

ACT No. 790

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 862

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

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AN ACT

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

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

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

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

* * *

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

(ii) Payments to cover or a waiver of any mandatory fee imposed in accordance with this Title except for tuition shall be included in the compensation

1 package of each graduate student serving as a teaching assistant, research assistant,
2 or curatorial assistant. Each public postsecondary education management board shall
3 adopt a policy relative to implementing the provisions of this Item.

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

9 (iv) Each management board may establish mandatory fee amounts for all
10 programs at each of the institutions under its supervision and control and consolidate
11 separate fees.

12 (v) Each management board may increase differential tuition amounts and
13 mandatory fee amounts by no more than ten percent over any two-year period. Each
14 management board may lower tuition and fee amounts with no limitation. The
15 authority to establish tuition and fee amounts as provided in this Subparagraph
16 includes the authority to establish tuition and fee amounts proportional to the
17 amounts for part-time students and for students enrolled in summer and intersession
18 terms.

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

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

1 (viii) Each management board shall submit a written report to the Board of
2 Regents, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Education,
3 the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate Committee on Finance not
4 later than February fifteenth annually regarding how the tuition and mandatory fees
5 authorized by this Subparagraph are being implemented at each institution under its
6 supervision and management.

7 * * *

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

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____