

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 322

BY REPRESENTATIVE FALCONER

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES: Requires public postsecondary education management boards to establish policies for forgiveness of outstanding student fee balances of certain students who have resigned and seek reenrollment

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3351.21, relative to public postsecondary education institutions; to provide
3 student fee forgiveness for students returning to a public postsecondary education
4 institution; to provide conditions and guidelines for receiving student fee
5 forgiveness; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351.21 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §3351.21. Delinquent tuition and fees; waiver

9 A. Each public postsecondary education management board shall establish
10 a policy relative to delinquent student tuition and fees for each institution under its
11 jurisdiction. The policy shall provide for a one-time waiver of any delinquent
12 student tuition and fees owed to an institution by a student who has withdrawn from
13 and seeks to reenroll in the institution. Each institution shall notify the office of the
14 attorney general when a student's delinquent tuition and fees are waived, and the
15 office shall cease pursuing collection of delinquent tuition and fees from that student.

16 B. A waiver shall be granted only to a returning student who meets all of the
17 following criteria:

- 18 (1) The student is at least twenty-five years of age.

1 (2) The student withdrew from the institution at least three years prior to
2 seeking reenrollment.

3 (3) The student withdrew from the institution while pursuing an
4 undergraduate degree and is returning to continue undergraduate coursework.

5 C. Tuition and fees include student, residential, and any other institution-
6 related fees imposed or authorized by this Title.

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 322 Original

2018 Regular Session

Falconer

Abstract: Requires public postsecondary education management boards to establish a policy for forgiving students' outstanding tuition and fees upon the student's reenrollment.

Present law establishes the policy of this state to aggressively pursue the collection of accounts or claims due and payable to the state through all reasonable means. All debts owed to the state shall be referred to either the attorney general's office or to the office of debt recovery for collection.

Proposed law requires each public postsecondary education management board to develop waiver policies for students with outstanding tuition and fees who withdraw from and reenroll in an institution.

Proposed law provides the following conditions of eligibility for a waiver:

- (1) The student shall be at least 25 years old.
- (2) He shall have withdrawn from an institution at least 3 years prior to seeking reenrollment.
- (3) He shall return to continue undergraduate coursework.

Proposed law requires each board to notify the office of the attorney general to cease attempts at debt collection when a student's outstanding tuition and fees are waived.

(Adds R.S. 17:3351.21)