

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1078

BY REPRESENTATIVES FREIBERG, CARLSON, CARPENTER, EDMONSTON, ST. BLANC, AND TAYLOR

STUDENT/TUITION: Provides relative to tuition and fees for certain distance education courses

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3351.17(A) and (B), relative to tuition and fees at public  
3 postsecondary education institutions; to authorize public postsecondary education  
4 management boards to impose tuition and attendance fees for certain distance  
5 education courses; to authorize proportional amounts for certain academic periods;  
6 and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351.17(A) and (B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read  
9 as follows:

10 §3351.17. Distance education; tuition and attendance fees; waivers; public  
11 postsecondary education management boards

12 A. In addition to the authority granted by any other provision of law,  
13 including but not limited to R.S. 17:3139.5, and in accordance with Article VII,  
14 Section 2.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana  
15 State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the Board of Supervisors  
16 of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the Board of  
17 Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, and the Board of Supervisors  
18 of Community and Technical Colleges may impose the following at each institution

1 under its respective management and supervision; ~~for the Fall 2013 semester and~~  
2 ~~thereafter tuition~~

3 (1) Tuition and attendance fees for students enrolled in an undergraduate,  
4 graduate, or professional academic degree program offered entirely through distance  
5 education. ~~as defined by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools when~~  
6 ~~such program is comparable to a program offered through traditional in-person~~  
7 ~~classroom instruction.~~

8 (2) Tuition and attendance fees for students enrolled in an undergraduate,  
9 graduate, or professional course offered entirely through distance education.

10 B. The authority granted in Subsection A of this Section shall include the  
11 authority to impose proportional amounts for part-time students and for summer  
12 sessions and academic periods other than semesters or quarters.

13 \* \* \*

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 1078 Engrossed

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Freiberg

**Abstract:** Authorizes public postsecondary education management boards to impose tuition and fees for distance education courses.

Present law authorizes public postsecondary education management boards to impose tuition and attendance fees for students enrolled in an academic degree program offered entirely through distance education. Proposed law retains present law and specifies that this authority applies to undergraduate, graduate, or professional programs. Additionally authorizes the boards to impose tuition and fees for students enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate, or professional course offered entirely through distance education.

Present law further provides that the authority to impose tuition and fees for such academic degree programs includes the authority to impose proportional amounts for part-time students and for summer sessions and requires the boards to establish criteria for waiving the tuition and fees for such academic programs in cases of financial hardship. Proposed law applies these provisions to proposed law relative to tuition and fees for distance education courses and specifies that present law and proposed law relative to proportional amounts also applies to academic periods that are not semesters or quarters.

Present law provides that distance education is as defined by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and authorizes the imposition of tuition and fees for distance education academic degree programs when such program is comparable to a program offered through traditional in-person classroom instruction. Proposed law removes present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:3351.17(A) and (B))