

**STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Academic and Research Excellence Committee
November 20, 2024**

SUBJECT: 2024 Foreign Countries of Concern Report

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Consider approval of the 2024 Foreign Countries of Concern Report.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution, Section 288.860, Florida Statutes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Following the 2023 Legislative Session, Senate Bill 840 was signed into law, modifying Section 288.860, Florida Statutes. The change required by December 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Board of Governors submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the partnerships and agreements of state universities with foreign principals based in countries of concern. Section 288.860, Florida Statutes defines countries of concern as the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicholas Maduro, or the Syrian Arab Republic, including any agency of or any other entity under significant control of such foreign country of concern.

For the 2023-24 Fiscal Year, 4 of the 12 state universities reported a total of 140 agreements, partnerships, or contracts that were in place prior to the change in statute in 2023. Of the 140 reported agreements, partnerships, or contracts, universities terminated 77, allowed 47 to expire, and reported 16 still active. Of the 16 active agreements, six will expire by the end of 2024, six will expire by 2025, and four will expire between 2029 and 2035.

If approved by the Academic and Research Excellence Committee, this item will be forwarded to the full Board for consideration. Ms. Emily Sikes, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, will provide an overview of the 2024 report.

Supporting Documentation Included:	2024 Foreign Countries of Concern Report
Facilitators/Presenters:	Ms. Emily Sikes