

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: SB 2124

SPONSOR: Senators Sebesta and Jones

SUBJECT: Building Designation – University of South Florida St. Petersburg

DATE: March 12, 2004      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

|    | ANALYST        | STAFF DIRECTOR   | REFERENCE | ACTION           |
|----|----------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 1. | <u>Dormady</u> | <u>O'Farrell</u> | <u>ED</u> | <u>Favorable</u> |
| 2. | <u>Wilson</u>  | <u>Wilson</u>    | <u>GO</u> | <u>Favorable</u> |
| 3. | _____          | _____            | _____     | _____            |
| 4. | _____          | _____            | _____     | _____            |
| 5. | _____          | _____            | _____     | _____            |
| 6. | _____          | _____            | _____     | _____            |

**I. Summary:**

Senate Bill 2124 designates the building currently known as Coquina Hall on the campus of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg (USF St. Petersburg) as “H. William Heller Hall.” The bill also authorizes USF St. Petersburg to erect suitable markers and signs designating the building as such.

This bill creates an undesignated section of Florida law. The Division of Statutory Revision will determine whether it is included in the Florida Statutes or remains as a law.

The act will take effect upon the effective date of the retirement or resignation of H. William Heller from, or the termination of H. William Heller’s employment with, USF St. Petersburg.

**II. Present Situation:**

Section 267.062, F.S., requires approval in law before naming a state building or other facility for a living person. Pursuant to this requirement, if a university wishes to name a building or facility after a living person, the designation must be approved by the Legislature.

Coquina Hall houses the College of Education at the USF St. Petersburg campus.

**H. William Heller** is a professor at the USF St. Petersburg College of Education. A former Vice President of the St. Petersburg campus, Dr. Heller joined the staff of the University of South Florida in 1992. Since that time, he has been awarded more than \$8 million in grants and contracts and is currently responsible for directing, as principal investigator, projects funded in excess of \$1 million.

Dr. Heller has been awarded the Presidential Citation for Exemplary Performance as Vice-Chairman of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals as well as the Teacher Educator of the Year Award, Teacher Education Division, by the Council of Exceptional Children and Merrill Publishing Company. He was also the recipient of the 1991 E. Wallace Wallin Award by the Council for Exceptional Children. This award, the highest honor bestowed by the Council, is predicated on excellence in leadership, service, and accomplishments in the education of children with exceptionalities. He has been awarded the United Way Alex de Tocqueville Society Volunteer Service Award, the Outstanding Service Award by the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Department of Defense, and the Romaine Mackie Leadership Award In Special Education by the Pioneer Division of the Council for Exceptional Children. In 2002, Dr. Heller was honored by the City of St. Petersburg for a “Decade of Excellence,” and August 21, 2002, was proclaimed Bill Heller Day by the City of St. Petersburg.

Dr. Heller has served in leadership roles with the Council for Exceptional Children, the American Association for Mental Retardation, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. His professional contributions include more than 350 presentations and publications.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

This bill designates the building currently named Coquina Hall on the campus of USF St. Petersburg as “H. William Heller Hall.” The bill also authorizes USF St. Petersburg to erect suitable markers designating the building as such. The bill will take effect upon the effective date of the retirement or resignation of H. William Heller from, or the termination of H. William Heller’s employment with, USF St. Petersburg.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

#### **C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

### **V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

#### **A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

**B. Private Sector Impact:**

None.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

The USF St. Petersburg will incur the cost of erecting suitable signs and markers for the newly designated building. The usual cost for these markers is approximately \$250.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

A bill may be drafted to become effective upon the occurrence of specified conditions.<sup>1</sup> The conditions specified must be such that it is readily determinable whether they have occurred and when they have occurred. The conditions specified for the effective date of this bill should be sufficient to meet these criteria, as the stated effective date of Dr. Heller's retirement, resignation or termination of employment will provide sufficient specificity to determine the effective date of the bill.

**VIII. Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

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<sup>1</sup> Gillette et al. v. City of Tampa, 57 So.2d 27 (Fla. 1952).