

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 61

2015 Regular Session

Carmody

(KEYWORD, SUMMARY, AND DIGEST as amended by Senate committee amendments)

**STUDENT/TUITION: (Constitutional Amendment) Exempts public postsecondary education tuition and fees from requirements for imposing a new or increasing an existing fee and provides relative to the authority to set tuition and fees.**

DIGEST

**Abstract:** Removes tuition and fees charged by institutions of postsecondary education from constitutional provisions requiring a two-thirds vote of the legislature and from managerial authority of the various postsecondary education management boards.

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 postsecondary education. Proposed constitutional amendment exempts new or increased tuition and fees charged to students attending public institutions of postsecondary education from the two-thirds voting requirement of the legislature.

Present constitution provides for the management of public institutions of postsecondary education by various entities, namely the LSU Board of Supervisors, the Southern University Board of Supervisors, the Board of Trustees for State Colleges and Universities, and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges. Proposed constitutional amendment retains the general authority of these management boards but specifically excludes from their constitutional authority the ability to establish or raise tuition and fees and, instead, provides that such authority is as provided in law.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Oct. 24, 2015, provided Senate Bill No. 48 of this 2015 Regular Session is enacted and becomes effective. If ratified by the electors, the provisions of the amendments become effective on Jan. 1, 2016.

(Amends Const. Art. VIII, §5(E); Adds Const. Art. VII, §2.1(C))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical amendments.
2. Change the proposed ballot language.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the re-engrossed bill

1. Specifies that the proposed amendment will be submitted to the voters if Senate Bill No. 48 of this 2015 Regular Session is enacted and becomes effective.