By the Committee on Education and Senator Diaz-Balart

304-2116-99

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to postsecondary student fees; amending s. 239.117, F.S.; authorizing fees for 3 4 students in workforce development programs; 5 prohibiting certain fees without statutory 6 authorization; specifying fees that may be 7 charged; amending s. 240.319, F.S.; revising powers of community college boards of trustees 8 9 to incur debt supported by student fees; amending s. 240.35, F.S.; providing that 10 changes in community college fees take effect 11 12 in the following fall semester; authorizing additional matriculation and tuition fees for 13 safety and security purposes; authorizing 14 additional fees; providing an effective date. 15 16 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 18 19 Section 1. Section 239.117, Florida Statutes, 1998 20 Supplement, is amended to read: 21 Workforce development postsecondary student 239.117 22 fees.--23 (1) This section applies to students enrolled in workforce development programs who are reported for funding 24 25 through the Workforce Development Education Fund, except that 26 college credit fees for the community colleges are governed by 27 s. 240.35. 28 (2) All students shall be charged fees except students who are exempt from fees or students whose fees are waived. 29 30 (3) The following students are exempt from any

31 requirement for the payment of registration, matriculation,

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 and laboratory fees for adult basic, adult secondary, or vocational-preparatory instruction:

- (a) A student who does not have a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- (b) A student who has a high school diploma or its equivalent and who has academic skills at or below the eighth grade level pursuant to state board rule. A student is eligible for this exemption from fees if the student's skills are at or below the eighth grade level as measured by a test administered in the English language and approved by the Department of Education, even if the student has skills above that level when tested in the student's native language.
- (4) The following students are exempt from the payment of registration, matriculation, and laboratory fees:
- (a) A student enrolled in a dual enrollment or early admission program pursuant to s. 239.241.
- (b) A student enrolled in an approved apprenticeship program, as defined in s. 446.021.
- (c) A student for whom the state is paying a foster care board payment pursuant to s. 409.145(3) or pursuant to parts II and III of chapter 39, for whom the permanency planning goal pursuant to part III of chapter 39 is long-term foster care or independent living, or who is adopted from the Department of Children and Family Services after December 31, 1997. Such exemption includes fees associated with enrollment in vocational-preparatory instruction and completion of the college-level communication and computation skills testing program. Such exemption shall be available to any student adopted from the Department of Children and Family Services after December 31, 1997; however, the exemption shall be valid

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30 31 for no more than 4 years after the date of graduation from high school.

- (d) A student enrolled in an employment and training program under the WAGES Program. The local WAGES coalition shall pay the community college or school district for costs incurred for WAGES clients.
- (e) A student who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence or whose primary nighttime residence is a public or private shelter designed to provide temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- (f) A student who is a proprietor, owner, or worker of a company whose business has been at least 50 percent negatively financially impacted by the buy-out of property around Lake Apopka by the State of Florida. Such a student may receive a fee exemption only if the student has not received compensation because of the buy-out, the student is designated a Florida resident for tuition purposes, pursuant to s. 240.1201, and the student has applied for and been denied financial aid, pursuant to s. 240.404, which would have provided, at a minimum, payment of all student fees. The student is responsible for providing evidence to the postsecondary education institution verifying that the conditions of this paragraph have been met, including support documentation provided by the Department of Revenue. The student must be currently enrolled in, or begin coursework within, a program area by fall semester 2000. The exemption is valid for a period of 4 years from the date that the postsecondary education institution confirms that the conditions of this paragraph have been met.

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30 31 (5) School districts and community colleges may waive fees for any fee-nonexempt student. The total value of fee waivers granted by the school district or community college may not exceed the amount established annually in the General Appropriations Act. Any student whose fees are waived in excess of the authorized amount may not be reported for state funding purposes. Any school district or community college that waives fees and requests state funding for a student in violation of the provisions of this section shall be penalized at a rate equal to 2 times the value of the full-time student enrollment reported.

