
DIGEST

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Leger

HB No. 628

Abstract: Authorizes the LSU Board of Supervisors to increase tuition and fees for the medical school and dental school of the LSU Health Sciences Center-N.O. and the medical school of the LSU Health Sciences Center-Shreveport.

Present law (R.S. 17:3351.11) authorizes the LSU Board of Supervisors to impose specific tuition and attendance fee amounts for students attending the medical school and dental school of the LSU Health Sciences Center-N.O. and the medical school of the LSU Health Sciences Center-Shreveport as follows:

<i>Student</i>	<i>Program/School</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Full-time student – La. resident	Dentistry Program – LSUHSC -NO	\$9,894 per year
Full-time student – La. resident	Medicine Program – LSUHSC -NO	\$11,613 per year
Full-time student – La. resident	Medicine Program – LSUHSC -S	\$10,052 per year

Present law (R.S. 17:3139(F), 3351, and 3351.5) authorize specified increases in tuition and attendance fees at specified institutions, including the medical schools and dental school. (R.S. 17:3351.1 and 3351.3 authorize assessment of certain fees.)

Proposed law authorizes the LSU Board of Supervisors to increase tuition and fee amounts established pursuant to present law above or any other provisions of law by up to 5% each year, without additional legislative approval, for five years beginning with the 2011-2012 academic year. Limits tuition and fee amounts to the average tuition and fee amounts of peer institutions. Provides that "peer institutions" shall have the meaning provided by Board of Regents guidelines established as provided by present law and adjusted based upon median household income in the SREB states as provided in present law.

Present law provides that the authority to impose the tuition and attendance and program fee amounts provided by present law includes the authority to impose proportional amounts for part-time students and for summer sessions.

Proposed law makes present law applicable to proposed law.

Present law requires the board of supervisors, prior to imposing any increase in tuition or attendance fee amounts or any program fee amount authorized by present law, to establish criteria for waivers of such amounts in cases of financial hardship. Requires that information about such waivers be made available to all prospective students so the student can be aware of the increase or fee amount and the availability of waivers thereto prior to making any final decision concerning attendance.

Proposed law makes present law applicable to proposed law.

Present law provides that present law authority is in addition to the authority granted to the board of supervisors by R.S. 17:3351(A)(5), 3351.1, 3351.3, and 3351.5, and Act No. 493 of the 1999 R.S. and Act No. 138 of the 1st E.S. of 2002 and in accordance with the provisions of Art. VII, §2.1(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Proposed law provides that it is in addition to and independent of the authority provided in present law and the provisions cited above in present law and also in addition to and independent of any other provision of law including R.S. 17:3139(F) (GRAD Act). Also provides that it is in accordance with the provisions of Art. VII, §2.1(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:3351.11(D))