A bill to be entitled

An act relating to political activity at public institutions of higher education; amending s. 1004.097, F.S.; requiring public institutions of higher education to inform students and employees of the Campus Free Expression Act through specified means; creating s. 1012.802, F.S.; requiring the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to adopt regulations and rules, respectively, describing the limitations of state universities and Florida College System institutions relating to certain political campaign activities; requiring the boards of trustees of such universities and institutions to publish on their official websites and provide to employees certain information relating to permissible and prohibited political activities, state law, and disciplinary actions; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (3) of section 1004.097, Florida Statutes, to read:

1004.097 Free expression on campus.—

(3) RIGHT TO FREE-SPEECH ACTIVITIES.—

(h) Each public institution of higher education shall

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

inform students and employees of the Campus Free Expression Act at orientation and on its official website.

Section 2. Section 1012.802, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1012.802 Political activities.—

(1) The Board of Governors shall adopt regulations for state university boards of trustees, and the State Board of Education shall adopt rules for Florida College System institution boards of trustees, describing the limitations of such universities and institutions, as tax-exempt entities, relating to participation or intervention in political campaign activities in support of or opposition to candidates for elective public office.

(2) One month before the primary election, as provided in s. 100.061, the boards of trustees of each state university and Florida College System institution must send an e-mail to each employee and post, in a conspicuous area, on the university's or institution's official website all of the following:

(a) Permissible political activities, such as voter registration events that do not involve a campaign or political party and candidate forums at which all qualified candidates for the office are invited.

(b) Prohibited political activities, such as university or institution faculty and employees campaigning for or with candidates while on duty, any activity that directly or

indirectly implies that the university or institution supports any particular candidate, and the unauthorized use of facilities, property, logos, or equipment of the university or institution for any campaign.

(c) The Campus Free Expression Act established by s. 1004.097.

(d) Disciplinary action that may be taken for a violation of this section.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.