(6)(a) The Commissioner of Education shall provide to the State Board of Education no later than December 31 of each year a schedule of fees for workforce development education for school districts and community colleges. The fee schedule shall be based on the amount of student fees necessary to produce 25 percent of the prior year's average cost of a course of study leading to a certificate or diploma and 50 percent of the prior year's cost of a continuing workforce education course. At the discretion of a school board or a community college, this fee schedule may be implemented over a 3-year period, with full implementation in the 1999-2000 school year. In years preceding that year, if fee increases are necessary for some programs or courses, the fees shall be raised in increments designed to lessen their impact upon students already enrolled. Fees for students who are not residents for tuition purposes must offset the full cost of instruction. Fee-nonexempt students enrolled in vocational-preparatory instruction shall be charged fees equal to the fees charged for certificate career education instruction. Each community college that conducts

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 college-preparatory and vocational-preparatory instruction in the same class section may charge a single fee for both types of instruction.

- (b) The State Board of Education shall adopt a fee schedule for school districts that produces the fee revenues calculated pursuant to paragraph (a). The schedule so calculated shall take effect, unless otherwise specified in the General Appropriations Act.
- (c) The State Board of Education shall adopt, by rule, the definitions and procedures that school boards shall use in the calculation of cost borne by students.
- shall review and evaluate the percentage of the cost of adult programs and certificate career education programs supported through student fees. For students who are residents for tuition purposes, the schedule so adopted must produce revenues equal to 25 percent of the prior year's average program cost for college-preparatory and certificate-level workforce development programs and 50 percent of the prior year's program cost for student enrollment in continuing workforce education. Fees for students who are not residents for tuition purposes must offset the full cost of instruction.
- (8) Each school board and community college board of trustees may establish a separate fee collect, for financial aid purposes in, up to an additional amount up to 10 percent of the student fees collected for workforce development programs funded through the Workforce Development Education Fund. All fees collected shall be deposited into a separate workforce development student financial aid fee trust fund of the district or community college to support students enrolled in workforce development programs. Any undisbursed balance

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remaining in the trust fund and interest income accruing to investments from the trust fund shall increase the total funds available for distribution to workforce development education students. Awards shall be based on student financial need and distributed in accordance with a nationally recognized system of need analysis approved by the State Board for Career Education. Fees collected pursuant to this subsection shall be allocated in an expeditious manner.

(9) A district school board or a community college board of trustees may charge other fees only as authorized by rule of the State Board of Education or the State Board of Community Colleges.

(9) (10) The State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt rules to allow the deferral of registration and tuition fees for students receiving financial aid from a federal or state assistance program when such aid is delayed in being transmitted to the student through circumstances beyond the control of the The failure to make timely application for such aid is an insufficient reason to receive a deferral of fees. rules must provide for the enforcement and collection or other settlement of delinquent accounts.

(10)(11) Any veteran or other eligible student who receives benefits under chapter 30, chapter 31, chapter 32, chapter 34, or chapter 35 of Title 38, U.S.C., or chapter 106 of Title 10, U.S.C., is entitled to one deferment each academic year and an additional deferment each time there is a delay in the receipt of benefits.

(11) (12) Each school district and community college shall be responsible for collecting all deferred fees. If a 31 school district or community college has not collected a

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deferred fee, the student may not earn state funding for any course for which the student subsequently registers until the fee has been paid.

(12)(13) Any school district or community college that reports students who have not paid fees in an approved manner in calculations of full-time equivalent enrollments for state funding purposes shall be penalized at a rate equal to 2 times the value of such enrollments. Such penalty shall be charged against the following year's allocation from the Florida Workforce Development Education Fund or the Community College Program Fund and shall revert to the General Revenue Fund. The State Board of Education shall specify, in rule, approved methods of student fee payment. Such methods must include, but need not be limited to, student fee payment; payment through federal, state, or institutional financial aid; and employer fee payments.

(13) (14) Each school district and community college shall report only those students who have actually enrolled in instruction provided or supervised by instructional personnel under contract with the district or community college in calculations of actual full-time enrollments for state funding purposes. A student who has been exempted from taking a course or who has been granted academic or vocational credit through means other than actual coursework completed at the granting institution may not be calculated for enrollment in the course from which the student has been exempted or for which the student has been granted credit. School districts and community colleges that report enrollments in violation of this subsection shall be penalized at a rate equal to 2 times the value of such enrollments. Such penalty shall be charged 31 against the following year's allocation from the Workforce

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30 31 Development Education Fund and shall revert to the General Revenue Fund.

(14)(15) School boards and community college boards of trustees may establish scholarship funds using donations. If such funds are established, school boards and community college boards of trustees shall adopt rules that provide for the criteria and methods for awarding scholarships from the fund.

