HOUSTON -- A University of South Florida provost is poised to become the next chancellor of the University of Houston System.

UH regents said Monday that 52-year-old Renu Khator is the finalist to replace Jay Gogue, who left in March to become the president of Auburn University, his alma mater.

The chancellor also serves as president of the University of Houston.

The Houston Chronicle reported that the regents lauded Khator's skills as a scholar and fundraiser. They also called her an energetic leader who gets along well with state legislators.

State law requires that university officials wait 21 days after naming a finalist before making the appointment.

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