

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 777

BY REPRESENTATIVE LACOMBE

HIGHER EDUCATION: Provides that certain graduate students shall be exempt from mandatory student fees

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a) and to enact R.S. 17:3351.1(D), 3351.3(E),
3 3351.7(E), 3351.8(E), 3351.9(D), 3351.10(D), 3351.12(D), 3351.18(D), 3351.19(E),
4 3351.20(G), and 3351.21, relative to fees charged to students at public postsecondary
5 education institutions; to exempt certain graduate students from the payment of such
6 fees; to require each public postsecondary education management board to adopt a
7 policy providing for such exemptions; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
10 17:3351.1(D), 3351.3(E), 3351.7(E), 3351.8(E), 3351.9(D), 3351.10(D), 3351.12(D),
11 3351.18(D), 3351.19(E), 3351.20(G), and 3351.21 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §3351. General powers, duties, and functions of postsecondary education
13 management boards

14 A. Subject only to the powers of the Board of Regents specifically
15 enumerated in Article VIII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and as
16 otherwise provided by law, each postsecondary system management board as a body
17 corporate shall have authority to exercise power necessary to supervise and manage
18 the day-to-day operations of institutions of postsecondary education under its
19 control, including but not limited to the following:

20 * * *

1 (5)(a)(i) In accordance with any other applicable provision of this Paragraph,
2 determine the fees which shall be paid by students.

3 (ii) Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
4 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
5 payment of all mandatory fees imposed in accordance with this Section except for
6 tuition.

7 * * *

8 §3351.1. Technology fee; authority to assess; use of proceeds

9 * * *

10 D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
11 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
12 payment of the technology fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

13 * * *

14 §3351.3. Academic excellence fee; Louisiana State University and Agricultural and
15 Mechanical College

16 * * *

17 E. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
18 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
19 payment of the academic excellence fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

20 * * *

21 §3351.7. Facilities use and maintenance fee increase; amount; waivers; limitations;
22 University of New Orleans

23 * * *

24 E. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
25 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
26 payment of the facilities use and maintenance fee imposed in accordance with this
27 Section.

1 §3351.8. Facilities use and maintenance fee increase; amount; waivers; limitations;

2 Southern University at New Orleans

3 * * *

4 E. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
5 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
6 payment of the facilities use and maintenance fee imposed in accordance with this
7 Section.

8 §3351.9. Academic excellence fee; amount; waivers; University of Louisiana
9 System

10 * * *

11 D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
12 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
13 payment of the academic excellence fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

14 §3351.10. Academic excellence fee; amount; waivers; Louisiana Community and
15 Technical College System

16 * * *

17 D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
18 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
19 payment of the academic excellence fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

20 * * *

21 §3351.12. Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and
22 Mechanical College; Professional Program Fee; masters degree in business
23 administration; Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical
24 College

25 * * *

26 D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
27 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
28 payment of the professional program fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

29 * * *

1 §3351.18. Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and
2 Mechanical College; digital media program fee; amount; waivers

3 * * *

4 D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
5 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
6 payment of the digital media program fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

7 §3351.19. Building use fee; amount; waivers; public postsecondary education
8 management boards

9 * * *

10 E. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
11 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
12 payment of the building use fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

13 §3351.20. Mandatory fees

14 * * *

15 G. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, a graduate
16 student who serves as a teaching assistant or research assistant shall be exempt from
17 payment of any fee imposed in accordance with this Section.

18 §3351.21. Fee exemption; graduate students

19 Each public postsecondary education management board shall adopt a policy
20 providing that a graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or research
21 assistant shall be exempt from the payment of any mandatory fee except for tuition.

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 777 Original

2020 Regular Session

LaCombe

Abstract: Exempts graduate students who are teaching or research assistants from the payment of all mandatory fees except for tuition.

Present law provides that each public postsecondary education management board shall have the authority to determine the fees paid by students. Proposed law provides that notwithstanding present law, a graduate student who serves as a teaching assistant or

research assistant shall be exempt from payment of all mandatory fees imposed in accordance with present law except for tuition.

Proposed law exempts such graduate students from all of the following specific fees imposed in accordance with present law:

1. Technology fee (all campuses) (R.S. 17:3351.1)
2. Academic excellence fee (LSU System, Univ. of La. System, & La. Community and Technical Colleges System) (R.S. 17:3351.3, 3351.9, 3351.10)
3. Facilities use and maintenance fee at the Univ. of New Orleans (R.S. 17:3351.7)
4. Facilities use and maintenance fee at Southern Univ. at New Orleans (R.S. 17:3351.8)
5. Professional program fee at LSU (MBA program) (R.S. 17:3351.12)
6. Digital media program fee at LSU (R.S. 17:3351.18)
7. Building use fee (all campuses) (R.S. 17:3351.19)
8. Mandatory fees (all campuses) (R.S. 17:3351.20)

Proposed law further requires each public postsecondary education management board to adopt a policy providing that such graduate students are exempt from the payment of all mandatory fees except for tuition.

(Amends R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a); Adds R.S. 17:3351.1(D), 3351.3(E), 3351.7(E), 3351.8(E), 3351.9(D), 3351.10(D), 3351.12(D), 3351.18(D), 3351.19(E), 3351.20(G), and 3351.21)