(16) School boards and community college boards of trustees may establish, by rule, a consumable supply fee for postsecondary students enrolled in certificate career education or supplemental courses.

(15)(17) Each school board and community college board of trustees may establish a separate fee for capital improvements, technology enhancements, or equipping buildings which may not exceed 5 percent of the matriculation fee for resident students or 5 percent of the matriculation and tuition fee for nonresident students. Funds collected by community colleges through these fees may be bonded only for the purpose of financing or refinancing new construction and equipment, renovation, or remodeling of educational facilities. The fee shall be collected as a component part of the registration and tuition fees, paid into a separate account, and expended only to construct and equip, maintain, improve, or enhance the certificate career education or adult education facilities of the school district or community college. Projects funded through the use of the capital improvement fee must meet the survey and construction requirements of chapter 235. Pursuant to s. 216.0158, each school board and community college board of trustees shall identify each project, including maintenance projects,

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30 31 proposed to be funded in whole or in part by such fee. Capital improvement fee revenues may be pledged by a board of trustees as a dedicated revenue source to the repayment of debt, including lease-purchase agreements and revenue bonds, with a term not to exceed 20 years, and not to exceed the useful life of the asset being financed, only for the new construction and equipment, renovation, or remodeling of educational facilities. Community colleges may use the services of the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration to issue any bonds authorized through the provisions of this subsection. Any such bonds issued by the Division of Bond Finance shall be in compliance with the provisions of the State Bond Act. Bonds issued pursuant to the State Bond Act shall be validated in the manner provided by chapter 75. The complaint for such validation shall be filed in the circuit court of the county where the seat of state government is situated, the notice required to be published by s. 75.06 shall be published only in the county where the complaint is filed, and the complaint and order of the circuit court shall be served only on the state attorney of the circuit in which the action is pending. A maximum of 15 cents per credit hour may be allocated from the capital improvement fee for child care centers conducted by the school board or community college board of trustees.

(16) Community colleges and district school boards are not authorized to charge students enrolled in workforce development programs any fee that is not specifically authorized by statute. In addition to matriculation, tuition, financial aid, technology, and capital improvement fees, as authorized in this section, community colleges and district school boards are authorized to establish fee schedules for

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the following user fees and fines: laboratory fees; parking
    fees and fines; library fees and fines; fees and fines
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    relating to facilities and equipment use or damage; access or
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    or microfilming fees; standardized testing fees; diploma
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    replacement fees; transcript fees; application fees;
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    graduation fees; and late fees related to registration and
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    payment. Such user fees and fines shall not exceed the cost of
    the services provided and shall only be charged to persons
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    receiving the services. Revenues from parking fees and up to
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    50 percent of the technology fee may be pledged by a community
    college board of trustees as a dedicated revenue source for
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    the repayment of debt, including lease-purchase agreements and
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    revenue bonds with terms not exceeding 20 years and not
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    exceeding the useful life of the asset being financed.
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    Community colleges may use the services of the Division of
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    Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration to issue any
    bonds authorized by the provisions of this subsection. Any
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    such bonds issued by the Division of Bond Finance shall be in
    compliance with the provisions of the State Bond Act. Bonds
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    issued pursuant to the State Bond Act shall be validated in
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    the manner established in chapter 75. The complaint for such
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    validation shall be filed in the circuit court of the county
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    where the seat of state government is situated, the notice
    required to be published by s. 75.06 shall be published only
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    in the county where the complaint is filed, and the complaint
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    and order of the circuit court shall be served only on the
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    state attorney of the circuit in which the action is pending.
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               Each district school board and community college
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    district board of trustees is authorized to establish specific
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    fees for workforce development instruction not reported for
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state funding purposes or for workforce development instruction not reported as state funded full-time equivalent students. District school boards and district boards of trustees are not required to charge any other fee specified in this section for this type of instruction.

