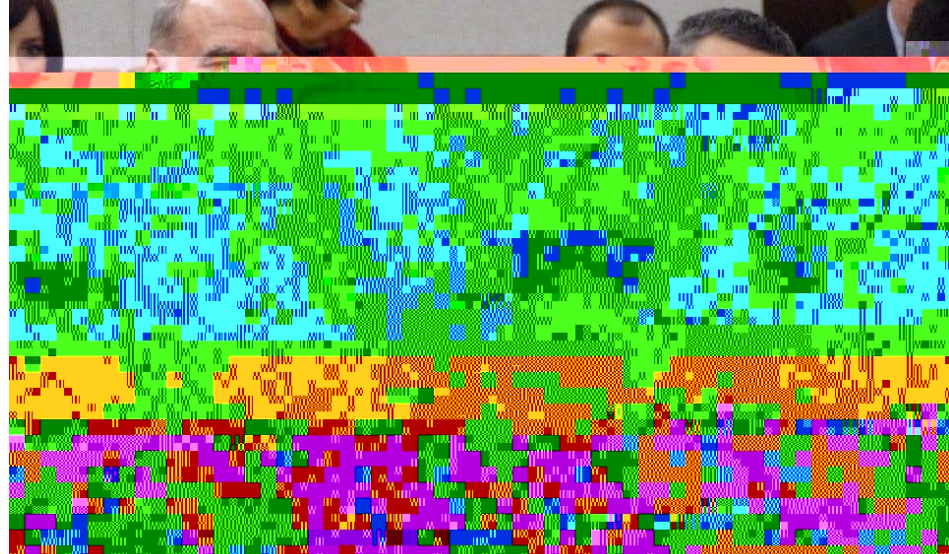


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REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES DEBATE ON CAMPUS

The eyes of the nation turned to USF this week as NBC came to campus and televised a live debate between the Republican presidential candidates just a week before Florida's



Read the text of President Mike Haridopolos' opening day address to the Senate: <http://www.senate.gov/Media/Speeches/Show/Senators/2010-2012/District26/Speeches/Speech20120111080851427>

View video of Speaker Dean Cannon's opening day address to the House: <http://my.oridahouse.gov/Sections/Videos/VideoArchive.aspx?id=91>

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BILLS IN BRIEF

(SB = Senate Bill; HB = House Bill)

SB 94 BY SEN. FASANO AND HB 45 BY REP. SMITH

Summary: These bills require state universities and Florida Colleges that offer priority course registration for any segment of their student population to offer priority course registration for veterans or their dependents who are receiving education benefits under the GI Bill.

LATEST ACTION:

SENATE BILL--Passed by the Senate Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee on January 12th. Now in Senate Budget Committee for a final committee hearing.

HOUSE BILL--Passed by the House Military Affairs Subcommittee on January 11th. Now in House Education Committee for a final committee hearing.

SB 94 / HB 45 Link: <http://capwiz.com/usfalumni/issues/alert/?alertid=59651501>

SB 1156 BY SEN. FLORES

Summary: This bill allows the state universities' Capital Improvement Trust Fund (CITF) fee to be indexed to tuition instead of a dollar amount set in statute. The statutory cap for the fee has not been raised since the 1980s. It provides that an increase in the CITF fee must be approved by a committee consisting of at least 50% students appointed by the student body president. CITF fee revenue is used to construct non-instructional campus life facilities, such as student centers.

LATEST ACTION: Referred to three Senate Committees for review on January 10th.

SB 1156 Link: <http://capwiz.com/usfalumni/issues/alert/?alertid=59653501>