**HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM**

Governor DeSantis is proposing legislation that will refocus Florida’s public colleges and universities on preparing students to be contributing members of society, and **bring more accountability to the higher education system.**

**EDUCATION NOT INDOCTRINATION**

Governor DeSantis’ proposal will specify standards and content for general education core course requirements to ensure higher education is rooted in the values of liberty and the western tradition.

**REQUIRES**
- any general education course be based on providing a strong educational foundation, and not promote ideological indoctrination.
- institutions to prioritize graduating students with degrees that lead to high-wage jobs, not degrees designed to further a political agenda.
- institutions from using political filters like DEI statements in hiring practices.
- public institutions from supporting campus activities or programs that promote divisive concepts like DEI and CRT.

**GIVES**
- university Boards of Trustees and presidents the power to call a post-tenure review at any time.

**EMPOWERS**
- university presidents to make the best hiring decisions by reestablishing their authority over the hiring process.

**CURRENTLY**
- faculty committees can tie the hands of university presidents and bind them to only consider a small pool of recommended candidates.

**AMENDS**
- standards for preeminent state research universities to require annual research expenditures of at least $50 million for STEM related programs, businesses or industry partners that will employ Floridians.

**GOVERNOR DESANTIS’ 2023-2024 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE**

- **$15 MILLION** for faculty and student recruitment at the New College of Florida. Includes $10 million recurring annually.
- **$100 MILLION** for the recruitment and retention of highly qualified faculty at state universities.

**DEVELOPING WORLD-CLASS CIVICS INSTITUTES AT UNIVERSITIES**

Governor DeSantis’ proposal includes refocusing three Florida institutes on developing courses and curriculum that can be used to educate the next generation on the values of liberty and constitutionalism.

- The Hamilton Center at the University of Florida will become the Hamilton College by 2024, and will develop nation-leading programs and curriculum on civil discourse.
- The Adam Smith Center at FIU will be empowered to hire its own staff and faculty, and develop courses and curriculum to be used in Florida schools.
- The Florida Institute of Politics at FSU will be overhauled to focus on developing tools for educators to use in K-12 settings that teach about individual rights and democracy.

**BUILDING ON 2022 LEGISLATION**

Last year, Governor DeSantis signed Senate Bill 7044 to reform the higher education system by:

- Dismantling the monopoly accreditation agencies had on the entire higher education system.
- Bringing accountability to tenured faculty with regular performance reviews occurring every 5 years.
- Ensuring a seamless transition for students going from a state college to a university.