

(22) Have authority, after notice to the student of the charges and after a hearing thereon, to expel, suspend, or otherwise discipline any student who is found to have violated any law, ordinance, or rule or regulation of the State Board of Education or of the board of trustees of the Florida College System institution pursuant to the provisions of s. 1006.62.

(23) Submit an annual employment accountability plan to the Department of Education pursuant to the provisions of s. 1012.86.

(24) Annually evaluate, or have a designee annually evaluate, each department chairperson, dean, provost, and vice president in achieving the annual and long-term goals and objectives of the Florida College System institution's employment accountability plan.

(25) Have vested with the president or the president's designee the authority that is vested with the Florida College System institution.

History.—s. 81, ch. 2002-387; s. 22, ch. 2011-5.

¹Note.—Repealed by s. 21, ch. 2009-59.

AMENDMENT 7 to the FLORIDA CONSTITUTION

In November 2018, Florida voters had the opportunity to vote on several constitutional amendments included on the general election ballot. Among the proposals was Amendment 7. This amendment did three things related to education and higher education.

First, it provided education benefits to family members of first responders and military members killed in the line of duty. Additionally, it required state university boards of trustees to have a 2/3 majority to raise tuition and fees.

The key element of **Amendment 7 was unique to Florida colleges**. It provided the voters an opportunity to formally recognize our state and community colleges in the Florida Constitution. The Florida College System was the only entity of public education not included, even though the K-12 system and the State University System were included some time ago.

Most importantly it strongly provided that the local board of trustees provides oversight and direction specific to each college. Although the foundation of the Florida College System's success has been local control historically, this constitutional codification makes it unequivocal. Combined with the assuring continued oversight by the State Board of Education, as it currently exists, it will strengthen the seamless K-16 system as we know it.

The Amendment's emphasis on preserving local control is key to the success of the system. District Boards of Trustees ensure that colleges can remain responsive to the academic and workforce needs of their communities, and are important to the continued relevance of the system. The professionals who comprise these boards know the college, the community-based businesses, and can guide their institution toward a serving their needs.