

From: [Arellano, Joey](#)
To: [FLHouseDems](#)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: FLBC Chair Rep. Hart Responds to House Bill 999
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 1:12:55 PM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2023

CONTACT

Malik Moore
Office of Representative Dianne Hart
Malik.moore@myfloridahouse.gov
(352) 665-7432

**Representative Dianne Hart, Chair of the Florida Legislative
Black Caucus, Responds to House Bill 999**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – [House Bill 999](#) was filed in the Florida House in an effort to eradicate funding for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion programs at our State’s institutions of higher education. The bill would prohibit state funds from being used to further welcoming and inclusive environments at our colleges.

Representative Dianne Hart (D- Tampa) issued the following statement:

“This latest attack from the Florida Legislature shows us the lack of respect for the cultures and stories of others. When HB 999 passes, we as a State will lose the very thing that makes our education institutions preeminent: its diversity. Programs such as CARE at Florida State University, Black Student Unions around the State, and organizations that empower our Hispanic and Jewish brothers and sisters will no longer be allowed to operate. We have allowed the misplaced and unreasonable fear of things and people who are different cripple our State. If you are afraid of those who are different, stop running for positions to represent them.”

###