

2007 LEGISLATIVE ISSUE FORM

BOG ISSUE: Student Safety and Security



PROPOSED STATUTORY LANGUAGE: Draft Statutory Language Complete

1. Need for Change: Sections 938.15 and 318.21, Florida Statutes

State university police departments are seeking to be added to section 938.15, Florida Statutes, so that they can receive officer training that result from an optional \$2 assessment on court costs by municipalities and counties.

University police departments also seek to receive a share of the funds generated from payment of civil penalties based on violations within their jurisdictions as provided for in section 318.21, Florida Statutes.

In addition, state university police departments are seeking funds to support the mandatory shift to the statewide communications system that improves the ability of various law enforcement agencies to work together.

2. Current Condition:

Funds from the \$2 optional assessment on court costs are not allowed by section 938.15, Florida Statutes, to be expended on training for university law enforcement officers. Also, university law enforcement agencies are not awarded a share of civil penalties generated by violations that occur within their jurisdictions. In each case above, municipal, county, and/or special jurisdictions are included in the current statutes.

3. Effect of the Change:

Law enforcement agencies at the public universities would receive additional training for its officers and funds for other operations. This would increase the ability of the law enforcement agencies at our public universities to provide for the safety and security of students, faculty, staff, and visitors to their campuses.

4. Fiscal Impact:

Undetermined

5. Justification for BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S Priority (if applicable):

The safety and security of students, faculty, staff, and visitors to the campuses of public universities is a major responsibility for the Board of Governors as it seeks to educate its students.

6. Link to BOG Strategic Plan:

This issue increases the ability of the Board of Governors in addressing the goals of its strategic plan by increasing the ability to provide a safe and secure environment.