

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 862

BY REPRESENTATIVES HUGHES, CARPENTER, FREIBERG, AND ST. BLANC

STUDENT/TUITION: Authorizes, with limitations, public postsecondary education management boards to establish and increase student tuition and mandatory fees

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a), relative to tuition and mandatory fee amounts
3 for public postsecondary education institutions; to authorize each public
4 postsecondary management board to impose and adjust certain tuition and fee
5 amounts; to provide for limitations; to provide for reporting; to provide for an
6 effective date; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as
9 follows:

10 §3351. General powers, duties, and functions of postsecondary education
11 management boards

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

18 * * *

19 (5)(a)(i) In accordance with any other applicable provision of this Paragraph,
20 determine the tuition and mandatory fees which shall be paid by students and adjust
21 the amount of tuition and fees as provided in this Subparagraph.

1 (ii) Each management board may establish differential tuition for any
2 graduate, professional, or specialized program. Each management board may
3 establish differential tuition for any undergraduate program, including but not limited
4 to programs granting certificates, degrees, diplomas, or other credentials of value,
5 that has been identified as a high-cost program by the Board of Regents.

6 (iii) Each management board may establish mandatory fee amounts for all
7 programs at each of the institutions under its supervision and control and consolidate
8 separate fees.

9 (iv) Each management board may increase differential tuition amounts and
10 mandatory fee amounts by no more than ten percent of the amount charged in the
11 previous academic year. Each management board may lower tuition and fee
12 amounts with no limitation. The authority to establish tuition and fee amounts as
13 provided in this Subparagraph includes the authority to establish tuition and fee
14 amounts proportional to the amounts for part-time students and for students enrolled
15 in summer and intersession terms.

16 (v) Each management board shall establish a process for providing adequate
17 notice to students of tuition and fee amounts. Prior to imposing any increase in
18 tuition or fee amounts pursuant to this Subparagraph, each management board shall
19 establish criteria for waivers in cases of financial hardship. Information about such
20 waivers shall be made available to all prospective students affected by the increase
21 in a timely manner, so they are aware of the increase and the availability of waivers
22 prior to having to make any final decision concerning attendance.

23 (vi) Awards of scholarships or waivers of tuition or fees shall be included in
24 the information package of any student awarded such scholarship or waiver and the
25 compensation package of each graduate student serving as a teaching assistant,
26 research assistant, or curatorial assistant.

27 (vii) Each management board shall submit a written report to the Board of
28 Regents, the House Committee on Education, and the Senate Committee on
29 Education not later than February fifteenth annually regarding how the tuition and

1 mandatory fees authorized by this Subparagraph are being implemented at each
 2 institution under its supervision and management.

3 * * *

4 Section 2. The first report required by R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a)(vii) as enacted by this
 5 Act is due by February 15, 2026.

6 Section 3. R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a) as amended and reenacted by Act No. 664 of the
 7 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana shall not become effective.

8 Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 9 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 10 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 11 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 12 effective on the day following such approval.

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 862 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Hughes

Abstract: Authorizes public postsecondary education management board to establish and adjust certain tuition and mandatory fee amounts.

Proposed law authorizes public postsecondary education management boards to establish and adjust tuition and mandatory fee amounts as follows:

- (1) Authorizes establishment and adjustment of differential tuition for all graduate, professional, and specialized programs and for any undergraduate program identified as a high-cost program by the Bd. of Regents. Authorizes establishment and adjustment of mandatory fees for all programs.
- (2) Limits increases of tuition and fees to 10% over the previous academic year.
- (3) Authorizes proportional amounts for part-time, summer, and intercession students and requires establishment of criteria for hardship waivers.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:3351(A)(5)(a))