

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 62** HLS 15RS 586

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 11, 2015	4:26 PM	Author: FOIL
Dept./Agy.: Higher Education		Analyst: Charley Rome
Subject: Removes 2/3 Vote Requirement to Increase Fees		

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES OR INCREASE SG RV See Note Page 1 of 1
(Constitutional Amendment) Exempts public postsecondary education fees from requirements for imposing a new or increasing an existing fee

Present constitution requires that all new fees or increases of existing fees imposed by the state or any board, department, or agency of the state be enacted by a two-thirds vote of the legislature. This provision of present constitution applies to tuition and fees charged to students attending public institutions of higher education. Proposed constitutional amendment exempts from this requirement new or increased fees, excluding tuition, charged to students attending public institutions of higher education. Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Oct. 24, 2015.

EXPENDITURES	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure. According to the Office of Student Financial Assistance, TOPS award amounts are based on approved tuition charges at institutions and do not include mandatory fees. As such, increases in mandatory fees authorized by the proposed legislation will have no impact on TOPS expenditures.

The proposed constitutional amendment will be considered by voters at the statewide election to be held on October 24, 2015. The Secretary of State may incur minimal ballot printing costs associated with this measure. However, as a regular practice, the Secretary of State typically budgets for up to 10 constitutional amendments for the fall statewide elections.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Self-generated revenues from mandatory fees will likely increase to the extent that management boards approve increases as authorized by the proposed legislation. However, public colleges and universities face market factors that affect their ability to raise fees per authority granted by the bill. Some institutions have seen enrollment declines as tuition goes up, decreasing overall revenues from students. Other institutions may choose not to impose significant increases in order to maintain access for low-income students. Actual collections of mandatory fees may also be reduced by hardship waivers, fee exemptions or other forms of student aid.

According to the Board or Regents, each of the following types of public institutions in the state had the following average annual tuition/mandatory fee amounts in FY15: 2-year schools (\$3,425), 4-year schools (\$6,900), and graduate programs (\$7,500). Regents also reported the following number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students attended the following types of public institution in the state in FY14 (latest information currently available): 2-year schools (47,520 students), 4-year schools (101,715 students), and graduate programs (15,810 students). Using these average tuition/mandatory fee amounts and FTE counts, a 1% increase would generate approximately \$9.8M in additional revenues; before reductions for hardship waivers, fee exemptions or other forms of student aid. This estimate is to illustrate the general magnitude of potential fee increases. However, there is no way to estimate the actual amount of increases in fees attributable to the bill.

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| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 Rev. Red. to State {H & S} |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H} | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} |

Evan Brasseaux
Evan Brasseaux
Staff Director