Section 2. Paragraphs (k) and (t) of subsection (4) of section 240.319, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to read:

240.319 Community college district boards of trustees; duties and powers.--

- (4) Such rules, procedures, and policies for the boards of trustees include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (k) Each board of trustees shall provide rules governing parking and the direction and flow of traffic within campus boundaries and may hire appropriate personnel to enforce campus parking rules. Such persons have no authority to arrest or issue citations for moving traffic violations. The board of trustees may adopt, by rule, a uniform code of appropriate penalties for violations. Such penalties, unless otherwise provided by law, may include the levying of fines, the withholding of diplomas or transcripts pending compliance with rules or payment of fines, and the imposition of probation, suspension, or dismissal. Moneys collected from parking rule infractions shall be deposited in appropriate funds at each community college for student financial aid purposes.
- (t) Each board of trustees is authorized to borrow funds and incur debt, including entering into lease-purchase agreements and the issuance of revenue bonds as specifically authorized and only for the purposes authorized in ss.

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239.117(15) and $(16)\frac{239.117(17)}{}$ and (240.35(14)) and (15)240.35(13), only for the new construction and equipment, renovation, or remodeling of educational facilities. At the option of the board of trustees, bonds may be issued which are secured by a combination of revenues authorized to be pledged to bonds pursuant to ss. 239.117(15) and 240.35(14) or ss. 239.117(16) and 240.35(15) ss. 239.117(17) and 240.35(13).

Section 3. Subsections (6), (7), and (14), and paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (11) of section 240.35, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended, present subsection (15) is renumbered as subsection (17), and new subsections (15) and (16) are added to that section, to read:

240.35 Student fees.--Unless otherwise provided, the provisions of this section apply only to fees charged for college credit instruction leading to an associate in arts degree, an associate in applied science degree, or an associate in science degree and noncollege credit college-preparatory courses defined in s. 239.105.

(6) Subject to review and final approval by the State Board of Education, The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt by December 31 of each year a resident fee schedule for the following fall for advanced and professional, associate in science degree, and college-preparatory programs that produce revenues in the amount of 25 percent of the full prior year's cost of these programs. However, the board may not adopt an annual fee increase in any program for resident students which exceeds 10 percent. Fees for courses in college-preparatory programs and associate in arts and associate in science degree programs may be established at the same level. In the absence of a provision to the contrary in 31 an appropriations act, the fee schedule shall take effect and

the colleges shall expend the funds on instruction. If the Legislature provides for an alternative fee schedule calculation in an appropriations act, the board shall establish a fee schedule shall take effect the subsequent fall semester that produces the fee revenue established in the appropriations act based on the assigned enrollment.

- (7) Each community college board of trustees shall establish matriculation and tuition fees, which may vary no more than 10 percent <u>below and 15 percent above</u> from the fee schedule adopted by the State Board of Community Colleges, provided that any amount from 10 to 15 percent above the fee schedule is used only to support safety and security improvements.
- establish a separate fee collect for financial aid purposes in an additional amount up to, but not to exceed, 5 percent of the total student tuition or matriculation fees collected.

 Each community college may collect up to an additional 2 percent if the amount generated by the total financial aid fee is less than \$250,000. If the amount generated is less than \$250,000, a community college that charges tuition and matriculation fees at least equal to the average fees established by rule may transfer from the general current fund to the scholarship fund an amount equal to the difference between \$250,000 and the amount generated by the total financial aid fee assessment. No other transfer from the general current fund to the loan, endowment, or scholarship fund, by whatever name known, is authorized.
- (c) Up to 25 percent or \$300,000, whichever is greater, of the <u>financial aid</u> fees collected may be used to assist students who demonstrate academic merit; who

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participate in athletics, public service, cultural arts, and other extracurricular programs as determined by the 3 institution; or who are identified as members of a targeted gender or ethnic minority population. The financial aid fee 4 5 revenues allocated for athletic scholarships and fee 6 exemptions provided pursuant to subsection (15) for athletes 7 shall be distributed equitably as required by s. 8 228.2001(3)(d). A minimum of 50 percent of the balance of 9 these funds shall be used to provide financial aid based on 10 absolute need, and the remainder of the funds shall be used 11 for academic merit purposes and other purposes approved by the district boards of trustees. Such other purposes shall 12 include the payment of child care fees for students with 13 The State Board of Community Colleges shall 14 financial need. develop criteria for making financial aid awards. 15 college shall report annually to the Department of Education 16 17 on the criteria used to make awards, the amount and number of awards for each criterion, and a delineation of the 18 distribution of such awards. Awards which are based on 19 financial need shall be distributed in accordance with a 20 nationally recognized system of need analysis approved by the 21 State Board of Community Colleges. An award for academic merit 22 shall require a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0 on 23 24 a 4.0 scale or the equivalent for both initial receipt of the award and renewal of the award. 25 (14) Each community college board of trustees may 26 27 establish a separate fee for capital improvements, technology

