

By the Committee on Education and Senator Kirkpatrick

304-2205-98

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the State University System;
3 amending s. 240.235, F.S.; authorizing each
4 university president to submit a plan to the
5 Board of Regents to increase matriculation and
6 tuition fees for specified professional
7 programs; providing a limit on such increase;
8 specifying certain contents of plans; providing
9 for the retention of revenue; amending s.
10 240.4042, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference;
11 providing an effective date.

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13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Present subsections (2) through (9) of
16 section 240.235, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as
17 subsections (3) through (10), respectively, and a new
18 subsection (2) is added to that section to read:

19 240.235 Fees.--

20 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 240 to
21 the contrary, each university president may submit a plan to
22 the Board of Regents to increase matriculation and tuition
23 fees for any one or more of its first-professional programs to
24 a level not to exceed 110 percent of the average full-time
25 tuition at all public universities for the first-professional
26 program as reported by the United States Department of
27 Education National Center for Education Statistics. For
28 purposes of this subsection, first-professional programs
29 include dentistry, medicine, pharmacy, veterinary medicine,
30 and law. The plan may provide for such increases to take place
31 over a period of 3 to 5 years, with automatic adjustments

1 thereafter. If approved by the Board of Regents, the plan
2 shall be implemented without further review or approval. Each
3 plan shall include a provision for need-based financial
4 assistance to those students who may be denied access because
5 of such tuition increases. Any revenue generated as a result
6 of the fee differential established pursuant to this
7 subsection shall be retained by the university. The plan must
8 be recommended by a university committee, at least one-half of
9 whom are students appointed by the student body president. The
10 remainder of the committee shall be appointed by the
11 university president. A chairperson, appointed jointly by the
12 university president and the student body president, may vote
13 only in case of a tie. The recommendations of the committee
14 shall take effect only after approval by the university
15 president.

16 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 240.4042, Florida
17 Statutes, is amended to read:

18 240.4042 Financial aid appeal process.--

19 (3) A student involved in a financial aid appeal
20 proceeding is eligible for a deferral of registration and fee
21 payments pursuant to s. 240.235~~(3)(2)~~.

22 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1 of the
23 year in which enacted.

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SB 1854

The Committee Substitute would limit the fee increases to 110 percent of the national average tuition at public universities, rather than all universities.

It would retain the limitations on nonresident enrollment in first-professional programs at their current levels.

It would require a plan to raise tuition to be recommended by a university committee composed of at least one-half student members.