Dangerous bill

Both the Florida House and the Senate are currently considering bills that could change the way Florida colleges deliver developmental education, which provides important remediation to returning students, veterans, and those for whom a review of college skills is necessary for success.

Developmental education is the backbone of open access education.

SB 1720 was presented by Senator Bill Galvano (R-Bradenton) and should it become legislation, it would fundamentally change developmental education in the State of Florida. SB 1720 would prohibit non-credit developmental education courses from being offered or funded. It would delete the statute allowing tuition and fees for non-credit instruction.

Many of the provisions contained within SB 1720 conflict with open access policies which currently allow all students the choice of a continued education. SB 1720 would limit or end educational opportunities for at-risk groups such as minority students and underprivileged students.

SB 1720 should not pass. State legislators are urged to please vote against this dangerous bill which threatens educational freedom for all in our state.

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