students or 5 percent of the matriculation and tuition fee for

enhancements, or equipping student buildings which may not

exceed 5 percent of the matriculation fee for resident

nonresident students\$1 per credit hour or credit-hour

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equivalent for residents and which equals or exceeds \$3 per credit hour for nonresidents. Funds collected by community colleges through these fees may be bonded only for the purpose of financing or refinancing new construction and equipment, renovation, or remodeling of educational facilities. The fee shall be collected as a component part of the registration and tuition fees, paid into a separate account, and expended only to construct and equip, maintain, improve, or enhance the educational facilities of the community college. Projects funded through the use of the capital improvement fee shall meet the survey and construction requirements of chapter 235. Pursuant to s. 216.0158, each community college shall identify each project, including maintenance projects, proposed to be funded in whole or in part by such fee. Capital improvement fee revenues may be pledged by a board of trustees as a dedicated revenue source to the repayment of debt, including lease-purchase agreements and revenue bonds, with a term not to exceed 20 years, and not to exceed the useful life of the asset being financed, only for the new construction and equipment, renovation, or remodeling of educational facilities. Community colleges may use the services of the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration to issue any bonds authorized through the provisions of this subsection. Any such bonds issued by the Division of Bond Finance shall be in compliance with the provisions of the State Bond Act. Bonds issued pursuant to the State Bond Act shall be validated in the manner provided by chapter 75. The complaint for such validation shall be filed in the circuit court of the county where the seat of state government is situated, the notice required to be published by s. 75.06 31 shall be published only in the county where the complaint is

filed, and the complaint and order of the circuit court shall be served only on the state attorney of the circuit in which 3 the action is pending. A maximum of 15 cents per credit hour may be allocated from the capital improvement fee for child 4 5 care centers conducted by the community college. 6 (15) In addition to matriculation, tuition, financial 7 aid, capital improvement, technology, and student activity and 8 service fees authorized in this section, each board of trustees is authorized to establish fee schedules for the 9 10 following user fees and fines: laboratory fees; parking fees 11 and fines; library fees and fines; fees and fines relating to facilities and equipment use or damage; access or 12 identification card fees; duplicating, photocopying, binding, 13 or microfilming fees; standardized testing fees; diploma 14 replacement fees; transcript fees; application fees; 15 graduation fees; and late fees related to registration and 16 17 payment. Such user fees and fines shall not exceed the cost of the services provided and shall only be charged to persons 18 19 receiving the service. Community colleges are not authorized to charge any fee that is not specifically authorized by 20 statute. Revenues from the technology fee and parking fees may 21 be pledged by a community college board of trustees as a 22 dedicated revenue source for the repayment of debt, including 23 24 lease-purchase agreements and revenue bonds with terms not exceeding 20 years and not exceeding the useful life of the 25 asset being financed. Community colleges may use the services 26 27 of the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration to issue any bonds authorized by the provisions 28 of this subsection. Any such bonds issued by the Division of 29 30 Bond Finance shall be in compliance with the provisions of the State Bond Act. Bonds issued pursuant to the State Bond Act 31

shall be validated in the manner established in chapter 75. 1 2 The complaint for such validation shall be filed in the 3 circuit court of the county where the seat of state government 4 is situated, the notice required to be published by s. 75.06 5 shall be published only in the county where the complaint is 6 filed, and the complaint and order of the circuit court shall 7 be served only on the state attorney of the circuit in which 8 the action is pending. 9 (16)Each community college board of trustees may 10 establish a separate fee for technology, not more than 5 11 percent of the matriculation fee for resident students and not 12 more than 5 percent of the matriculation and tuition fees for nonresident students, or the equivalent, to support 13 14 implementation of technology improvement plans. The technology 15 fee applies only to associate-degree-level programs. 16 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999. 17 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SB 2086 18 19 20 The Committee Substitute: 21 Limits the technology fee authorized for community colleges to college-credit programs. The fee may not be assessed for workforce development programs. 22 23 Authorizes community colleges to pledge expected revenue from the technology fee and parking fees to issue bonds and enter into lease-purchase agreements and to combine those fees with fees from workforce development programs. 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31