

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 152

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROADWATER

STUDENT/TUITION: Provides relative to mandatory fees charged to students at public postsecondary education institutions

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3351.20, relative to fees charged to students at public postsecondary
3 education institutions; to authorize the postsecondary education management boards
4 to establish such fees and adjust fee amounts; to provide limitations; and to provide
5 for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351.20 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §3351.20. Mandatory fees

9 A.(1) In addition to the authority granted by any other provision of law,
10 including but not limited to R.S. 17:3139.5, 3351.7, and 3351.8, and in accordance
11 with Article VII, Section 2.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, the Board of
12 Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College,
13 the Board of Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical
14 College, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, and the
15 Board of Supervisors of Louisiana Community and Technical Colleges may establish
16 at each institution under their respective management and supervision mandatory
17 fees to be charged to students enrolled at such institutions and may adjust the
18 amounts of such fees as they deem necessary.

19 (2) The total of all tuition and fee amounts charged to a student shall not
20 exceed the national average of total per full time equivalent student revenue from

1 state appropriations, local appropriations, tuition, and fees as reported by the
2 National Center for Education Statistics by Carnegie classification, which maximum
3 amount may be annually adjusted based on the most recent full time equivalent
4 funding statistics as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics and
5 adjusted to the current fiscal year using the Higher Education Price Index. This
6 Paragraph shall not apply to the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center -
7 New Orleans, the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - Shreveport,
8 or the Southern University Law Center.

9 (3) The total of all tuition and fee amounts charged to a student enrolled in
10 the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - New Orleans, the Louisiana
11 State University Health Sciences Center - Shreveport, or the Southern University
12 Law Center shall not exceed the tuition and fee amounts per full time equivalent
13 student, as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics, of national peers
14 selected by the institution, which maximum amount may be annually adjusted based
15 on the most recent tuition and fee amounts per full time equivalent student as
16 reported by the National Center for Education Statistics and adjusted to the current
17 fiscal year using the Higher Education Price Index.

18 B.(1) The authority granted by Subsection A of this Section includes the
19 authority to impose per credit fees, to impose differential fees for certain programs
20 exclusive of others, and to charge proportional amounts for part-time students and
21 for summer sessions.

22 (2) The authority granted by Subsection A of this Section is not subject to
23 any limitation on the authority to establish fees and set fee amounts provided for in
24 R.S. 17:3139 et seq.

25 C. Each management board shall establish a need-based financial assistance
26 fund at each of its member institutions. Each institution shall allocate to its fund
27 funds from its operating budget in an amount not less than five percent of additional
28 revenues realized by the institution from fees assessed pursuant to this Section. Such

1 funds shall be utilized to provide need-based financial assistance to students at that
2 institution who are eligible to receive a Pell Grant.

3 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
4 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
5 by the governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
6 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
7 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 152 Engrossed

2015 Regular Session

Broadwater

Abstract: Authorizes the public postsecondary education management to establish and adjust fees charged to students.

Proposed law authorizes the public postsecondary education management boards to establish fees and adjust fee amounts at institutions under their respective management and supervision. Provides that such authority specifically includes authority to impose per credit fees and differential fees for certain programs and to charge proportional amounts for part-time students and summer sessions. Provides that except for the LSU Health Sciences Centers and the Southern University Law Center, the total of all tuition and fee amounts shall not exceed the national average of total per full time equivalent student revenue from state appropriations, local appropriations, tuition, and fees as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) by Carnegie classification, which maximum amount may be annually adjusted based on the most recent full time equivalent funding statistics as reported by the NCES and adjusted to the current fiscal year using the Higher Education Price Index. Provides that the total of all tuition and fee amounts charged to a student enrolled in the LSU Health Sciences Centers and the Southern University Law Center shall not exceed the tuition and fee amounts per full time equivalent student, as reported by the NCES, of national peers selected by the institution, which maximum amount may be annually adjusted based on the most recent tuition and fee amounts per full time equivalent student as reported by the NCES and adjusted to the current fiscal year using the Higher Education Price Index.

Present law (R.S. 17:3139 et seq. - the GRAD Act), authorizes specific tuition and fee increases at public postsecondary education institutions contingent on those institutions meeting performance goals established by agreement with the Board of Regents. Proposed law provides that the authority to establish and adjust fees as authorized by proposed law is not subject to such contingencies.

Proposed law requires each institution to allocate not less than 5% of additional revenues realized pursuant to proposed law to provide need-based financial assistance to students who are eligible to receive a Pell Grant.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:3351.20)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Limit total tuition and fee amounts based on certain national per full time equivalent student averages and amounts as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics.