

By Senator Sebesta

16-1587-04

See HB 97

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to building designations;
3 designating H. William Heller Hall at the
4 University of South Florida St. Petersburg in
5 Pinellas County; directing the university to
6 erect suitable markers; providing an effective
7 date.

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9 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
10 University of South Florida St. Petersburg saw new
11 developments, including the addition of lower-division
12 academic programming (advancing the campus from serving only
13 juniors, seniors, and graduate students to a full 4-year
14 institution), and

15 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
16 University of South Florida St. Petersburg initiated the
17 process to achieve separate accreditation from the Southern
18 Association of Colleges and Schools, and

19 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
20 University of South Florida St. Petersburg expanded course and
21 program offerings so that students may now graduate on a
22 timely basis, and

23 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
24 University of South Florida St. Petersburg won approval for
25 residence halls on campus, and

26 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
27 University of South Florida St. Petersburg fostered
28 university-community partnerships, including the Florida
29 Humanities Council, Y.W.C.A., All Children's Hospital,
30 U.S.G.S., Pinellas County schools, the City of St. Petersburg,
31 and Bayboro neighbors, and

1 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
2 University of South Florida St. Petersburg increased diversity
3 among students and faculty, and

4 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
5 University of South Florida St. Petersburg expanded disability
6 services, and

7 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
8 University of South Florida St. Petersburg implemented
9 successful SAT prep programs for minorities, increasing
10 student SAT scores by an average of 100 points, and

11 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
12 University of South Florida St. Petersburg increased access to
13 the University of South Florida throughout Pinellas County by
14 offering as many as 10 off-campus sites, and

15 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
16 University of South Florida St. Petersburg increased student
17 enrollment by 55 percent in the past 5 years, and

18 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
19 University of South Florida St. Petersburg tripled enrollment
20 in the Honors Program in the past 2 years, and

21 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
22 University of South Florida St. Petersburg implemented three
23 new degree programs, and

24 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
25 University of South Florida St. Petersburg nearly tripled the
26 number of faculty members, and

27 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
28 University of South Florida St. Petersburg spearheaded the
29 Urban Initiative, and

30 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
31 University of South Florida St. Petersburg implemented a St.

1 Petersburg College presence on campus that provided
2 educational opportunities for approximately 500 students, and
3 WHEREAS, under H. William Heller's leadership, the
4 University of South Florida St. Petersburg increased external
5 funding exponentially, and
6 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds it fitting and
7 appropriate to honor H. William Heller's leadership and
8 contributions to the University of South Florida St.
9 Petersburg, the Tampa Bay community, and the State of Florida,
10 NOW, THEREFORE,
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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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14 Section 1. (1) That building known as Coquina Hall,
15 located on the campus of the University of South Florida St.
16 Petersburg in Pinellas County, is designated "H. William
17 Heller Hall."
18 (2) The University of South Florida St. Petersburg is
19 directed to erect suitable markers and signs designating H.
20 William Heller Hall as described in subsection (1).
21 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon the
22 effective date of the retirement or resignation of H. William
23 Heller from, or the termination of H. William Heller's
24 employment with, the University of South Florida St.
25 Petersburg.
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