

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 152****2015 Regular Session****Broadwater**

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

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Require management boards to submit written report to legislative education committees in 2016 and 2017 regarding proposed law implementation.
2. Specify that proposed law fee authority includes authority to impose fees for the administration of certain student surveys.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law provides that the legislature 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 shall apply for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 academic years only and that the authority to increase fees pursuant thereto shall terminate on June 30, 2017. 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, the pharmacy program at the University of La. at Monroe, and the Southern University Law Center, the revenue per full time equivalent student from all tuition and fee amounts charged to a student plus the revenue per full time equivalent student from state and local appropriations 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 (HEPI). Provides that the total of all tuition and fee amounts charged to a student enrolled in the LSU Health Sciences Centers, the pharmacy program at the University of La. at Monroe, and the Southern University Law Center shall not exceed the tuition and fees charged, 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 HEPI.

Present law (R.S. 17:3139 et seq. - the GRAD Act), authorizes specific tuition and fee increases at public postsecondary education institutions contingent on whether those institutions meet performance goals established by agreement with the Bd. 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 also:

- (1) Requires each institution to allocate not less than 5% of revenues realized pursuant to proposed law to provide need-based financial assistance to students eligible to receive a Pell Grant.
- (2) Prohibits revenues generated by fees imposed pursuant to proposed law from being used for any other purpose except for support of the university at which the fees were collected.
- (3) Requires each management board to submit a written report to the House and Senate

education committees by Feb. 15th of 2016 and 2017 regarding how fees authorized by proposed law have been implemented at each institution under its supervision and management, including an overview of the distribution of the monies in the need-based financial assistance fund as provided in proposed law.

- (4) Provides that the fee authority granted by proposed law includes the authority to impose a fee for the administration of student surveys required or authorized by law.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:3351.20)