
DIGEST

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HB 439 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Ivey

Abstract: Authorizes the public postsecondary education management boards to increase tuition for the next four academic years; excepts Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) award recipients; caps annual and cumulative increases.

Present law grants the public postsecondary education management boards various authorities relative to tuition and fees, including the authority to establish fees and adjust fee amounts; provides that this authority applies for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years only and that the authority to increase fees pursuant thereto terminates on June 30, 2017.

Proposed law authorizes each management board to increase tuition by an amount of not more than 10% in any one year and not more than 20% cumulatively in a four-year period and further provides as follows:

- (1) Provides that proposed law authority includes the authority to impose proportional amounts for part-time students and for summer sessions.
- (2) Requires each board to establish criteria for waiving the tuition and fees authorized in proposed law in cases of financial hardship.
- (3) Prohibits requiring any recipient of a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) award to pay any tuition increase authorized by proposed law for any semester or term for which he receives such an award.

Proposed law provides that it is:

- (1) In addition to all present law authorities granted to the management boards relative to tuition and fees.
- (2) In accordance with present constitution (Art. VII, §2.1(A)), which provides that any new fee imposed or assessed by a state board or agency must be enacted by law by a 2/3 vote of the elected members of each house of the legislature.

(Adds R.S. 17:3351.21)