By Senator Constantine

22-153A-07

1   A bill to be entitled

2   An act relating to tuition rates at state

3   colleges and universities; creating s.

4   1009.286, F.S.; requiring students to pay 50

5   percent more than the actual cost per credit

6   hour for credit hours in excess of a specified

7   number for community-college credits and for

8   overall credits applied to a baccalaureate

9   degree; excluding certain credit hours from

10   calculation as hours required to earn a

11   baccalaureate degree; providing for

12   notification of students by a postsecondary

13   institution; providing applicability; providing

14   an effective date.

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

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18   Section 1. Section 1009.286, Florida Statutes, is

19   created to read:

20   1009.286 Additional student payment required for hours

21   exceeding graduation requirements.--

22   (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to discourage

23   undergraduate students in postsecondary education from

24   exceeding the number of credit hours required to complete the

25   students' respective degree programs. Accordingly, a student

26   must pay 50 percent more than the in-state tuition rate for

27   any credit hours that the student takes in excess of 120

28   percent of the number of credit hours required to complete the

29   degree program in which he or she is enrolled.

30   (2) A student who is enrolled in a community college

31   must pay 50 percent more than the in-state tuition rate for

1 credit hours that the student takes in excess of 120 percent

2 of the credit hours required to earn an associate degree,

3 except that a community college student who has earned the

4 associate degree need not pay the full cost for a maximum of

5 24 hours taken while enrolled at a community college which

6 apply to his or her baccalaureate degree.

7   (3) An undergraduate student who is enrolled in a

8 university that is part of the state university system must

9 pay 50 percent more than the in-state tuition rate for credit

10 hours that the student takes in excess of 120 percent of the

11 credit hours required to complete the degree program in which

12 he or she is enrolled, regardless of whether those hours were

13 taken while enrolled at a community college, a state

14 university, or any private postsecondary institution if the

15 student received state funds while enrolled at the private

16 postsecondary institution.

17   (4) An undergraduate student who is enrolled in a

18 baccalaureate degree program at a community college must pay

19 50 percent more than the in-state tuition rate for credit

20 hours that the student takes in excess of 120 percent of the

21 number of credit hours required to complete the degree program

22 in which he or she is enrolled, regardless of whether those

23 hours were taken while enrolled at a community college, a

24 state university, or any private postsecondary institution if

25 the student received state funds while enrolled at the private

26 postsecondary institution.

27   (5) Credit hours earned under the following

28 circumstances are not calculated as hours required to earn a

29 degree:

30   (a) College credits earned through an accelerated

31 mechanism identified in s. 1007.27;

 1   (b) Credit hours earned through internship programs;
 2   (c) Credit hours required for certification,
 3 recertification, or certificate degrees;
 4   (d) Credit hours in courses from which a student must
 5 withdraw due to reasons of medical or personal hardship;
 6   (e) Credit hours taken by active-duty military
 7 personnel;
 8   (f) Credit hours required to achieve a dual major
 9 undertaken while pursuing a degree;
10   (g) Credit hours in remedial courses and English as a
11 Second Language; and
12   (h) Credit hours earned in military science courses
13 (ROTC).
14   (6) Each postsecondary institution shall implement a
15 process for notifying students regarding this section. The
16 notice must be provided upon the student's initial enrollment
17 in the institution and again upon the student's having earned
18 the credit hours required to complete the degree program in
19 which he or she is enrolled. The notice must include a
20 recommendation that each student who intends to earn credit
21 hours at the institution beyond those required for his or her
22 enrolled degree program meet with his or her academic advisor.
23   Section 2. Section 1009.286, Florida Statutes, as
24 created by this act, applies to freshmen enrolled in the fall
25 of 2007 and all freshmen thereafter.
26   Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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2   SENATE SUMMARY

3   Requires that students pay 50 percent more than the
     actual cost per credit hour for credit hours in excess of
4   a specified number for community college credits and for
     overall credits applied to a baccalaureate degree.
5   Excludes certain credit hours from calculation as hours
     required to earn a baccalaureate degree. Provides for
6   notification of students by a postsecondary institution.

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