

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS****HB 676****2020 Regular Session****Emerson**

HIGHER EDUCATION: Prohibits a public postsecondary education institution from withholding certain student services for financial reasons

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Makes proposed law applicable to public postsecondary education institutions.
2. Changes proposed law from a prohibition on certain actions by institutions to an authorization for public postsecondary education management boards to prohibit such actions.
3. Provides that management board policies may prohibit debt repayment plan enrollment as a requirement for obtaining a transcript.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Proposed law provides relative to current and former students who are in default on a federal loan.

Proposed law authorizes public postsecondary education management boards to adopt policies to prohibit the institutions under their supervision and management from doing any of the following because of student debt:

- (1) Withhold release of records, including transcripts, grades, and diplomas.
- (2) Condition providing a transcript on:
  - (a) Debt payment other than fee charged for a transcript.
  - (b) Requiring a current or former student to enter into a debt repayment plan.
- (3) Charge a higher fee for a transcript, or otherwise treat a student less favorably than a student without a debt.
- (4) Withhold a transcript as a tool for debt collection.

(Adds R.S. 17:3391)