

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 438

BY SENATOR GALLOT

POSTSECONDARY ED. Requires postsecondary education management boards to establish criteria for waiving nonresident tuition or mandatory fee increases in cases of financial hardship. (8/1/14)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3139.2(4)(c), relative to the Louisiana Granting Resources
3 and Autonomy for Diplomas Act; to provide for the establishment of certain criteria
4 by postsecondary education management boards; to provide for waiving nonresident
5 tuition and mandatory fee increases in cases of financial hardship; and to provide for
6 related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:3139.2(4)(c) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §3139.2. Performance agreements; objectives

10 Effective beginning with the 2011 Fiscal Year, any public postsecondary
11 education institution, including professional schools, may enter into an initial
12 performance agreement with the Board of Regents in order to be granted limited
13 operational autonomy and flexibility as provided in R.S. 17:3139.5 in exchange for
14 committing to meet established targets for the following performance objectives as
15 applicable to the institution as determined by the Board of Regents:

16 * * *

17 (4) * * *

(c)(i) Upon entering the initial performance agreement, adhere to a schedule established by the institution's management board to increase nonresident tuition amounts that are not less than the average tuition amount charged to Louisiana residents attending peer institutions in other Southern Regional Education Board states and monitor the impact of such increases on the institution. However, for each public historically black college or university, the nonresident tuition amounts shall not be less than the average tuition amount charged to Louisiana residents attending public historically black colleges and universities in other Southern Regional Education Board states.

(ii) Each postsecondary education management board shall establish criteria for waiving any nonresident tuition or mandatory fee increase as authorized in this Section in cases of financial hardship. Information relative to such waivers, and the criteria and procedures for obtaining a waiver, shall be made available to all prospective students in a timely manner to ensure that each student is informed of the availability of a waiver prior to the student making a final decision concerning attendance at any public institution of postsecondary education.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

DIGEST

Gallot (SB 438)

Present law authorizes any public postsecondary education institution, including professional schools, to enter into an initial performance agreement with the Board of Regents in order to be granted limited operational autonomy and flexibility in exchange for committing to meet established targets for performance objectives.

Present law provides that, regarding the institutional and accountability objective, upon entering the initial performance agreement, the institution shall adhere to a schedule established by the institution's management board to increase nonresident tuition amounts that are not less than the average tuition amount charged to Louisiana residents attending peer institutions in other Southern Regional Education Board states and monitor the impact of such increases on the institution.

Present law further provides that for each public historically black college or university, the nonresident tuition amounts shall not be less than the average tuition amount charged to La. residents attending public historically black colleges and universities in other Southern

Regional Education Board states.

Proposed law retains present law and requires each postsecondary education management board to establish criteria for waiving any nonresident tuition or mandatory fee increase in cases of financial hardship. Further requires information relative to such waivers, and the criteria and procedures for obtaining a waiver, be made available to all prospective students in a timely manner to ensure that each student is informed of the availability of a waiver prior to the student making a final decision concerning attendance at any public institution of postsecondary education.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 17:3139.2(4)(c))