificates, and major and minor programs;

51 (d) Award degrees;

52 (e) Hold events, including fundraisers; and

53 (f) Fulfill other actions approved by the President of the
54 University.

55 (g) Generate resources based on student credit hour
56 enrollment, in the same manner as any other college within the
57 institution.

Governor's Budget Recommendation Conforming Bill
Hamilton Center

58 (4) The president of the university may hire a dean for the
59 college, subject to the approval of the board of trustees.

60 (a) If at any time the position of dean becomes vacant, the
61 president of the university may appoint faculty within the
62 Hamilton College to serve as the acting dean. The president of
63 the university may remove the dean in accordance with the
64 policies and procedures established at the university.

65 (b) The dean of the Hamilton College must report directly
66 to the President of the university.

67 (c) The dean of the Hamilton College has the same delegated
68 authority, in the same manner as any other dean at the
69 university.

70 (5) Faculty of the Hamilton College may be awarded tenure
71 subject to the tenure policies of the university.

72 (6) Funds appropriated specifically to the Hamilton College
73 may not be used for any other purpose at the university,
74 however, the university can provide additional funding as
75 available to the college.

76 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.