

DIGEST

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SB 90 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

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Present law provides for tuition and fee exemptions, also referred to as scholarships, for any child of a police officer, deputy sheriff, or adult probation and parole officer killed or disabled in the performance of duty. Provides that the child shall be otherwise eligible for admission, meet academic standards, and comply with the rules and regulations required for full-time attendance. Proposed law requires compliance with rules and regulations required for attendance, not full-time attendance, and otherwise retains present law.

Present law provides for a child's admission without the payment of fees or charges for tuition and for books required for any course undertaken. Proposed law limits the exemption from payment of fees and charges for books to those for required courses. Present law exempts the child from payment of fees and charges for room and board. Proposed law limits the availability of this exemption to full-time students.

Present law limits scholarship duration to the number of semesters required for a full-time student to obtain one bachelor's degree and prohibits the scholarship from exceeding eight semesters per child. Proposed law deletes present law and instead provides that the scholarship shall be provided for the time period required to earn one undergraduate degree or one vocational or technical certificate or diploma but shall not cover more than:

- (1) 120 hours of course work required to earn a bachelor's degree.
- (2) 75 hours of course work required to earn an associate's degree.
- (3) 60 hours of course work required to earn a vocational or technical certificate or diploma.

Proposed law adds that if a student first earns a transferable associate's degree from a public two-year institution and then transfers to a public four-year college or university, the scholarship shall cover an additional 60 hours of course work required to earn a bachelor's degree.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:1681.1(A) and (B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Allows scholarship to be used for obtaining a vocational or technical certificate or diploma.
2. Limits scholarship to hours of required course work to earn a degree, certificate, or diploma instead of a specified number of semesters.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Provide that only full-time students granted a scholarship pursuant to present law shall be exempt from payment of room and board charges.