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Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Palm Beach State College Students Win "There Ought to be a Law" Contest
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**Palm Beach State College Students Win
"There Ought to be a Law" Contest Sponsored by
Senator Polsky and Representative Skidmore**

*The Legislation Will Allow Florida Colleges to Waive Out-Of-State Tuition Fees for
Students Living in Recovery Homes*

Tallahassee, FL – Current and former Palm Beach State College students, Rocio Montero-Mask, Brendan Rodriguez, Antonio Salgado and Matan Siskind believe offering a fee waiver for individuals in recovery would serve as a promotional tool and ultimately increase state colleges' enrollment.

Senator Tina Polsky (D-Boca Raton) and Representative Kelly Skidmore (D-Boca Raton) filed [Senate Bill 1202](#) and its House Companion, [HB 893](#), which would give Florida College System institutions the ability to waive out-of-state tuition fees for any student residing in a substance abuse recovery facility. The legislation would allow a college to provide in-state tuition but would not make such students Florida residents.

The idea won over a panel of judges, including Marcia Andrews, Palm Beach County School Board Member District 7; Ed Chase, Palm Beach County Director of Intergovernmental Relations and Community Engagement; and Jordan Connors, consultant, who heard from students from a variety of local schools and clubs who presented solutions to challenges in their community.

"I am so impressed with this idea and the students who proposed it," said **Senator Polsky**. "Anything we can do to help those in recovery attain their educational goals and strive towards a better future is a win-win for them, society and Florida Colleges."

“I am so proud of the all the students who participated,” said **Representative Skidmore**. “Providing a real life experience for the students to follow teaches them the important role they play and the significant power of policy decisions.”

The students developed the proposed legislation to increase access to education and suggested it would afford Florida’s adults in recovery with further opportunities to re-enter society and better equip themselves for the road ahead.

With the current number of enrolled students in recovery being relatively minute, lower tuition rates would potentially drive new students that are otherwise unlikely to enroll to the colleges.

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