

By Senator Kirkpatrick

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to education; amending s.
240.209, F.S.; providing guidelines on
implementing differential tuition in the State
University System; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section
240.209, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to
read:

240.209 Board of Regents; powers and duties.--

(3) The board shall:

(e) Establish student fees.

1. By no later than December 1 of each year, the board
shall raise the systemwide standard for resident undergraduate
matriculation and financial aid fees for the subsequent fall
term, up to but no more than 25 percent of the prior year's
cost of undergraduate programs. In implementing this
paragraph, fees charged for graduate, medical, veterinary, and
dental programs may be increased by the Board of Regents in
the same percentage as the increase in fees for resident
undergraduates. However, in the absence of legislative action
to the contrary in an appropriations act, the board may not
approve annual fee increases for resident students in excess
of 10 percent. The sum of nonresident student matriculation
and tuition fees must be sufficient to defray the full cost of
undergraduate education. Graduate, medical, veterinary, and
dental fees charged to nonresidents may be increased by the
board in the same percentage as the increase in fees for
nonresident undergraduates. However, in implementing this

1 policy and in the absence of legislative action to the
2 contrary in an appropriations act, annual fee increases for
3 nonresident students may not exceed 25 percent. In the absence
4 of legislative action to the contrary in the General
5 Appropriations Act, the fees shall go into effect for the
6 following fall term.

7 2. When the appropriations act requires a new fee
8 schedule, the board shall establish a systemwide standard fee
9 schedule required to produce the total fee revenue established
10 in the appropriations act based on the product of the assigned
11 enrollment and the fee schedule. The board may approve the
12 expenditure of any fee revenues resulting from the product of
13 the fee schedule adopted pursuant to this section and the
14 assigned enrollment.

15 3. Upon provision of authority in a General
16 Appropriations Act to spend revenue raised pursuant to this
17 section, the board shall approve a university request to
18 implement a differential matriculation and out-of-state
19 tuition fee schedule ~~which is calculated to generate revenue~~
20 ~~which varies no more than 10 percent from the standard fee~~
21 ~~revenues authorized through an appropriations act. In~~
22 ~~implementing an alternative fee schedule, the increase in cost~~
23 ~~to a student taking 15 hours in one term shall be limited to 5~~
24 ~~percent.~~ Matriculation and out-of-state tuition fee revenues
25 generated as a result of this provision shall not exceed the
26 amount authorized through an appropriations act, and shall be
27 expended in accordance with the approved State University
28 System Strategic Plan. ~~are to be expended for implementing a~~
29 ~~plan for achieving accountability goals adopted pursuant to s.~~
30 ~~240.214 and for implementing a Board of Regents-approved plan~~
31 ~~to contain student costs by reducing the time necessary for~~

1 ~~graduation without reducing the quality of instruction. The~~
2 ~~plans shall be recommended by a universitywide committee, at~~
3 ~~least one-half of whom are students appointed by the student~~
4 ~~body president. A chairperson, appointed jointly by the~~
5 ~~university president and the student body president, shall~~
6 ~~vote only in the case of a tie.~~

7 4. The board is authorized to collect for financial
8 aid purposes an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the student
9 tuition and matriculation fee per credit hour. The revenues
10 from fees are to remain at each campus and replace existing
11 financial aid fees. Such funds shall be disbursed to students
12 as quickly as possible. The board shall specify specific
13 limits on the percent of the fees collected in a fiscal year
14 which may be carried forward unexpended to the following
15 fiscal year. A minimum of 50 percent of funds from the student
16 financial aid fee shall be used to provide financial aid based
17 on absolute need. A student who has received an award prior to
18 July 1, 1984, shall have his or her eligibility assessed on
19 the same criteria that was used at the time of his or her
20 original award.

21 5. The board may recommend to the Legislature an
22 appropriate systemwide standard matriculation and tuition fee
23 schedule.

24 6. The Education and General Student and Other Fees
25 Trust Fund is hereby created, to be administered by the
26 Department of Education. Funds shall be credited to the trust
27 fund from student fee collections and other miscellaneous fees
28 and receipts. The purpose of the trust fund is to support the
29 instruction and research missions of the State University
30 System. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301, and
31 pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance in the trust fund at the

1 end of any fiscal year shall remain in the trust fund and
2 shall be available for carrying out the purposes of the trust
3 fund.

4 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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7 SENATE SUMMARY

8 Provides guidelines on implementing differential tuition
9 in the State University System.

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