

**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-XXXX**

**TITLE: THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ACT – 500 CODES REVISIONS**

**AUTHOR(S): Senator Raj Mia, Ad-Hoc Committee on Government Oversight and Reform**

**SPONSORS: Senator Nathaniel Pelton**

**CHAPTER 580 THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

580.000 The Department of Labor shall serve as an independent & dedicated body within UFSG responsible for representing the interests of student workers. It shall advocate for the rights and welfare of these students and facilitate communication between student workers and relevant university authorities.

580.001 The Department of Labor shall strive to actively support student worker unions involved in collective bargaining, working to ensure fair and just outcomes for student employees.

580.003 The Department of Labor shall have the powers to issue subpoenas to conduct investigations into the working conditions of student workers and present their findings and recommendations to the Senate.

580.011 The Department of Labor shall be led by the Secretary of Labor. The Secretary of Labor shall oversee the operations of the Department and act as its chief spokesperson.

580.013 The Secretary of Labor shall be appointed by the Board of Labor, a body responsible for ensuring that the Department operates in accordance with its mission and the interests of student workers.

580.013 A Deputy to the Secretary of Labor, named the Secretary of Labor Relations, shall be appointed by the Secretary of Labor and confirmed by a majority of the Senate to assist in matters related to labor relations and communication with student worker unions.

580.014 To foster collaboration and communication between the Department and faculty members, the Secretary of Labor shall appoint a faculty liaison who will act as a bridge between the student workers and university faculty, subject to confirmation by a majority of the Senate.

580.016 The Board of Labor shall consist of the following nine (9) members:

- Secretary of Labor (Chair): Responsible for leading the Board and Department.
- One representative appointed by the Student Body Treasurer.
- One representative appointed by the Student Body President.
- Two representatives appointed by the Graduate student council
- The Senate Reitz Union Senate liaison
- The Senate The Recreational sports liaison
- One representative appointed by the Mayor's Council of the University of Florida Graduate Family Housing.
- One Ex-officio representative of Graduate Assistant United

The Chair, two executive branch appointments, four worker representatives, and one student Ex-officio worker representative .

A Vice-Chair may be designated by the Secretary of Labor.

580.017 Members of the Board of Labor appointed by the Student Body President & Student Body Treasurer must be confirmed with a majority vote of authorized membership of the Student body Senate.

580.018 Members of the Board of Labor shall serve only until the last day of classes in the Spring semester at 8am ET, unless reappointed. A member may only be serve two terms in office. The Two representatives appointed by the Graduate student council and any Ex-officio representatives may be reappointed indefinitely.

580.019 All members of the Board of Labor must be enrolled in classes during the summer semester to maintain their eligibility for their positions. This requirement ensures that the Board remains actively engaged throughout the academic year, including the summer session. With exception of the Two representatives appointed by the Graduate student council and any Ex-officio representatives

580.020 Regular meetings of the Board of Labor shall be held at least once every two weeks to discuss departmental matters and student worker issues. To ensure transparency, all meetings shall be publicly noticed at least 72 hours in advance. With the exception of Special meetings. Special meetings may be convened by the Secretary of Labor when necessary.

580.021 In exceptional cases, a meeting of the Board of Labor may be called by a majority vote of the UF Student Senate, allowing for Senate involvement in crucial labor-related decisions.

580.022 Quorum of the board shall constitute 5 members present including ex-officio. No decisions may be made without quorum.

580.030 LEGISLATIVE INTENT: Recognizing the importance of graduate student concerns, this bill recommends that a subsection of positions within the Department of Labor be reserved for graduate students, ensuring their unique needs and perspectives are given due consideration.

580.031 A dedicated section for the UF Student Government Department of Labor shall be established on the UF Student Government website. This section shall provide information about the Department's mission, activities, reports, leadership, and resources available to student workers.

Proviso: 580.031 shall go into effect 14 days after the first secretary of labor takes office to allow for preparation time for deployment. A copy of this bill shall be sent to the President of the graduate student council.